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M A G A Z I N E

FEBRUARY 2025

Be My DIY

A child's handmade
card is the best
valentine

In the Kitchen With
Mary Hardman

From Intern to President and CEO

Education was
the key to
Eulanie Lashley's
success

Also inside:
Scavenger Hunt
Sudoku

Featured Business:
Quantum Mechanics

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✓ **A great place to live**

During my administration Mansfield has been voted the best mid-sized city in the country, the best city council in the state and the best city to conduct business. By attracting destination restaurants, key service providers, and top notch retail developments, under my leadership our team has enhanced the amenities we all enjoy. As a bridge builder I continue to advocate for strong collaboration between city management, our economic development corporations, local and regional partners to bring clean commercial businesses, high end manufacturing, and S.T.E.A.M. employers to our community.

✓ **A great place to learn**

We have enhanced our partnership with our local ISD and area colleges, universities, and other educational institutions. These connections have worked to solidify Mansfield's place as a regional innovative powerhouse. Stay tuned, the best is yet to come!

✓ **A great place to play**

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ON THE COVER



Eulanie Lashley talks about her career path.

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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 (817) 477-0990 or visit www.nowmagazines.com.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Short month, strong message ...

As the shortest month of the year approaches, February has a special way of making its presence felt. Known to some as Black History Month and to others as the season of love, it offers a moment to pause and celebrate the connections that warm our hearts and brighten our days. Whether it's observing the contributions of a diverse culture, grand gestures of romance, the quiet comfort of enduring partnerships or the steadfast bonds of friendship, February reminds us that love, in all its forms, is a force that sustains us.

This month, we invite you to embrace love's many expressions. It's not just about red roses and candlelit dinners, though those are delightful. It's also about the small, meaningful ways we show we care — checking in on a friend, listening to others, sharing a laugh with family or taking time to nurture your own well-being.

In this issue, you'll find stories that explore love from diverse perspectives. From an inspiring story of a trailblazer to a gentleman being cheered on by friends and family to start a business. Each article is a reminder that love is both universal and can motivate people to reach their goals.

As we journey through February, let's carry its message of love forward — not just for a day, but every day. Let it inspire us to connect more, live fully and cherish the people and moments that matter most.

Here's to a month of heartfelt moments and the enduring beauty of love!

My name is Tamera Bounds, I am running for ReElection for Mansfield City Council Place 2



Our council team is committed to smart growth, which drives us to develop strong policies and strategic plans that reflect Mansfield's vision, guiding principles, and priorities. These initiatives are shaped by valuable input from citizen surveys and community needs. While maintaining the lowest crime rate in 8+ years, we have paid off millions of dollars in debt ahead of schedule, spent 76% more funds on infrastructure needs, reduced the tax rate to a 35-year low, and increased the homestead exemption to the highest it's ever been!

We are also dedicated to reflecting our residents' rich culture and heritage. From events like the Pickle Parade, Veteran's Parade, Rockin' 4th, Haunt the Block, Hometown Holidays, and Music Alley to the Mansfield Farmers Market, our council places a strong emphasis on creating spaces that celebrate our unique community identity. Our new projects and neighborhoods intentionally incorporate natural

features, green spaces, historic structures, and public art, distinguishing us from neighboring cities.

This thoughtful approach to fostering a sense of community attracts new residents and creates a vibrant and thriving environment for everyone who calls Mansfield home! For more information on our city's accomplishments and unfinished business, please visit my website at reelecttamerabounds.com.
VOTE Tamera Bounds on May 3rd or VOTE EARLY April 22nd through the 29th.

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From Intern to PRESIDENT AND CEO

— By Sandra Walters

The United States of America commemorates Black History Month in February. It's a time when we celebrate the accomplishments, backgrounds and contributions of a diverse group of people. Today, we feature Eulanie Lashley, a Mansfield resident and president and CEO of Texas Health Hospital Mansfield. Hers is a story of perseverance, faith and leadership.

Eulanie was born the sixth of seven children in Saint Vincent, a small Caribbean Island. "I came from humble beginnings. My parents had little formal education, but they instilled in us the value of hard work and faith. When resources were scarce, we relied on prayer and our belief that God would provide. That foundation shaped who I am today," she reflected.

Remembering her mother praying over everything, particularly when things were tough, she said, "Our mother frequently prayed over us in the middle of the night. That belief system carried us through challenges, like walking to school without knowing where our next meal would come from. It also taught us the importance of family, community and resilience."

