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FEBRUARY 2021

## Leader in Training

Kennedy McHorse  
makes Sea Cadet history

Also inside:  
Scavenger Hunt  
Kids' Fun Page  
Crossword/Sudoku  
Featured Business:  
Tio Tony's  
Fine Mexican Food

## Remembering Buffalo Soldiers

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*Publisher, Connie Poirier | General Manager, Rick Hensley*

### EDITORIAL

*Managing Editor, Becky Walker | Midlothian Editor, Angel Morris  
Editorial Assistants, Rachel Rich . Lori Widdifield  
Editors/Proofreaders, Lisa Bell . Virginia Riddle*

### GRAPHICS AND DESIGN

*Creative Director, Chris McCalla | Artists, Kristin Bato  
Morgan Christensen . Martha Macias . Anthony Sarmienta*

### PHOTOGRAPHY

*Photography Director, Chris McCalla  
Photographer, Kobbi R. Blair*

### ADVERTISING

*Advertising Representatives, Joyce Sebesta . Cherise Burnett  
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## ON THE COVER

*Kennedy McHorse has trained around the country with the Sea Cadets.*

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*Angel*

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

## EDITOR'S NOTE

*Waxing nostalgic ...*

I can't explain it, but I'm addicted to the Netflix TV series, *Cobra Kai*. Chalk it up to being a child in the '80s, when struggling teen Daniel LaRusso first met the wise Mr. Miyagi, and *The Karate Kid* was born. I'm clearly a sucker for sentimentality, and finding out where Daniel and his nemesis, Johnny Lawrence, are 34 years later was intriguing enough that I binged three seasons over the holidays. As I write this, I've discovered the show's been renewed for a fourth season!

While this is clearly not the best use of my very limited free time, I can't not watch. "Anyone can be seduced by Cobra Kai," is more than a quote from Ralph Macchio — it's a prophecy. So, what is it about this not-so-well acted show that has merited 30 episodes so far?

Besides a look at what happens after the characters come of age, we get to see them grow older. They looked like us then, and, lo and behold, here they are with wrinkles and thinning hair, like us now. Life has worked out well for some, and not so great for others. We discover the heroes went on to have struggles, and we gain empathy for the bullies by learning backstories we never knew. Ultimately, it's like catching up with old friends — if those old friends spent a lot of time in dojos dressed in karate gis — all while REO Speedwagon plays in the background.

*I can't fight this Cobra Kai feeling.*

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*With a strong lineage of military service, Kennedy McHorse considered it natural to join the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps two years ago. “My brother was attending the U.S. Naval Preparatory Academy, and I had interest in the school and serving my country. My mom found the Naval Sea Cadet Corps, and I knew I wanted to start right away,” Kennedy recalled.*

The program promised to develop leadership skills, introduce members to the military and provide countrywide travel for little cost. “As young as 10 years old you can travel with the group. Plus, you make tons of new friends, feel a sense of accomplishment and learn patriotism,” Kennedy said.

The Lone Star Squadron is one of 375 units nationwide. Pre-COVID, members met one weekend per month. “We would do a variety of things from marksmanship, camping, military drill, physical fitness, classes about the military, classes with active-duty personnel, swimming, field operations, and that’s just the start,” Kennedy outlined.

All new cadets attend boot camp to learn basics and get the first taste at advanced training. “Another way I participate are summer and winter advanced trainings in different naval jobs. For example, scuba certification, seals, marksmanship, leadership, culinary, color guard, boating, seamanship, naval

history and so much more,” Kennedy said. “You can train in any state in the U.S. Not only that, they offer international trainings. You can apply to go to Europe, Japan, Australia and others.”

As a result, Kennedy has trained in Arkansas, California, Kentucky, New York and Oregon, in addition to Texas trainings, where she’s made lifelong friends. “When I participate in advanced trainings for a week or two without a phone, it really makes the kids get to know each other and experience the training as a team. I’ve made friends all across the country that I still talk to and FaceTime two years after training,” she described. “They’ve impacted my life in so many ways and have expanded my views on everything because of the different ways everyone was raised, and where they were raised, has taught me so much.”

In addition to friendships, Kennedy said the program has helped her grow. “Because of this program, I could lead a group confidently and not second guess myself. I’ve learned to step out of my comfort zone and believe in myself,” she said.

This confidence led to perhaps Kennedy’s biggest success in life so far. “I’ve worked hard for almost three years to become chief of the Lone Star Squadron. I’m only the second female chief in 25 years, and it’s an honor,” she noted. “You have to complete coursework, take a long test and keep a certain rank for a certain time period. You have to be put in leadership positions, complete different tasks, be accepted by national headquarters and complete many advanced trainings.”

Kennedy said Commanding Officer Jayne Bell put the possibility of becoming chief in her mind. “The first day I joined, there was a group of new recruits, and she said, ‘We’ve

# LEADER IN TRAINING





# NINING

— By Angel Morris





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only had one female chief in 20 years, and I expect that's going to change.' Since then, I've worked day and night for that goal of becoming the second chief."

