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Robo Coyotes

Middle school students prepare for the future

In the Kitchen With Katie Sears

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Dr. Deborah Jogie-Cregger, Janetta Kruse and Weatherford College make robotics real.

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ON THE COVER

With students and robotics, Weatherford College makes the future possible.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

What is love?

In the simple sentence, "I love you," can you find the verb? Wait. Isn't that phrase connected to a feeling? Sometimes. But do we stop loving because we don't feel like it today? In writing circles, you often hear the phrase, "Show, don't tell." A good writer strives to show emotions, actions and other elements of story to make reading more interesting. That's ironic when you think about life. Should we not do the same with love? R.C. Sproul said, "Love is more of a verb than a noun. It has more to do with acting than with feeling." I believe he got it right. Good thing, too, because feelings come and go. They depend on circumstances. Neither right nor wrong, we can't always count on the way we feel.

Long ago, I read the book The Five Love Languages. While I may feel loved because someone hugs me, others want a gift or need someone to do something special. Still others crave quality time, and many need simple affirming words spoken to them daily. The best part of all this — most of it doesn't cost a dime. Even a gift can come from loving hands, a simple craft. Does it take time to figure out how those we care about feel loved? Sure, but imagine a world where we show the love in our heart — even to strangers. That person you meet may need it. Or maybe that person is you.

Happy love month!





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In early childhood, we watched animated robots perform mundane tasks, wondering if we might ever have a real one. As adults, we buy robotic vacuums and hear amazing tales of robotics used from operating rooms to space and everywhere between the two. The future holds much more for the practical use of robotics, which makes the program at Weatherford College even more spectacular. Director of TRIO Talent Search Dr. Deborah Jogie-Cregger and Dean of Workforce & Technical Education Janetta Kruse work with students in the TRIO program, but the robotics arm of that program brings with it a new adventure for some middle school students.

TRIO consists of a set of federally funded college opportunity programs that motivate and support students from disadvantaged backgrounds in their pursuit of a college degree. Students, sixth grade through college, come from three groups: low-income, first-generation college and those with disabilities. Dr. Jogie-Cregger leads the efforts to identify students and provide programs that interest them. Beyond the education, the program also provides mentoring, encourages excellence in academics and counsel in obtaining financing for post-secondary education.

President of Weatherford College, Dr. Tod Allen Farmer said, "Our goal is to prepare students for the future, while giving local businesses well-educated labor." With dynamic individuals who care about the students and the community, they can help prepare students today for jobs tomorrow. "We're incredibly lucky for great school districts in Parker County who collaborate with us," he said. "Robotics is growing exponentially. It offers the kinds of jobs that pay family-sustaining wages." In the future, the college will continue and increase collaboration as they move toward more four-year programs.

Instrumental in bringing robotics to the TRIO program, Dr. Jogie-Cregger applied for a supplemental STEM grant, and it was awarded. Having worked in other school districts until six years ago when she came to Weatherford College, she saw an issue. "STEM is a way of life," she said. "Not a lot of resources are available in rural areas. With robotics, we target middle school students, hoping to help them develop a love for STEM and technology at an early age."

Janetta didn't hesitate when Dr. Jogie-Cregger approached her about the plan. "With the Industrial Maintenance & Automation Technology program going strong, it was perfect timing for robotics," Janetta shared. "We're always looking for opportunities to get kids involved early. Robotics gave us another way to expand and get the kids interested. They'll be adults soon. The grant enabled us to buy a robot."







The students adore hands-on learning with robots, programming them to operate. Many of them already are participants in Talent Search, but they had to apply for a spot in robotics. They didn't need knowledge — only interest and a commitment to complete assignments in a timely manner, plus work with classmates to complete tasks in a fun environment. Parents must commit as well, especially when they eventually return to in-person classes. "Some of these students don't feel they fit in with football or cheerleading. Smart and well-behaved, they often get overlooked," Dr. Jogie-Cregger explained.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 created an issue when they could no longer meet in person. Regrouping rapidly, Dr. Jogie-Cregger used additional grant money to buy small robot kits for each student involved. Using an engaging, fun online course, Nucleus Robotics, they kept the program going. Jerry Barrow and Hayden Harbold, the instructors, adapted as well.

