## MidlothianNo

Right Place,

Right Time

JANUARY 2020

T.J. Henley earns the Midlothian Fire Department's Life Saver Award

Stage Team

MHS theater students bond through acting

Midlothian Fire Department Life Saver Award

In the Kitchen With Caroline Collen

Also inside:

Scavenger Hunt

Featured Business: Mill Creek Meat Company, LLC

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#### RIGHT PLACE, RIGHT TIME

A local hero upholds the Midlothian Fire Department's mission.

**14** STAGE TEAM

This theater program preps students for life's stage.

**30** ADVENTURE AWAITS

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#### ON THE COVER

T.J. Henley poses with Raymond Wagner after receiving the Life Saver Award from the Midlothian Fire Department.

#### Photo by

Fire Chief Dale McCaskill.

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Angel Morris

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#### **EDITOR'S NOTE**

Happy 2020!

I'd like to assume that a date like 2020 means I'm headed into a new year with perfect vision. At my age, I know my strengths and am painfully aware of my weaknesses. Even with that insight, however, I'm still prone to thinking I might make changes that I've never pulled off before. Eat healthy, lose weight, learn a new skill? Sure! Why not? The year is new. Optimism reigns, and I can construct a killer vision board!

Fast forward a few weeks and reality kicks in. I prefer sugar to salad, naturally lean toward fuller figured and would rather nap than tackle something new. I'll be 50 this year, and by goodness, I've earned my snacks and my rest! Don't get me wrong, I'm the first in line to root for the old dog attempting a new trick. I truly believe you're never too old to learn new things. I'm just generally satisfied with myself as is, which a counselor might praise while a life coach might call "settling."

Either way, I'll enjoy making that vision board, because it never hurts to challenge yourself. If I could do anything, it would be to focus on all that I have and make the most of what I've been given rather than dwelling on anything I see as lacking. So, what if I cheat a little on my diet and only daydream about new adventures? 20/20 vision doesn't have to mean perfection ... perhaps it just means looking at yourself more clearly and seeing the blessings beyond the "what ifs." I hope you see 2020 perfectly, too.

Here's to you, as is or brand new!







#### THIS YEAR, PURSUE A

# Blife

8:15 am Traditional 9:30 am Contemporary\* 11:00 am Contemporary

\*Sarrium is interpreted for the deal & hard of hearing







Midlothian's Fire Department is rated by the American Heart Association as a Silver Plus provider of Emergency Medical Service, because it provides the most up-to-date, evidence-based treatment to improve patient care and outcomes in our community. This month, Midlothian's Heart Safe Community initiative ramps up.

Under the direction of Ted McPherson, with the Midlothian Fire Department, the initiative promotes four areas of accountability: individuals' responsibility to keep themselves healthy; first responders' responsibility to be ready and able to help people in crisis; the city's responsibility to provide appropriate resources to individuals and organizations; and citizens' responsibility to care about the health of others in the community. To that end, our MFD teaches four CPR classes per year for people who understand they might one day be in the vicinity of a person who needs chest compressions.

"Trying to help is the key," Fire Chief Dale McCaskill said. He explained that after a person's heart stops beating, it takes four-six minutes before oxygen already in the blood is used up. And once the brain is starved of oxygen, varying levels of brain damage begin to occur. "It takes four-five minutes for EMS personnel to arrive on the scene once they are called. Anyone can perform chest compressions to keep the person's oxygenated blood moving to their brain. This will

reduce the extent of brain damage that could occur for the person who is revived."

Epitomizing MFD's mission, T.J. Henley is a recipient of MFD's Life Saver Award. T.J. happened to be in the right place at the right time to administer CPR last summer. He was on his way to work, when he witnessed Raymond Wagner collapse while placing American flags along Midlothian Parkway prior to a community event. T.J. stopped his car and began chest compressions, continuing until paramedics arrived. Raymond is alive and well today because of T.J.'s willingness to act.

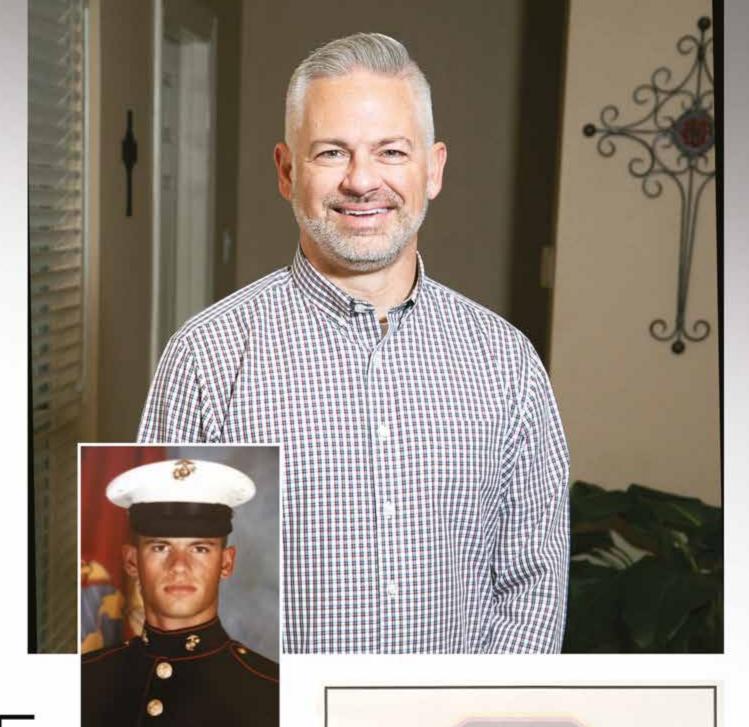
T.J. learned early in the home of his father, a police officer, who at times told kitchen-table stories of his heroic acts in the line of duty. During his youthful adventures in Boy Scouts, T.J. earned the Lifesaving Merit Badge.

The 1989 Duncanville High School graduate is a former United States Marine and currently a mortgage company president. He is also a licensed minister and has served on various city boards, including the City Council. T.J. still serves on the Midlothian Community Development Board, as well as the board of Forgiven Felons, and is an Advocacy/Government Relations Committee member for the Texas Mortgage Bankers Association.

In his leisure time, T.J. enjoys life with his wife, Wendy, and two children, 21-year-old Caleb and 17-year-old Zoe. From time to time, this family man runs a marathon, and he especially enjoys making time for the outdoors and traveling.