As chief, Kennedy will lead a group of cadets by planning drills, staffing advanced trainings and coordinating programming with other officers, all while ensuring the success of those under her. "This role will benefit me if I decide to enlist in the military. Because of the rank I achieved, I will enlist at an E-3 which is a rank higher than everyone else who enlists. I would also receive a higher pay grade," Kennedy explained.

Kennedy knows it is also an impressive fact for her résumé as she applies to college. "One year at the Naval Academy, 13 percent of incoming plebes were former U.S. Naval Sea Cadets," Kennedy shared.

Cadets is not Kennedy's first leadership role, however. She has been a member of the basketball, clay target and golf teams; served on student council; and has been a class officer at Midlothian High School.

Another achievement was planning a TED Talk under the guidance of Jennifer Barnes at Frank Seale Middle School. "We ended up submitting our idea and were accepted into the TED Talk convention in New York City. We got to meet people from around the world," Kennedy remembered. "We watched famous TED Talks and participated in classes on how to impact others. It was one of the best experiences I had, and I thank Mrs. Barnes for all she helped us accomplish."







The list of supporters is long for Kennedy. She gave thanks for the impact many have made on her, including her parents, Tony and Tammy; brother, Keyfer Roberts; grandmother, Arlene Bogoslawski; middle school coach, Sandy Mendoza; and teacher, Kerry Woollen. Kennedy also noted active-duty personnel/former Sea Cadet volunteer Travis Wyatt, who helped hone her leadership style, along with Jacob Alvarado and the Rosario family, Anthony Ludicke, Tami Tobey and Brian Andrews, as individuals who have positively touched her life.

Kennedy plans to apply to the Naval Academy or ROTC at Texas A&M University and study a chemistry field. "After my service in the military, I plan to become a Texas Game Warden," she said.

Until then, Kennedy plans to continue to enjoy hunting, fishing, working out and traveling, along with investing time in her favorite things. "I love spending a ton of time with my family. I work at Chick-Fil-A."

Currently homeschooling due to the pandemic, Kennedy hopes to finish her schooling that began in kindergarten with MISD at MHS next year. "Some say they're surprised I participate in everything I can, and I'm not afraid to do anything," Kennedy explained. "I will take any opportunity I get to try something new." **NOW**

*Editor's Note: For more information, visit <https://homeport.seacadets.org/Secure/Home.aspx?expired=yes> or contact Kennedy at [kennedymchorse@yahoo.com](mailto:kennedymchorse@yahoo.com).*



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• *Tales of Texas* •

# REMEMBERING BUFFALO SOLDIERS

— By Angel Morris

While the first regular Army regiments made of African-American soldiers are officially celebrated on July 28 with “Buffalo Soldiers Day,” it is fitting to recognize them during Black History Month, as well. The U.S. Army’s first peace-time, all-Black regiments were established by Congress in July 1866, honoring the significant contribution of some 200,000 Black volunteers to a Union victory in the Civil War.





About a year-and-a-half after the war, six peace-time regiments for Black enlisted men were created: "The 9th and 10th Cavalry and the 38th, 39th, 40th and 41st Infantry regiments (consolidated in 1869 into two infantry regiments, the 24th and 25th)," as documented by blackpast.org.

"Soldiers of these regiments between the Civil War and World War I have come to be called 'Buffalo Soldiers,'" the site notes. It outlines that while most of the regiments' officers were white, they were also led by five Black men, including Henry Flipper, who was not only the first Black West Point graduate, but also the first African-American commissioned officer of the Buffalo Soldiers. He went on to earn a 2nd Lieutenant Army commission.

In 1999, Henry was posthumously pardoned by President Bill Clinton for an "unduly harsh and unjust court martial and dismissal from the Army," according to the National Veterans Memorial and Museum.

Buffalo Soldiers helped win dozens of battles against Native Americans, and served in Cuba with Teddy Roosevelt and the Rough Riders. Buffalo Soldiers protected National Parks, served as park

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Photo courtesy of Huntsville-Madison County Public Library.

rangers, guarded roads, settlements and stage coach stations, among numerous other efforts.

History.com reports that “about 20 percent of U.S. troops participating in the Indian Wars were Buffalo Soldiers,” battling in at least 177 conflicts. Buffalo Soldiers also went on to defend the U.S. border with Mexico during World War I. Between the Civil War and World War I, records suggest 23 Buffalo Soldiers received the Medal of Honor.

In the last decades of the 19th century, the Buffalo Soldiers regiments formed a special kinship with the state of Texas, where Fort Davis became their Regimental Headquarters. The 9th Cavalry was first to occupy the fort, which was abandoned by the Union during the Civil War.

Soldiers spent the summer of 1867 constructing a new fort and protecting travelers. Joined by three Buffalo Soldier units over the next eight years, the men proved invaluable in many ways, not the least of which was “constructing over 91 miles of telegraph line west from Fort Davis,” blackpast.org notes.

“They arrived at the post in 1867 when western Texas was still very open to attack by raiding Apaches and Comanches. When the 10th Cavalry left in 1885, peace largely prevailed,” the site explains.

While trained for overseas combat during World War II, Buffalo Soldiers were deactivated in 1944, and in 1948, racial segregation in the military was eliminated by executive order of President Harry S. Truman. According to history.com, the Buffalo Soldiers proved their worth with “the lowest military desertion and court-martial rates of their time.”