Surprisingly, when they started talking to students for the 2020-2021 school year, the two women saw less than enthusiastic support. "The students don't want any additional virtual programs right now," Dr. Jogie-Cregger explained. "The students stated that they often lack timely responses from teachers." Adjusting again, Dr. Jogie-Cregger reached out to the tech department, finding mentors for the kids. Adding the human touch back increased the interest in the robotics program. These mentors and instructors mean a great deal to the students, and not just for their help with the technology. Some kids need an understanding adult to help them





with school or home issues, and as they look to the future, the students need guidance with college decisions.

Despite the challenges of 2020, Janetta said, "They evolved into something positive. It will make our programs better overall with more online courses — more robust. It made Weatherford College more flexible as we asked, 'How do we be creative and meet needs?""

Both women expect more robotics in the future. "Technology is a way of life, and we want to make sure our programs meet the needs of our community," said Dr. Jogie-Cregger. "We instill a love of learning and offer support. We teach them early about financial aid, resources, etc. College can be a reality, although some students may not realize they have that opportunity."

Dr. Jogie-Cregger identifies well with those students. Growing up in Grenada, she never dreamed of college, as she watched her parents and others in her small village struggle to make ends meet. In 1983, President Ronald Reagan sent the military on a rescue mission to her country after a bloody coup. Restoring democracy, he then offered scholarships to study in the United States. "He's my hero. I ended up remaining in the United States," she said. "I believe in education. That's why I believe in TRIO. Lots of people helped me along the way." Therefore, she desires to help as many students as she can through education.

The robotics program accepts a maximum of 25 students. Each gets a robot he or she keeps. Dr. Jogie-Cregger loves the community, stating, "I could feel the village atmosphere in Weatherford." And because of hers and Janetta's efforts, the community will benefit from the lessons learned by Robo Coyotes. NOW



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Napoli **Automotive**

— By Lisa Bell

Napoli Automotive 2331 Tin Top Road Weatherford, TX 76087 (817) 594-1939 www.napoliautomotive.com Facebook: Napoli-Automotive

Hours: Monday-Friday: 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Since 1988, Gino Napoli has owned and operated his auto repair and maintenance business. Originally from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Gino moved to Weatherford in 1979 when his dad's job brought the family to the community. A junior in high school at the time, Gino admitted, "I didn't do well in school, but God blessed me with something else. I took auto tech in school." He graduated from Weatherford High School and loves the community. While he enjoys working on cars, the skill he discovered in 1979, Gino admits growing older makes the job harder, but he also recognizes that mechanics get better with age.

Napoli Automotive offers engine and transmission repairs, comprehensive diagnostics, air conditioning repair and service, brakes, shocks, tires, oil changes and more. He offers pretty much everything except alignments, since he doesn't have the necessary equipment. For all other repairs, the shop uses the latest in technology and keeps up with the computer skills to understand the machines. However, they are good at figuring out "mystery problems" with a car. In addition, Gino and all the mechanics keep up to date by using all available resources.

By using the best products obtainable and going the extra mile, Napoli Automotive attempts to prevent additional problems in the future. Because they see some specific issues repeatedly in different vehicle brands, they know what to look for as potential problems. Visit their website to learn about some of those extra steps they take routinely.

Gino takes pride in doing his best to treat every customer right. If something goes wrong because of a part they used, he'll fix it without additional charges. "We try to make sure everybody who walks through the door leaves happy," he

shared. They don't sell unneeded repairs and are committed to never taking advantage of a customer. He strives to hire mechanics with Christian values. "We're all Christians," he said. "We're good ol' boys who hunt and fish. We don't smoke, drink or party, and we try to lead lives based on biblical doctrine — not perfect, but we do our best."

