MidothianNow



....ECHWSS EDDW....

are a simple holiday DIY



BRING A FULLY ASSEMBLED BIKE OR DONATION

for a local, underprivileged child, and help them have a great Christmas this year!

All Donations will be entered to Win a Whole Home Air Purification System.

BIKES 4.TYKES



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9 · 8 AM

Jimmy's Pizza • 300 N. 8th Street
BENEFITING MANNA HOUSE MIDLOTHIAN

Thank you Jimmy's Pizza for partnering on this event and your involvement in OUR community!

Texas Ace Heating & Air 817.240.6701

www.texasacehvac.com

Dip into Santa's Bag this year for some fun gifts from Texas Ace!



ENTER BY 12/26 FOR A CHANCE TO WIN:

Free furnace with complete system installation

Winners will be announced December 28th.





















Midlothian, Welcome Home for the Holidays.



You'll discover the spirit of compassion, family, and friendship this holiday season, when you visit one of these Civitas Senior Living communities, right in your own backyard

**** AMENITIES & SERVICES INCLUDE:

Upscale, Pet-friendly Residences | 24/7 Personalized Care On-site Physical Therapy | Chef-prepared Dining & MORE!









MIDTOWNE SENIOR LIVING

ASSISTED LIVING | MEMORY CARE 469-606-3487 | MidtowneAL.com 910 S 9th St., Midlothian, Texas 76065

LEGACY OAKS OF MIDLOTHIAN

INDEPENDENT LIVING | ASSISTED LIVING | MEMORY CARE 469-577-1537 | LegacyOaksMidlothian.com 614 S 14th St, Midlothian, TX 76065

FACILITY ID# 110315

Hernia care, right where you need it

Plan your care with confidence. Our team works with you to choose the right surgery path, right here in Ellis County.

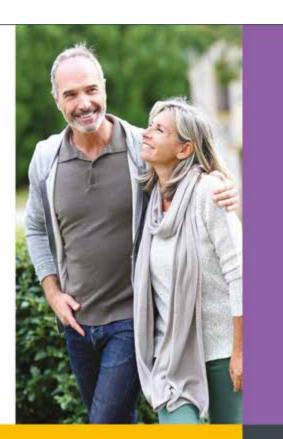
BSWHealth.com/WaxHerniaSurgery 469.800.9832



2360 N. Interstate 35 East, Suite 310 Waxahachie, TX 75165









OPEN POSITIONS:

Machine Operator • Forklift Drivers Industrial Maintenance Mechanics • Electricians

BENEFITS:

- Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance (Medical, Dental, and Vision)
 - Parental Leave
 - Up to 6% company match on 401(k) contributions
 - Charitable matching program
 - Free lunch Fridays
 - And more

To apply go to: https://careers.jameshardie.com

ON THE COVER



Christmas traditions are epitomized in the home of John and Heather Donner.

Photo by Kobbi R. Blair.

Publisher, Connie Poirier General Manager, Rick Hensley

EDITORIAL

Managing Editor, Becky Walker Midlothian Editor, Angel Morris Office Assistant, Kristin Bato Editors/Proofreaders, Rachel Rich Virginia Riddle

GRAPHICS AND DESIGN

Creative Director, Chris McCalla Artists, Kristin Bato . Martha Macias London O'Connell . Anthony Sarmienta

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography Director, Chris McCalla Photographers, Kobbi R. Blair Anthony Sarmienta

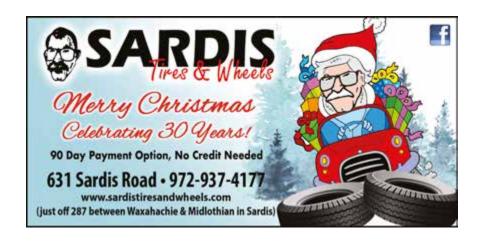
ADVERTISING

Advertising Representatives, Cherise Burnett . Dustin Dauenhauer Bryan Frye. Kelsea Locke Linda Moffett . Linda Roberson Karen Schaefer . Jeremy Young

Billing Manager, Angela Mixon

MidlothianNOW is a NOW Magazines, L.L.C. publication. Copyright © 2023. All rights reserved. MidlothianNOW is published monthly and individually mailed free of charge to homes and businesses in the Midlothian ZIP codes.

Subscriptions are available at the rate of \$35 per year or \$3.50 per issue. Subscriptions should be sent to: NOW Magazines, P.O. Box 1071, Waxahachie, TX 75168. For advertising rates or editorial correspondence, call (972) 937-8447 or visit www.nowmagazines.com.







Angel Morris *MidlothianNOW* Editor angel.morris@nowmagazines.com (972) 533-7216

EDITOR'S NOTE

December to remember ...

Even in the midst of the joy I find in December, I'm invariably melancholy toward another year gone by. The decorations, twinkling lights and carefully wrapped packages warm my heart, at the same time causing me to reflect ... on loved ones lost, on those facing hardships, on the mess of a world just outside my window. This past year, and those in recent times, have seemed so unusually hard, and it is easy to lose sight of one's blessings.

I tend to be of the belief that we are not necessarily better or worse off than generations past — experiencing hardships and successes throughout history. We have made much progress as a society, but we continue to find ways to regress ... pitting anyone against others any way we can. Age, race, gender, income, education, the neighborhoods we live in, the cars we drive, even the pets we own can be used to divide us. Still, these are also things that bring us together through commonality. The problem lies in being unable to recognize the worth of those outside our own spheres.

What better time than December to consider our similitude? The Christmas parable, in fact, is a reminder that we are all born, and we all die. We all live through joy and sorrow. In between is the opportunity to make each others' lives better or worse. The gift of this season is not just receiving hope, but in sharing it ... with those different and alike.

A blessed opportunity to keep in mind year-round!

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!





Broker/Owner 972-824-6017







Allan McKeever Realtor/Builder 972-824-8736







GATE BROKEN?









972-775-3091





Whether you worked too hard or played too hard, advanced orthopedic care is here.

Whether the years or the miles have caught up to you, Methodist Midlothian Medical Center is here for all your orthopedic needs. From emergency care to aches, pains, and chronic injuries, our care team and specialists on the medical staff are ready with imaging, nonsurgical and surgical treatment options, physical therapy, and more. Providing our friends and neighbors with the patient-focused orthopedic care they depend on. That's community and why so many people Trust Methodist.



Find a doctor at

MethodistMidlothian.org

or call (469) 716-5094



orthopedic conditions, including:

- . Ankle and foot pain
- Bone fractures
- Bone tumors
- Carpal tunnel syndrome
- Knee pain and injuries
- . Hand and wrist conditions
- . Hip pain and injuries
- · Orthopedic trauma
- · Shoulder pain and injuries
- · Sports injuries

Texas law prohibits hospitals from practicing medicine. The physicians on the Methodist Health System medical staff are independent practitioners who are not



WE ARE DESIGNED TO GET YOU HOME AND BACK TO YOUR PREVIOUS LEVEL OF INDEPENDENCE.

We Offer

- · A dedicated team of specialists to guide your rehab journey including physicians, rehab nursing, therapy, wound care, in-house dialysis, and nutritional support
- · Specialized care for stroke, brain injury, amputation, neurological conditions, orthopedic injuries, and generalized weakness from recent hospitalizations
- · Daily attention from dedicated rehab physicians
- Customized care plans for individualized rehabilitation
- Low patient to rehab nurse ratio (6:1)
- · State of the art therapy equipment with one-on-one sessions
- · Home and physician office evaluations



"Great all-around care and support from nurses, physicians, and physical and occupational therapists. I would not be where I am today without the professional and skilled providers at Methodist Rehabilitation Hospital."

- Carol P. from Midlothian



Call TODAY for More Details 972.708.8604

3020 W. Wheatland Road Dallas, Texas 75237 • Methodist-Rehab.com



TIMES ARE TOUGH! INCOME LOSS OR REDUCTION?

GOVERNMENT RELIEF IS AVAILABLE THROUGH A PERSONAL OR SMALL BUSINESS BANKRUPTCY.