Those numbers speak to the lore by which these Black men garnered the name Buffalo Soldiers, with some suggesting they were so dubbed by Native American tribes who held the buffalo in high regard. According to



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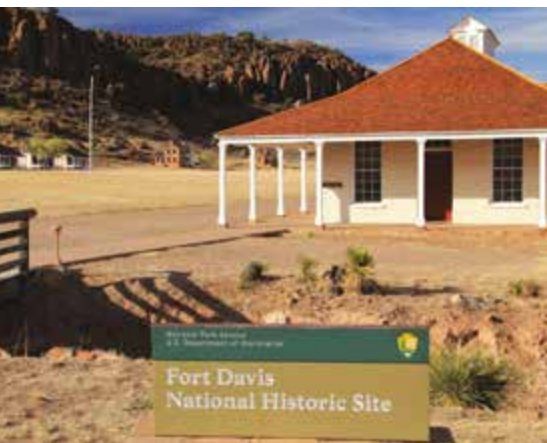
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history.com, another theory is that the soldiers bore resemblance to buffalo with their dark skin and curly hair. Whatever the origin of the name, it led to the 10th Cavalry adopting the buffalo upon its crest in 1911.

Today, the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum in Houston is “dedicated to exploring and displaying the stories and contributions of African-Americans in the military by way of performing and visual arts, educational programming and exhibitions.”



When open, the museum offers educational programs exploring the contributions of African-American military personnel, such as the Buffalo Soldiers. Historical re-enactments, military-inspired art exhibits and group tours are just some of the ways the museum continues to keep the spirit of the Buffalo Soldiers alive. The reggae song, “Buffalo Soldier,” also commemorates the efforts of these men, who were slaves or descendants of slaves, fighting for a country that stole them from their own. **NOW**

#### Sources:

1. <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/buffalo-soldiers/>
2. <https://www.history.com/topics/westward-expansion/buffalo-soldiers>
3. <https://nationalvmm.org/>

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# Tio Tony's Fine Mexican Food

— By Angel Morris

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In business since 2010, Tio Tony's Fine Mexican Food offers authentic Tex-Mex food at affordable prices. The family-owned business prides itself on high standards and consistent service. Even during the pandemic, Tio Tony's staff made feeding Midlothian priority, with curbside service and safe dine-in options as allowed. "We appreciate the love and support this community showed us, especially in 2020, and we pride ourselves on giving back to our customers," JW Mayfield, restaurant general manager, said on behalf of owner "Ms. Carmen" and her adult daughters, Nina, Dolly and Cory, who help run the eatery.

Tio Tony's keeps customers up to date on its daily specials, as well as any schedule adjustments, via its Facebook page. "The health of both our families and our customers' families is priority No. 1, and we are doing everything we can to continue to safely serve our valued patrons."

JW and the Tio Tony's staff invites customers to start their day with a variety of Mexican favorites or traditional American



breakfast options. Breakfast combos range from eggs, pancakes and sausage to huevos rancheros and chilaquiles de la casa. Eight combination meals range in price from \$5.99 to \$10.99.

Breakfast tacos start at just \$1.99, and pancake shortstacks at only \$3.99. Pork chops, fajitas and steaks are some of Tio Tony's heartier breakfast menu options.

For lunch and dinner, guests can anticipate Tio Tony's "famous quesadillas" of beef or chicken, along with yummy queso or nacho appetizers. Enchilada, taco, tamale and fajita meals range in price from \$6.99-\$9.99. Heartier appetites might choose the \$13.99 steak tampiqueño or \$14.99 comalada.

All traditional Mexican fare can be found at the restaurant in a range of prices, as well. "We think you'll find any Mexican food you have in mind at our restaurant, so please consider us, whether dining in or getting takeout," JW said.

JW noted that the restaurant provides several American-fare items for lunch and dinner, too, in an effort to please everyone in a family. "We have a variety of sandwiches, salads and steaks to choose from," he noted.

Tio Tony's is even prepared for young customers, with chicken nuggets, mini corn dogs, grilled cheese sandwiches and cheese quesadillas. "We know you are looking for an affordable place the whole family can enjoy, and we think we provide just that," JW promised. "We pride ourselves on serving families in a timely manner and making sure they feel at home."

JW also thanked the community for its ongoing patience as the restaurant adjusted last year. "We are striving to return to as close to normal as possible, and we appreciate understanding being shown to our staff and to one another as we move ahead," JW reminded. And although space is limited due to COVID-19, Tio Tony's still provides a party room for private gatherings, too.

"From our staff and all of our families, we would like to thank, from the bottom of our hearts, each and every one of our customers and friends. In uncertain times, you all made it possible to keep our lights on and our doors open. We thank you very, very much. We look forward to many more years of service and camaraderie." **NOW**

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## Zoomed In: Tatum Hocker

By Angel Morris

When Tatum Hocker learned of a Midlothian senior living center requesting stuffed animals, she and her mom set out to collect 50. The idea was to give those who would be without family due to COVID-19 something to love on. “I asked friends and family, and my mom put posts on Facebook. We ended up getting enough to give one to every resident in the nursing home!” Tatum said of her 130-plus pieces.

