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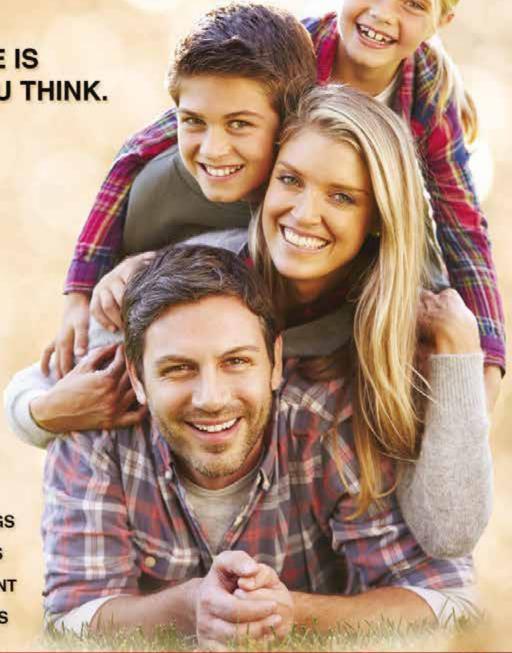
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REVOLVING 8 DOOR **DECORATORS**

At Home With Randy and Cindy McCool

18 businessnow Sheibley Family Dentistry

20 AROUND TOWNNOW

22 COOKINGNOW Anthony Smith



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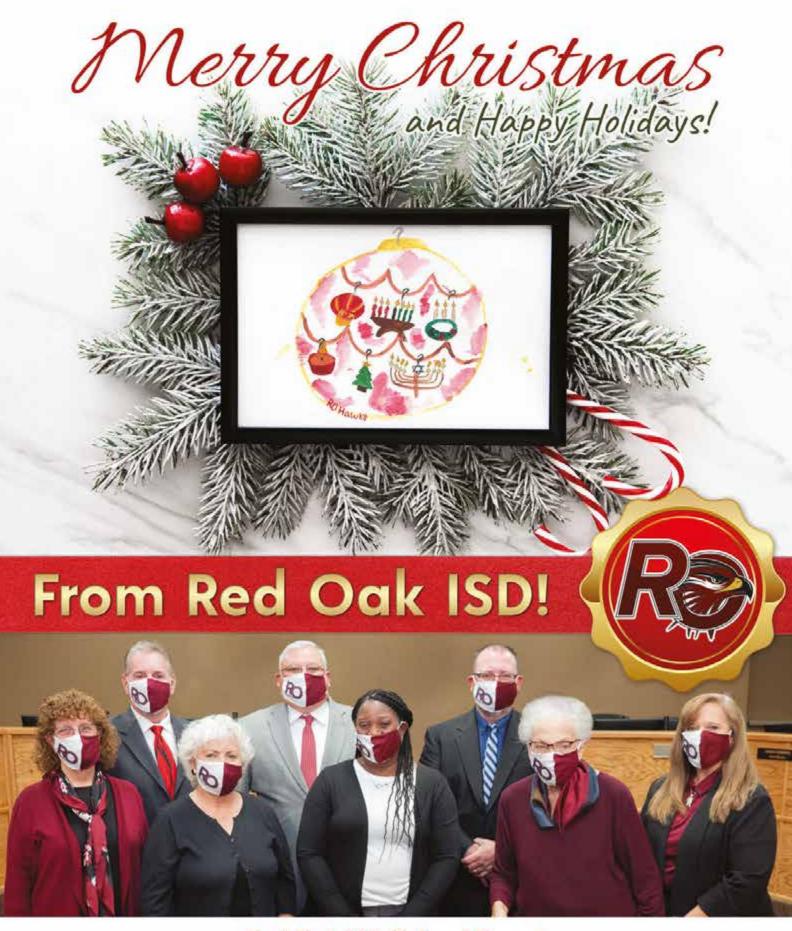
ON THE COVER

Christmas decorations dress up the McCool home differently each year.