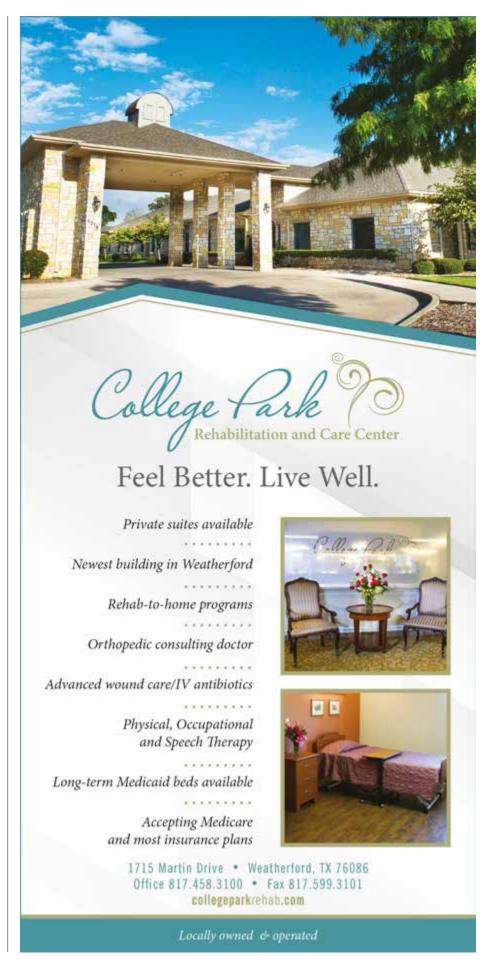
GINO TAKES PRIDE IN DOING **HIS BEST TO TREAT EVERY CUSTOMER** RIGHT.

As a business, they support local schools and buy tickets to the Shriner Circus, allowing children to attend who otherwise might not. Gino also gives to his home church, Victory Baptist, and is the Parker County NRA president. "We're blessed. Money goes in a circle. You get, give and get more," he explained. "I haven't worried about money since I started tithing."

Gino recommended changing oil every 4,000 to 4,500 miles, depending on the car's age, and never using cheap filters. He suggested using Rislone Oil Treatment in high-mileage cars. He also strongly encourages customers to have BG Fuel System Service done every 30,000 miles to extend the life of a car. Visit their Facebook page for more tips and photos of great vintage cars from time to time.

"In our shop, we try to let God lead us. Without Him, you're stumbling along," Gino said. "We fix cars like they're our own, and I'd rather spend my money on fishing stuff." With that attitude, Napoli Automotive strives to do their best, charge a fair price and treat all their customers well.

After 40 years of working on automobiles, Gino intends to keep going. "If God had something different for me, He'd guide me that way," he quipped. Customers take comfort in knowing Gino and the guys will be there now and in the future, ready to serve and keep you on the road, riding on their reputation. NOW









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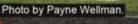




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Around Town



After playing cards with neighbors on New Year's Eve, snow surprised

David Prowell.



Josh Schmidt (far right) celebrates his 16th birthday with family.

Zoomed In:

Sara Craig and Denise Surles

On the first Monday of 2021, Sara Craig and Denise Surles enjoyed time together along with Sara's daughter, AnnieBelle. "We are having fun," Denise shared. She told a story of dumping liquid out the open window as the car moved slowly and still managing to have it blow back on the vehicle and all over her. "It's just one of those days," she said, laughing.

Despite minor mishaps, the two best friends choose to see the funny side of life whenever possible. "We're very best friends," Sara admitted. As the friends, more like sisters, laugh about the adventurous moment, even little AnnieBelle wants in on it. And the smiles of all three manage to brighten anyone's day.



The Stell family welcomes 2021 with a small get-together at home.



MELD opens in Willow Park, welcomed by East Parker County Chamber of Commerce members.

By Lisa Bell



Jessica Cundiff, former WC Coyote, uses basketball to become an lvy League paleontologist.



