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G A Z I N E

APRIL 2019 102

What Greater Legacy?

A Red Oak icon's love of teaching spreads to students and co-workers

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Kids' Fun Pages

Crossword/Sudoku

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Animal Hospital of Ovilla

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ON THE COVER

Shirley Jones' gift is teaching children to read.

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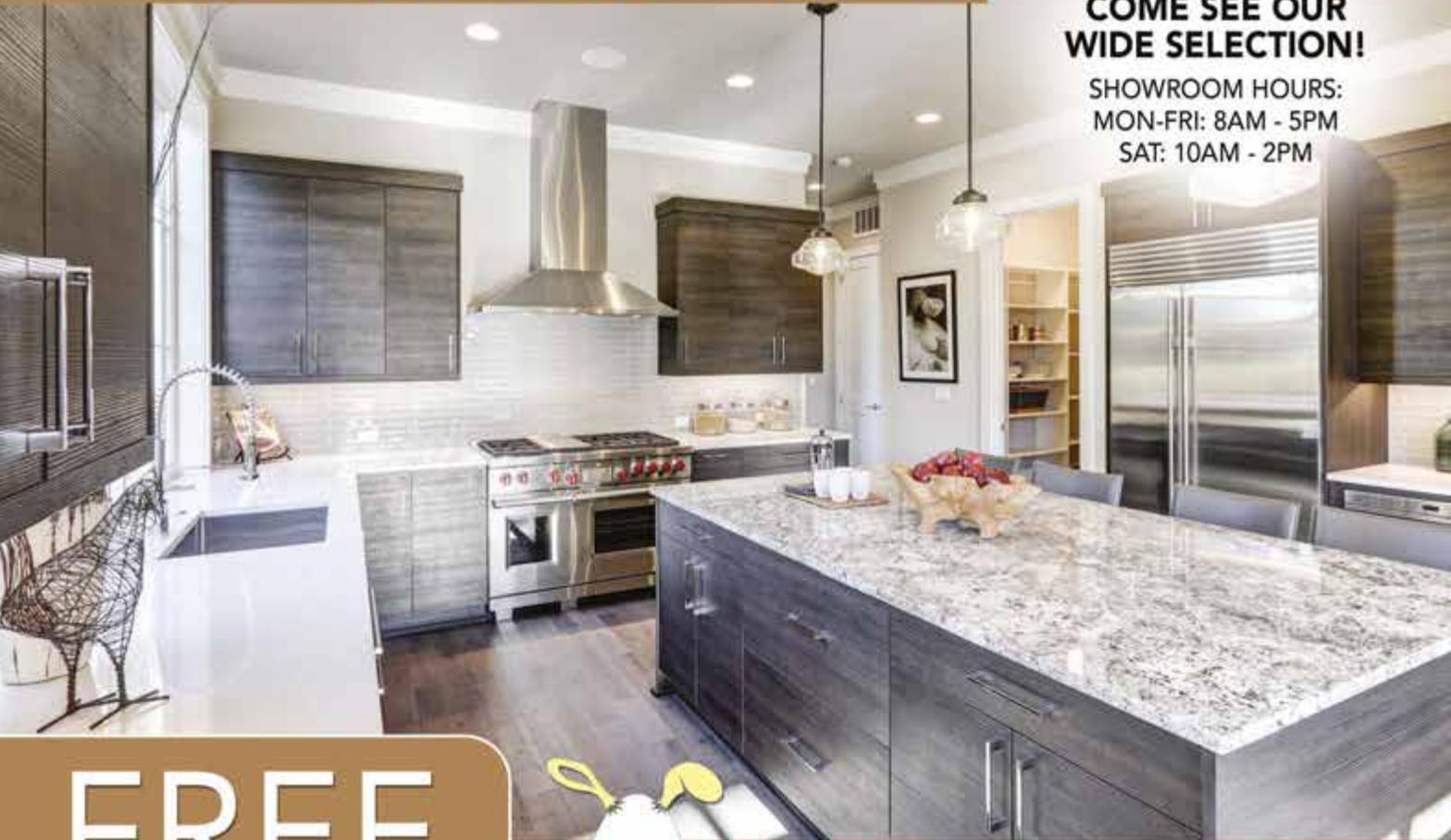
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EDITOR'S NOTE



Sally

Sally Fuller
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Hey, batter, batter — swing!