Tatum is no stranger to philanthropy, having collected blankets, fulfilled Angel Tree wishes, volunteered for Senior Olympics and Senior Picnics programs. Two years ago, Tatum started an initiative through which her elementary school wrote appreciation letters to local police. “I’m thankful my community always steps up and donates! I couldn’t do these things without them.”



Midlothian High School junior Jaden Chavez practices food prep for The Bistro at The MILE, a student-run restaurant opening to the public this month.



Hillcrest Baptist Church serenades the Midlothian Senior Activity Center.



The Midlothian Running Club kicks off the year and celebrates a member's birthday with a run.



The Clayton family safely rings in the New Year from home.





Methodist Health System leaders and local administrator, Jary Ganske, cut the ribbon for the opening of Methodist Midlothian Medical Center.



Antonio Cugini, of FoxFury Lighting Solutions, donates equipment to assist Midlothian Police Department in crime scene documentation and various investigations.



Dave, Sam and Stephen Largent help organize meals for locals in need through their home groups of Midlothian and Mansfield Methodist Churches.

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## CookingNOW *In the Kitchen With* NEIL SPARKMAN

— By Angel Morris

Known for inventing spice mixes and rub/condiment combinations, Neil Sparkman enjoys grilling, smoking and roasting in the Green Egg. Sous vide is another skill, and he's added the Instant Pot and air fryer to his repertoire.

Helping his grandfather barbecue at a VFW Hall for holidays was Neil's introduction to cooking. "My favorite part is being able to create things to share with friends and family."

Neil shies away from baking, however. "The first time I made pineapple upside down cake it overflowed and burned on the bottom of the stove. Our son got home off the bus and found smoke coming out of the open front door," Neil recalled. "I leave the baking to my wife now." **NOW**

### Instant Pot Gumbo

*Served with rice and/or corn bread.*

**1-2 lbs. Andouille sausage, cut into 1/2-inch slices (Other beef sausage can be substituted.)**  
**1/4 cup olive oil**  
**1/2 cup white flour**  
**1 tsp. Tony Chachere's Creole Seasoning**  
**1 tsp. dried thyme**  
**1 large red or yellow onion, chopped**  
**1 red or yellow bell pepper, chopped**  
**3 celery stalks, chopped**

**4 garlic cloves, minced**  
**2 qts. chicken stock (divided use)**  
**2 cans fire-roasted diced tomatoes, slightly drained**  
**2 bay leaves**  
**2 12-oz. bags frozen, sliced okra**  
**2 lbs. frozen shrimp, raw, peeled and deveined with tail on**  
**1 Tbsp. corn starch, dissolved in water**  
**Spring onion, to taste**

**1.** Set an Instant Pot to sauté setting. Brown the sausage. Remove the sausage; set aside.

Leave the drippings in the Instant Pot.

**2.** Make a roux by adding olive oil, flour, creole seasoning and thyme; stir constantly until the roux is a brown peanut butter color, about 5 minutes.

**3.** Add the onion, bell pepper, celery and garlic to the roux; sauté, stirring often, until the vegetables are softened well. It can take up to 15 minutes.

**4.** Return the sausage to the roux, along with 1 qt. chicken broth, both cans of tomatoes and the bay leaves. Stir well while scraping the bottom to remove the brown bits.

**5.** Add the frozen okra; place the lid on the Instant Pot. Set on high for 15 minutes. After 15 minutes of pressure cooking, let it natural release for 15 minutes. Quick release any remaining pressure; remove the lid.

**6.** Stir in most of the second quart of chicken broth and the shrimp. Cover with the lid. Pressure cook on high for 5 more minutes; quick release the pressure. Check consistency and add corn starch as necessary to thicken.

**7.** Serve over rice or with cornbread. Garnish with spring onion.



## Garlic Pepper Shrimp

**1-2 lbs. fresh shrimp, not frozen**

**(about 16-20 ct.) (divided use)**

**8 cloves garlic, chopped or pressed**  
**(divided use)**

**Black pepper, fresh cracked, to taste**

**1-2 oz. olive oil (divided use)**

**Parsley, to taste**

**Cilantro, to taste**

**Lemon/lime, to taste**

**1.** Peel the shrimp, leaving the tail on. In a large bowl, place half of the peeled shrimp, half of the garlic and a generous amount of black pepper. Drizzle half of the olive oil over the top of the mixture; gently hand toss to combine the ingredients.

**2.** Add the remaining shrimp, garlic and oil; repeat the above process to combine. Let rest, covered, for 15 minutes while heating the grill.

**3.** Preheat the grill to the highest setting for 5-10 minutes; reduce heat to medium-high for 5 minutes, keeping the grill covered.

**4.** Quickly place the shrimp on the grill, flat and evenly spaced. By the time you lay the last one down, it will be time to turn the first one over. It will take no more than 3-5 minutes total to cook. Remove from the grill; serve immediately. Garnish with chopped parsley, cilantro and lemon/lime.