Dr. Diane Ainsworth wins the 2020 Weatherford College Faculty of the Year Award.



Weatherford Public library continues crafts workshops by prepackaging supplies and providing instructions through Facebook.



Debbie and Kristina Alongis enjoy a mother-daughter lunch downtown.





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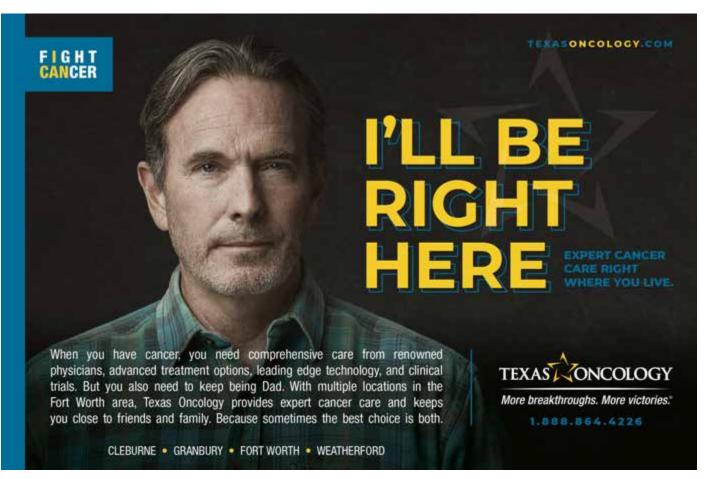
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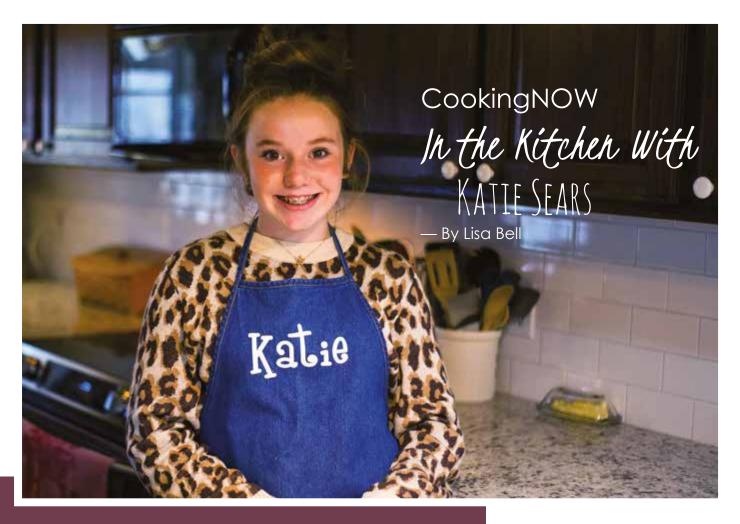












"I can't remember a time when I wasn't cooking, whether it was standing on a stepstool or sitting on the counter," Katie Sears said. Her grandma, mom and oldest sister taught her to cook. Family is her No. I priority, the ones she cooks for and with. "We always love to cook together," she said. "I am also my sister's No. I sous chef, and it is so much fun to cook with her."

To overcome boredom during quarantine, Katie created cooking segments titled Quarantine Cooking With Katie and posted them to Facebook. When not cooking, she loves showing goats and lambs, playing volleyball, doing anything with arts and crafts, playing board games or simply hanging out with friends and family. Now

Mint Chocolate Brownies

First layer:

1 cup sugar

1/4 cup butter, softened

4 eggs

1 cup flour

1/2 tsp. salt

1 16-oz. can HERSHEY'S Chocolate Syrup

1 tsp. vanilla

Second layer:

2 cups powdered sugar

1/2 cup butter

1 Tbsp. water 1/2 tsp. mint extract Green food coloring, to desired shade

Third laver:

I cup chocolate chips

6 Tbsp. butter

1. For first layer: Mix all the ingredients until well blended. Pour into a well-greased 9x13-inch pan; bake at 350 F for 30 minutes, testing at 25 minutes. Let cool completely.