Practice began in February when it was still cold and raining many evenings. Now, as the 5-year-old I'd come to watch stepped up to bat in the early spring sunshine, his coach nodded reassuringly and balanced the ball atop the stand. Without warning, the words, "Thank you!" erupted from my mouth.

As I heard myself thanking the coach, I realized how fortunate we are that there are folks who volunteer their time, knowledge and patience to do things such as coach Little League. The spirit of volunteerism abounds in North Ellis County and is one thing that makes this such a great place to live.

There's the Ovilla Service League, whose work benefits the police and fire departments, and North Ellis County Outreach with volunteers working tirelessly from Red Oak to Ferris. The ROISD Education Foundation volunteers generate resources to provide innovative programs and projects throughout the district.

The Red Oak Lion's Club, whose members' efforts provide eye exams and glasses for children in need, is the city's oldest civic club and the group that built Red Oak's first baseball fields. As I sat in the bleachers that morning, I said a silent prayer of gratitude for those who, 60-plus years ago, made the decision that still provides a place for boys and girls to have their turn at bat.

If you're a volunteer in North Ellis County and no one has said it lately, let me have the honor: "Thank you!" If you are reading this and the volunteer bug is biting, maybe it's your turn to step up to the plate. You've nothing to lose.

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WHAT GREATER Legacy?

— By Sally Fuller

Completely at ease in one of her kindergartener's not-built-for-adults chairs, Shirley Jones smiled modestly and shook her head in disbelief when she was told she'd been called an "icon" of Red Oak ISD. "I'm so humbled by that. What?" Shirley said, the lilt in her voice emphasizing her astonishment.

Though her humility makes such a title hard for Shirley to acknowledge, her 36 years teaching kindergarten and first grade in North Ellis County have earned her praise from co-workers, administrators and former students that borders on legendary. "Mrs. Jones is an icon here at Wooden Elementary. You'll often hear her singing down the hallway to her students, and we love all of the personality she brings to our school," said Rebecca Vega, principal at Wooden Elementary where Shirley teaches.

Spend any time with Shirley and that "personality" shines through. She is as exuberant as she is energetic, as friendly as she is fervent. She will be the first to tell you the key to her seemingly endless vigor and dauntless cheer are her faith and her absolute, sold-out love for teaching. "I love what I do. I'm exhausted at the end of the day, but I wouldn't do anything else. I just love it," she said with undeniable zeal.

In 1970, Shirley graduated from Red Oak High School in a class of approximately 32 seniors. Shortly after graduation, she married her husband, Tom. They have been married for nearly 50 years. It wasn't until after the birth of their three children that Shirley decided to go back to school. After two

years at Cedar Valley Community College, she transferred to The University of Texas at Arlington, where she completed her degree in elementary English, elementary self-contained and early childhood education.

Though her formal teaching career began almost four decades ago, her teaching experience dates back even further, all the way to her childhood. Growing up the third of 12 children and the oldest girl, Shirley was her mother's right hand. "When you grow up like that, you teach and you help and you do. I delegate really well," she said with a furtive smile. Shirley's father was a pastor, so her early résumé also included Sunday school teacher.

After teaching first grade for several years, Shirley had the opportunity to choose whether she'd like to continue there or move to kindergarten. She said she chose kindergarten because she felt that was where she could have the most significant impact. "I thought, *If I can help them in kinder to make them more ready for the next grade level, then that's what I want to do. I've been with kinder ever since,*" she said. That was 24 years ago.

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For the past 24 years, Shirley has taught hundreds of kindergarteners lessons in reading, writing and arithmetic, as well as in citizenship and responsibility. "My kids work hard, and those are my expectations. Everybody has a job. Everybody has something to do. We do that in class, and they love it," she said. "When they do a good job, you encourage them. You say, 'You're so good at that!' and they just take off!"

"You can't wait until someone is 30 to give them responsibility," she said. "My kids are responsible for getting their chairs in the morning, for putting their things away. That's why my classroom looks the way it does," she said, laughing.

Shirley also teaches her students to be 5-year-old problem solvers. "At the beginning of the year, they'll say, 'Teacher, my pencil is broken.' And I'll say, 'Now, what do you think you need to do about that?' They figure it out. I teach them, 'If something is not working, what can you do about that?'"

Of all the lessons Shirley teaches, the one that means the most to her is teaching a child to read. "I love teaching kids to read," she said, then repeated the statement with even more emphasis. "I love teaching kids to read. You will read all of your life. To be able to give someone that gift — nothing is more powerful than that, nothing."