## Apricot Mustard Grilled Pork Tenderloin

**1-2 pork tenderloins**

**Salt, to taste**

**Pepper, to taste**

**3-5 Tbsp. apricot preserves**

**5-7 Tbsp. honey mustard**

**1 Tbsp. Dijon mustard**

**1.** Season the tenderloin with salt and pepper. In a small bowl, combine the preserves and mustard.

**2.** Grill over medium heat, basting/brushing frequently with the mustard mixture. Turn once or twice until done, about 15 minutes total. Let rest 5 minutes after grilling.

**3.** To serve, cut the tenderloin at a diagonal in 1/4- to 1/2-inch slices. Plate in a fan-tail pattern or stacked, laid-down pattern. Drizzle apricot preserves (fresh from the jar) over the sliced tenderloin.

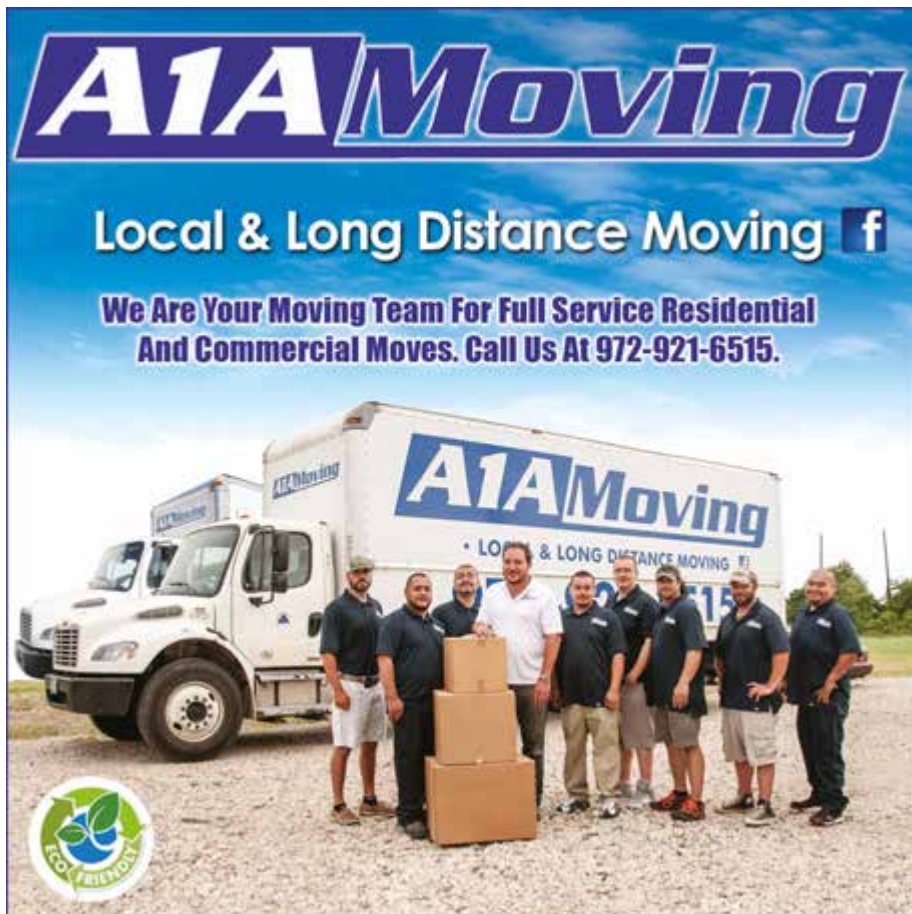
## Sous Vide Filets

*Medium-rare to medium.*


**4 filet steaks, minimum 1 1/2 to**

**2 inches thick**

**Salt, to taste**



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**Pepper, to taste**  
**4 springs fresh rosemary**

1. Season the steaks with salt and pepper. Place rosemary on the steaks; vacuum seal in pairs. Insert sous vide into large stock pot filled with enough water to submerge the steaks.
2. Set the stock pot to 131 F; bring to temperature. Once at temperature, insert the vacuum sealed steaks; clip to the side of the stock pot, being sure they do not touch the sous vide probe. Set the timer for 2 hours.
3. Remove the steaks; sear on a hot grill or in a cast-iron pan on the stove. Let the steaks rest for 5-10 minutes; serve.

## Old-fashioned Cocktail

- 1 1/2 oz. simple syrup
- 3 dashes cherry bitters
- 3 dashes orange bitters
- 2 1/2 oz. bourbon
- 1 spoon cherry juice from jar
- 2 Luxardo cherries

1. Combine all ingredients. Add a large whiskey cube; stir until chilled. Wipe the rim of the glass with the inside of an orange peel. Enjoy!

Garlic Pepper Shrimp



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The unusual circumstances surrounding wedding planning this past year have resulted in some unique approaches to nuptial decor. Whether the venue is a traditional church or a 24-hour chapel in Vegas, flowers are almost always essential when couples say, "I do."

As always, styles range from formal to rustic with every petal in between. Budget and personal taste dictate their extravagance, but, fortunately, there are many creative ways to DIY your wedding florals, particularly table arrangements. Let's look at some approaches to centerpieces in play today.

