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M A G A Z I N E

MARCH 2020

Donna Doolittle

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Coming Back

Albert Leon Payne comes out of semi-retirement to play again

In the Kitchen With Lindsey Arthur

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Donna Robinson gives wildlife respect and care.

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EDITOR'S NOTE



Lisa

Lisa Bell
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My sister turns 70 this month ...

What? How can that be possible? I look at her and see a young woman, full of life, enjoying things she never did in the past when she worked as a nurse. She sometimes says, "I don't know how I ever had time to work." But I know. She didn't do all the fun things she now has time to pursue. I'm proud of my big sister, and I suspect she feels the same about me. I love that we have a strong relationship, even though she has a decade on me. A fellow writer, we have that bond. We also love many of the same movies and activities, although, admittedly, I'm the crafter in our family.

The bond between sisters never fails to amaze me, and I don't take for granted the love flowing from both of my sisters and my brother into my life. Not every family shares such a bond, but I'm incredibly thankful we do. At times, we disagree, and I have no doubt many times through the years they wondered, *What is she thinking?* Despite that, I always count on their support — and their voices of reason — and offer mine. This blood bond blesses me, but I treasure the friends who feel like sisters, too. Regardless of whether natural or by heart, siblings are priceless. And that's a good thing to remember.

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DONNA 'Doolittle'

— By Alan Whiteshoes

Just call her Donna Doolittle. However, instead of actually being able to talk to animals, Donna Robinson communicates with them through the language of love. All of God's creatures deserve some love, and Donna is there to provide it to some unlikely recipients.

Donna is certified in wildlife rehabilitation. If an animal needs care before returning to its natural habitat, it is brought to Donna.

"I was always the child who wanted to save everything," Donna said. "As I got older, people would bring me turtles and birds. I've had some roadrunners."

When Donna, 66, officially retired from the retail business in 2009, she entered her new career — rehabilitating animals. After a little research, a rehab group based in Fort Worth contacted her.

"They interviewed me on the phone, and that Sunday, they brought me five raccoons," she said. "I had never touched a raccoon in my life."

Since then, she has helped many raccoons — around a thousand, she thinks. The list of animals she's helped also includes about 800 squirrels, 300 skunks, several varieties of foxes, a couple of hundred baby deer, some wild boars and even a few bobcats. "I never know what's coming in. I'm always on call," she said.

Donna works with several outlets for animal intakes, including veterinarian offices, animal control and shelters, mostly in Weatherford, Mineral Wells, Tarrant County and Granbury. She noted the North Texas Animal Hospital (NTAH) and Dr. Amy Traver of Elite Equine in Springtown among those who have come to her aid in particular moments, such as with a bobcat she was caring for recently.

"They (NTAH) came out and darted her, so we could give her shots, check her eye and worm her. She was out for five hours, and they told me I had to turn her after two-and-a-half hours. I said, 'What?'" Donna shared, chuckling. "I went out there, and she was still growling, but she couldn't move her head, so I did it real quick."

"A lot of times, Dr. Traver helps at no charge. Your normal vets don't know anything about wildlife and don't want to treat wildlife, but she wants to learn. She also donates medication sometimes."

Donna nurses the animals back to health, which can include giving them medicine. In her workshop, she has several cages of different sizes, some incubators, including a small one that plugs into a car cigarette lighter outlet, and some drawers filled with assorted medicine. She vaccinates every animal before releasing it.

She also has about 20 "subs," apprentices who hope someday to get their own permits to do what Donna does and, in the meantime, are learning from her. "She takes you under her wing and teaches you everything she knows. She's like a mother," said Kimberly Trejo, a seven-year sub who recently filed



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for her own license. "I've learned so much from her. The greatest thing I've learned is nothing is too sick to try and save, and we've had many miracle cases. But either way, everything deserves to die with compassion, to be held and cuddled until it passes away. It's sad, but it's the right thing to do."