Just how influential Shirley has been on her very young students became clear a few years ago when 2017 ROISD Salutatorian Samantha Wooley named Shirley her Star Teacher. Students graduating in the top of their





ROHS class honor the person who most influenced their attitude toward education by naming them their Star Teacher.

“She was the most encouraging, compassionate teacher, and I still remember her encouraging us individually to become the best version of ourselves that she knew we could be,” Samantha shared. “I’ve pursued my own education with the same passion she instilled in me. She is so influential because she genuinely puts her heart and soul into teaching, and the students can tell.”

Samantha is not alone in singing Shirley’s praises. When asked to share their thoughts on her, fellow teachers and staff members readily responded. Fellow teacher Nichole Penner called her “a rare gem” with an “infectious” zest for life and passion for education.

Lori Mentzel, who’s taught with Shirley for 20 years, described her as a person of strong faith, genuine love for her fellow teachers and children and whose “desire for all children to learn and have fun doing it is unending.”

Campus Secretary Tammie Wilson said Shirley “always goes above and beyond. Encouraging words are always coming out of her mouth.”

Some of Shirley’s students have gone on to become teachers, something that gives her a great deal of satisfaction. “I’m really pleased with the ones who’ve decided to go into education. You don’t teach for a paycheck, but to invest in our kids who are going to grow up and rule the world,” she said.

Shirley has no plans to retire, but insists she will keep teaching “until it’s not fun anymore. I could’ve retired years ago, but I get to teach kids to read. I get to teach them to think. What greater legacy can you leave than that?” What greater legacy, indeed. **NOW**

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Doing Good

— By Adam Walker

“Volunteers teach a lot of our classes, work in the thrift store, pantry and work the garden.”

North Ellis County Outreach is a place you should know. If you're looking for good people doing good things, you need look no further than this faith-based social services organization. Whether the need is food, clothing, utilities or life-skills classes, NECO Director Denise Butler and the rest of the team stand ready to help their neighbors in the 75154 or 75125 ZIP codes or in Red Oak or Ferris ISDs.

NECO grew out of two organizations, Helping Hands, started in 1979 by Billy and Jimmie Wade, and Red Oak Area Outreach, started in 1992 by Mary Rose. “They [Helping Hands] focused on providing holiday food for families and toys for kids at Christmas.



They operated out of people's garages," Denise explained. "The Red Oak Area Outreach focused on a food pantry, utility bill assistance and a thrift store."

In 1999, the two groups merged to form NECO. Denise came on board as a volunteer in 1999, but by 2000 was an official employee. Under her guidance, NECO continues the programs of those who went before and has added services.

"We still do the Christmas food boxes, but we've added Thanksgiving. We can help with medication purchases. We're a drop site for Meals on Wheels. We have a dress for success program for people going on job interviews. Hearts, Hands and Hammers is a program that provides light handyman-type work at people's



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homes. We help the ISDs with their school supply drives at the beginning of every school year.”

Even that long list is not the whole of what NECO offers the community. Education and life-skills training are important parts of NECO’s mission. “We focus on self-sufficiency. We offer classes on topics like parenting, budgeting, nutrition, marriage and forgiveness. We have a computer lab, which can be used for classes and also for sending résumés and applying for jobs.”

Along with adding new services, NECO has expanded some of the old ones. The Billy and Jimmie Wade Food Pantry provides everything from peanut butter and baby formula to laundry detergent and toothpaste — even fresh eggs and frozen meats. “Different schools, churches and service organizations will adopt a shelf in the pantry. One group brings peanut butter, and another focuses on canned vegetables or toiletries. A lot of people don’t realize that while food stamps will let you buy junk food — and there’s talk about allowing fast food — you can’t use them for deodorant or toothpaste or shampoo. And many seniors only qualify for \$17 a month,” Denise said.

“The Boy Scouts put in an herb garden, so we have fresh herbs, and Southwest Airlines put in a small orchard of fruit trees. Our garden, started by the Ovilla Garden Club, grows about 250 to 300 pounds of produce every year,” she shared.

With so much good going on, it’s easy to understand why NECO’s volunteers are so vital for keeping everything running smoothly. “Volunteers

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teach a lot of our classes, work in the thrift store, pantry and work the garden. Some of the best volunteers are school kids. Ovilla Christian School sends about every grade out here to help. Even the 4-year-olds come volunteer every year just before Thanksgiving. They bring food they've collected and sing for the customers," Denise said.