Confidential Legal Assistance • Free Consultation

LAW OFFICE OF Helping Individuals & Small Businesses for over

DEBT RELIEF

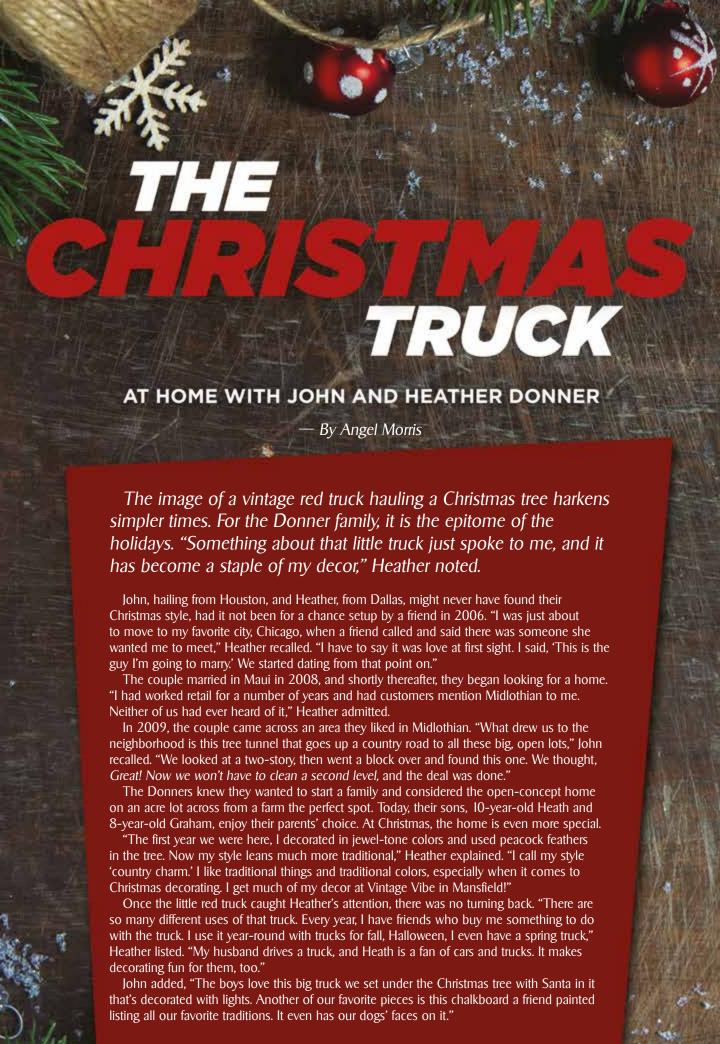
Eliminate or Pay Debt Back at 0% • Stop Foreclosures • Refinance Vehicles

The Federal Bankruptcy Program was written to help individuals and businesses get through their financial crisis. You are entitled to a bailout also!

CALL US TODAY 972.296.9971

Consultations Available via Video Conference and Telephone Conference Our office is conveniently located to serve Ellis & surrounding counties at:

114 South 5th Street, Midlothian, TX 76065

















While John is a chief engineer senior manager at Lockheed Martin by day, he is also a hobbyist woodworker ... which helps Heather's decor ideas come to life. "He has a big shop and can build shelves or displays for just about anything I need," she praised. "He makes cutting boards and just built our youngest son's desk, too."

Although everything centers around the truck, the Donners also have a section of nutcrackers, an area of snowmen and even some Christmas gnomes. "Heather definitely has different groupings. She gets started decorating at the beginning of November because she likes to have it all done before Thanksgiving," John explained.

While she starts and finishes early, Heather admits she will change and update her holiday-tiered tray throughout the season. "The big stuff is done early, so I can just enjoy the time with my family, but I will change things up here and there all season," she said.

A special area is the dining room, where Heather said her country charm style is on display with decorated orbs, reindeer and Santa Claus. A twiggy tree with multicolored lights showcases her collection of Lolita glassware. "The brand makes glasses and has many ornaments. I put the mini glasses on a tree I call my little wine tree," Heather described.

Besides decorating, the Donners have some favorite traditions. "We have an elf, Mr. Bojangles, who appears at the beginning of December and keeps the boys entertained," John said. "We also like to have people over to look at all the decorations."





Heather hosts a brunch featuring a white elephant gift exchange with friends, and the couple always visits with extended family the day before or after Christmas. "I had two sisters, and being with family is most important for us. Growing up, we attended Christmas Eve service, and we continue that tradition with our boys," Heather reflected. "The main thing for us is to be home with just our family on Christmas Day. One of the shenanigans I've continued from my childhood is to wrap my son's gifts in unusual boxes. They may open up one and wonder why they are getting a box of cereal or muffin mix. We've always just enjoyed seeing their faces during all the experiences of Christmas morning."

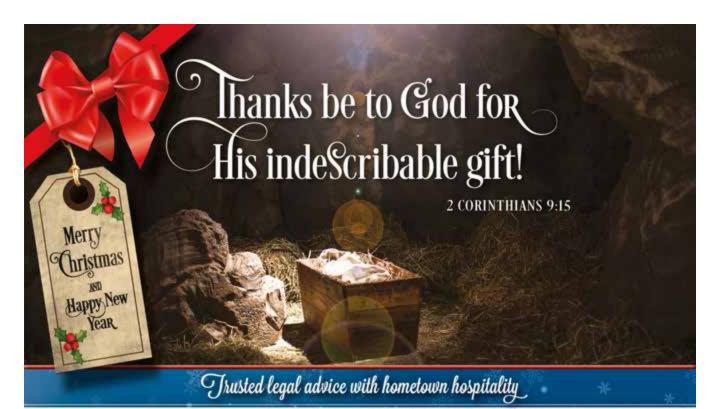
As the boys mature, John and Heather hope to make holiday travel more the norm. "It becomes less about the gifts and even more about having experiences together," John said.

Sports are already a part of the Donner family experience. "We're a big sports family. Our boys are in baseball and basketball," John listed. "This has been the best community for raising our family, and we couldn't imagine living anywhere else."

Christmas is the perfect time for the Donners to reflect on their life in Midlothian. "I also love decorating for Halloween, but this is just my favorite time. I post a lot of pictures of the decorations and have friends over to see what I've put out this year," Heather shared. "I cook a big casserole on Christmas Eve to have for breakfast the next day. Then it's a joy to watch our boys play the whole day." Simple pleasures, brought in by that little red vintage truck, round out the Donners' holiday. NOW







CraneLawFirm.com

Wills • Probate • Guardianship

972-723-1033



- All Insurances Accepted
- Complimentary Local Shuttle
- Equipped & Certified for Aluminum Repairs for all makes & models



At Superstar Collision, we take tremendous pride in the work we do. We offer a LIFETIME WARRANTY. We will ensure that your vehicle is brought back to pre-accident condition and is repaired to your satisfaction.



"Glenn and his guys got my car looking good again after I got rear-ended. I, as well as my family, have used Superstar for more than 10 years and will continue to use them and recommend them to everyone! Thank you guys for everything!" Austin - October 2023

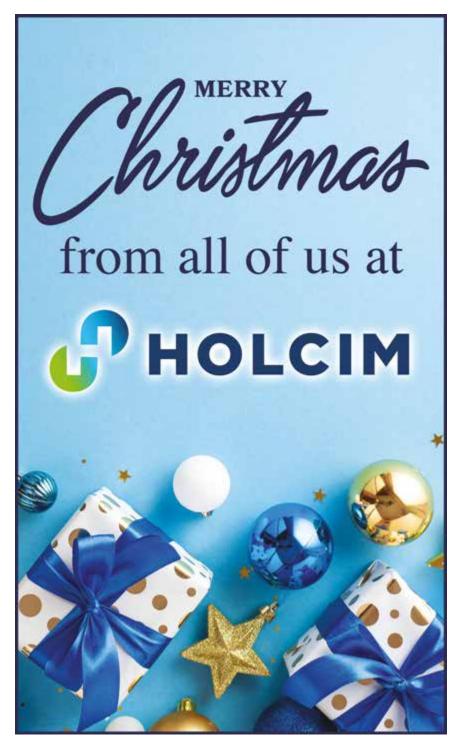
> HOW CAN WE HELP YOU TODAY? 2-299-6900

1260 S Hwy 67, Cedar Hill (Between Cedar Hill and Midlothian)

Proud to be Locally Owned and Operated for Over 17 years superstarcollision.com























BusinessNOW

AJP Insurance Agency

By Angel Morris

AJP Insurance Agency 1001 E. Main St., Ste. D Midlothian, TX 76065 (469) 672-6596 www.ajpinsurance.com ajp.agency@gmail.com

Hours: January-April: 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Off season: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Seemingly endless options can cause frustration and anxiety for insurance seekers. AJP Insurance Agency helps customers sort through the many choices to find the best policy for them.