Photo by Shane Kirkpatrick.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

It's Christmas, y'all!

When December begins, it's time to fill your Christmas mugs with steaming hot cocoa and marshmallows, bundle up in your warmest pi's and unashamedly binge watch as many Christmas movies or sing as many Christmas songs as you can. My favorites include The Santa Clause and Home Alone collections, ones most millennial moviegoers grew up watching. And you can't ignore the classics — Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer, Santa Claus is Coming to Town and Frosty the Snowman — but only the "creepy Claymation" versions, humorously so called by my husband. But among the well-known, there are a few "oldies" (Can I say that yet?) which have stuck around for years, like Christmas with the Kranks, a cute comedy that shows the importance of the spirit of giving.

As far as singing goes, my screeching voice would make an elf run away to the South Pole. But a new song called "Light of Christmas" has quickly made the No. 1 spot on my Christmas playlist, combining two of my favorites — TobyMac and Firefly. For me, TobyMac's line sold the song: "Our eyes, our smiles, you know it could shine on through, all good that we do for the people that don't have it so good." Growing up, I was one who didn't "have it so good." With parents trying to make ends meet for much of my and my brother's lives, we struggled. People gathered around us, providing reassurance, and often a Christmas, when we would have otherwise done without for the sake of paying bills. For that, I'm always grateful and try to pay it forward for other struggling families.

"I finally figured o-o-out what Christmas is all about."

P.S. The publisher and staff of NOW Magazines would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and the happiest of holiday seasons!

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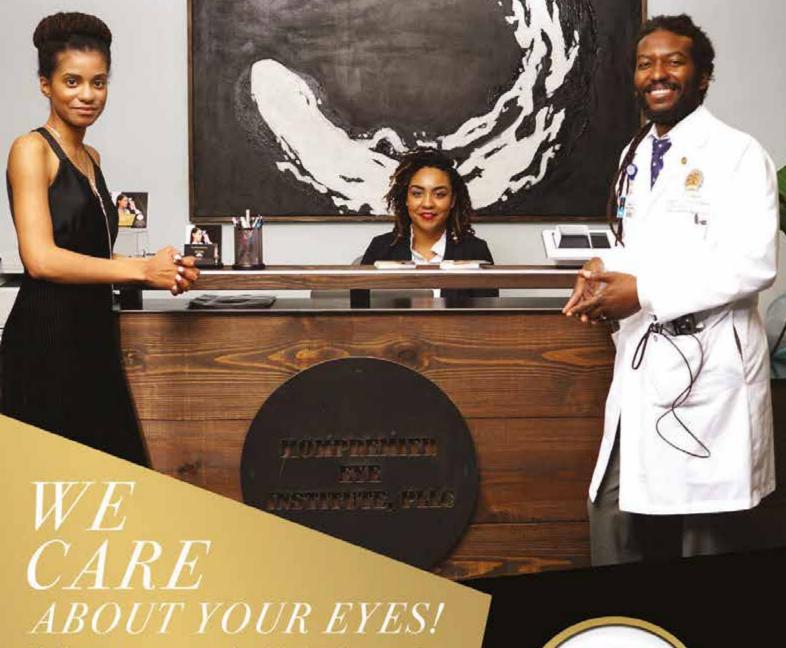
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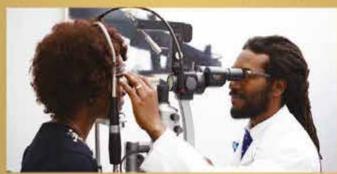
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At Home With Randy and Cindy McCool

Play your favorite holiday tunes. Make a cup of hot apple cider, and find a comfy cushion, because Randy and Cindy McCool have Christmas beauty to unwrap. After moving to Texas from Michigan and Kentucky, Randy and Cindy found each other at the Red Bird Mall in Dallas.