Eulanie's parents emphasized the transformative power of education, encouraging their children to pursue it as a way to improve their lives and give back to the community. Despite limited resources, they ensured Eulanie had the tools she needed to succeed by teaching her and her siblings to read at an early age. "I never desired to be the smartest kid in the class, but I



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worked hard. That work ethic, passed down from my parents, has guided me throughout my life,” she acknowledged.

After attending high school, she enrolled in a local college and eventually became a teacher, discovering a lot about herself. But her journey took a significant turn when a church elder recognized her potential and urged Eulanie to further her learning. Initially, she was hesitant about the idea due to financial constraints, but she was encouraged to apply for a scholarship. Ultimately, she competed for the scholarship — and won. That scholarship took her to Atlantic Union College in Massachusetts, where she began her academic journey in the United States as an international student. Since her parents had always encouraged her to pursue education, this was an excellent chance to continue moving forward.

Transitioning to a new country was both exciting and challenging. “Everything looked like what I’d seen on TV. I was determined to adapt, ensuring my voice was heard despite my thick accent,” she admitted. Eulanie went on to complete her degree in accounting at Andrews University, where she also secured an internship with AdventHealth. This opportunity aligned perfectly with her values, as AdventHealth’s mission of “Extending the Healing Ministry of Christ” resonated deeply within her.

That internship led to a full-time position as a financial analyst in 2008, just after she married her husband, Rossyl. “We’ve always been partners in ambition and beliefs. My husband is the rock of our family, often going above and beyond to support me and our two children, Nathan and Natalie. His unwavering support allows me to thrive in my role,” she said.





Eulanie's career is indicative of dedication, strategic thinking and tenacity. Following being an intern, she has worked for AdventHealth her entire career of 16 years. She held various positions, including financial analyst, senior financial analyst, lead financial analyst, senior account manager, assistant director of finance, director of finance and chief operating officer. Her ability to comprehend, expand hospitals and strengthen community relationships comes from a great deal of experience.

In the short time Eulanie has been in this area, she has actively participated in community events and initiatives. She has been involved in programs aimed at improving community health and well-being, demonstrating her commitment to assisting others. Recently, she spoke on behalf of Texas Health Hospital Mansfield, which collaborated with the city and Marine Toys 4 Tots to provide toys for local underprivileged kids. Eulanie was seen on Channel 4 News alongside Mayor Michael Evans as they took a group on a shopping spree at Target to acquire toys for families during this past holiday season. She appeared on TV as one of the spokespersons while a news reporter asked questions about the event and contribution.

From intern to CEO, she built a legacy of servant leadership. "My parents' faith and determination laid the foundation for everything I've achieved," she said. The challenges she faced growing up made her more empathetic and aware of the struggles others might face. "That perspective drives my passion for investing in my team and creating an environment where they can thrive."

As the leader of Texas Health Hospital Mansfield, Eulanie is honored to serve her community. "This role is more than a job. It's a calling," Eulanie concluded. "Caring for the people around me — whether it's my team or our patients — is the privilege of a lifetime." **NOW**

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Be My DIY

— By Angel Morris



Handmade Valentine cards for a classroom giveaway not only save money, but they are a great way to tap into your child's creativity and occupy them for an afternoon. If getting started is a challenge, however, it can help to offer a few prompts for kids to copy or build upon.

Your first step, however, is to round up construction paper, markers, crayons and any other craft supplies that may come in handy. If your child wants to put their cards in an envelope, keep the size of the envelopes you have on hand in mind when cutting construction paper for cards. The less your child has to step away to find necessary supplies, the smoother the card crafting will go!

If kids have a hard time getting started on their own, it can help to create a few sample cards for them to follow. You might ask them to think of their favorite movie character, a game they enjoy playing or even popular slang among their classmates. These are great jumping off points for messages to include on valentines. If all else fails, here are a few simple themes to consider:

Tic-Tac-To My Heart. After cutting paper to the size that will fit your envelopes when folded in half, have children write the words "You Won ..." atop the front of the card. In the remaining space of the card, draw a tic-tac-toe board (also known by kids today as a hashtag symbol). Cut out three red hearts and glue those in boxes diagonally down the board. Fill in some of the remaining squares with X marks. On the bottom of the card front, the words "My Heart" complete the message. Children can write "Happy Valentine's Day!" inside, or just sign their name.