In fact, it was while relaxing on a cruise with his family five years ago that T.J. first performed CPR on a

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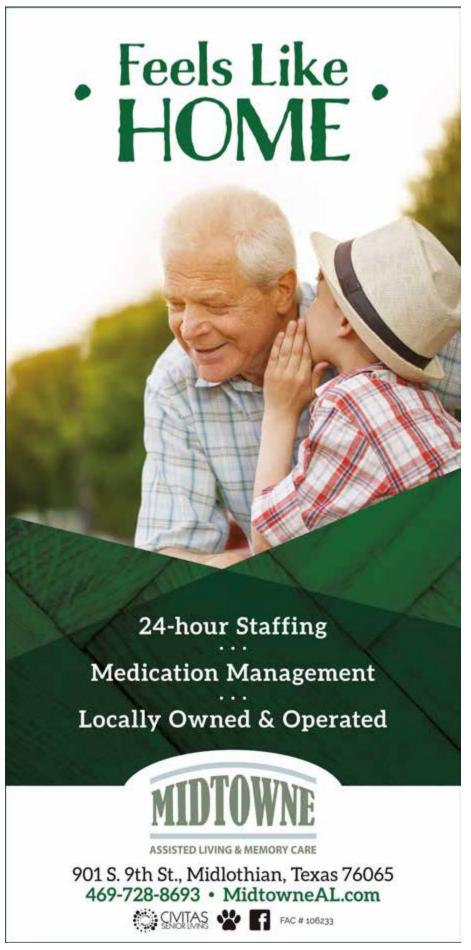
By Melissa Rawlins

#### Midlothian Fire Department Life Saver Award

#### TJ HENLEY

On June 18, 2019. Raymond Wagner was working along South Midlothian Parkway putting up American Flags for the upcoming Fourth of July festivities. While doing so he became if and fell to the ground. Bystanders determined immediately that his heart had stopped beating. TJ Henley was on his way to work at the same time Mr. Wagner fell to the ground. TJ immediately stopped his car and began chest compressions. TJ continued chest compressions until our crews arrived on scene. Our crews were able to provide advanced life support to Mr. Wagner with positive results. Mr. Wagner is alive and well today because of TJ's willingness to act.

Dale P. McCaskill Fire Chief Midlothian Fire Department





real person, and not the CPR dummy that he'd practiced on three times during Scouts training, Marine service and in his college life-guarding season. Their ship had stopped at the island of St. Thomas, and while Wendy and T.J. were in the water, they answered a yell for help from the daughter of a lady who had aspirated into her snorkel. "My wife was praying loudly, vehemently, while I performed CPR," T.J. recalled. "That lady had been blue as the cap on an Aquafina bottle, but she walked off the beach."

When T.J. and Wendy told the story at dinner to a nurse sharing their table, she shared with T.J. that the standard protocol was no longer mouth-to-mouth, but instead just chest compressions. "She told me there is enough oxygen in your system that without breathing you can keep a person's body engaged through just chest compressions for a substantial period of time," he said. That information prepared him for what happened in Midlothian just before the Fourth of July celebrations last year.

"That morning, I had been in my quiet time with God," T.J. said. "The Lord prompted me to go in and share with my wife the good things I saw come out of her as she wrote her book, *Hope in the* Hearing. I stopped and blessed my wife. Then I went to my car and left for work.

"When I got to the end of our subdivision. I looked left toward First Baptist Church and noticed a lady who had stopped. I looked to see where she was running, and there was Mr. Wagner laying on the sidewalk. He'd been putting out flags at First Baptist Church. Another lady was helping him, also."

T.J. pulled into traffic and drove up to that lady's stopped car as she was calling 911. "They kept saying, 'I saw

him fall.' Nobody was doing CPR. I checked his wrist and did not feel a pulse there or in his neck. I started chest compressions immediately."

Throughout the six minutes T.J. administered chest compressions, he remembers thinking, I want to hear the sirens. "When the fire department and paramedics showed up, it was amazing. The best way I can describe it was like a NASCAR pit crew. Pure urgency and efficiency. Everybody knew what their job was. As a community member and servant, it was great to see our tax dollars at work, literally saving Mr. Wagner's life. At one point, I heard the paramedics ask him, 'Can you hear us?' And he said, 'Yes.' It became very emotional then."



T.I. believes the important part of his story is that he stopped to bless his wife. "If I hadn't taken that 45-second window to be obedient to the Holy Spirit, I would have left our subdivision. and I wouldn't have been there when Mr. Wagner fell," T.J. said. "God had a plan for Mr. Wagner to live. He used me as an instrument, just as he used the other ladies and the EMS people.

"Performing CPR is not hard. The intimidating factor would be that you might be that last lifeline for that person. But that's the reason to just do it," T.J. said. "The great reward is that Mr. Wagner is still a grandpa, dad and husband and still making memories with those people. You don't know the kind of impact you might be able to make until you just try." NOW

Editor's Note: For information about upcoming CPR classes offered by the Midlothian Fire Department, check its social media site.







Dr. Richard R. Knight, M.D.

#### Priscilla, Grand Prairie, TX

I started Diet Solutions because nothing else was working. I signed up at two different fitness clubs, and I even attempted the Keto diet, However, I didn't realize that accountability is what I needed. I gained 60 pounds while pregnant with my son. Within the next four years, I only lost 20 of those pounds. My weight gain caused me to slip into a depression while I was wedding-dress shopping. I was no longer confident and mentally battled with my weight daily. A family member mentioned diet solutions, and I noticed she had lost a lot of weight herself. I decided to give it a try. I was given the freedom to be able to eat most of the food I enjoy, and if not, DSC was able to provide me with the proper substitution. Weekly check ins were quick and easy! It was a great feeling to know that you were losing weight and inches! Within three month, not only did I lose all the weight I gained, but I even got down two pounds lower than what I was before getting pregnant with my son. The best news is I am still keeping it off! I love how people all around me notice my weight loss. It has brought out the confidence that I lost. I recommend DSC to anyone that wants to lose weight, no matter how many different diet programs you have tried!