"We were married in 1984," Cindy explained. "Randy's always been in sales or managerial positions. I, too, have been in sales, but spent most of the time raising our family. We have one son and two daughters. Our son is married with one daughter and has gone back to college to obtain a second degree. Our oldest daughter is married with a son and works for Trinity River Authority in public relations. Our youngest daughter is senior director at Bat World Sanctuary in Weatherford."



The hour-long commute for work sent the McCools on a mission to find a quaint space in the thriving town of Oak Leaf in 2017. "We have not lived this close to Dallas in a long time, with so many things to do and see," Cindy admitted. Before blinking lights brighten up the town, this couple rolls up their sleeves to jumpstart their Christmas fun in their home.

As they display the delicate decorations dotting their grand house, the McCools have no problem getting into the holiday spirit. The grays, creams and whites seen throughout the house provide the perfect canvas for Cindy's various decorations, which fit right into the decornaturally positioned in the rooms.

In front of the tall windows in the living room stands a tree as sweet as chocolate, rolling in various gold, tan and deep brown ornaments and ribbons. The living room tree has always meant a lot to Cindy, and it has always been hers alone to decorate. "When our children were small, I was so adamant about the Christmas tree looking a certain way that they each had a tree in their own rooms they could decorate any way they chose," she explained. Next to the tree, a beautiful fireplace brings warm, fuzzy feelings to everyone who basks in its light during gatherings. "We, as a family, including extended family, get together for appetizers and celebratory libations. We do a white elephant gift exchange and laugh from start to completion," she grinned.

When the kids were younger, family memories were dearer than the gifts under the tree. "Their excitement was simply infectious and filled with joy — so much happiness and gratitude at one time, every time," Randy reminisced.

"Our lives are pure fun and crazy chaos during December," Cindy said. "Randy and our son are December babies, so finding time to celebrate their birthdays and Christmas is challenging, but we get it done, and everyone is included. [Our children] spend Christmas Eve night with us on occasion. Last year, they brought a total of three dogs, added to the three who live here — good times!" Anyone can see their children are their precious jewels.

Another jewel is the master bedroom, as darker-toned walls provide a soothing atmosphere. "For the most part, we designed our house and used an architect. It is definitely















a one-of-a-kind home," Cindy noted. Light pink with hints of rose gold highlight the space. The dainty color rests on the bed, is interwoven in the area rug, is displayed on a chair, is spread over the dresser in a table spread and is the color of a mini tree wrapped in white ribbon.

The inside isn't the only place boasting of Christmas cheer. Lining the end of the pool, numerous small trees and decorated garland let Santa know the McCools mean business. Additionally, the patio area includes a patio heater and a second fireplace, so family and friends who make their way outside to laugh and play stay warm.

Even with all the beauty and space this luxurious home has to offer, the McCools have their own retreat. With a house on the coast, they vacation there as often as possible, delving into their beloved hobbies. "We both love to target shoot and saltwater fish," Randy mentioned. "We have owned RVs for years and like to hit the road when time allows. Cindy also belongs to a Mardi Gras krewe in Galveston, called Tutu Live Krewe. They march and dance for miles during the Mardi Gras parades."

"I won't lie," Cindy added. "I live for it!" She lives for many challenges, even during Christmas. "I am one of those trendy types, so I change out everything every few years, or, at the very least, I add to and subtract from my collection of 15 boxes of Christmas decorations in the attic."

"After the boxes have been brought down, we have to apologize for the things that were muttered during the process," Randy laughed.

"My goal is to never repeat the same design. There may be a lot of the same





decor, but the design must be different. It can be very challenging at times, but I always manage to make it happen. One thing I find helpful is to bring in branches off our native cedars. They not only add a beautiful backdrop to different types of Christmas decor, but they also add incredible fragrance."

The decorating process takes Cindy about three weeks due to her magnificent tweaking skills. "Once I reach decorating nirvana, I shove the boxes to the back of the garage and revel in my ability to escape the dreaded repeat. I am not a creature of habit when it comes to decorating."