Cammie Whitford has been a sub under Donna for almost a decade. She said that Donna is a hero to animals and to her. "For animals I would have never been able to come in contact with, she's a plethora of information," Cammie said. "She basically does what a neonatal doctor does. She's saving infants."

To become certified, Donna had to serve as an apprentice with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, become a member of the National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association, get a letter of reference from a licensed veterinarian and two letters of reference from licensed rehabilitators. Now she makes an annual report to the state of every animal she's taken in, medicines she's provided, injuries she's cared for, etc.

"We get no funding from the state. It's out of our own pockets or donations," she said. "I'm a 501(c)(3), so it is a tax write-off to donate. I only ask for donations when I need to, but I'm on a fixed income now." Anyone wishing to help can contribute items such as blankets, paper towels, frozen meats (best found when cleaning out freezers), trash bags, bleach, puppy pads, equine bedding pellets, vinegar (for skunk spray), peroxide, dish detergent and more.

Most of the animals Donna cares for are very young, and many are alone

after the death of their mothers. For example, recently two young squirrels were brought to her after their mother was run over by a car in front of the library in Aledo.

"Squirrels, when they're babies, always have black toenails. That's how I can tell the difference between them and rats or mice," Donna said. "People are always bringing me animals thinking they're squirrels, and often they're rats or mice."

Not all animals that come to her are released back into the wild, such as a baby skunk named Gwendolyn. "She has brain damage and is un-releasable," Donna said. For such animals, she finds a sanctuary, or they are kept as un-releasable educational animals. Like all skunks in her care, Gwendolyn has been spayed (or neutered) and de-scented. "I've even been sprayed in the face. You fight through it. Even baby skunks as young as 2 weeks old can get you."



"Not everyone can rehab. And, sadly, sometimes I have to euthanize," Donna admitted. "It's not for everyone. Sometimes, it's 24 hours a day, seven days a week, but it's totally worth it to give those babies a second chance at life."

Whatever it takes to make an animal feel comfortable during its time rehabbing, Donna is willing to do. "I've been known to actually waltz with them," she said. "You find ways to treat these animals like you would your children." **NOW**

Editor's Note: Contact Donna at squeezlefarm@gmail.com for more information.

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He takes the stage with a 47-year-old bass guitar. And when Albert Leon Payne sings, he takes the audience back to a time when classical country was the only country music. At almost 70, Leon didn't learn the songs he sings from older people. He lived it and opened for some of the best in his younger years — Merle Haggard, Mel Tillis and about 20 more major acts. Besides, some of his songs are originals.

Born into a musical family, Leon started singing with bands by the time he reached 7 years of age. His dad had a western swing band, and his mom sang with the band. By the time he turned 9, Leon had recorded his first song. For more than 30 years, he traveled with his father, playing casinos and nightclubs six nights a week.

Living in cars and motels wore on him, and by the time he hit 40, he burned out and started driving trucks. He bought a place in Weatherford where he could have some horses. Although he got to spend more time at home, he still traveled a lot.

ck

— By Lisa Bell

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Finally, in April 2019, Leon sold his truck. "There's more to life than traveling all the time," he said. "If I could still sing, I was gonna do it. I didn't know what else to do." Not having played in 20 years, he called up some old friends, and at their first gig, they "kicked it." Leon was back, although he didn't take it too seriously in the beginning.

Leon admitted, "Classic country is niche music." But he follows his heart and now sees a trend of returning to the roots of music that stays true to Texas country. As a songwriter, three of his original songs appear on his newest CD, *No Doubt*.

Interestingly enough, he didn't come back expecting to record anything, but the opportunity fell into place. "The '70s and '80s were good to me," he expressed. "But it's about the music — belting a great song — and people are listening, loving it. That's what pays off, not the money or anything. I'm just having fun — fortunate enough to play with great players."

Leon & Friends play in and around Weatherford once or twice a week on average. "As long as people come, I'll keep playing," he revealed.