Center of  
*Attention*





## Dried Flowers

Perhaps the biggest advantage of dried flower centerpieces is that they can be made far in advance and checked off one's wedding to-do list early, as they need not be kept fresh and will not die (obviously, they are already dead). Couples may purchase dried flowers to use as-is or utilize painting or bleaching techniques to match a desired color scheme. Collecting natural florals say, from the yards of family and friends, is a cost-effective way to make your own centerpieces, too. With this idea in mind, a bride must plan to collect the florals and allow time for them to dry before arranging them to her desired style.



— By Angel Morris

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Dried florals can be displayed like fresh flowers — in vases, baskets or generally any container — to make lovely centerpieces and arrangements for guest book and gift tables. Wrapped in tissue or paper cones, they are also sweet favors to send home with guests as a forever reminder of your special day. Online tutorials make drying and arranging one's own floral centerpieces and favors a simple DIY option.

## Greenery and Plants

Using live plants and greenery instead of cut flowers is a conscientious approach to wedding florals. Again, these choices last longer than fresh flowers and are generally more budget friendly.

If roots are left intact on greenery stems, many can be replanted after the wedding. Greenery stems have a great shelf-life even without roots, and make lovely centerpieces with sprigs of long-lasting baby's breath, too. Potted plants, of course, also last well beyond one's wedding day.

A visit to your local nursery provides a plethora of greenery and plant options. Like dried flowers, purchasing these in advance allows couples to check centerpiece plans off their to-do lists early, but they will need to be watered and maintained until the big day.

Housing and caring for plants is a wonderful task to assign to a trusted friend with a green thumb. You might even ask them to deliver the plants and stage them on tables for your reception as their gift to you. It is a significant way to involve someone in your wedding

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and can be a gift they do not have to purchase. (They may, however, want to buy the plants of your choice, which also saves you time and money.)

Whether you purchase the plants or a friend does, be sure to share photos of centerpieces you have in mind, so they have an idea of your desired table arrangements. Or, prepare them in advance by planting the colors and styles you prefer in your choice of containers, and have your friend water them as-is prior to delivering them to your wedding.

Dried flowers, greenery and plants represent cost-effective and time-saving approaches to wedding centerpieces. Couples can also minimize waste with these options by allowing guests to take them home after the reception. Or, they can extend the expression of love surrounding their wedding by donating these to local hospitals, nursing homes or churches.



As always, fresh flowers remain the most popular choice for weddings and can be found to fit a range of budgets. There is no right or wrong style to centerpieces and the choices — like everything else involved in a wedding — should ultimately be based on the couples' own personality and style. **NOW**

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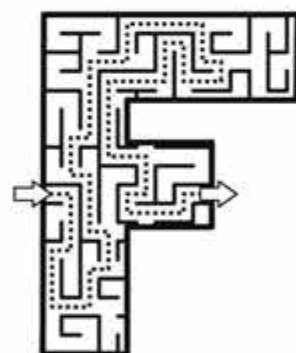
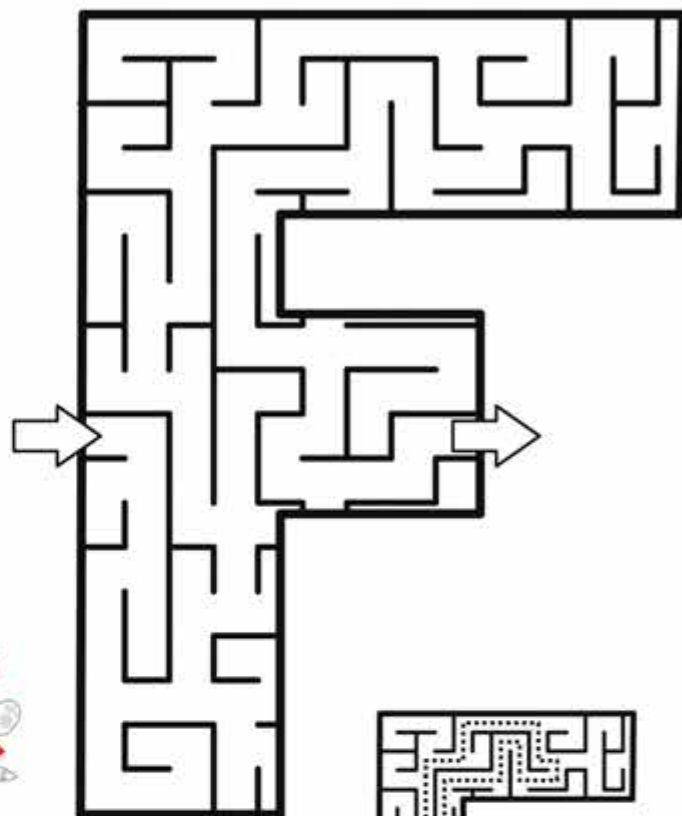
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# Kids' Fun Page

Help friends to meet in the middle of the Valentine maze.