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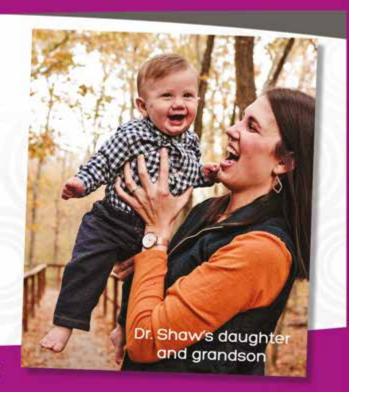
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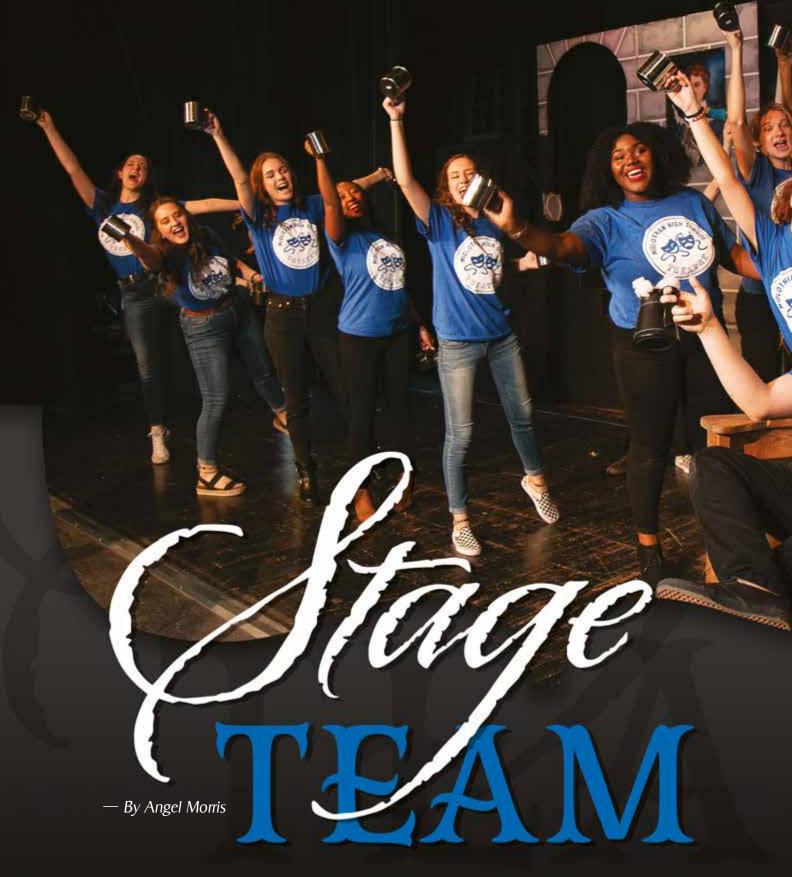
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If you think sports are the only way to be part of a team, the Midlothian High School Theater Department is here to explain otherwise. As its members prepared to present Beauty and the Beast this month, some of the participating students shared how their involvement in theater has impacted them and made them part of a team akin to any athletic group.

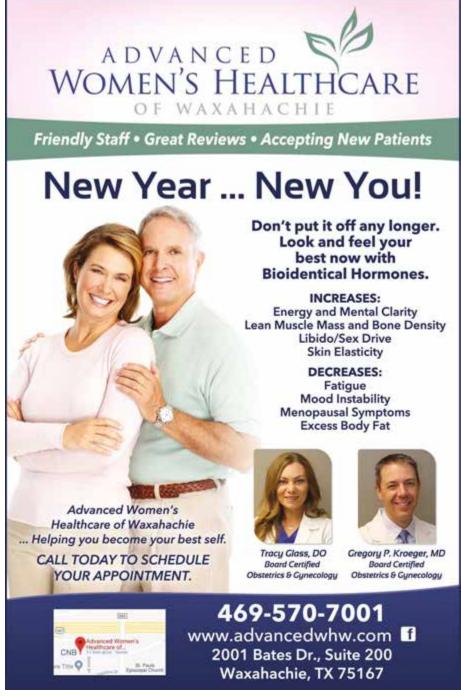


"Theater shaped me into the optimistic, dedicated and extroverted person I am now. I'm better at presentations, public speaking and my confidence has skyrocketed," said senior Caitlin Hullett, who has held lead roles and been a production chorus member.

Senior Warren Ericson, who is chaplain of the program, agreed with Caitlin's assessment. "Theater helps students grow by giving them goals and tasks to aim for in the form of leads and roles," he said. "This prepares us for the competitive world of employment. We also learn valuable teamwork skills that can carry into our future careers."

Stage manager and theater class historian, senior ly Beard, was drawn to the program for its connections. "I saw how much of a family they all were and











wanted to be part of that," she said. She noted that theater also helps students express themselves in ways they can't in other classes and helps them learn rhythm and memorization.

Having held lead roles in The Little Mermaid, Grease, Rapunzel, Singin' in the Rain and Elf the Musical, senior Carson Almand knows well the benefits of theater. "Getting to work with a large group to accomplish all the goals that come with putting on a show is simply amazing to witness. The people drew me to theater, and it's the people who make me love it so much."

Perhaps no one knows the impact of theater involvement as well as senior Luke Craddock, who grew up with a theater director father and has performed in everything from The Little Mermaid to The Last Lifeboat. "I realized from a young age that I loved performing on stage," he recalled. "Being able to throw yourself into these different stories gives students a better appreciation of any form of art that is presented to them."

This year's seniors hope to maintain the legacy of MHS theater. "We want to continue to give the public high-quality, Broadway-type productions, while giving our peers an environment to freely express themselves in creative ways," Theater Class President Kaylin Culmer noted.

Senior Molly Harris wants the program to continue giving students a place to fit in. "I was dreadful at sports and never felt like I belonged anywhere else. I want to encourage those outside of theater to audition for future musicals," Molly explained. "Theater provides an environment full of kind and accepting people. We always bring each other up and help each other out."

Younger students agreed that the program made them feel a part of something special. "I don't know where I'd be without theater," sophomore

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Halee Blanton admitted. "I enjoy being around people with the same interests, but it also helps me step out of my comfort zone. We work not only as a team but as a family."

Sophomore Leilani Williams, who like many of her classmates hopes to pursue some form of acting beyond high school, said characterization might be the greatest benefit of theater. "We grow as actors and learn through the different roles we are exposed to. We have experiences we might otherwise never have by playing those parts and have a great time showcasing the talent our program has to offer the community."