Puzzle Perfect. Have children draw two connected puzzle pieces. Draw one half



of a heart within one puzzle piece, completing the rest of the heart on the other piece, so that one full heart is seen across the two pieces. Draw the pieces large enough so that they will cover a good portion of the front of the card when cut in two. Color the heart, then thickly outline the puzzle pieces in black. Cut apart the two puzzle pieces, gluing one piece in the center of the card front, and the other on the inside of the card. Children can write a variety of messages related to puzzles on the card, such as (outside) "Our Friendship," (inside) "Is a Perfect Fit!" Or (outside) "Like a Puzzle Piece," (inside) "You Complete Our Class!"

Lucky in Love. Help children cut out four small hearts from green construction paper, then glue them atop the card front in the shape of a four-leaf clover, drawing a stem to the ground. Write something like, "I'm SO Lucky ..." atop the card. Inside, cut out a single red heart, also drawing a stem from it to the ground. The inside message can be any variation of why your child feels lucky: "You're My Friend," "You're My Classmate" or, even, "You're My Valentine."

Remember, you can always go with a smiley face heart on the front and "Happy Valentine's Day!" inside. Simple is heartfelt, too! **NOW**

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Zoomed In:
The Cosby Family

By Sandra Walters

For many years, Abigail, Brianna and their mother, Michelle, have been present at the events honoring Jane Austen’s legacy. “The famous 18th-century writer is honored on her birthday,” Michelle remarked. “So, we celebrated the English novelist and loved being dressed in clothing from that period on Jane Austen Day.” On December 16, people throughout the world celebrate Jane, as well. The Saturday closest to that day, The Man House Museum hosted a tea party, and Mainstage Classic Theatre in Mansfield donated period costumes. While touring the museum, many attendees sipped tea, ate scones, made crafts with quotes from Austen, played games from the era and participated in trivia as they toured the house.



Emily Capaccioli and Mariah Dietrich have a blast skating at the park.



First Methodist Mansfield Green Team celebrates a recent championship win.



Amy Seagraves’ granddaughters say “Hello,” with a smile.



Micah and Matthew Mason love to dress up.



Ruby Fields and her family celebrate her 89th birthday.



Sarah Holland and Abby Rinzel enjoy their time together.



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Work on New Community Space, Geyer Commons, Breaks Ground

The initial phase for Geyer Commons, a new community-focused space, held its groundbreaking in early December 2024.

Phase 1A includes necessary infrastructure improvements, a splash pad featuring programmable LED lighting, civic lawn space, and a makers' market for local entrepreneurs.

The City of Mansfield and Mansfield Independent School District (MISD) partnered to exchange property to accommodate the growth of both organizations. The City received the school district's property along Walnut Creek Drive that includes Geyer Field, administration buildings, the original Mansfield High School, the historic Rock Gym and property across the street on East Broad

Street. MISD received the City Hall facility, 1200 E. Broad St., and property behind it.

This exchange enables both organizations to save resources while continuing to provide exceptional service to the community. The partnership is another example of local leaders working together as one for Mansfield. This exchange allows the city to develop an exciting community space known as Geyer Commons. It will provide gathering spaces and inspire memorable experiences.

"Mansfield residents have been asking for a third space like this, a location that's not work or home but allows friends and family to come together," City Council member Juan Fresquez said. "I look forward to

seeing life flourish in this part of town as neighbors meet and children play."

The City expects Phase 1A construction to be complete in fall 2025.

"Geyer Commons will be a boon to the revitalization happening downtown to ensure the heart of our city continues to be a hub of community," Mayor Pro Tem Todd Tonore said.

Design for the next phase, Phase 1B, is currently underway with expected completion in fall 2025. Phase 1B features the relocation of the historic landmark Wallace-Hall house and the reconstruction of several key historic buildings including the Cumberland Church, Citizens Bank, Mansfield Co-Ed College and the Julian Feild House.



Conceptual Image

Mansfield Breaks Ground on Geyer Commons



Geyer Commons Groundbreaking - December 2024

Historic charm and modern living will meet in Mansfield's unique Geyer Commons project

Alongside the continued preservation of the original Mansfield High School and Rock Gym, this project will pay thoughtful homage to our history while making way for requested shopping, dining and retail options.

Future phases could include a wiffle ball field as a nod to Geyer Field alongside additional greenspace and needed parking improvements.

Geyer Commons will be a vibrant gateway

into Historic Downtown Mansfield and a community destination. This project offers a place where remarkable experiences and shared memories will carry Mansfield into the future.

For additional information about the history of this project, please visit GeyerCommons.com.