Initially open as a tax office in Midlothian in 2018, Branch Owner Patrick Perez began offering insurance in 2019 and

officially became an independent agency last year. Office Manager Holly Peters said the multiuse agency is committed to helping clients in today's challenging insurance market. "We're equipped to shop for the best policy for your specific needs, to navigate choices and clarify any questions or concerns you may have along the way," she said.

From auto and home to one's business, AJP agents can help protect you and your loved ones for years to come. "We've successfully served hundreds of customers and are determined to treat each individual with respect and compassion," Patrick promised.

Auto insurance protects you after an accident against property, liability and medical costs. Collision (helping with accident costs); liability (helping with costs to repair property and any bodily harm suffered if you cause an accident); medical pay; and uninsured/underinsured policies or comprehensive coverage are the most popular choices involved in auto insurance.

Homeowners insurance is often required by mortgage

lenders when buying a home. Package policies assist in covered loss when your property is damaged and/or when there is any property damage you may cause to others. "The proper policy can help protect you financially from a covered loss or accident. The alternative may be covering the full cost of repairs or replacements out of your own pocket," Patrick explained.

Commercial insurance can range from property and liability to business auto and workers compensation. "Many factors impact the insurance a business needs, from the type of industry and the size of the company to its location and number of employees," Patrick outlined.

Surety bonds are also offered, and annuity insurance can provide tax breaks or a stream of income later in exchange for an upfront investment. Fixed, variable and indexed annuities are the primary types, with benefits in relation to how and how much one invests. "If you're considering retirement goals, annuities can help create income you can't outlive," Patrick noted.

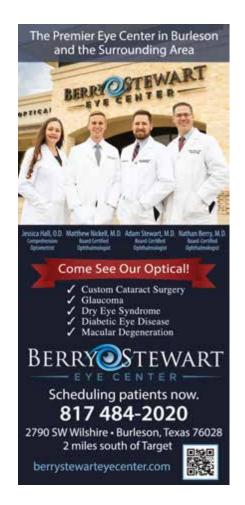
Those older than 65 or with certain disabilities may qualify for federal health insurance through Medicare. From medicine coverage to medical treatments, it is a complex system of parts that AJP can help customers better understand.

AJP's commitment to the community stems from being local themselves. "My kids all go to school in Midlothian. Patrick and his whole family live in Waxahachie. We appreciate doing business locally and we know other people do, too," Holly noted.

Patrick and his wife, Ardis, are members of the Waxahachie VFW and the Midlothian American Legion, as well. He and Ardis are 30-year Army veterans. Their son, Christopher Perez, and part-time team member, Alison Gravley, are available year-round to assist with your insurance and tax questions. "There are growing needs in this town, and we have opportunities available for more local agents in the future," Patrick explained. "With challenges facing insurance carriers like we've never seen before, our goal is to provide multiple options in order to find clients the best rate. We're all about giving options and encourage you to allow us to help with your insurance needs." NOW

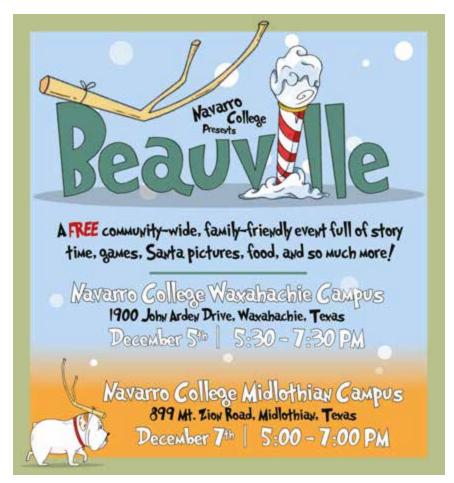






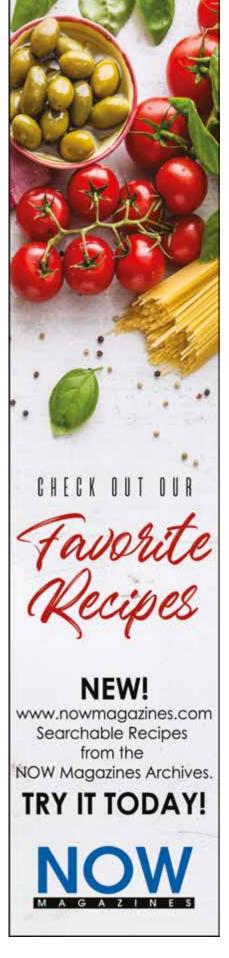














Around Town



Angela Ewton poses with Midlothian Plumbing's contribution to the annual

Scarecrow Festival.



Kishen and Matt Lavender bring Molly and Boomer to St. Paul Church Ellis County's 2023 Blessing of the Animals with Father Terry Reisner.

Zoomed In: Andy McClendon

Andy McClendon recently graduated from the American Legion Texas Boys State program, which educates future leaders about government, civics and patriotism. Captain of the Heritage High School Tennis team and member of the Midlothian ISD Superintendent Advisory Committee, Andy represented MISD in the program. Delegates are handpicked by teachers, counselors and local American Legion posts throughout Texas. Former Boys State graduates include Neil Armstrong, Michael Jordan and Rush Limbaugh, as well as many congressmen, senators and CEOs.

During the one-week interactive seminar, Andy was elected mayor of Moore City, where his favorite part was the competitiveness and camaraderie among delegates. He said, "I'll also never forget getting to know the local American Legion members who invested so much time in helping me prepare for Boys State."



By Angel Morris

Members of the MHS 2022-2023 UIL One Act Play pose for the presentation of their State Finalist banner.



U.S. Representative Jake Ellzey (TX-06) and Melissa Shook, president and CEO of the Midlothian Chamber of Commerce, at the Chamber's Legislative Update.



Anna Stovall performs in the 9th Annual Midlothian Heritage Choir Coffee House Concert.



Doris Waltrip and Margaret Boykin work the craft area of the Lord's Acre event at Sardis United Methodist Church.



Advanced aesthetics, total care.



TREATMENTS

- B12 Shots
- Botox
- Hylaronic Acid Fillers
- Kybella
- Laser Hair Removal
- · Microneedling with PRP
- Morpheus 8
- Hair Restoration
- Sculptra
- Body Contouring
- Evolve X
- Lumecca
- Cellulite Treatment
- Intense Pulse Light

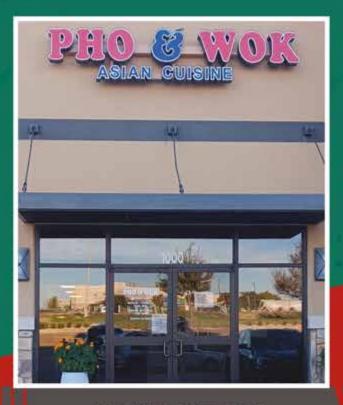




CONTACT 469-337-8999 Wlitt.midlo liftmidlo.com

PRESIDENTIAL

RESTAURANTS AND PROFESSIONAL BUSINESS



NOW OPEN!



OPENING DECEMBER!









4470 E. HWY 287, MIDLOTHIAN, TX 76065

A quick look at the gift items and discounts available locally.





SCHEDULING NOW FOR PERMANENT AND SEASONAL HOLIDAY LIGHT INSTALLATION.