Nevertheless, this time around, he's taking it easier. During his early days of playing, the pressure weighed on him. As a group, they had to work constantly to pay bills. All of that fell on Leon. Now he has a manager, Chad McBride, who takes much of the stress from his shoulders.

"I don't know that I've seen anybody as true to what he's doing," Chad

expressed. "He's more concerned about the band members and audience than anything else. Nonstop and approachable, his genuineness makes him great."

Since his recent comeback, Leon has done extremely well. In the past couple of months, he admits to having some fantastic promoters and wonderful DJs. Because of them, hundreds of radio stations all over the world have now started playing songs from his CD, and the band appears regularly in many places.

Alongside Ron Korner on the drums, Terry Bayless playing piano, Scott Jenkins on the steel guitar and James Faver playing lead guitar and fiddle, the future looks bright for this musician's second time around. But more than anything, Leon takes it daily, plays and enjoys the gigs.



Where the future takes this gentle man is yet unknown. As he gains ground and gets his name back out there, excitement fuels him while he stays true to his roots.

Coming back takes all he learned in the past and pairs it with his love for an almost forgotten style of music. Although he's older now with a laid-back demeanor, Leon is far from done in the music world. And he's a prime example of making a change later in life. When many people his age sit down in a recliner and reflect on the past, Leon is coming back and dreaming of the future. **NOW**

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comes to the office every day. "It's a service and a ministry, where you can help people through a hard time in life," she shared. "Not everyone can do this job."

Early in 1955, JV Plowman was laid off. "He responded to an ad in the newspaper and got the job," Norma recalled. "I worked at Stevens Buick, but we were hired as a couple." She has no regrets after 65 years of loyally serving the families of Weatherford. Although JV passed away in 2007, their children and two granddaughters also work at Galbreath-Pickard, prepared to carry the legacy into the future.

James Plowman serves as president, funeral director, embalmer, cremationist and certified life celebrant. His brother, Bill Plowman, sits on the board of directors. Their sister, Grace, passed away in 2015. A granddaughter, Misty Plowman Engel, a certified preplanning consultant, provisional funeral director and office manager, owned a florist for 10 years before she sold it and joined the staff. Accountant Angie Plowman Hernandez, another granddaughter, also serves in the family business. But every Galbreath-Pickard staff member strives to provide

support, compassion, information and direction, as needed, to all members of the community and their families and friends as they deal with loss and grief.

Galbreath-Pickard provides full funerals, chapel services, graveside services, cremations and memorial services. They also have preplanning options available. Because they handle everything on-site, the staff can confidently promise the highest standard of care. They are the only crematory in Parker County, so they perform cremations in the Weatherford location rather than relying on someone else to complete the process.

**“It’s a service
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time in life.”**

Understanding the pain and grief of losing a loved one, they provide resources for grief and healing, as well as multiple options to meet individual needs and preferences. Galbreath-Pickard takes pride in honoring veterans and providing additional services for their families. And they celebrate lives with special tributes, such as annual butterfly releases and Christmas gatherings, both of which are open to the community, whether you use their services or not.

The business also gives back to the community through scholarships, donations to local organizations, teams in golf tournaments and many other ways. Employees regularly participate and volunteer with organizations throughout the community, as well. In the Willow Park facility, they have space to host different civic groups, and they graciously have offered meeting rooms since the 2016 opening.

Norma said, “Always keep in mind that you’re helping someone. I still strive to do what the Galbreaths and Pickards started out doing.” And with her family beside her, she believes the same will be true in another 65 years. **NOW**



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Zoomed In: Dr. Ruth Goodwin

By Lisa Bell

In July 2016, *WeatherfordNOW Magazine* featured a story about Dr. Ruth Goodwin who founded Safe Harbor. Almost three years later, Dr. Goodwin celebrates the opening of a new facility. “We started with a handful of counselors, volunteer staff members and me in a tiny office,” she said. “Now we have almost two dozen people running this place, and I supervise but have stepped down from counseling. My kids made me.”