In the students' eyes, theater has taught them discipline and dedication. It has made them more confident and better able to express themselves. "Theater not only helps students learn how to act, dance and sing, it also helps students improve life skills like teamwork, time management, leadership and quick thinking," senior Rustin Rushing explained. "You learn so much while having a lot of fun!"



Carson best described why participants feel so strongly about the program. "Midlothian High School's theater program is a confident, dynamic and creative community of students, built on a foundation of family that bonds everyone, through every scene, show and situation," he described. "Ultimately, that will help us in life."

Luke said that while each actor gets something out of the program, their actual goal is to give to others. "If the audience and community believe in the story being portrayed and fall in love with the characters," he said, "we're doing it right." NOW

Editor's Note: For details on Beauty and the Beast performances, visit mhs.seatyourself.biz.

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- By Rachel Smith

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beef as Mill Creek Meat Company a few years ago," Susan Short, wife and partner to owner David Short, explained. "We became an LLC this year."

With pastures spanning across Mill Creek, Mill Creek Meat Company is a farm-to-table establishment. "We offer premium Mill Creek Angus and Wagyu at affordable prices," David shared.

Angus and Wagyu (American-style Kobe) beef provide more marbling than the typical store-bought beef. Marbling is not just good for tenderness, but also for the flavor of the beef. With minimal seasonings, these grades of beef have customers savoring every bite.

"We are purveyors of premium beef," Susan expounded. "And our prices are affordable for what we sell. Customers are really interested in where their food is grown and how it is processed."

Controlling the quality straight from the source, the Shorts are equipped to provide their beef at its best condition. "We don't have middlemen," Susan said, "so we can keep prices

reasonable. It's so rewarding to have customers return and tell us how good our meat is!"

Who better to provide Angus and Wagyu beef to the town than authentic farmers? "Farming and ranching are in our blood," David explained. "Our parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, everyone, all worked the land and raised cattle. So, we have the experience." Mill Creek Meat Company provides locally raised beef processed in a governmentinspected facility, dry-aged a minimum of 28 days and individually vacuumpackaged to maintain its freshness.

#### **CONTROLLING THE QUALITY** STRAIGHT FROM THE SOURCE. THE SHORTS ARE EQUIPPED TO PROVIDE THEIR BEEF AT ITS **BEST CONDITION.**

It's clear the owners consider their business a fun one. "We've had several customers tell us they were never able to get their children to eat meat," Susan said. "One customer stopped by to buy our beef because his daughter had eaten it three different times in the previous week, so he already needed more!

"Another customer asked us how many cows we had. He told us he debated revealing how good our beef was to his friends. He was afraid if people found out, we would run out of beef, and there would be none left for him!"

While the odds of running out of premium beef are slim, the opposite, in fact, is happening. David and Susan have partners at another location in Italy, Texas, James and Lisa Hooser. Ready to service your beef cravings at either location, Mill Creek Meat Company wants to provide the best beef around town. "Our goal is to raise the best beef at the most affordable prices," David enthused. "We hand-pick cows and bulls that will provide the most flavorful and tender beef. We manage them with care, and care just as much for our customers."

Don't be shy about trying something new. Mill Creek Meat Company stands ready to greet you with their sweet spirits, authentic smiles and top-quality beef. **NOW** 







#### **Around Town**



Midlothian's Midway Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol presents a Certificate of Appreciation for Aerospace Education Training to Lieutenant Jeff Josselyn, US Navy (Ret.)



Linda Averitt introduces master jewelers, Danny Gonzalez and Danny Ledesma, who have joined her to keep Lee's Jewelry & Repair in the family.

#### Zoomed In:

#### By Angel Morris

#### Gracie Clayton & Nicholas May

Gracie Clayton recently played Princess Jasmine and Nicholas May played Aladdin in Walnut Grove Middle School's production of Aladdin Jr. If the duo seemed like old pros, it could be because this is not their first time performing together. It was even their second time to play a bride and groom.

The two met when they were just 3 years old in dance classes. They've recently played children in a few productions at Heritage High School. "It's fun performing with Nicholas. It's a lot easier to act with someone you have known for a long time."

Friendship, however, is just part of the fun. "I like being on stage and getting into character," Nicholas admitted. "It's fun putting myself out there and using my talents."



Porter Martin with Austin, Chad, Ashley and Brooklynn Sugg at Manna House's Annual Gobble Wobble Race Against Hunger.



Sesley Russel, owner of I Am Nutrition, poses with her customer, Maci Pittman.

Kolton May starts the year with a grateful heart as he continues to make a miraculous recovery from vasculitis.



Jose and Jesus enjoy their lunch break in Midlothian at Marco's Pizza.



Debbie Koennecke and Christie Hicks, celebrate the Grand Opening of Pinnacle Bank in Midlothian.

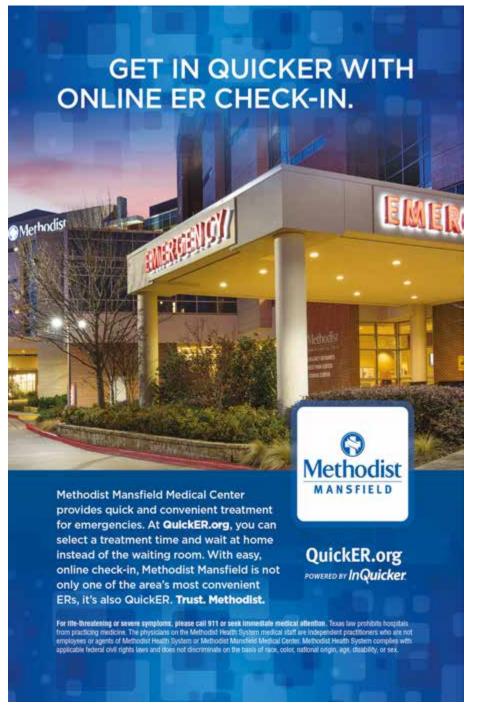
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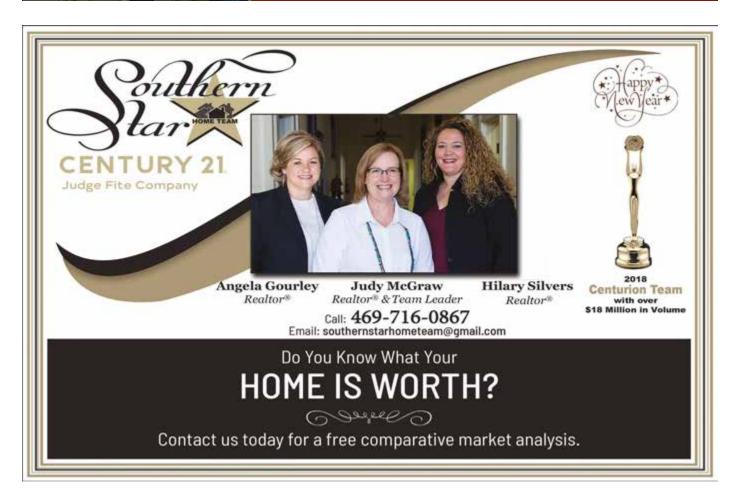
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January is the one-year anniversary of Caroline Colten setting the house on fire while cooking churros. "My grease caught fire, and while it went out before the fire department arrived, smoke and soot filled our house," Caroline recalled. "I was scared to cook after that but finally got back into it."