Though every year provides a clean slate for the house, some decorations don't change. "Cindy lost her mother to breast cancer in 2010, and a special breast cancer angel has been on the tree ever since." Randy admitted. "We also have a Christmas village that belonged to Cindy's mother that is sometimes displayed." These timeless pieces bring sentimentality to their season.

There is always something new to see and experience at the McCool home. With decked out halls and family times around the corner, it's safe to assume they will be snug in their Oak Leaf home this Christmas. NOW





AFTER

*Individual resul may vary.



Dr. Richard R. Knight, M.D.



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BusinessNOW

Sheibley Family Dentistry

By Rachel Rich

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Hours: Monday-Tuesday & Thursday-Friday: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (Hours will update in 2021.)

Bringing her Ohio charm to Texas, Dr. Monica Sheibley fit right in with the Ellis County vibe when she first moved here. "I fell in love with Midlothian and its amazing sense of community," she said. "It reminds me of my town in Ohio." Since moving here, she has become involved in several

organizations in her personal life, including the Midlothian Running Club, Waxahachie Biking Club and Waxahachie Triathlon Club. "My husband and I are also involved in animal rescue and have fostered many dogs through rescue groups in the DFW area," she added.

When the opportunity presented itself to care for Ellis County by acquiring the practice of Dr. Gerald Clark, she eagerly made the leap. "After 37 years of dentistry, Dr. Clark was nearing retirement and looking to 'pass the torch' to another dentist. COVID-19 proved to be an interesting time, but in April of this year, the transition was complete. I am grateful for the opportunity to carry on the dental legacy at my location."

A general dentistry practice, giving family dental care to patients of all ages, Sheibley Family Dentistry provides routine hygiene appointments, crown and bridge, cosmetic dentistry, implants, fillings, root canals, dentures, clear aligners for orthodontics, emergency care, extractions and wisdom teeth

removal. "We are devoted to helping create healthy, beautiful smiles, and we strive to meet and learn about our patients on a more personal level before beginning treatment. We work to create a comfortable and relaxing environment." The team continues to keep in mind the comfort of the patients, as Dr. Sheibley plans to expand hours and days in 2021, opening earlier to accommodate for patients who have school and work.

Her team treats everyone who walks through the door like family, and they consider quality time spent with their patients essential. They want to find out what's important to them before making any decisions regarding their health. "One of my professional goals is to continue to be a lifetime learner and ensure I am providing the most up-todate and relevant information to patients." Dr. Sheibley does her best to provide a positive dental experience for each patient, especially those who do not enjoy dentists due to previous negative experiences. Each of her team members takes the time to have a one-on-one approach and tailor the appointment to each patient, giving options and an understanding that what works for one person may not work for another.

Dr. Sheibley is grateful for her enthusiastic team, consisting of Hygienist Stephanie Savins, Registered Dental Assistant Kelli Seigler, Registered Dental Assistant Brooke Pike, Front Office Administrator and Dental Assistant Tammy Wright and Front Office Administrator and Dental Assistant Jessica Romskog. "There are two things I love about being in dentistry," Dr. Sheibley stated. "I love both the personal and professional relationships I get to develop with patients, colleagues and team members. Second, I love seeing someone have a life-changing moment when they have a new smile or can finally feel comfortable smiling, after not being able to for so long.

"It's such a heartwarming moment knowing that you helped give someone the confidence to smile again," she concluded. With expert knowledge and generous people ready to serve, stop on by and get your teeth the refined care offered by Sheibley Family Dentistry. NOW







Around Town



The Ferris Fire Department bundles up in front of the Ferris fire truck.

Zoomed In: Tatum Gallardo

By Rachel Rich

As Tatum Gallardo, "like the Lamborghini," serves young Red Oak athletes, she does it for a good cause. She does more than dedicate her time to this wonderful community we know and love. Tatum is also serving in the name of her late brother, Symon Castillo.

Their father, Nate, anxiously awaited a kidney transplant. While a tragedy took away Symon at a young age, he decided to be giving all the way to the end. His kidney was donated to Nate, saving his father's life. "He was a hero," Tatum said. As they spread cheer to people in Red Oak, they happily share Symon's loving-kindness with everyone, as they "live, love and save like Symon."