(TAKEDOWN AND STORAGE INCLUDED FOR SEASONAL LIGHTING)

- Permanent Holiday Lighting: 1-time install, app-controlled, create own sequences, year-round use
- Seasonal Christmas Lighting (takedown and storage included)
- Landscape and Security Lighting
- Locally Owned and Operated

CALL FOR A FREE QUOTE!



(469) 570-1447



\$300 OFF ANY PERMANENT LIGHT INSTALLATION USING CODE LIGHTSNOW

Exp. 12/31/23

A quick look at the gift items and discounts available locally.







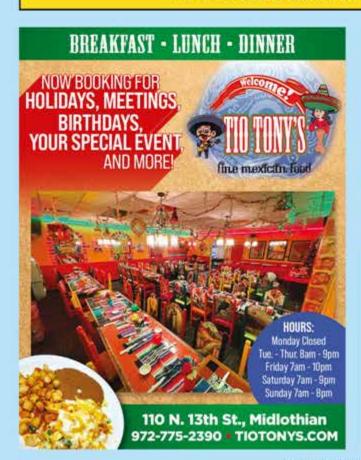


Midlothian • 469-283-0929 1630 Hwy. 67

Red Oak • 972-515-8600 561 E. Ovilla Rd. & TX 342

DeSoto • 469-283-0123 SE Corner Hampton Rd. & Danieldale Lancaster • 972-224-4545 Oak Cliff • 214-372-3880 1040 Cedar Valley Dr. 3427 Marvin D. Love Frwy.

www.accessstoragedallas.com



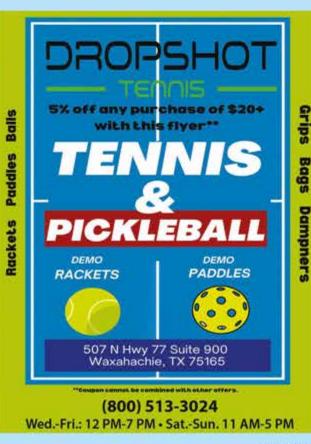


Located @ 1400 N. 9th Street, Midlothian (The Lighthouse Church)



A quick look at the gift items and discounts available locally.







A quick look at the gift items and discounts available locally.



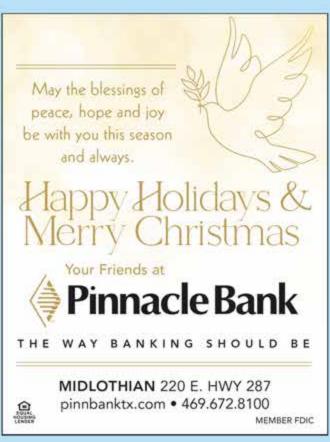




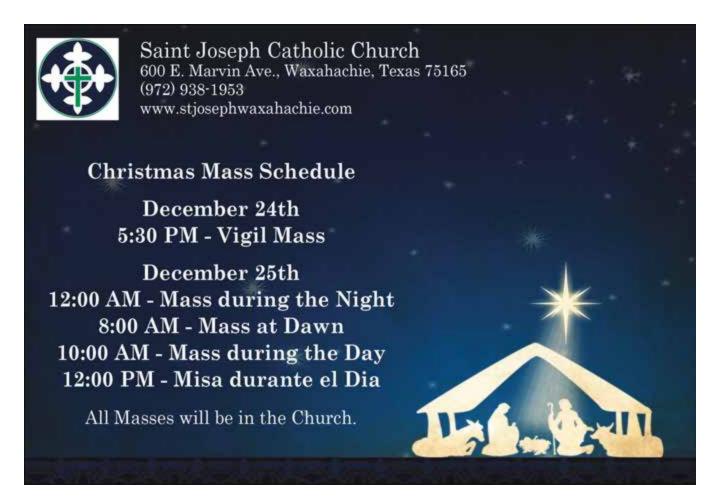


A quick look at the gift items and discounts available locally.











ORDER NOW FOR THE HOLIDAYS

PRIME RIB, FRESH TURKEYS, SMOKED OLD FASHION HAMS, LAMB, FRESH PORK HAMS, WHOLE BEEF TENDERLOINS, MUCH MORE!

SAVE UP TO 50% OFF GROCERY STORE PRICES

FRESH CUT BEEF FOR YOUR FREEZER

HOURS: Mon to Sat 9am - 6pm • Sun 12pm - 5pm

WE ARE OPEN & DELIVER 7 DAYS A WEEK. LIVE BUTCHERS ON PREMISES

Local Texas Beef - Know where your beef comes from! Most trusted service for all your meats. Servicing DFW and Surrounding Areas for Over 100 Years!

*FREE DELIVERY with minimum \$200 purchase.

CUSTOM CUT!

4 - 24 oz. Full Cut Tenderized Round Steak (Chicken Fried)

DISCOUNT MUST SHOW ID

SEE MORE HERE



WE ACCEPT E.B.T.

CALL TO PLACE ORDER 817-964-3255

901 A EAST HIGHWAY 377 GRANBURY, TX

(7) /RANCHERSFEDBEEF

5 lb. Rib Steaks

4 lb. Thick Bacon

60 LBS.

ALL FOR ONLY

4 lb. Sirloins

FAMILY SAVER GRASS FED

- 8 lb. Ground Beef
- 3 lb. Rib Eves
- 3 lb. T-Bones
- 6 lb. Chuck Pot Roast
- 6 lb. Short or BQ Ribs
- 6 lb. Whole Chicken
- 3 lb. Farm Sausage
- 4 lb. Country Pork Ribs 5,359.95
- 3 lb. Chicken Breasts
- 5 lb. Tenderized Round Steak

FREE WITH PURCHASE OF FAMILY SAVER:

IO CENTER CUT PORK CHOPS

FOR THOSE WHO LIKE TO SAVE MONEY AND EAT GOOD

Beef !

Steaks, Roast, Ground Beef, Ribs, Brisket, Soup Cuts, **All Your Cuts** 30 lb. Pork & Chicken FREE Avg. Weight 275 lbs.

"Available in Prime Choice Also

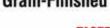
AVAILABLE TEXAS PRIME **CHOICE CERTIFIED** CORN-FED BEEF

• 6 - 16 oz. T-Bone Steaks

• 8 - 10 oz. Sirloin Steaks

THE CATTLEMAN'S PACKAGE

Texas Grass-Fed Grain-Finished Beef





FREEZER WRAPPED & LOADED FREE

ALL FOR

ALL ORDERS CUT FRESH

CUT OUT THE MIDDLEMAN

and eat the best meats at a

HUGE SAVINGS!

 6 - 20 oz. Chuck Eye Steaks (Delmonicos) • 2 - 24 oz. Porterhouse Steaks (King Cut)

5 lbs. Seasoned Skirt Fajitas (3 packages)

8 - 8 oz. Tenderloin Steaks (Filet Mignon)
6 - 16 oz. Bone-in Ribeyes (Cowboy Cut)

- 12 Ground Chuck Patties (approx. 8 oz. each)
- 6 1 lb. Packs, Ground Chuck (85/15)

- 1 -10 lb. Smoker Ready Brisket
 1 7 lb. Pork Shoulder (for Pulled Pork)
- 3 lbs. Beef Short Ribs (Great for Smoker)
- 3 lbs. Thick Texas Bacon 3 lbs. Farm Sausage

NEW MEXICO BISON & ELK

Ribeyes
 Tenderloin

· Andouille Cheese,

Ground Bison

Ground Elk

Bison Patties

Elk Sausage
 Elk Tenderloins

Elk Back Strap

Jalapeño Sausage

- 12 Thick Pork Chops
- 2 Racks St. Louis Pork Ribs
- 3 Whole Chickens (Great for Smoker)

- **Texas Gold Shrimp**
- Sicilian
- German Polish

Italian

OUR FAMOUS LINK SAUSAGE

- Texas Hot Links
- Chorizo
- Farm Breakfast
- Sausage
- **GULF OF MEXICO FRESH SEAFOOD**
- Black Drum
- Grouper
- Scallops

- Salmon
- Catfish
- Tuna

THE BEST

JERKY!