Conceptual Images



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BusinessNOW

Quantum Mechanix

— By Sandra Walters



Quantum Mechanix

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Tommy Frantzen, owner of Quantum Mechanix, discovered his passion for auto maintenance in his family’s garage. “I always tagged along with my father while he fixed our cars. My fascination with how cars worked began as I helped my dad,” Tommy shared. What started as a childhood curiosity soon grew into a lifelong hobby.

Even as he got older and began working full time in a different profession, Tommy continued to tinker with cars in his spare time. After long days at work, he would return home to help friends and family by repairing their vehicles. Over time, his skills sharpened, and his reputation as a reliable and talented mechanic spread. Friends and family encouraged him to consider turning his passion into a profession. Eventually, Tommy decided to take their advice, became a certified mechanic and began working at auto repair shops.

While working in the industry, Tommy’s father, family members and friends continually encouraged him to take the next step — opening his own business. In 2010, Tommy finally took the leap and launched Quantum Mechanix. Over the past 15 years, the business has grown to become a trusted name, known for its exceptional customer service and meticulous attention to detail.

Quantum Mechanix is a small, close-knit business with a team of five dedicated employees. Tommy explained, "My mother, Donna, is one of the office managers, along with Ashley. They're both essential to keeping everything running smoothly. Mason and I are the primary mechanics, and I truly appreciate their hard work and expertise."

Recently, he brought on a new team member, Joseph, a student from Ben Barber. "Joseph is training to become a mechanic, and I'm thrilled to have him on board. There's a shortage of skilled mechanics in the field, so it's exciting to see young people like Joseph taking an interest," Tommy added.

At Quantum Mechanix, the focus is always on the customer. Tommy and his team are committed to providing top-quality repairs without trying to upsell unnecessary services. "I would feel terrible if something happened to one of my clients' cars as a result of our work. Their safety is my top priority," Tommy emphasized.

This customer-first philosophy extends to every aspect of the business. "If a customer wants us to provide a diagnosis, we're happy to do so at their request. It's completely up to them. Many people think that owning a business means you're your own boss, but that's not the case. The customer is your boss. Without customers, you don't have a business."

Quantum Mechanix offers a wide range of automotive services, tailored to meet the specific needs of each vehicle. Their services include regularly scheduled maintenance, clutches, electrical diagnosis and repair, engine performance diagnosis and repair, front and rear brake services, heating and air conditioning diagnosis, minor and major engine repairs, suspension diagnosis and repair, oil changes, tire rotation, transmission services and tune-ups. Whether it's routine maintenance or a complex repair, the Quantum Mechanix team is ready to help keep your vehicle running smoothly. If your vehicle needs service or repairs, don't hesitate to reach out to Quantum Mechanix. Tommy and his team would be happy to assist you and ensure your car is back on the road safely. **NOW**





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Chocolate Chip Cookie Bars

Chocolate Chip Cookie Bars

- 2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour**
- 1 tsp. baking soda**
- 1 tsp. salt**
- 1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened**
- 3/4 cup granulated sugar**
- 3/4 cup brown sugar, packed**
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract**
- 2 large eggs**
- 2 cups (1 12-oz. pkg.) NESTLÉ TOLL HOUSE Semi-Sweet Chocolate Morsels**

- 1.** Preheat the oven to 375 F. Grease a 13x9-inch glass pan.
- 2.** Combine the flour, baking soda and salt in a small bowl.
- 3.** Beat the butter, granulated sugar, brown sugar and vanilla extract in a large mixing bowl. Add the eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Gradually beat in the flour mixture. Stir in the morsels. Spread the mixture into the prepared pan.
- 4.** Bake for 20 minutes or until golden brown. Cool in the pan on a wire rack. Cut into bars.

One-Bowl Brownies

- 4 baker's unsweetened chocolate squares, chopped**
- 3/4 cup butter**
- 2 cups granulated sugar**
- 3 eggs**
- 1 tsp. vanilla**
- 1 cup flour**
- 1 cup pecans, coarsely chopped (optional)**

- 1.** Preheat the oven to 350 F; lightly grease a 9x13-inch baking pan.
- 2.** Microwave the chocolate and butter in a large bowl for 2 minutes, until melted.
- 3.** Stir the sugar into the chocolate; blend well. Mix in the eggs and vanilla.
- 4.** Stir in the flour and nuts; pour mixture into the prepared pan.
- 5.** Bake 30-35 minutes. Do not overbake. Cool completely.