The new facility features multiple offices and therapy rooms plus play-therapy rooms for children. They still offer Christian-based counseling on a sliding scale. While Dr. Ruth wishes Parker County didn’t need counseling services, she admits the need remains great. From traumatic events down to dealing with everyday stress, the organization exists to serve.



WeatherfordNOW Editor Lisa Bell spends a Saturday afternoon signing her new book.



Goodwill team, Darlene Davi, Yvette Wilson and Scott Kephart host a job fair.



The city celebrates the opening of the WISD Baseball/Softball Complex.



New members receive a warm welcome at the Weatherford Chamber Mixer.



City employee, Calvin Woody, pulls weeds at the Memorial Park.



Aspiring artists show up for Weatherford Public Library's watercolor basics class.



Jeanie Hobbs celebrates 35 years with Weatherford College.



Kat Armstrong shares with women her perspective on in-between places in life.

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CookingNOW

In the Kitchen With

LINDSEY ARTHUR

— By Lisa Bell

From a young age, Lindsey Arthur learned cooking from her mother. By the age of 8, she could cook solo. “Both of my parents were great chefs in baking and savory dishes and could really guide my learning,” she shared. At 8 or 9, Lindsey made chocolate chip cookies, but used too much salt.

“I cried, and was so disappointed in myself, I didn’t want to bake anything ever again,” she said. “But my dad came to my rescue, saying he loved their ‘different flavor’ and proceeded to eat the whole batch! I’m pretty sure he was secretly throwing them away at work, because they were terrible. I’ll never forget his kindness and commitment to preserving my baking confidence. I always double-check the ‘tsp.’ vs. ‘Tbsp.’ in every recipe now.” **NOW**

Zesty Yukon Gold Potato Soup

- 3 lbs. Yukon Gold potatoes**
(about 8-10 potatoes)
- 1 Tbsp. butter**
- 1/4 cup onion, diced**
- 1 Tbsp. garlic, minced**
- 1 16-oz. pkg. Jimmy Dean Premium Pork Hot Sausage Roll**
- 1 32-oz. carton Swanson chicken broth**
- 1 cup whole milk**
- 1 12-oz. pkg. frozen kale (Fresh works, too. Just add another 5 minutes of cooking time.)**
- 2 cups cheddar cheese, shredded**

Salt, to taste
Pepper, to taste

1. Dice potatoes to bite-size portions. Rinse; set aside. In a large Dutch oven, melt butter; sauté onion and minced garlic together over medium heat.
2. Add Jimmy Dean sausage; cook through. Strain excess oil from sausage. Add back to the pan. Add diced potatoes.
3. Add chicken broth until it just covers the top of the potatoes. Turn heat down to medium-low. Cover; let simmer until potatoes are fork tender, about 20-30 minutes.
4. Add milk and kale. (Start with half of the

bag of kale, and then continue adding to taste.) If the broth has cooked down too much, add more chicken broth or water until the potatoes are covered. Cook another 10-12 minutes, or until the broth returns to a simmer.

5. Add shredded cheese, reserving some for adding to individual bowls.

6. Add salt and pepper, to taste.

Southwest Veggie Tacos With Cilantro Lime Aioli

Cilantro Lime Aioli:

- 3/4 cup olive oil mayonnaise**
- 1/2 cup fresh cilantro leaves, firmly packed**
- 1 jalapeño, diced with seeds and membrane removed**
- 1 Tbsp. fresh garlic, minced**
- 1/2 lime, juiced**
- 1/2 tsp. cumin**
- 1/2 tsp. chili powder**
- Salt, to taste (Start with about 1/4 tsp.)**

Tacos:

- 1 cup corn, roasted (1-2 ears of corn)**
- 2 poblano peppers**

2 cups sweet potato, shredded
 4 Tbsp. olive oil (divided use)
 Salt, to taste
 2 large portabello mushroom caps,
 sliced into strips
 1 small zucchini, sliced into strips
 1 Tbsp. chili powder
 Pepper, to taste
 1-2 cups queso fresco, crumbled
 10-12 soft tortillas