Isabella Moore is graciously escorted down the field by Aiden Sawyer at their homecoming game.



The Red Oak Pee Wee Footbal team holds their official ribbon cutting on their newly revamped football field.



Andrea Swords puts books away in her classroom.



Officer Daniel Bicknell stops for a coffee at the Red Oak Starbucks.



Emma Halverson, a The University of Texas at Arlington athelete, hones her basketball skills at home in Red Oak.



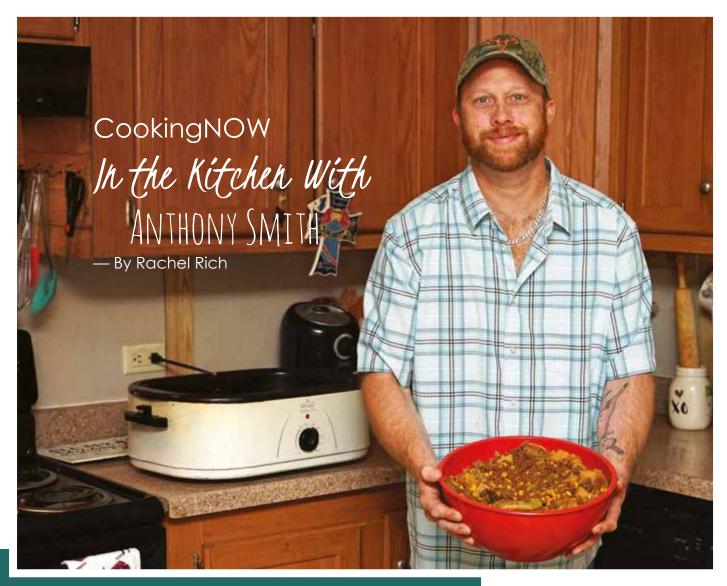
On a sunny day, many turn out for the ribbon cutting at Oakmont Park.



The Ovilla Christian School Volleyball Team gears up for a game the TikTok way.







A dedicated custodian at Red Oak ISD, Anthony Smith is a Red Oak native by location and heart. He found his cooking passion 14 years ago after he married his sweetheart, Tammy, and bought his first grill. "I got my love for food from my Memaw," he said. "I watched her cook all the time."

With a nickname like "Country," it is no surprise that Anthony loves to hunt and fish. "I enjoy the outdoors and am always up for a challenge," he said. That is evident as he creates his own recipes. "I experiment with all kinds of food and spices. One day, I want to own my own restaurant!" His perseverance may help this good ol' country boy with a dream achieve that dream someday. Now

Cast-iron Pan Seared Salmon Over Fresh Spinach

2 pieces salmon
Salt, to taste
Cracked pepper, to taste
Extra-virgin olive oil, to taste
I bag fresh spinach
I clove garlic, diced

- I large onion, dicedI cup mushrooms, chopped
- 1 lemon
- 1 Tbsp. butter
- 1. Remove the skin from the salmon pieces. Season the fish with salt and cracked pepper.
 2. In a pan, add the olive oil; cook for 5 minutes on each side, until the fish is golden brown. Remove from the pan.

- **3.** Sauté the spinach for 1 minute in the olive oil, until tender; remove.
- **4.** Add the garlic, onions and mushrooms; cook until tender.
- **5.** In a saucepan, freshly squeeze the lemon; add butter. Cook until melted and hot.
- **6.** Decorate your plate with spinach. Add fish; top with the garlic and onion mixture. Pour the lemon butter sauce over the dish; serve.

Memaw's Fresh Salmon Patties

Feeds 10-12 people. Prep time can take up to 45 minutes.

2 lbs. fresh salmon
1/2 cup breadcrumbs
4 eggs
Black pepper, to taste
Roasted garlic and herb seasoning, to taste
Oil, enough for frying
Tartar sauce, for dipping (optional)

I. Remove the skin from the fish. Bake the fish at 350 F until it is flakey. Let cool for 10

minutes; break into small pieces.