Fish Tacos

- 3 Tbsp. butter, melted**
- Juice of 1 lime**
- 1 tsp. chili powder**
- 1/2 tsp. garlic powder**
- Pinch of salt**
- 10-15 oz. cod or other white fish, thawed**
- 6-8 tortillas**

Slaw:

- 1/4 cup oil**
- 1/4 cup water**
- 1/2 cup green onions, chopped**
- 1/2 cup cilantro**
- 1-2 cloves garlic**

CookingNOW

IN THE KITCHEN WITH MARY HARDMAN

— By Sandra Walters



"I love to cook and bake because it allows me to do things for others. What can I say? I enjoy serving! When I make meals and treats for family and friends, I look forward to their reaction because it brings me joy. Preparing dinner or dessert is a great respite from a busy day teaching. Dawson, my granddaughter, and I bake together. This is my creative outlet. We call it Cookin' with Daws," Mary Hardman said.

She learns from her cooking mistakes, so she isn't easily discouraged. Mary believes it's an opportunity to get better. She added, "No matter how long my day is, I still find energy and time to make something yummy!" **NOW**

Juice of 2 limes
1/2 cup sour cream
Pinch of salt
1 bag coleslaw

Toppings:
Avocado, mashed, to taste
Red onion, to taste
Mango salsa, to taste

1. Preheat the oven to 400 F.
2. Mix the butter, lime juice, chili powder, garlic powder and salt in small bowl. Pour over the fish; bake 10-15 minutes.
3. Flake apart the fish; coat with the extra sauce in the pan.
4. For slaw: Add the first 8 ingredients to a bowl and combine. Pour the mixture over the bag of coleslaw.
5. Serve fish in tortillas with the slaw and other desired toppings.

Crock-Pot Chicken & Dumplings

- 2 lbs. boneless, skinless chicken breasts or thighs
1 sweet onion, diced
1 clove garlic, minced
2 10-oz. cans cream of chicken soup
3 cups chicken broth
1 tsp. poultry seasoning
1 tsp. dried parsley
1 tsp. cracked black pepper
1 8-count pkg. refrigerated biscuit dough

1. In a 6-qt. slow cooker, add all the ingredients, except the biscuit dough; stir to combine.
2. Cover; cook on high for 3 hours or low for 6 hours.
3. When the chicken is cooked and tender, shred the meat; stir to combine.
4. Open the biscuits, press each biscuit flat, cut into narrow strips. Add the biscuit strips on top. Cover while cooking for 20-30 minutes.
5. When finished, the biscuits should be light and fluffy.
6. Serve immediately.

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



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

Medium

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

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HAPPY Valentine's Day FEBRUARY

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.

2/1

Michael Jr.'s Funny How Marriage Works Tour: This is a chance to laugh and be inspired as a couple! This is also a great experience for someone thinking about getting married or dating to get married someday. Cost: \$35-\$95. 7:00-9:00 p.m., Crossroads Christian Church, 6450 S. State Highway 360 Grand Prairie, TX 75052. For more information, visit funnyhowmarriageworks.com.

2/13

Open Mic Night:
A safe place for all ages. Come showcase your skills or simply cheer on the performers. Cost: Free-\$15. 7:30-9:15 p.m., Farr Best

Theater, 109 N. Main St. Visit: <https://www.mansfieldtexasarts.org/calendar/events/open-mic-night-all-ages-welcome-15>.

2/15

Venues, Vendors & Vibes:
The goal of this new event is to bring together all the local businesses, organizations and artisans who provide event services of any kind. Cost: Free. 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., The Grand View, 2201 Heritage Pkwy. <https://www.eventeny.com/events/venues-vendors-vibes-event-expo-15917/>.

2/21

Reparations:
Presented by Poised Productions.

This play gives the audience a glimpse of what it could look like if African American descendants of slaves were each awarded 1.2 million dollars. What will they do with the money? Different scenarios are visited while following the lives of a group of acquaintances. Cost: \$25. 7:30-9:00 p.m., Farr Best Theater, 109 N. Main St.

2/22

Tutu Run:
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p.m., James McKnight Park East, 700 U.S. 287 N. To register, call (817) 728-3680.

2/23

Remember the Titan:
Concert by the Mansfield Philharmonic, including Howlett Smith – "Glory Hallelujah Variations" (2015), Janise White, piano; Mahler – Symphony No. 1 in D Major "Titan." Free. 7:00 p.m., sanctuary of First Methodist Mansfield. 777 N. Walnut Creek Dr.

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



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


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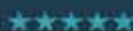
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