1. For aioli: Blend all ingredients together in a blender or food processor until smooth. Refrigerate at least 1 hour before serving.
2. For tacos: While aioli is chilling, roast corn over open flame until kernels just start to blacken.
3. Remove from heat; let cool. Cut kernels from ear of corn.
4. Roast poblanos over open flame until skin blackens. Let cool in cold water for 1 minute; remove blackened skin. Cut peppers into thin strips.
5. Sauté shredded sweet potato in 1 Tbsp. olive oil until browned and crispy; salt immediately once removed from heat.
6. Sauté portabello and zucchini strips in the remaining olive oil until tender. Season with chili powder, salt and pepper to taste.
7. Build tacos by adding portabello mushrooms, zucchini, poblano peppers, queso fresco and corn to warmed tortilla. Drizzle with aioli. Add crunchy sweet potato on top.

Moscow Mule

Crushed ice
 1 lime
 2 shots of Tito's Handmade Vodka
 1 12-oz. can Ginger Ale

1. Fill 1 8-oz. glass with crushed ice. Slice lime in half; squeeze juice into the glass. Add 2 shots of Tito's Handmade Vodka.
2. Add Ginger Ale to the top of the glass; stir. Enjoy!

Moscow Mule Cheesecake

Cheesecake:
 1 pkg. Ghirardelli white chocolate
 4 8-oz. pkgs. cream cheese, softened to room temperature
 1/4 cup granulated sugar
 4 large eggs
 1 Tbsp. vanilla extract
 1 Tbsp. ground ginger
 1/4 cup fresh lime juice
 2/3 cup minced crystallized ginger
 2 9-inch graham cracker crusts



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Whipped topping:

Half pint whipping cream

1/4 cup powdered sugar

1 tsp. vanilla extract

Zest of 1 lime

1. For cheesecake: Preheat oven to 300 F. In a medium bowl, add white chocolate; stir over boiling water until it melts.

2. Set aside to cool to lukewarm, stirring occasionally to prevent a crust from forming.

3. In a large bowl, beat cream cheese and sugar with a mixer for about 3 minutes. Add eggs, one at a time. Add vanilla, ground ginger and lime juice.

4. Slowly incorporate white chocolate. Stop mixer; slowly fold in crystallized ginger.

5. Divide batter between the 2 crusts; place on the center oven rack. Bake for 50-60 minutes. Let cool in oven for an additional 30 minutes. Remove from heat; cool to room temperature. Chill overnight.

6. For whipped topping: Add whipping cream to a large bowl; turn mixer to medium or high. Slowly add powdered sugar and vanilla; mix until it forms stiff peaks.

7. Divide topping between the 2



Bacon-wrapped
Water Chestnuts

cheesecakes; evenly distribute the lime zest over both pies.

Bacon-wrapped Water Chestnuts

2 8-oz. cans whole water chestnuts

1 lb. bacon

1 pkg. toothpicks

1/2 cup brown sugar

1. Preheat oven to 400 F. Open water chestnuts; drain. Dry lightly on a towel to remove excess moisture.

2. Cut bacon into long, thin strips; wrap around the outside of the water chestnuts (should wrap two full times).

3. Use toothpicks to secure the bacon around each water chestnut. Add 1/4 tsp. brown sugar to the top of each water chestnut, until they are covered.