2. For second layer: Mix all the ingredients well; spread on the cooled cake. Refrigerate while making the third layer.

3. For third layer: Melt the chocolate chips and butter together, stirring until smooth. Spread on the cake: cool. Freezes well.

Peanut Butter Sandwich Cookies

Cookies:

2 sticks butter

I cup brown sugar

1 cup sugar

1 cup peanut butter

2 eggs

I tsp. baking soda

1 tsp. baking powder

2 tsp. vanilla

2 1/2 cups flour

Filling:

2 sticks butter

I cup peanut butter

4 cups powdered sugar

2 Tbsp. milk

1. For cookies: To a stand mixer, add the butter, brown sugar, sugar and peanut butter.

- **2.** Mix on medium for about 2 minutes, or until light and fluffy. Turn off the mixer; add the eggs, baking soda, baking powder and vanilla.
- **3.** Mix until just combined; add the flour. Put the cookie dough in a bowl; refrigerate for I hour.
- **4.** For filling: Combine the butter and peanut butter; mix until smooth.
- **5.** Add powdered sugar, 1/2 cup at a time; mix after each 1/2 cup. Once the filling starts to get thick, add milk to help thin it down.
- **6.** To assemble cookies: Preheat oven to 375 F.
- **7.** Roll a spoonful of the dough into a ball for each cookie; place them on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Using a fork, make a crisscrossed grid pattern on the cookies, and flatten them.
- **8.** Bake for 7-8 minutes. Put a thick coating of the filling on the bottom side of one cookie and top with another cookie. Eat and enjoy.

Katie's Four Cheese Pesto Pizza

Dough:

1 pkg. active dry yeast (2 1/4 tsp.)

1 tsp. honey

1 cup warm water (divided use)

3 cups all-purpose flour

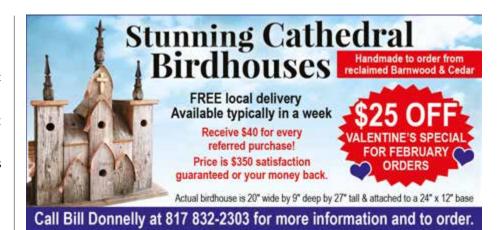
1 tsp. salt

1 Tbsp. olive oil

Topping:

12 Tbsp. pesto
Provolone cheese, sliced, to taste
Mozzarella cheese, grated, to taste
Crumbled feta cheese, to taste
Parmesan cheese, grated, to taste

- **I.** For dough: In a small bowl, dissolve the yeast and honey in 1/4 cup water.
- **2.** In a mixer fitted with a dough hook, combine the flour and salt. Add oil, yeast mixture and remaining 3/4 cup water.
- **3.** Mix on low speed until the dough comes cleanly away from the sides of the bowl and clusters around the dough hook, about 5 minutes.
- **4.** Turn the dough out onto a clean work surface; knead by hand for 2 or 3 minutes longer. The dough should be smooth and firm.
- **5.** Cover the dough with a clean, damp towel; let it rise in a warm spot for about 30 minutes. When ready, the dough will stretch as it is slightly pulled.
- **6.** Divide the dough into four balls; knead again 4 or 5 times. Then on a smooth, unfloured surface, roll the ball under the palm of your hand until the top of the dough







is smooth and firm, about 1 minute. Cover the dough with a damp towel; let rest 15-20 minutes.

- **7.** To prepare each pizza: Dip the ball of dough into flour, shaking off the excess. Place the dough on a clean, lightly floured surface; roll into 8- or 10-inch rounds.
- **8.** On each round, spread an even layer of pesto (about 3 Tbsp.). Add provolone.

Top with mozzarella, and then feta. Finally, sprinkle with Parmesan.