- · Red Fish

- Halibut
- Orange Roughy
 Red Snapper

- **WE MAKE**
- Dog Bones . Dog Food Beef Hearts
 - · Beef Liver

Dog Treats

DELIVERY • 817-964-3255 • FREE DELIVERY • 817-964-3255 • FREE DELIVERY • 817-964-3255 • FREE DELIVER

- · Beef Fat
- · Cheek Meat
- · Pork Belly
- Ox Tails

and much more!

SAMPLER ASSORTMENT

- 4 Pork Chops
- 4 T-Bones (10 oz.) 4 - NY Strips
- 4 Filet Mignons (8 az.) 4 Top Sirloins 2 - Beef Roasts
- 3 lb. Spare Ribs
- 4 Chicken Fried Steaks
- 2 lb. Pork Sausage
- 2 lb. Bacon 12 - Ground Beef Patties 2 lb. pgks. of Ground Beef

FREE WITH PURCHASE

VIP

PACKAGE

\$299.95

4 - 8 oz. Filets 4 - 12 oz. NY Strips

4 - 12 oz. T-Bones

1 - 3 Rib Prime Rib 4 - 12 oz. Top Sirloin 1 lb. Large Scallops

- 1 lb. Texas Jumbo Gulf Shrimp
 - 4 12 oz. Rib Eyes 2 - 14 oz. Maine Lobster Tails
- 4 Chicken Breasts

SPLIT **1/2 BEEF** 2700.00

All The Beef Cuts

RIB EYES 10 One Pounders

\$119.95

16 oz. cut. **Grass Fed** and Grain Finished

TEXAS **FILETS** 20 8 oz. Steaks ONLY 139.95



(BONELESS & SKINLESS)

FREEZER WRAPPED / CUT FREE

15 lb. Pork & **Poultry FREE**

ELIVERY • 817-964-3255 • FREE DELIVERY • 817-964-3255 • FREE DELIVERY





Leslie Chandler is from a long line of cooks, including a father who embraced cuisine from around the world. "Our house was always filled with people and a mouthwatering variety of smells coming from the kitchen," she recalled fondly.

Leslie's "foodie family" enjoys trying new things but appreciates holiday favorites. "I've been making Peppermint Marshmallows since the girls were 2. Now, they are teenagers in the kitchen carrying on the tradition," Leslie noted. "We also enjoy hopping in the car with hot chocolate for a Christmas lights tour, going to ICE! at the Gaylord Texan and making edible gifts to share!"

Leslie is founder of National Charity League, Southern Star, a volunteer organization for Ellis County moms and daughters in seventh-12th grades. She currently serves the group as vice president of philanthropy. Now

Raspberry Chipotle Tenderloin

Our favorite quick holiday dinner!

2 trimmed pork tenderloins 1 15.75-oz. jar Fischer & Weiser **Original Roasted Raspberry Chipotle Sauce**

I yellow onion, roughly chopped 8-10 peeled garlic cloves Coarse black pepper, to taste

Sea salt, to taste Dash of garlic powder

1. Put the tenderloins into a large Ziploc bag with the raspberry chipotle sauce. Marinate in the refrigerator at least 4 hours, or, even better, overnight!

2. Preheat the oven to 350 F. Line a cookie sheet with aluminum foil. Place the tenderloins side by side with about 2 inches between them. Pour half of the remaining marinade over the tenderloins.

3. Place the onions and garlic cloves around the tenderloins. Season with pepper, salt and garlic powder. Seal the top of the tenderloins with another layer of foil; cook for 25 minutes. Check the temperature with a meat thermometer. Once the thickest part reads an internal temperature of 155 F, it is done; allow to rest 10 minutes before serving.

Peppermint Marshmallows

3 1-oz. pkgs. unflavored gelatin I cup ice water (divided use)

12 oz. (about 1 1/2 cups) granulated sugar

1 cup light corn syrup

1/4 tsp. kosher salt

3/4 tsp. peppermint extract

1/4 cup powdered sugar

1/4 cup cornstarch

Nonstick cooking spray

2 drops red food coloring

- 1. Place the gelatin into the bowl of a stand mixer, along with 1/2 cup water. Have the whisk attachment standing by.
- 2. In a small saucepan, combine the remaining water, granulated sugar, corn syrup and salt. Place over medium-high heat. Cover; allow to cook for 3-4 minutes. Uncover: clip a candy thermometer onto the side of the pan. Continue to cook until the mixture reaches 240 F (about 7-8 minutes). Once the mixture reaches this temperature, immediately remove from the heat.
- **3.** Turn the mixer on low speed; while running, slowly pour the sugar syrup down the side of the bowl into the gelatin mixture. Once all the syrup is added, increase the speed to high. Continue to whip until the mixture becomes very thick and is lukewarm (about 12-15 minutes). Add the peppermint extract during the last minute of whipping.
- **4.** While the mixture is whipping, prepare a pan as follows: Combine the powdered sugar and cornstarch in a small bowl. Lightly spray a 9x13-inch pan with nonstick cooking spray. Add enough of the sugar/ cornstarch mixture to completely coat the bottom and sides of the pan. Return the remaining mixture to a bowl for later use.
- 5. When ready, pour the mixture into the prepared pan, using a lightly oiled spatula for spreading evenly. Drop food coloring onto the marshmallows, swirling it into the marshmallows. Dust the top with enough of the remaining sugar and cornstarch mixture to lightly cover. Reserve the rest for later. Allow the marshmallows to sit, uncovered, at least 4 hours and up to overnight.
- 6. Turn the marshmallows out onto a cutting board; cut into 1-inch squares. (I use oiled kitchen scissors or a pizza wheel dusted with confectioners' sugar). Dust the sides of each marshmallow with the remaining sugar/cornstarch mixture, using additional if necessary. Store in an airtight container for up to 3 weeks. Note: It keeps well in cellophane bags for gifting with hot chocolate!

Sugared Bourbon Pecans

I cup white sugar

1/4 tsp. nutmeg

1/4 tsp. cinnamon

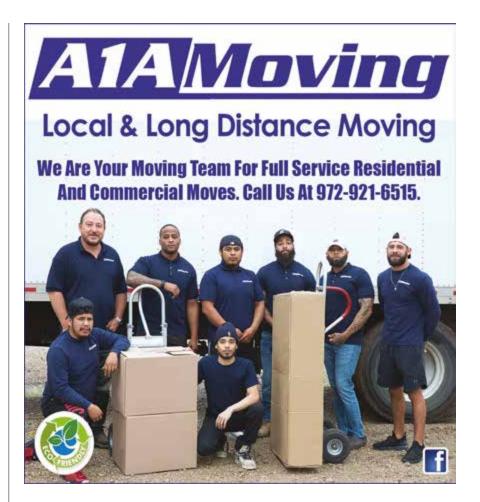
1/4 tsp. salt

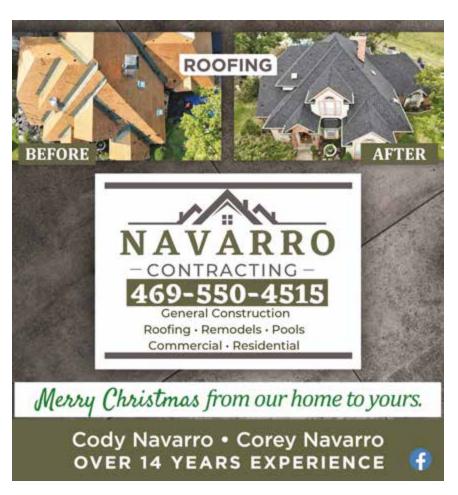
1/3 cup bourbon

1/3 cup water

2 cups pecan halves

- 1. Cook the first 6 ingredients together until the mixture reaches soft-ball stage on a candy thermometer.
- 2. Stir in the pecans; spread out on waxed paper to cool.
- 3. Break up; store in an airtight container or wrap in cellophane bags.







Holiday Charcuterie Board

Perfect to nibble on at holiday gatherings!