4. Bake in the oven for 20 minutes, or until the bacon and sugar are crispy.

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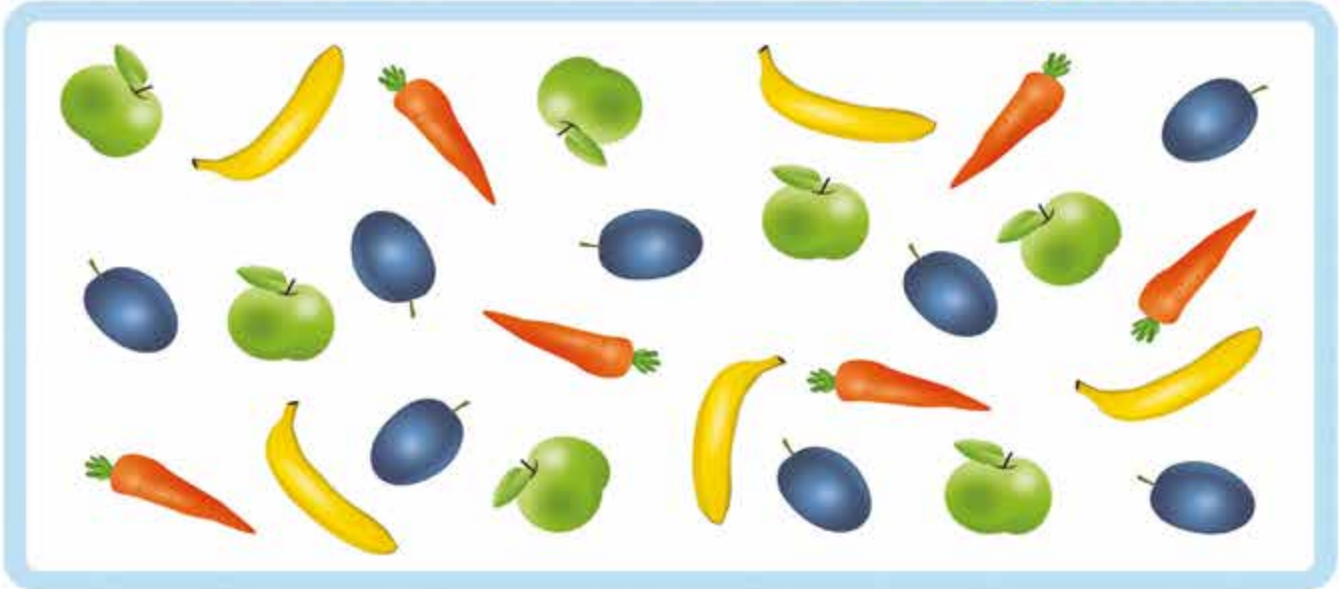
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Women May Need Extra Steps to Reach Financial Security

International Women's Day 2020 is observed on March 8. This special day celebrates the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. Yet, women still face gender barriers as they seek to achieve their financial goals. How can you address these challenges?

To begin with, you need to be aware of what you're up against. The wage gap between men and women has closed somewhat, but it hasn't disappeared. Full-time female employees earn about 82 percent of what men earn, according to the Census Bureau. Over a 40-year career, a woman who worked full time would lose, on average, more than \$400,000 because of this wage gap, according to the National Women's Law Center.

Furthermore, a woman turning age 65 today can expect to live, on average, until age 86.5. For a 65-year-old man, the comparable figure is 84. Those two-and-a-half years can amount to a lot more living expenses. Plus, by taking time off from the workplace to raise children and care for elderly family members, women often end up with lower balances in their 401(k)s and IRAs than men.

So, what can you do to help even the playing field, in terms of building adequate resources for retirement? Here are a few suggestions:

- *Contribute as much as possible to your retirement plans.* During your working

years, put in as much as you can afford to your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan. Most people don't come anywhere near the 401(k) contribution limit (which, in 2020, is \$19,500, or \$26,000 if you're 50 or older), and you might not be able to reach it, either, but strive to do the best you can. And every time your salary increases, bump up your annual contribution. If you are able to "max out" on your 401(k), you may still be able to contribute to an IRA. If your income exceeds certain limits, you can't contribute to a Roth IRA, which offers tax-free withdrawals of earnings if you meet certain conditions, but you may still be able to fund a traditional IRA, although the tax deductibility may be reduced or eliminated.

- *Use Social Security wisely.* You can start taking Social Security as early as 62, but your checks can be larger if you wait until your full retirement age, which will likely be between 66 and 67. And if you're married, you may be able to choose between claiming your own benefits or receiving 50 percent of your spouse's benefits, which could help you if your spouse has considerably higher earnings. (Your spouse does not lose any benefits if you choose this route.)