"A couple of years ago, when there was the turkey shortage, we'd been warned not to expect donated turkeys. Ferris High School brought us truckloads of canned goods ... and 20 to 30 turkeys! I don't know how they found that many! Kids have the drive to make things happen," she said.

In the thrift store you will find volunteers hanging gently worn clothing and stocking shelves with books, decorative items, baby strollers — the list goes on — all at a low price. "We need eight to 10 people every day to keep it all open. Recently, we've realized we need more space for the thrift store, so we have plans to build a new building for it here on this property. We own these buildings outright, as well as a smaller one in town. We plan to sell that one to help pay for the new thrift store. Being debt free makes it easier to do the things we need to do to keep serving the community."

Serving the community means NECO keeps finding ways to "do what no one else does." If you're looking to join good people doing good things in a great community, your search is over. **NOW**

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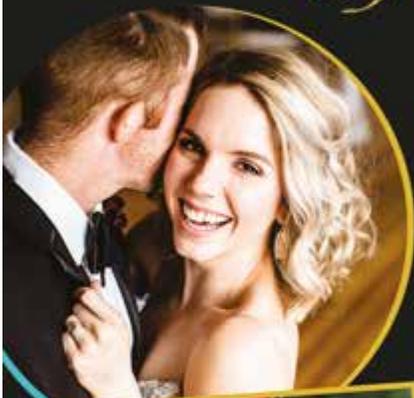
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— By Sally Fuller

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Next month, Animal Hospital of Ovilla will celebrate 20 years of serving the people and pets of North Ellis County. May 2019 is the official two-decade milestone for Dr. Mark Stanfill and his staff, and they are ready to face the next few decades with an enlarged, updated facility and the introduction of animal acupuncture to the hospital's already extensive list of services.

Animal Hospital of Ovilla soon will break ground on a new 1,300-square-foot expansion to its current clinic. The new space will add three exam rooms, more treatment space, enlarged

kennel space and "a cat room with a window," Karen Stanfill, Mark's wife and the practice administrator, said.

The animal hospital's state-of-the-art facilities give its clientele access to the latest in therapeutic laser treatment, ultrasound diagnostics and digital X-rays. The surgical prep and operating room, isolation ward, laboratory, full pharmacy and separate grooming area mean every client receives the individual attention and service they need.

Keeping pace with the ever-evolving field of veterinary medicine, Dr. Stephanie Gorman, one of three veterinarians on staff, recently completed her coursework and exams as part of becoming certified as an animal acupuncturist. Dr. Gorman next must submit case studies on her way to becoming the first certified animal acupuncturist in the North Ellis County area.

"I'm very excited about completing my coursework and exams, so I can begin providing acupuncture for our patients. By providing this service, I'm able to give our clients more treatment options for various health issues," Dr. Gorman said. Animal

acupuncture is used to treat a variety of conditions including skin lesions, non-healing wounds, osteoarthritis and pain management.

The past 20 years have been “a blessing,” Dr. Stanfill said.

“It’s been great to see the community growing, our client family growing and our staff family growing,” Karen added. In 1999, AHO boasted a staff of three, including veterinarian Dr. Anne Owen, who still works side by side with Dr. Stanfill and the now-23-member staff.

The animal hospital’s state-of-the-art facilities give its clientele access to the latest in therapeutic laser treatment, ultrasound diagnostics and digital X-rays.

Part of being a great vet, as well as a good North Ellis County neighbor, is being active in the community, and all three AHO doctors take time to participate in educational and community activities. Either through serving as guest speaker at a veterinary technician school or visiting a local elementary school to teach children pet safety, Drs. Stanfill, Gorman and Owen all do their part. And the entire clinic staff swings into action every December to collect food for the AniMeals program for Meals on Wheels of Johnson and Ellis County.

“The community has really gotten behind it, and we always exceed the goal,” Karen said of the annual pet food drive.

Dr. Stanfill added that the idea to collect food for AniMeals came from the clinic staff. “Instead of us giving presents to ourselves, they said, ‘Hey, can we do this and just invite people to donate to that?’ and so that’s what we did,” he said.