9. Bake on a pizza stone or cookie sheet until the pizza crust is nicely browned, about 10-12 minutes.

Biscuits

2 cups all-purpose flour 1 Tbsp. baking powder 1 tsp. salt 1 Tbsp. white sugar 1/3 cup shortening 1 cup milk

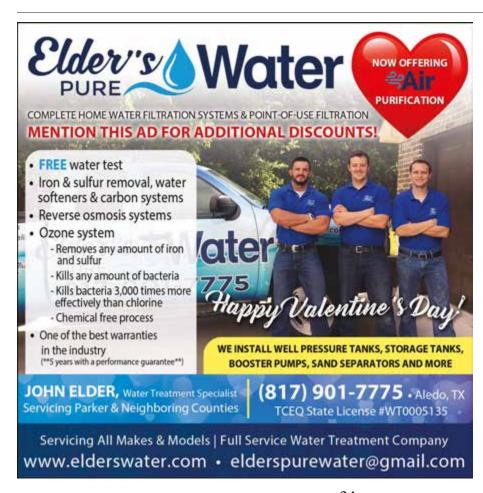
- **1.** Preheat oven to 425 F In a large bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder, salt and sugar.
- **2.** Cut in shortening until the mixture resembles coarse meal. Gradually stir in milk until the dough pulls away from the sides of the bowl.
- **3.** Turn out onto a floured surface; knead 15 to 20 times. Pat or roll dough out to 1-inch thick.
- **4.** Cut biscuits with a large cutter or juice glass dipped in flour. Repeat until all the dough is used. Brush off the excess flour; place biscuits onto an ungreased baking sheet.
- **5.** Bake 13-15 minutes.

Gravy

1/3 cup fat (butter, meat grease, oil or shortening)
1/3 cup flour
Milk, to desired consistency
Salt, to taste
Pepper, to taste

- **1.** Put fat in a hot pan to warm up; add flour. Mix for a few minutes to get rid of the floury taste.
- **2.** Slowly add milk, about 1/4 cup at a time. Stir until it reaches the consistency you want. Add salt and pepper to taste. *Note: This is great served with the homemade biscuits.*







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Kenneth Nalley at (817) 392-7411 or kenneth. nalley@fortworthtexas.gov, or visit www.tpwd.texas.gov/calendar/education/project-wild-workshop-online-1.

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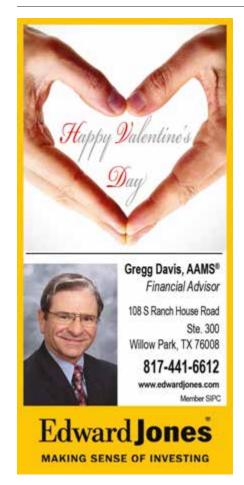
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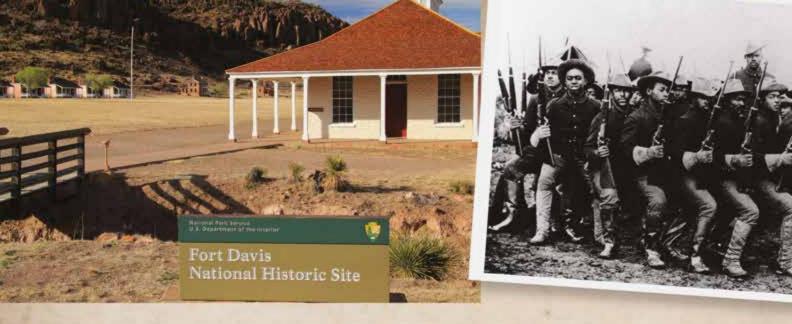
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Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your current event details to lisa.bell@nowmagazines.com.







· Tales of Texas · REMEMBERI BUFFALO SOLD

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 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 Calvary 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



NG — By Angel Morris IERS

in high regard. According to 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.