ANSWER:



"Fill in the missing numbers"

|    |   |   |   |   |
|----|---|---|---|---|
|    |   |   |   |   |
| 10 | - | 6 | = |   |
| -  |   |   |   | + |
|    |   |   |   |   |
| =  |   |   |   | = |
| 6  | + |   | = | 9 |

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   |   |   |   |
| 7 | + | 3 | = |   |
| + |   |   |   | + |
|   |   |   |   | 5 |
| = |   |   |   | = |
|   | - | 5 | = |   |

|   |   |    |   |   |
|---|---|----|---|---|
|   |   |    |   |   |
| 3 | + |    | = |   |
| + |   |    |   | + |
|   |   |    |   | 9 |
| = |   |    |   | = |
| 6 | + | 10 | = |   |



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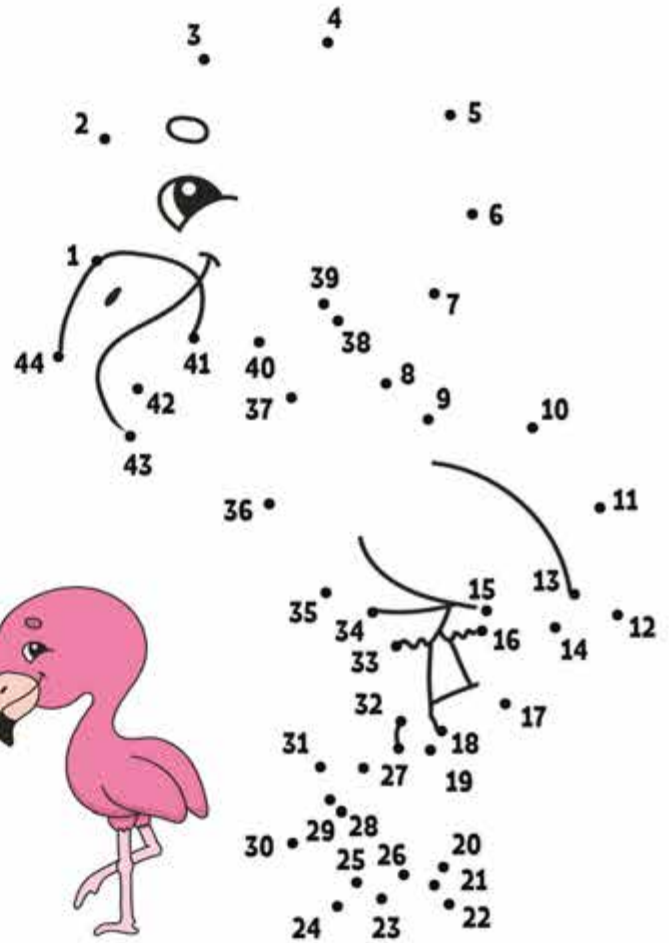
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# Kids' Fun Page

Which one is missing







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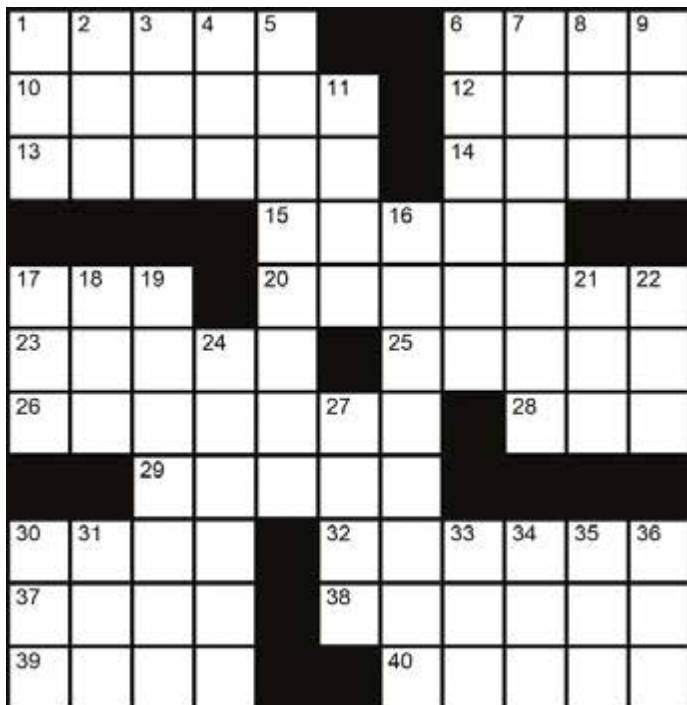
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# Crossword Puzzle