- *Look for every opportunity to save and invest.* As mentioned above, women often lose out on some retirement savings when they take time away from the workforce to raise families and, eventually, become caregivers for elderly parents. But even if you aren't working full time, it doesn't mean you have no chance to boost your retirement savings. If you can do any paid work, whether it's part time or as a consultant, you can contribute to an IRA — and you should.

It's not easy to overcome the structural disadvantages women face when seeking to reach financial security. Taking advantage of the savings and investment possibilities available can help you make progress toward your goals. **NOW**

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC. Gregg Davis is an Edward Jones representative based in Willow Park.



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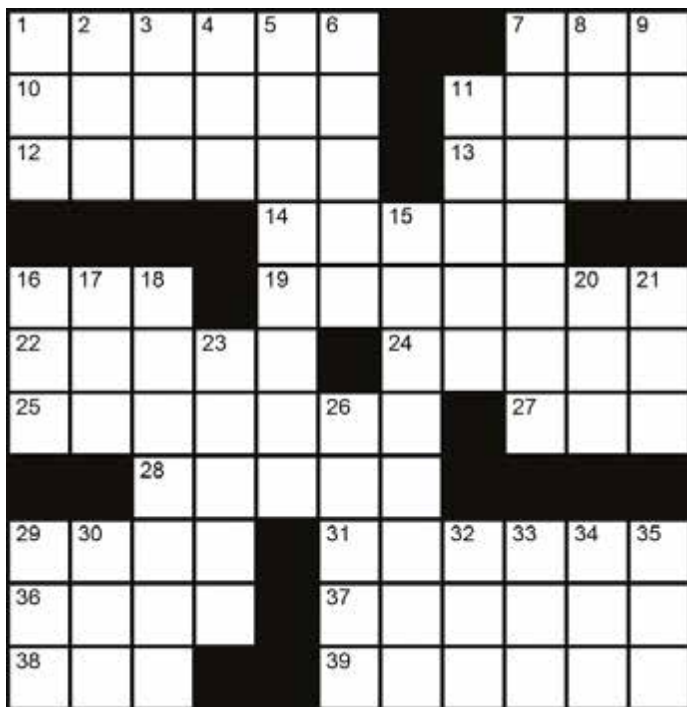
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- 1 For some time
- 7 Convert hide into leather
- 10 Stimulating drink
- 11 Harbor
- 12 Quaint love letter opener
- 13 Creep
- 14 Frothy concoctions
- 16 LA summer setting
- 19 Holy threesome
- 22 Get-well treatment
- 24 Salk's conquest
- 25 Type of show, such as Anne Hathaway's "Grounded"
- 27 Hill VIP
- 28 Same here!
- 29 Well-informed about
- 31 Alters formally
- 36 Niagara has a Maid of this
- 37 Tempestuous
- 38 Big Apple aria spot
- 39 Pull into


Down

- 1 Rocket interceptor
- 2 Sardonic
- 3 Suckered
- 4 Apply a cake's top layer
- 5 Tiniest amount
- 6 Mistake
- 7 Oft-removed throat tissues
- 8 Curve
- 9 Utmost
- 11 It has 88 keys when full-size
- 15 Old Dodge
- 16 In favor of
- 17 Lair
- 18 Beyond all others
- 20 Railroad cross-member
- 21 Way over there, poetically
- 23 Representative
- 26 Bellows
- 29 Now let me think ...
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Solutions on page 36

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Solutions on page 36

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March

3/1-4/15

Free Tax Help:

Volunteers with AARP Foundation provide area residents with aide for 2019 taxes by appointment. **Fridays:** 1:00-4:30 p.m.; **Saturdays:** 10:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; **Sundays:** 2:00-4:30 p.m., Weatherford Public Library. (817) 598-4150.