- **2.** In a mixing bowl, add the fish pieces, breadcrumbs, eggs and seasonings. Hand mix the ingredients; form into patties.
- **3.** Heat the oil in a cast-iron skillet on medium heat. Fry the patties in the oil until they are golden brown.
- **4.** Eating with tartar sauce enhances the experience, if desired.

Classic Bacon-wrapped Corn on the Cob

Prep time: 30 minutes.

Dash of McCormick Grill Mates Smokehouse Maple Seasoning 6 ears corn, shucked 3 lbs. bacon

1. Sprinkle maple seasoning over each ear of corn. Wrap the corn with 3 slices of bacon. **2.** Place the corn on the grill; cook at 300 F for 30 minutes, or until the bacon is

Not Your Ordinary BLT

Makes 6-10 sandwiches.

golden brown.

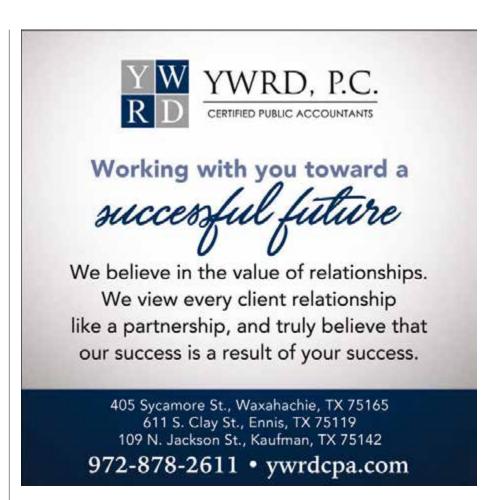
I pkg. marble rye bread I/2 lb. yellow cheese, sliced I lb. cooked bacon 2 avocados 2 tomatoes I head lettuce

- **1.** Heat a skillet over medium heat. Butter 2 slices of bread on one side; place them in the skillet, buttered side down.
- **2.** Place sliced cheese on top of one slice of the bread; add bacon. Cook until the cheese is melted. Add 2 slices of avocado and 1 slice of tomato.
- **3.** Take sandwich out of the skillet. Add lettuce on top of the tomato; add top slice of bread. Repeat steps with remaining ingredients.

Paul's Chili

5 lbs. 80/20 ground beef 2 29-oz. cans tomato sauce 2 15-oz. cans chili beans 1 large onion, diced 1/2 tsp. chili powder 1/2 tsp. cayenne pepper 1/4 tsp. garlic salt

- 1/4 tsp. onion saltI. Brown the ground beef for 20 minutes;
- add the tomato sauce. **2.** Add beans and seasonings.
- **3.** Cook for 1 hour; let simmer for an additional 45 minutes. Drain grease; serve.





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- 1 16-oz. box shell noodles
- 1 16-oz. tub ricotta cheese
- 2 blocks mozzarella cheese
- 2 28-oz. bags Parmesan cheese
- I lb. sliced pepperoni
- 2 29-oz. cans tomato sauce
- **I.** Boil the noodles; cool for 10 minutes. Drain and rinse the noodles.
- 2. Mix all the cheeses in a bowl. Stuff the shells with 1 lb. of melted cheese.

- **3.** Add the sliced pepperoni on top of the cheese and noodle mixture.
- **4.** Line a pan with tomato sauce. Place the shells in the pan. Add any remaining sauce and cheese over the top of the pepperoni.
- **5.** Wrap in foil; bake at 350 F for 30 minutes.

Pawpaw's Country Style Stew

- 8 lbs. 80/20 ground beef
- 2 Tbsp. Better Than Bouillon Roasted **Beef Base**
- 2 lbs. fresh okra, chopped

1 lb. carrots, chopped

- 2 lbs. onion, chopped
- 4 ears corn, cut off the cob
- 1 lb. fresh green beans
- 1/2 lb. fresh peas
- 6 cups water
- I head cabbage, chopped
- 1 3-lb. bag red potatoes, chopped and peeled
- **1.** Brown the beef for 25 minutes; drain.
- 2. Add the beef to a roaster stock pot on high at 350 F. Add all the vegetables and the
- 3. Cook for about 3 hours, or until tender.