The 12-year-old has been cooking for about three years and likes to try new things — like the churros that taught her about fire safety. "I like baking the most, but have made chicken dishes, lasagna and crepes. I find recipes on Pinterest and make them my own by swapping ingredients or increasing flavors I like. Sometimes it works. Sometimes it's a Pinterest fail. That's how you get better."

Caroline shows pigs as part of Junior FFA. She also participates in the JV dance team, theater and is on the A Honor Roll at Frank Seale Middle School. NOW

#### Pineapple Upside-down Cake

- 1/3 cup butter
- 1 Tbsp. pineapple juice
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- I can pineapple rings in juice, drained (retain juice)

Maraschino cherries, halved

Pecans, halved

#### Batter:

- 2 eggs
- 2/3 cup sugar
- 7 Tbsp. pineapple juice (from pineapple rings)
- I tsp. vanilla
- 1 cup flour
- 1/3 tsp. baking powder
- 1/4 tsp. salt

- **1.** Melt butter. Pour in 9-inch round iron skillet.
- **2.** Mix pineapple juice with brown sugar; sprinkle evenly over butter. Arrange pineapple rings over butter-sugar coating. Place cherries and pecans around pineapple rings.
- **3.** For batter: Beat eggs until thick and lemon colored. Gradually beat in sugar, remaining pineapple juice and vanilla.
- **4.** Sift together flour, baking powder and salt; beat into sugar mixture. Pour over fruit and nuts.
- **5.** Bake at 350 F for 45 minutes, or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Immediately turn pan upside down on serving plate. Do not remove pan for 5 minutes; brown sugar mixture will run down over cake. Serves well with vanilla ice cream.

#### Lasagna

Makes 8 servings.

#### Sauce:

- 6 oz. ground beef
- 6 oz. ground breakfast sausage, sage flavor
- I cup onion, chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, minced

1 7.5-oz. can diced tomatoes

1 8-oz. can tomato sauce

1 6-oz. can tomato paste

2 tsp. dried basil, crushed

I tsp. dried oregano, crushed

1/4 tsp. pepper

#### Pasta:

6 dried lasagna noodles

#### Filling:

I egg, beaten

1 15-oz. container ricotta cheese

1/4 cup Parmesan cheese, plus additional for topping, grated

3 Tbsp. parsley

6 oz. shredded mozzarella cheese (divided use)

**I.** Preheat oven to 375 F.

**2.** For sauce: In a medium pan, cook meat, onion and garlic until meat is brown; drain.

**3.** Stir in undrained tomatoes, tomato sauce, tomato paste, basil, oregano and pepper. Bring to a boil; reduce heat. Cover; simmer 15 minutes, stirring occasionally.

**4.** For pasta: Meanwhile, cook noodles for 10-12 minutes, or until tender but firm. Drain noodles well; rinse with cold water.

**5.** For filling: Combine egg, ricotta, 1/4 cup Parmesan and parsley.

**6.** Layer half the cooked noodles in a 2-qt. rectangle baking dish. Spread with half of the filling. Top with half of the meat sauce and half of the mozzarella cheese.

**7.** Repeat layers. Sprinkle additional Parmesan cheese on top.

**8.** Bake 30-35 minutes, or until heated through. Let stand 10 minutes before serving.

#### **Caroline's Tropical Cupcakes**

#### Cake:

2 cups flour

2 cups sugar

I tsp. baking soda

1 tsp. vanilla

1 20-oz. can crushed pineapple

#### Frosting:

10 bite-size pieces coconut taffy

2 Tbsp. heavy cream

2 sticks unsalted butter, room temperature (Do not microwave.)

2 cups powdered sugar

**1.** For cupcakes: Preheat oven to 325 F. Mix dry ingredients. Stir in remaining ingredients. Pour into cupcake liners in a muffin pan. Bake approximately 20 minutes. Cool on a wire rack for 1 hour before frosting.

**2.** For frosting: Melt taffy and heavy cream together in a microwave. Cook in increments







of 20 seconds, stirring after each increment. Repeat until smooth. Put in refrigerator while completing step 3.

**3.** Whip butter for 5 minutes. Add powdered sugar, 1/2 cup at a time until smooth. Add taffy mixture to frosting. Mix well.

#### **Pioneer Woman Cinnamon Toast**

Great New Year's Day breakfast!

1 stick salted butter, softened1/2 cup sugar1 1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon

2 tsp. vanilla extract 1/4 tsp. ground nutmeg 8 slices bread, white or wheat

- **I.** Preheat oven to 350 F. Smush softened butter with a fork. Add sugar, cinnamon, vanilla and nutmeg, stirring to combine.
- **2.** Spread on bread, totally covering the surface of each piece all the way to the edges. Place toast on a cookie sheet; toast for 10 minutes. After 10 minutes, turn on the broiler until golden and bubbly. Watch closely so it doesn't burn.

#### Simple Scrumptious Dump Cake

- 1 21-oz. can caramel apple pie filling 1 15.25-oz. plain yellow cake mix 1 stick butter, melted
- **1.** Preheat oven to 325 F. Spread filling evenly over the bottom of a 10.5-inch round glass pie pan. Pour dry cake mix evenly over the filling until completely covered. You may not use all of the cake mix.
- **2.** Drizzle the entire pan with the melted butter. Bake until the cake is a deep brown and a toothpick inserted in the middle comes out clean, about 45-50 minutes.
- **3.** Let the pan cool for 10 minutes before serving. Serve with vanilla ice cream for a wonderful cobbler-like treat!