Even though, as Dr. Stanfill and Karen concur “a lot has changed” since their first days, important things have stayed and will stay the same. The friendly way each pet is greeted by name when they come into the clinic, the genuine compassion every member of the staff has for the welfare of their clientele, the pursuit of continuing education and commitment to clinical excellence, and the skill and professionalism that are the hallmark of AHO’s practice remain unchanged and unchanging. **NOW**

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Dusti the Clown is ready for fun and food at the Ovilla Service League annual spaghetti dinner. This year's dinner raised approximately \$17,000 for the Ovilla Police Department.

Zoomed In: Chelsea Daughtry

By Sally Fuller

Chelsea Daughtry of Red Oak was one of the first in line on a Saturday morning to give blood at the Red Oak Fire and Rescue blood drive. "I do it because I'm a universal donor, and I know that there's a need," she said, adding a word of encouragement for hesitant donors. "It's really not hard. I know a lot of people are intimidated by needles, but it's really not hard." Chelsea speaks from experience, having given "probably about 10 times" in her life.

Besides her O-negative blood type, Chelsea has an even more personal reason to give. "I give in honor of my mother-in-law, Felecia Christian. She always talked about giving blood," Chelsea shared. "She passed away in October almost three years ago."



OCS theater students, Noah Bogado and Abigail Howell, delight the audience during the school's recent production of Once Upon a Mattress.



Red Oak Area Chamber of Commerce Chair Pastor David Johnston (left) and Chair-Elect Barry Moore (right) welcome newly elected ROACC President Clinton B. Woodward III.



Life School District-Wide Science Fair winners (from left); Kanyin Solarin, 2nd place (Mountain Creek); Roberto Peart, 3rd Place (Cedar Hill); and BrylInn Griffis, 1st place, (Red Oak) display their trophies.



Glenn Heights Deputy Police Chief Vernell Dooley, Dallas Co. Constable Ed Wright, ROISD Superintendent Mike Goddard and Glenn Heights Director of Public Safety Eddie Burns Sr. demonstrate the 4 Talons symbol of ROISD at the State of the District address.



Alejandra Pozo, part-time UNT-Dallas student and part-time library clerk, helps Ferris Library patrons find their next favorite book. The college senior will soon finish her degree in communications.



Members of the FHS FFA present McDonald Elementary students with buddy benches for their playgrounds.

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CookingNOW

In the Kitchen With

KANDICE ABREGO

— By Sally Fuller



Kandice Abrego carries on the traditions of hospitality and home cooking she learned from her parents. “We always had family gatherings that included our family cooking and providing the meals,” she recalled. “I grew up watching the cooking process bring my family together and wanted to bring that habit into my own family.”

Never one to follow recipes too closely, Kandice describes her cooking as a “try and try again effort,” something she learned from her mother, a “self-taught, throw-it-out-and-try-again-if-it’s-not-right cook.”

As part of her trying again, Kandice’s husband, Mark, had to endure Mexican rice that ranged from crunchy to mushy until she mastered the recipe. “My husband suffered a few years of this disaster and ate it with a smile anyway. Poor guy!” she said, shaking her head. **NOW**

Verde Tomatillo Sauce

5-6 tomatillos
4-5 fresh jalapeños
2-3 whole garlic cloves
1 cup water
1 bunch cilantro, chopped
Salt, to taste

1. Peel and rinse tomatillos and jalapeños.
2. Steam together tomatillos, jalapeños and garlic cloves until tomatillos are very soft and turn from bright green to a green-brown color.

3. Combine all ingredients in a blender; blend until smooth. If too spicy or too thick, add additional water until desired taste and consistency.

Verde Chicken Lasagna Rolls

3-4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts
Chicken fajita seasoning salt, to taste
1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese, softened to room temperature
1 cup pepper jack cheese, shredded
Homemade Verde Tomatillo Sauce
1 box lasagna noodles, boiled with

2 Tbsp. vegetable oil per pkg.
directions until tender
1 cup mozzarella cheese, shredded

1. Cook chicken with fajita seasoning salt in a Crock-Pot on high without water for 3-4 hours, or covered at 350 F for 45 minutes to 1 hour with 1 cup of water. Shred cooked chicken; set aside.
2. In a large bowl, mix cream cheese and pepper jack cheese.
3. Add cream cheese mixture and 1 cup of Verde Tomatillo Sauce to shredded chicken.
4. Place cooked noodles on a flat surface. Spread chicken mixture thickly onto each noodle.
5. Once covered in chicken, roll each noodle; stand on end (you will be able to see the filling in each roll) in a 9x9-inch ungreased baking dish.
6. When all noodles are filled, pour remaining Verde Tomatillo Sauce over filled noodles. Sprinkle mozzarella cheese over sauce and noodles.
7. Place in oven; broil until the cheese melts.