Assorted jams and jellies, to taste Almonds or pistachios, to taste Bourbon pecans, to taste Assorted cheeses (You want hard cheeses, like aged cheddars and Manchego, and soft cheeses, like Brie and Gorgonzola or cheese balls.) Assorted crackers, to taste French bread, cut

Dark chocolate or chocolate-covered blueberries

Grapes, figs or strawberries Star-shaped gingerbread cookies Rosemary, for garnish

- 1. Start by placing small bowls atop a board; fill them with jams, jellies and nuts. Slice cheeses and spiral them out from the bowls filling in between the spaces with crackers and bread.
- 2. Finish with chocolates, fruit and cookies. Garnish with rosemary.

the sausage, bread cubes, cheese and cayenne; stir to coat evenly. Pour the mixture into a greased 9x13-inch baking dish. Cover; chill in the refrigerator for 8 hours or overnight.

- 3. Preheat the oven to 350 F. Cover; bake 45-60 minutes. Uncover; reduce temperature to 325 F. Bake an additional 30 minutes, or until set.
- 4. Note: We double this recipe to fill a large casserole dish.

Christmas Breakfast Casserole

Prepare on Christmas Eve for Christmas morning.

I lb. spicy or mild ground pork sausage

1-2 tsp. mustard powder

1/2 tsp. salt

4 eggs, beaten

2 cups milk

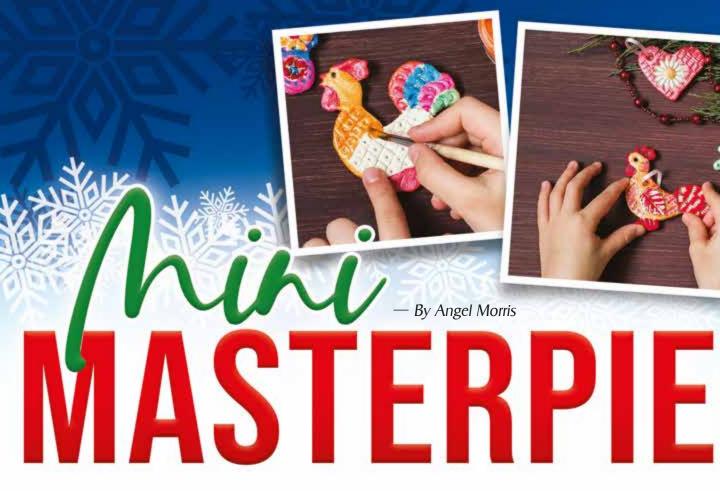
6 slices white bread, toasted and cubed 8 oz. mild cheddar cheese, shredded 1/2 tsp. cayenne

- 1. Crumble the sausage into a medium skillet. Cook over medium heat until brown; drain.
- 2. In a medium bowl, mix together the mustard powder, salt, eggs and milk. Add

To search for more great recipes from any of the 9 NOW Magazines publications, visit www.nowmagazines.com.







Salt dough ornaments are one of the things some adults remember making with their grandmothers as children. Even though these ornaments only required three ingredients and little skill, they thought they were creating masterpieces. Since the activity can still be recalled decades later, perhaps they really were!

If you're looking for a relatively easy DIY to enjoy with your children or grandchildren this holiday, salt dough ornaments may be the solution. Here are 10 steps to making mini masterpieces, and lifelong memories, from flour, salt and water.

Supplies: Cutting board Rolling pin Cookie cutters Drinking straw Cookie sheet Acrylic paint

Paint brushes

Ingredients:

Ribbon

2 cups flour

1 cup salt

1 cup water (divided use)

STEP 1: Preheat the oven to 150-170 F. (If your oven runs hot, go for the lower temperature, as higher temperatures decrease the chances of your dough remaining flat.)

STEP 2: Combine the flour, salt and 1/2 cup of water in a bowl. Blend the ingredients by hand. Blend in the remaining water, kneading until well combined. More water may be added, little by little, to eliminate any stickiness and achieve a smooth dough.

STEP 3: Cover a cutting board with flour. Knead the dough ball

STEP 4: Roll out the dough with a rolling pin to about 1/4inch thickness.

STEP 5: Firmly cut shapes out of the dough with cookie cutters. Once you've cut out as many shapes as you can from the flattened dough, carefully remove all of the excess dough. You can reform another ball with the remaining dough, roll it out again and cut more shapes, repeating until all dough has

STEP 6: Use the drinking straw to poke a hole through the top of every shape, so you can tie a ribbon through it for hanging on the tree.

STEP 7: Gently transfer cut-out shapes from the cutting board to the cookie sheet. Bake for about 3 hours.

STEP 8: Remove the ornaments from the oven when they feel solid to the touch, but before they begin to turn brown. Allow them to cool for at least 1 hour.

STEP 9: Paint the cooled ornaments however you like! You may want to choose a color palette in advance, so they all match whether that's pastels, rainbow brights or traditional Christmas colors. You can also add texture to the ornaments with craft supplies, such as glitter, sequins, beads or even buttons.



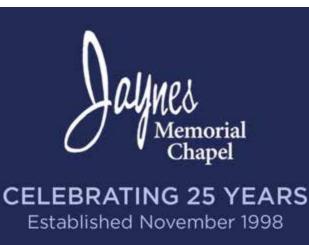
STEP 10: Loop a ribbon through the precut hole atop each ornament, tying a knot so the ornament may be securely hung on tree branches. These cut-outs can also be used as gift tags or even serve as gifts themselves.

Shapes like candy canes, pine trees and stars are holiday classics, while snowflakes, hearts and alphabet initials can hang around the house throughout winter. Maybe you let the kids select themes, like animals or nature, choosing your cookie cutters accordingly in advance.

However simple or involved you want to make the experience, salt dough ornaments are a fun family activity for any age or skill level. If you'd like, you can have each little artist sign and date them on the back with a paint pen or permanent marker, so your family masterpieces commemorate this moment and memory for all time. NOW

Source: www.shutterfly.com.





Compassion

Because we've been through it too



You don't have to march on alone. Allow us to walk with you during this difficult time.



811 S. Cockrell Hill Road, Duncanville, TX 75137 Phone: (972) 298-2334 jaynesmemorialchapel.com

Now Offering Pre-Print Insert Services

Contact NOW Magazines for more information.

> Corsicana 903-875-0187

> Ennis 972-875-3299

Mansfield/Burleson 817-477-0990

> Southwest 972-283-1170

Waxahachie/Midlothian North Ellis County 972-937-8447

> Weatherford 817-613-1533











If you are an adult who is afraid of going to the dentist, or even just a little extra anxious, Serenity Advanced Dentistry may be just what you are looking for. "We do a lot of sedation dentistry, mostly for adults," Dr. Allala explained. "It's kind of my niche. Many adults may have some pretty serious anxiety about going to the dentist. They may not even seek care. They'd rather be in pain. I provide a place to take care of these people. When patients elect to get treatment, we lower the statistics of people living in pain. I like being able to contribute to improving people's lives.

"Coincidentally, a lot of people who are anxious about going to the dentist are also people who don't have good insurance. That's a bad combination. I have membership plans for patients without insurance, and really good discounts on implants and dentures. A membership might not be necessary if you only need one simple procedure, but if you need sedation and a lot of work, it really pays for itself."

Dr. Allala is a graduate of the Texas A&M School of Dentistry. "When I started there, it was still Baylor. My diploma has both names on it," she recalled. "I specialize in oral surgery, and we're really good at it. I'm nothing without my team. We do everything in dentistry. I like being well rounded. I enjoy being an overachiever, so I'm constantly taking continuing education, keeping up with all the

newest techniques and technology. I'm also a native Spanish speaker. I grew up speaking both languages. Our YouTube videos explaining procedures are available in both English and Spanish."

Dr. Allala is proud of the service they provide at Serenity Advanced Dentistry. "I think we give five-star service. And I know my staff is five-star. We know what works and what doesn't. I know it sounds corny, but this is my life's work. Most of my staff have been with me for years, at different locations around DFW, before I came to Cedar Hill. I met Mariela seven years ago, in Pleasant Grove. It was my first job out of school. Racine has been with me four years, and Jazmine three years, both in Red Oak. Our newest team member is lessica. She found us three months ago when she emailed me looking for an opportunity to shadow a dentist."