## THE LOCAL TABLE

One cannot think well, love well, sleep well, if one has not dined well.

- Virginia Woolf







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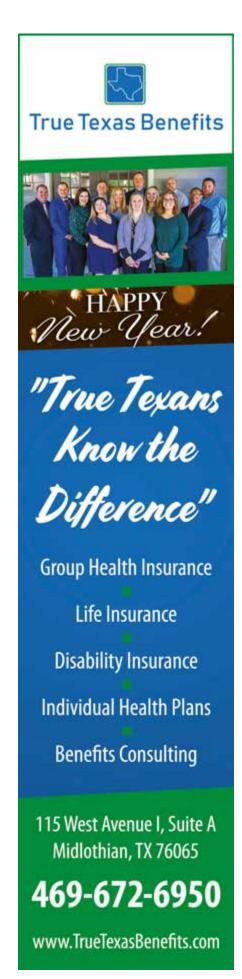
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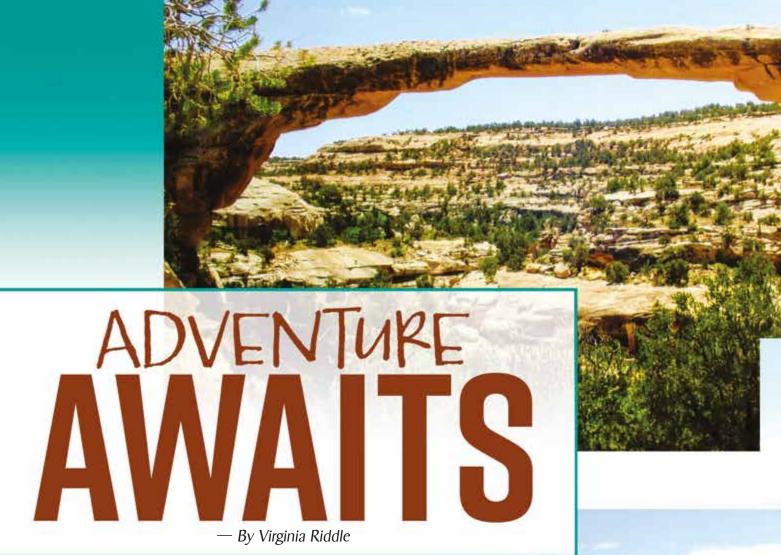








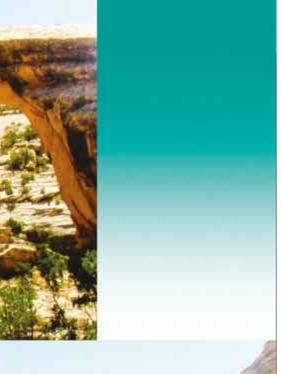


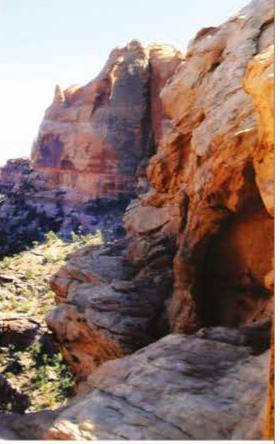


What is Hózhó? As many adventure-seeking travelers to the Moab/Bluff, Utah, area learn, words don't do justice to this Navajo concept of balance and beauty. The ancient, vast wilderness of Native-American reservations and national parks envelopes visitors. Gone is the hustle and bustle of modern cities as time and space become redefined. Come, breathe deeply and embody Mother Nature's peace, balance and beauty, while hiking, mountain biking, rock climbing, rafting, camping, ballooning, kayaking, bouldering, canyoning, horseback riding, backpacking, stargazing, fishing, golfing, skydiving, bird watching, ATVing or visiting ancient sites.

Travel from the east to Bluff takes folks to the Four Corners, the only place in the U.S. where one can lie down in four states at one time — Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico and Utah! Be respectful of the posted Native-American reservations' laws while traveling through the many scenic miles of open-range grazing on the area Apache, Navajo and







Ute reservations. Traveling on the Trail of the Ancients Scenic Byway brings visitors to Canyons of the Ancients National Monument, Mesa Verde National Park and Hovenweep National Monument. Each location preserves prehistoric native cultures, particularly the Anasazi, interspersed with interpretations of the area's pioneering heritage. More than 6,355 recorded sites in the Canyons of the Ancients give visitors the "highest

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known archaeological site density in the U.S." Visit ruins of prehistoric to 12th-century archaeological sites and take advantage of free, guided talks and interpretive programs available at the visitor centers and museums of each site.

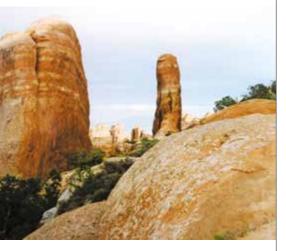
A listing in 1,000 Places to See Before You Die brings folks to otherwise relatively unknown Bluff, located 100 miles almost due south of better-known Moab. The ancients first settled the area around 650 A.D., and Mormon pioneers founded the town of just over 300 residents in 1880, earning its listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Adventurers take advantage of outdoor sports and photographic opportunities on the San Juan River, or at nearby Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument and the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area located west of town. Within an hour's drive in any direction, there are three state parks, Natural Bridges National Monument and the Blue Mountains, home to Manti-La Sal National Forest with lakes and spectacular views.

After busy days spent sporting with one of several guide services, dine and lodge at locally owned restaurants, lodges, cabins, Bureau of Land Management campgrounds or RV parks. Hot tubs and pools are always a welcome way to end the day and meet fellow adventurers from all over the world, while soothing aching muscles and enjoying an "off-the-grid" experience.

Continue northward to Moab, touted as the "Adventure Capital of the United States," famous for its Arches National Park, containing more than 500 natural stone arches sculpted by water, ice, underground salt movement and extreme temperatures. The often snow-capped La Sal Mountains serve as a backdrop to the different shades of red, brown and sand arches. Adventures and photographic moments lie within nearby Canyonlands National Park with its many canyons and buttes formed by the Colorado and Green rivers. This vast park is divided into four ecological districts — Island in the Sky, The Needles, The Maze and the Colorado River and tributaries. All share a desert climate, so stay hydrated when venturing into this wilderness backcountry.

Professional guides, equipment rentals and park services abound, but if going solo, follow all park rules. Moab offers museums and many restaurants and lodging choices, including some national chains. A sunrise or sunset walk in Arches National Park is a must, as is a soak in a hot tub or swimming pool during evenings.