Crosswordsite.com Ltd

## Across

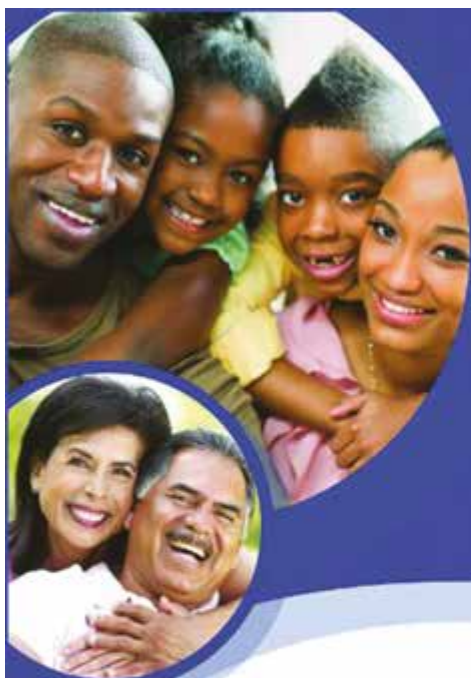
- 1 "I'll eat --- if I'm wrong!"
- 6 "Shane" star Alan ---
- 10 Eccentric old fellow
- 12 Type of race car
- 13 Cloak mental confusion
- 14 Franklin flew one in a storm
- 15 Alleviates
- 17 Big Blue
- 20 Rely on
- 23 Drain by percolation
- 25 Commodious
- 26 Food company in Battle Creek, MI
- 28 Panthers and Rams group
- 29 Ocean capsized this small boat
- 30 Hammer god
- 32 Reply to "Have a good day!"
- 37 After stating your intentions, --- the -
- 38 Oil-rich former Portuguese African colony
- 39 "I guess the joke's ---"
- 40 Dumps

## Down

- 1 Studio with lion logo
- 2 Assenting vote
- 3 Coop layer
- 4 Antiviral drug
- 5 Marathon TV program
- 6 In this manner
- 7 "Mother's Day" actress Jennifer ---
- 8 One of Rachel Carson's targets, now banned
- 9 Coloring material
- 11 Raise
- 16 "Go get him ---!" (Shakespeare, Macbeth)
- 17 Class
- 18 Social gathering
- 19 --- X, assassinated activist
- 21 Global financial body
- 22 Largest US city
- 24 "2001: A Space Odyssey" author
- 27 Painter of "La Maja Vestida"
- 30 Snake eyes
- 31 Chinese dynasty at the time of Christ
- 33 "Gross!"
- 34 End of a golf club
- 35 Former
- 36 Western Hemisphere political forum

Solutions on page 44

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~ 1 Corinthians 13:13 ESV



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# Sudoku Puzzle

Easy

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

Medium

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

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Solutions on page 44



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# HAPPY, Valentine's Day

## FEBRUARY

Due to COVID-19, some events may have been cancelled or rescheduled while we were at press. Check with individual organizations or your city or Chamber websites to verify dates and times.

### Throughout February

#### Donation Drop-off:

Manna House is in need of personal hygiene items, such as toothpaste, body wash and shampoo, as well as sugar and flour at its pantry. Curbside drop-offs will be accepted 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., **Monday-Friday**, 3241A Robinson Rd. For details, visit [bit.ly/annahouse](http://bit.ly/annahouse).

2/1

**Citizens Police Academy Registration Deadline:**  
Learn about the Midlothian

Police Department and police work in general at the 23rd annual CPA. **Thursdays, February 2-April 8.**  
6:00-9:00 p.m.,  
1150 Hwy. 67N, Ste. 300.  
For more information, contact [curtis.hughes@midlothian.tx.us](mailto:curtis.hughes@midlothian.tx.us).

2/10

**Chamber Luncheon:**  
Presentations on higher education in Midlothian from Navarro College, Tarleton University and UNT Dallas.  
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.,  
Midlothian Conference Center,  
1 Community Dr.  
Call (972) 723-8600 to register.

2/20

#### Mayor's Winter Walk:

Learn about plants, trees and wildlife during a 1-mile guided walk through Mockingbird Nature Park. 10:00 a.m., 1361 Onward Rd. COVID-19 precautions followed. Rainout date is **February 27**.  
For more information, visit [www.midlothian.tx.us/winterwalk](http://www.midlothian.tx.us/winterwalk).

### 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. Call (972) 775-3993.

### Second and Fourth Saturdays

#### Pet Adoptions:

Hearts & Tails of Hope Pet Rescue event. Noon-3:00 p.m., Petco, 2000 FM 663 #300.  
For more details, email [info@heartstailsofhope.org](mailto:info@heartstailsofhope.org).

*Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your current event details to [angel.morris@nowmagazines.com](mailto:angel.morris@nowmagazines.com).*



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## Crossword - Sudoku Solutions

|    |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |   |   |   |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|---|
| 1  | M | Y | H | A | T |    | 6  | L  | A  | D  | D |   |   |
| 10 | G | E | E | Z | E | 11 | R  |    | 12 | I  | N | D | Y |
| 13 | M | A | N | T | L | E  |    | 14 | K  | I  | T | E |   |
|    |   |   |   |   |   | 15 | E  | A  | S  | E  | S |   |   |
| 17 | I | B | M |   |   | 20 | T  | R  | U  | S  | T | I | N |
| 23 | L | E | A | C | H |    | 25 | R  | O  | O  | M | Y |   |
| 26 | K | E | L | L | O | G  | 27 | G  |    | 28 | N | F | C |
|    |   |   |   |   |   | 29 | C  | A  | N  | O  | E |   |   |
| 30 | T | H | O | R |   |    | 32 | Y  | O  | U  | T | O | O |
| 37 | W | A | L | K |   |    | 38 | A  | N  | G  | O | L | A |
| 39 | O | N | M | E |   |    | 40 | S  | H  | E  | D | S |   |

Easy

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

Medium

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



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