"I LIKE BEING WELL ROUNDED. I ENJOY BEING AN OVERACHIEVER, SO I'M CONSTANTLY TAKING CONTINUING EDUCATION, KEEPING UP WITH ALL THE NEWEST TECHNIQUES AND TECHNOLOGY."

Serenity Advanced Dentistry has all the newest technology to make your experience convenient. "We have hospital-grade blood pressure machines, so we can do sedation. We also have intraoral scanners, so I can see inside your mouth, from every angle, before I ever go in for your procedure. We print dentures and place implants right here in the office. With our skills and strategies, most patients don't even feel our injections. We have TVs in every room to keep you entertained while we work. It's all about efficiency - working smarter, not harder. That's why I designed the floor plan of the office myself. And we're really big on sanitation and sterilization. It's important to maintain a sterile environment, which is why we're closed every Friday for deep cleaning the office and training,"

theserenitydentist.com | 972-634-1434 Dr. Cristina Allala 605 E. Belt Line Rd., Suite 101, Cedar Hill

Paid Advertisement



Crossword Puzzle

	1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9
10		T	T	T		11			1	T
12	\vdash	T				13	\vdash	1	t	\vdash
14	\vdash	t		15	16			17	T	T
		18	19		T		20		T	
	21		T		T	22			T	
	23				24	T				ni.
25		T		26		T		27	28	29
30	T	T	31			32	33		T	T
34	\vdash	T				35			T	\vdash
36	1	\vdash	+	\vdash		37	+	+	+	

Crosswordsite.com Ltd

- ral age
- erica's Wanted* enter John
- and me
- state
- id worker never tires
- ntric
- nd dried
- n's wife
- rated
- end r on a car

Down

21 Excels

23 Drug also

known as

"ozone"

24 Involved with

25 It regulates

26 Bring to bear

27 Hoppy beer

34 It's an honor

checked

36 Short literary

37 Act fresh

composition

35 They are often

30 No fun

32 Shun

flyers

- 1 "Deall"
 - 2 Dr Cid reacts about ways to
- 3 Mandela's party
- 4 When that time arrives
 - 5 Lean and muscular
- 6 Commotion
- 7 Noon burials arranged for bodies in the workplace
- 8 Patronize
- 9 Strong attraction
- 10 Head honcho

- 16 Ethiopia's capital, ---Ababa.
- 19 Bottle top
- 20 Discontented shout from the bleachers
- 21 Suit passed out
- 22 Untrustworthy people
- 25 Celebrity
- 26 Grotesque
- 28 Oil pipeline inserts
- 29 Lifeblood of TV and the web
- 31 Baseball league below the Majors
- 33 Through

Online versions and solutions available at www.nowmagazines.com. From our Homepage, click on the Crossword-Sudoku tab. Click on a puzzle. Click on the See All button to view solutions.





There may be money in your house.

And not just in the couch cushions.

If you need to repair or improve your home, you deserve to have a trusted partner to help you find the right loan product for your unique needs.

Talk to a Frost banker at (817) 233-7702 or visit us at 1000 N Walnut Creek Dr, Mansfield, TX 76063.















DESCIO ON GE DES



NOVEMBER 28-JANUARY 7

ICE SKATING RINK

Join us for an enchanting ice skating experience that will leave you feeling like you're dancing on ice. Whether you're a pro or lacing up skates for the first time, we have something for everyone. Visit us online at www.desototexas.gov/parks for hours and how to register.

DECEMBER 2

THE POLAR EXPRESS MOVIE NIGHT

Enjoy a cozy evening as you sit back and relax with family and friends. Bring your favorite snacks, blankets, and good vibes. It's going to be an epic night full of laughter and excitement while watching the screening of The Polar Express.

DECEMBER 4 6:30PM-8:30PM

BLOCK PARTY & TREE LIGHTING

Tis the season to be merry, and we're spreading holiday cheer like never before! Get ready for an unforgettable Christmas Block Party. Gather around the Christmas Tree for the annual Tree Lighting with special guest performances.

DECEMBER 9

CHRISTMAS CRAFT MAKING AT SANTA'S WORKSHOP

Looking for a fun and creative way to celebrate the holiday season? Join us for our Christmas Craft Class where you'll learn to make beautiful, handmade holiday wreaths, and we will have gifts for sale.

DECEMBER 23

CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

Join us for a magical night of music as we celebrate the most wonderful time of the year. Our Christmas musical extravaganza will surely fill your heart with joy and your spirit with holiday cheer. Visit us online at www.desototexas.gov/parks for showtimes and tickets.

Holiday Weekend Celebration

JOIN US SATURDAY AND SUNDAY FROM DECEMBER 2
THRU JANUARY 7 FOR HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND TREATS FOR EVERYONE
TO ENJOY. CHECK ONLINE SCHEDULE FOR DETAILS.

HOLIDAY TRAIN RIDE

Get ready for a magical holiday adventure on our festive kiddie train ride. Don't miss this chance to create cherished holiday memories with your family. Get your tickets now and hop aboard the holiday fun. See you at the station.

FACE PAINTING

'Tis the season to spread holiday cheer, and what better way to do it than with some fabulous Christmas face painting designs. We can't wait to see your holiday spirit shine.

PAINT AND PARTY

Calling all little artists! Get ready to embark on a colorful adventure at our upcoming Kids' Paint and Party event. It's a day of creative fun, laughter, and imagination for your little ones. Let's make this a day filled with paint, laughter, and unforgettable memories for your young artists!

FUN WITH CHRISTMAS CHARACTERS AND GAMES

Looking to keep the little ones entertained and in the holiday spirit? Check out these delightful Christmas games that are perfect for kids of all ages.



DeSoto Town Center

211 E. PLEASANT RUN ROAD | DESOTO, TX 75115 DESOTOTICKETLINE.SIMPLETIX.COM



T LPL Financial





Lee Straley-Miller
Financial
Consultant



Robyn Jones
Registered Administrative
Assistant



Winie McPherson

Administrative

Assistant



Denise Allison
Financial
Consultant

- ← Financial Reviews
- ⋄ Investment Advice
- ≪ Retirement Planning
- Long-term Care Solutions
- ≪ IRA Transaction
 Assistance

Earn 6.15% interest for 5 years* on the Max Rate 5 5-Year Multi-Year Guaranteed Annuity

APY Compounded Daily

Planning for Tomorrow ... Today

(972)937-1802 • 102 Professional Pl., Ste. 106, Waxahachie Securities offered through LPL Financial. Member FINRA/SPIC

*Rates are subject to change. Minimum premium of \$100,000 required. Guarantees are based on the financial strength and claims-paying ability of Athene Life Insurance Company. Policy form numbers and product availability vary by state. Any interest or gain in the withdrawal will be subject to taxes and, if withdrawn prior to age 59½, may also be subject to a 10% early distribution penalty imposed by the IRS. By IRS mandate, interest is always distributed first. Guarantee Period continuation options are available at the end of the surrender charge schedule and may vary by state. See sales brochure for more details. Market Value Adjustment (MVA) applies to partial withdrawals that exceed the free withdrawal amount allowed and surrenders occurring during the surrender charge period. These are products of the insurance industry and not guaranteed by any bank, nor insured by FDIC/NCUA. Not a deposit. Not insured by a federal government agency. Restrictions apply. May only be offered by a licensed insurance agent.

Athene Life Insurance Company and their services are not affiliated with LPL Financial.



12/1

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony:

Kick-off the holiday season at this reverent event. 6:00-7:00 p.m., Heritage Park, 234 N. 8th Street. Rainout date is 12/3.

12/2

Jingle Belles 5K & Rubies **1-Mile Fun Run:**

Supporting the Heritage Belles Dance and Drill Team as well as the Rubies Dance and Drill team. A portion of proceeds benefits Bridges Foundation. Rubies Fun Run: 8:00 a.m.; Jingle Belles 5K Run: 8:30 a.m., Midlothian Community Park. 3601 S. 14th St.