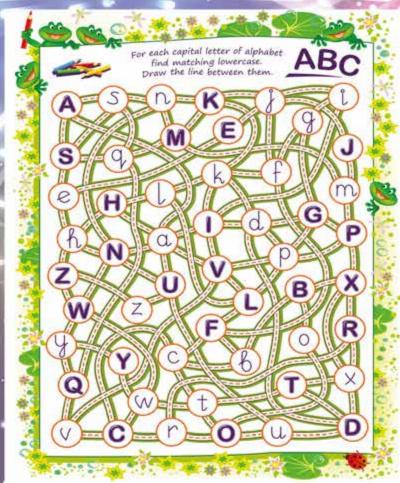
The Moab area was long used by Ute Indians. While the French and Spanish explorers and later prospectors came to the area, it wasn't until the Mormons arrived in 1878 that there was a permanent settlement. Enjoy more beauty by taking the Old Spanish Trail that once linked Santa Fe, New Mexico, to Los Angeles, California, homeward until a dose of *Hózhó* necessitates a return visit.

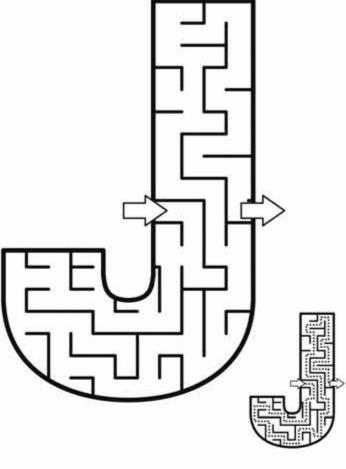
Photos by Virginia Riddle, LLC.





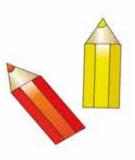
## Mis Fun Page





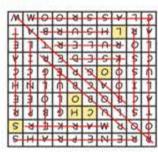
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0	0	R	M	Α	R	K	Е	R	S
Т	S	L	U	С	Н	G	В	Р	R
A	C	В	0	В	0	L	0	Е	Е
L	I	0	Α	С	В	U	L	Ν	Н
U	S	0	0	G	R	Е	G	С	С
C	S	K	s	Е	D	Е	R	I	Α
L	0	R	U	L	Е	R	Т	L	Е
Α	R	L	Н	5	U	R	В	Α	Т
С	L	Α	5	5	R	0		M	W

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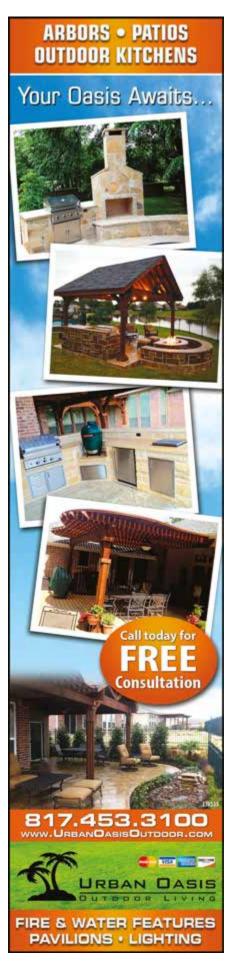


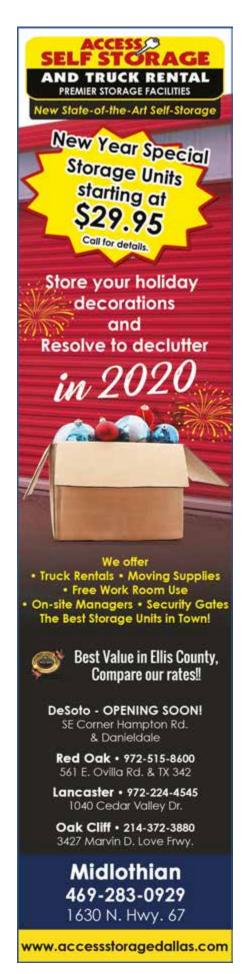


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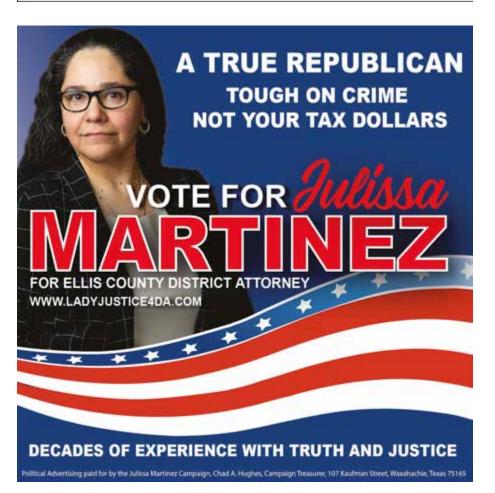














#### **Crossword Puzzle**

	1	2	3			4	5	6	7	
8		+	T	9	10		1	T	T	7
11	1	+	t	+	$\vdash$	+		$\vdash$	t	12
13	+	+		14	$\vdash$	$\vdash$		15	t	+
16	+	$\vdash$	17	Т	$\vdash$		18		t	t
T			19	+	+	20				
21	22	23			24	+	t	25	26	27
28	1	T		29		t		30		1
31	T	$\vdash$	32		t	$\vdash$	33		1	T
	34	1	H	+	$\vdash$	+	$\vdash$		1	+
	35	+	+	$\vdash$			36		+	

Solutions on page 44

Crosswordsite.com Ltd

#### Across

- 1 Angel dust
- 4 Adds
- 8 Citizen of Santa Ana
- 11 Due to
- 13 Morning drops
- 14 Anoint
- 15 Madhouse
- 16 Classify
- 18 Priestly cloak
- 10 Priestly Cloak
- 19 "I haven't seen you in --- "
- 21 Leading light?
- 24 Doghouse sounds
- 28 Gas station abbr.
- 29 Small cell
- 30 Exclamation of surprise
- 31 Like some university staffers
- 34 Mapped out
- 35 Inner being
- 36 Narrow beam of light

#### Down

- 1 Window divisions
- 2 Talons
- 3 Pipe plastic
- 4 One ferried by Charon
- 5 Vase
- 6 Unleavened bread
- 7 Pry
- 8 Pop
- 9 Squash variety
- 10 "Encore!"
- 12 Enemy
- 17 Scull
- 18 Suit with an MBA, maybe
- 20 Rate
- 21 Title for a distinguished Indian
- 22 Is inclined
- 23 Give consent
- 25 "We --- touchdown!"
- 26 Tyne Daly TV role
- 27 Storage shelter
- 29 "Like that would happen!"
- 32 90-degree fitting
- 33 Spike

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# **SCAVENGER**



Michelle King, with Texas Ace, presents Eva Rogers, winner of the November MidfothianNOW Scavenger Hunt, with the Custom Texas Ace gift basket!