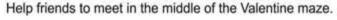
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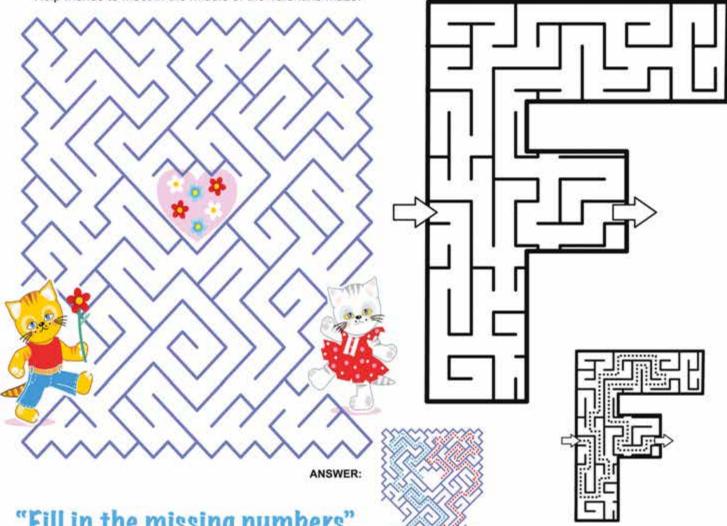
I. https://www.blackpast.org/africanamerican-history/buffalo-soldiers/ 2. https://www.history.com/topics/ westward-expansion/buffalo-soldiers 3. https://nationalvmm.org/



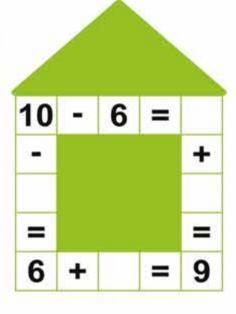


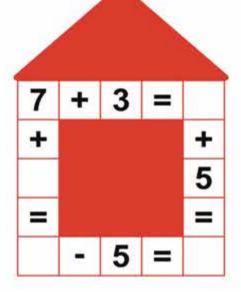
Kids' Fun Page

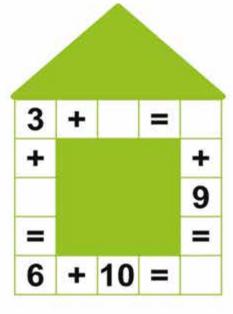




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Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5			6	7	8	9
10		+	+	\vdash	11	1	12	\vdash	t	+
13	1	+	+	\vdash	\vdash		14	\vdash	T	+
				15	\vdash	16		\vdash		
17	18	19		20	t	\vdash	T	T	21	22
23	1	t	24	Т		25	t	T		t
26	1	t	+	H	27			28		t
		29	t	T	t	T				
30	31				32	\vdash	33	34	35	36
37	1	1			38	\vdash				T
39	+	+	1			40	+		+	-

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
- 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,
- 9 Coloring material
- 11 Raise
- 16 "Go get him ---!" (Shakespeare, Macbeth)
- 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
- 33 "Gross!"
- 34 End of a golf club
- 35 Former
- 36 Western Hemisphere political forum

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Sudoku Puzzle

Easy

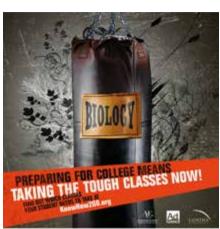
Medium

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Solutions on page 36









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Crossword Sudoku Solutions

M	2 Y	βН	⁴ A	⁵ T			⁶ L	⁷ A	[®] D	°D
10 G	Ε	Е	Z	Ε	11R		12	N	D	Y
13 M	Α	N	T	L	Ε		14 K	1	Т	E
				15 E	Α	16 S	Е	S		
17	18 B	19 M		²⁰ T	R	U	s	Т	21	²² N
²³ L	Ε	Α	24 C	Н		25 R	0	0	М	Y
²⁶ K	Ε	L	L	0	27 G	G		28 N	F	С
		29°C	Α	N	0	Е				
30 _T	31 H	0	R		32 _Y	0	33 U	ъ	35 O	³⁶ O
37 W	Α	L	K		38 A	N	G	0	L	Α
39	N	М	E			40 S	Н	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								
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

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

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