Hometown Christmas Craft Show:

Vendor booths, holiday music, handcrafted gift items, holiday treats, free drawings and prizes, plus visits from Santa, Mrs. Claus and the Grinch. \$3 admission. 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Midlothian Conference Center. 1 Community Circle Dr.

City Christmas Festivities:

Explore Santa's Village, take selfies with Santa, enjoy makeand-take activities, shop the arts and crafts market and more. Free. 1:00-4:00 p.m., Midlothian Community Park, 3601 S. 14th St.

Santa at the Ranch:

For families with special needs.

Meet with ranch animals, visit with Santa, play games, create crafts and enjoy holiday refreshments. Free. Donations welcomed, 2:00-4:00 p.m., Paws for Reflection Ranch, 5431 Montgomery Rd. For more details, visit http://www.pawsforreflectionranch.org.

Annual Holiday Light-Up Parade:

This year's theme is "Believe." 6:00-7:00 p.m., route will follow S. 14th St. from Midlothian Community Park to Mt. Zion Road.

12/6

Christmas in Ovilla:

Snow slide, a visit with Santa. mini carnival rides, vendors and more. 6:00-8:30 p.m., Ovilla Road Baptist Church, 3251 Ovilla Rd.

12/8

Merry Movie Night:

Featuring Dr. Suess's The Grinch. Free burgers from In-N-Out Burger while supplies last. 6:30-8:30 p.m., Midlothian Community Park. 3601 S. 14th Street.

12/8-12/9 and 12/15-12/16

Carriage Rides for CASA:

Step back to yesteryear and support children's futures. Railyard Park, 455 S. College St., Waxahachie.

12/9-12/10

Historic Waxahachie **Christmas Tour of Homes:**

Tour five historic homes decorated in unique holiday styles. 2:00-8:00 p.m. For tickets and details, visit https://www. historicwaxahachie.com/2023christmas-tour-of-homes/.

12/16

Kids' Crafty Saturday:

Christmas-themed crafts for children in the first-fifth grades. Free. 11:00 a.m.-noon, A.H. Meadows Public Library, 923 S. 9th St. Register online at Midlothian.tx.us.

Wednesdays

DivorceCare:

Group sharing for those who have gone through or are going through divorce. DivorceCare for Kids ages 5-12 meets at the same time. Care for younger children available. 6:30-8:00 p.m., First United Methodist Church Family Life Center, 800 S. 9th St. For more information, call (972) 775-3993.

Second and Fourth Wednesdays

Jesus Feeds Us:

Free grocery distribution. 3:00 p.m. until supplies run out,

Midlothian Church of Christ, 1627 N. Hwy. 67.

Third Wednesdays

Waxahachie Women's **Connection Luncheon:** Cost is \$15, which includes

lunch, a special feature and a Stonecroft speaker. Reservations due each Thursday before the meeting. 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Waxahachie Country Club, 1920 W. Hwy. 287 Business. For more details, contact Dee Ann Ellis at (972) 921-6221 or

Thursdays

deeannellis@sbcglobal.net.

Midway Composite Squadron of Civil Air Patrol/U.S. Air Force **Auxiliary:**

Cadets ages 12-18 and Senior Members 18-plus. 6:45-9:00 p.m., Mid-Way Regional Airport, 131 Airport Dr. Visit www.gocivilairpatrol.com.

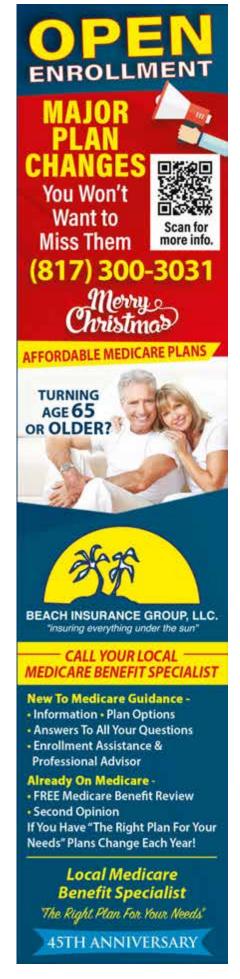
Celebrate Recovery Meeting:

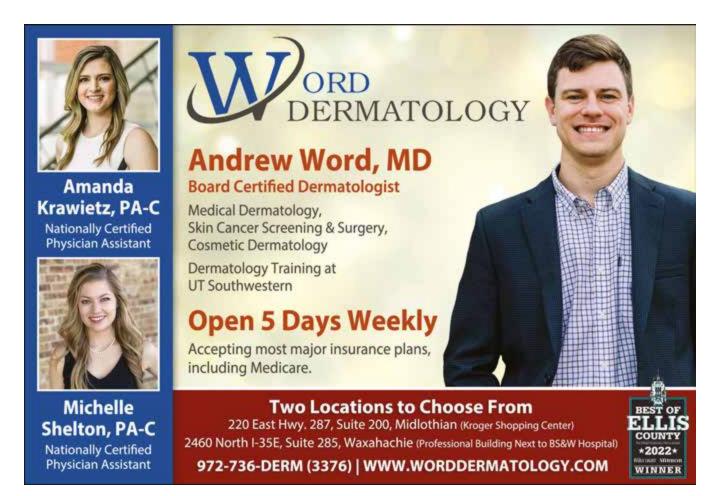
A Christ-centered recovery program designed to help those struggling with hurts, habits and hang-ups. 7:00 p.m., The Lighthouse Church, 1400 N. 9th St. For more details, email CR@dfwlighthouse.org.

Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your current event details to angel.morris@nowmagazines.com.

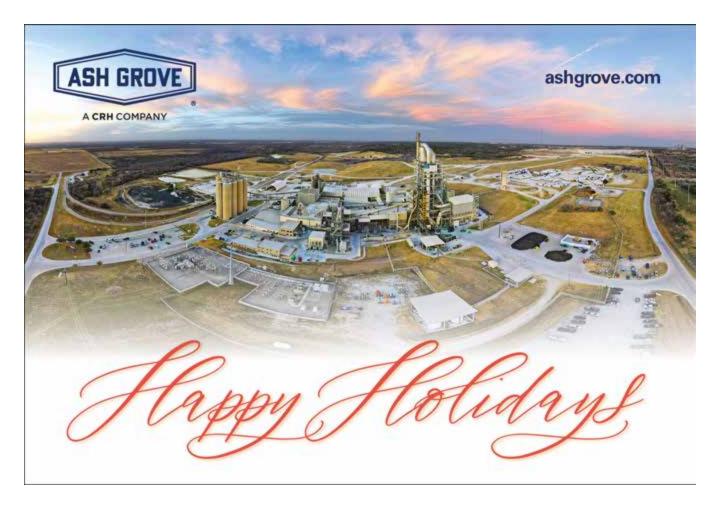












ACCELERATE BUSINESS







LEVEL UP

FULL DAY LIVE WORKSHOP ONCE A QUARTER STARTING FEBRUARY 2024

Accelerate Business - Level Up is a comprehensive deep dive into critical business areas. Offering support for small to midsized businesses by fostering business growth, leadership skills, and business development.

Business owners, leaders, and key staff will come together and discover how to empower their businesses to reach the next level.

PURCHASE TICKETS

\$1,000

per business, up to 2 attendees includes 4 workshops & much more!



MARKETING & BRANDING BY DESIGN * SELL BY DESIGN

OPERATIONAL ENGAGEMENT & CULTURE * FINANCE & KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

NEW KITCHEN COUNTERTOPS Countertops BEFORE CHRISTMAS!







American Made



Granite, marble & quartz fabricator for kitchen & bathroom countertops.

Extensive color selection combines beauty, function & elegance for any bathroom or kitchen!

- FREE Estimates Competitive Pricing
- Up to 15-year Warranty on Some Products

2460 Hwy. 287 N. • Mansfield

(Northbound service road – between Callendar Rd. & Turner-Warnell)

For more info call 817.477.8663