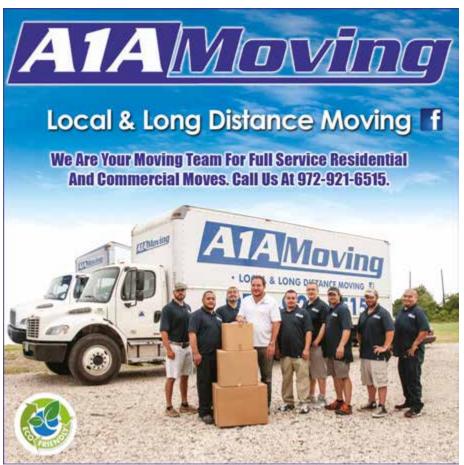


lade and Preston Clark happily accept the \$100 Visa Gift Card they won from MidlothianNOW Magazine sales representative Joyce Sebasta.



Alicia Williams, November Midlothian Scavenger Hunt winner, displays all the Navarro gifts she won with help from Joyce Sebesta, MidlothianNOW sales representative.





#### Sudoku Puzzle

Medium 

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Solutions on page 44











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#### MANNA HOUSE

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#### MENTORS CARE

Mentors Care is a mentoring program that encourages action, hope and a future using volunteer mentors from the community to reach 'at-risk' youth in our schools. 661 E. Main St., #200-170, Midlothian, TX 76065 http://mentors.care/

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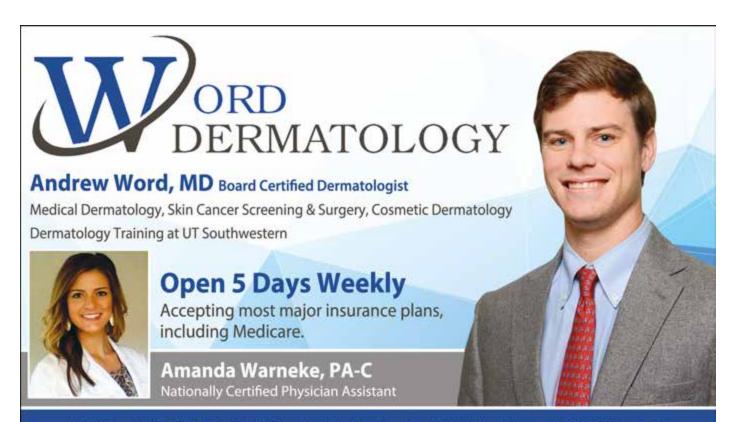
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2460 North I-35E, Suite 285, Waxahachie (Professional Building Next to BS&W Hospital)

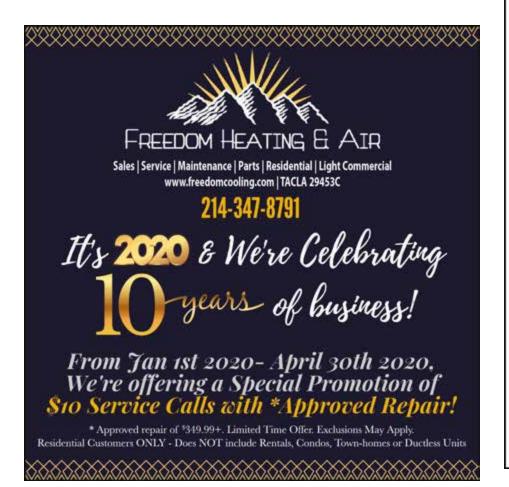
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DeSoto's Veterans Affairs Committee is partnering with North Texas VA Outreach Services to bring VA representatives to DeSoto on a monthly basis. If you need help with applying for benefits, have been denied benefits or just have questions, please attend our Veterans Benefit Fair.

For more information, please call 972-230-9648

DeSoto Public Library – Multipurpose Room 211 E. Pleasant Run Road • DeSoto TX 75115 January 18, 2020 • 10 am to 1 pm



## Crossword Sudoku Solutions

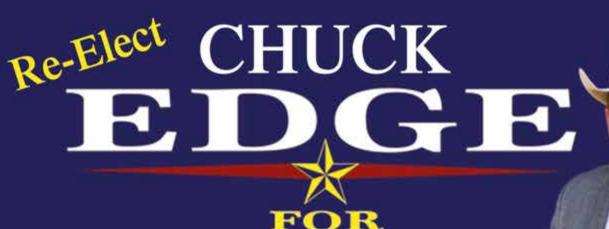
	P	2 C	³P			s.	°υ	M	s	
8 S	A	L	٧	<sup>9</sup> A	10D	0	R	Α	N	
10	N	Α	С	С	0	U	N	Т	0	12 F
13 D	Ε	W		140	1	L		15 Z	0	0
16 A	S	S	170	R	Т		18C	0	Р	Е
			19 A	N	Α	20G	E			
21 S	<sup>22</sup> T	23 A	R		24 G	R	0	25 W	26 L	2J S
28 R	E	G		29 A	Α	Α		30 A	Α	Н
31	N	R	32 E	S	Τ	D	33 E	N	C	E
	D	Ε	L	1	N	E	A	Т	Ε	D
1	35 S	E	L	F			36 R	Α	Υ	

#### Easy

1								
8	6	2	5	4	9	1	7	3
5	7	3	8	2	1	4	9	6
9	1	7	6	8	5	3	4	2
3	8	5	4	1	2	9	6	7
4								
6								
2	5	1	9	6	3	7	8	4
7	3	4	1	5	8	6	2	9

#### Medium

								5
3	6	7	4	5	8	1	9	2
5	4	2	1	7	9	8	6	3
2	8	5	6	1	4	9	3	7
1	7	3	9	8	5	6	2	4
4	9	6	7	3	2	5	1	8
9	3	8	5	2	6	7	4	1
7								
6	2	1	8	4	7	3	5	9





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