TOP THREE



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Crossword Puzzle

	1	2	3			4	5	6	7	
8		1	T		9		T	1		
10	1	t	t	11		\vdash		\vdash	T	12
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	32		t	+	\vdash		33			+
	34	+	+	+			35	-	+	

Solutions on page 28

Easy

Crosswordsite.com Ltd

Across

- 1 National economic yardstick
- 4 Islamic sect
- 8 E.g. King Cole's fiddlers
- 9 Greet the judge
- 10 County whose most populous city is Yonkers
- 13 Nose bag grain
- 14 CD- ---
- 15 Mischievous person
- 16 Intoxicated state
- 18 Long hard walk
- 19 Palindromic competition vehicle
- 21 First Pauline and now Jeanne Phillips
- 23 Discharge
- 26 Fur scarf
- 27 III. neighbor
- 28 Go right, to a horse
- 29 Focus

Medium

- 32 Rifle accessory
- 33 Working tirelessly
- 34 Campsite accommodation
- 35 "— rather go naked than wear fur" (slogan)

Down

- 1 Dandyl
- 2 Hullabaloo
- 3 Poker chips
- 4 Part of a wineglass
- 5 Owns
- 6 Pump
- 7 "25" album singer
- 8 "Terrible" time for tots
- 9 Water's edge
- 11 Foam clog
- 12 Murder victim of 6/6/68
- 17 Fork over
- 18 "I Tawt I Taw a Puddy --- "
- 20 "--- bon!"
- 21 "General Hospital" network

8

- 22 Encouragement
- 24 Stinking to high heaven
- 25 Stocking fillers?
- 27 Exuded
- 30 Swindle
- 31 Untrained

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Sudoku Puzzle

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

3

9

 9
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5

Solutions on page 28

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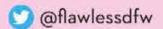
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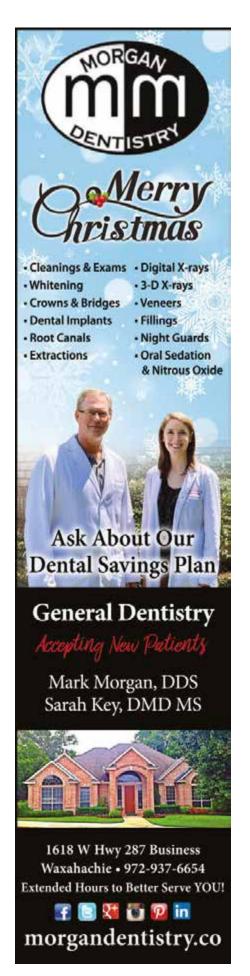
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month. Winning the \$50
was just an extra bonus.



Tonya Toliver Willis, new to the area, enjoys North Ellis Co.NOW Magazine even more now that she is a \$50 winner. "Thank you, NOW Magazines!"

Crossword Sudoku Solutions

	G	D	³ p			s	5 H	6	A	
T	R	1	0		9S	Т	Α	N	D	
w	E	S	Т	1,C	Н	E	S	Т	E	12 R
0	Α	Т		¹⁴ R	0	М		15 E	L	F
10 S	Т	U	¹⁷ P	0	R		10 _T	R	Ε	K
		19 R	Α	С	Е	20°C	Α	R		
A	²² B	В	Υ		²³ L	Ε	Т	0	24 F	25 F
В	0	Α		27 W	1	S		²⁸ G	Ε	E
°C	0	N	30 C	Ε	N	Т	R	Α	Т	E
	SS.	С	0	P	E		33 A	Т	1	T
	34 _T	E	N	T			35 W	E	D	

Easy

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

Medium

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

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