3/2-3/25

A Matter of Balance:

Eight-class series for older adults with concerns about falling. Free; refreshments provided. **Mondays** and **Wednesdays** in March. 10:00 a.m.-noon, Parker County Extension Office, 604 N. Main. Info and registration, (817) 598-6168.

3/6-3/22

Run for Your Wife:

Live production. **Fridays-Saturdays:** 8:00 p.m.; **Sundays:** 2:00 p.m., Theatre off the Square, 114 N. Denton St. www.theatreoffthesquare.org.

3/10 & 3/17

Cookie Camp:

Hosted by Weatherford Community Education and Clark Gardens. Attendees, 7 to 18 years of age, choose a date. Limited seats. \$26 advance tickets only. 10:00-11:30 a.m., Clark Gardens, 567 Maddux Rd. www.clarkgardens.org.

3/11 & 3/18

Train Station Story Time:

Stories at the Clark Station. Kids 6 and under. General admission prices apply. 1:00 p.m., Clark Gardens. www.clarkgardens.org.

3/13-3/14

Barnyard 2020 State Championship Cook-off:

Second annual cook-off sanctioned by Lonestar Barbecue Society. **Friday:** 7:00-9:00 p.m.; **Saturday:** 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Heritage Park, 317 Santa Fe Dr. www.weatherfordparks.com/3123/The-Barnyard-Cook-Off-Competition.

3/14

Parker Paws Dog Adoption:

Meet adoptable dogs and friendly volunteers and find out more about our rescue. 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Orscheln's, 102 College Park Dr. Call (817) 598-0702 for directions.

3/19

Herb Planting Class:

Kids 6 & up learn to plant and care for herbs, taking home a plant. Pre-sold only. \$15. 1:00 p.m., Clark Gardens. www.clarkgardens.org.

3/20

Weatherford Movies in the Park:

Featuring *Frozen II*. Food trucks on-site. Bring chairs or blankets. 7:30-9:30 p.m., Heritage Park, 317 Santa Fe. www.experienceweatherford.com.

3/21

Spring Fest Car Show 2020:

Funds cancer research. 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Heritage Park, 315 Santa Fe. Chris Rodriguez, (706) 622-1253 or Rita Backes, (817) 304-7556. www.experienceweatherford.com.

Food Park Lounge Night:

Great food, music and fun. Bounce houses and games. 5:00-9:00 p.m., Heritage Park, 317 Santa Fe Dr. www.experienceweatherford.com.

3/24-4/28

REACT Training Session:

Weatherford Police, Freedom House and Parker County Responding to Every Assault and Crisis Team partner to provide the 2020 training academy. Classes held each **Tuesday:** 6:00-9:00 p.m., Freedom House and Weatherford Police Department. Applications online, www.parkercountyreact.com or Alecia Durham, (817) 598-4325 or adurham@weatherfordtx.gov.

3/28

Willow Bark:

Benefits Parker Paws. Raises funds and awareness for animal

rescue and fostering. Adoptable dogs, costume contest, "Smooches from Pooches," live music, food and more. 1:00-5:00 p.m., Paul Balint Jr. Memorial Park, 516 Ranch House Rd., Willow Park. Contact Rose Kertok, (940) 452-7033 or rkertok@willowpark.org.

3/28-3/29

Weatherford Music Festival:

Live music, food, kids' zone, games, vendors and more. 10:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m., 317 Santa Fe Drive. For ticket pricing and more information, visit www.weatherfordmusicfestival.com.

3/29

Spring Fling:

Music, food, area artists and craftsmen. Special admission: \$1/person. Noon-4:00 p.m., Chandor Gardens, 711 W. Lee. www.ChandorGardens.com.

Mondays

Aledo Farmers Market:

3:00-7:00 p.m., Aledo Community Center Parking Lot, 104 Robinson Ct., Aledo. Runs weekly March to November (weather permitting). Support your local farmers. Contact City Hall at (817) 441-7016.

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



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Easy

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Medium

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