Homemade Red Salsa

1 large can plain diced tomatoes, undrained
3-4 fresh jalapeños

2-3 whole garlic cloves
 1 bunch fresh cilantro, chopped
 Salt, to taste
 Onion, chopped, to taste (optional)

1. Add tomatoes, jalapeños, garlic, one large handful of cilantro and salt to blender. Add onion, if using.
2. Pulse blender to finely chop without liquefying ingredients.

Spicy Mexican Rice

2 cups Jasmine rice, uncooked
 2-3 Tbsp. vegetable or olive oil
 1 cup Homemade Red Salsa
 4 cups water
 Salt, to taste

1. Heat oil in a large pot or pan.
2. Add rice to hot oil; cook until rice is no longer clear. It will turn white or a toasted color.
3. Stir in 1 cup of Homemade Red Salsa and water; mix very well. Add salt to taste.
4. Cover; reduce heat to medium-low. Simmer until rice is cooked through. Let rice cool before stirring to avoid it becoming sticky.

Barbacoa Tacos (Beef Brisket Tacos)

2-3 lbs. beef chuck roast
 2 Tbsp. garlic salt
 1 Tbsp. salt
 1 Tbsp. pepper
 1/2 Tbsp. cumin
 1/2 Tbsp. chili powder
 1 cup Homemade Red Salsa
 Corn or flour tortillas
 Onion, chopped, for topping
 Cilantro, chopped, for topping
 Lime juice, for topping
 Verde Tomatillo Sauce, for topping (optional)

1. Cook roast with all seasonings and Homemade Red Salsa in Crock-Pot on high for 5-6 hours without water, or covered at 350 F for 2-3 hours with 1 1/2 cups water.
2. When cooked, shred meat and eat in tortillas with toppings of your choice.

Tinga (Chipotle Chicken Tostadas)

2 boneless, skinless chicken breasts
 1 large can La Costena Chipotle Peppers in Adobo Sauce
 1/2 can water
 10 tostadas (approximate amount)
 1 can Rosarita Refried Beans

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Verde Chicken Lasagna Rolls

1 cup sharp cheddar cheese, shredded
1-2 tomatoes, chopped
2 cups lettuce, shredded
Sour cream (optional)
Verde Tomatillo Sauce (optional)

1. Cook chicken in Crock-Pot for 3-4 hours on high with no added water, or boil in enough water to cover chicken. When cooked, shred and set aside.
2. Blend chipotles in adobo sauce with 1/2 can of water until a smooth, paste-like sauce forms. Pour sauce over shredded chicken; mix well.

3. Layer each tostada with beans, chicken, cheese and vegetables.
4. Garnish with sour cream and Verde Tomatillo Sauce, if desired.

Chicken Pozole Rojo (Traditional Mexican Soup)

2 boneless, skinless chicken breasts
1/2 medium onion, coarsely chopped
1 large bag chili de guajillo, stemmed and deseeded
Salt, to taste

Garlic salt, to taste
1 medium can hominy, drained
1 head green or purple cabbage, diced
5-6 radishes, diced
Sour cream, cilantro, avocado, diced jalapeños or tostadas for garnishing (all optional)

1. Boil chicken and onion until fully cooked in enough water to cover chicken completely.
2. Remove chicken; reserve water and onion. Shred chicken; set aside.
3. Place deseeded chili de guajillos in reserved water; cook over medium heat until tender to ensure a smooth sauce.
4. Remove chillies from water. Place chillies and approximately 2 cups of the water and onion in which they cooked into a blender. Blend with salt and garlic salt until a smooth, paste-like sauce forms.
5. Pour sauce back into pot with remaining water from cooking chicken. Add shredded chicken and hominy.
6. Cook approximately 20 minutes on low heat to allow flavors to meld. Add water to thin if it's too thick.
7. Serve in bowls topped with cabbage, radishes and your choice of optional toppings.



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TravelNOW Perfect Mix

— By Lisa Bell

What began in 1881 as a T&P Railroad stop, Abilene, Texas, became so much more. Two to three hours from the Metroplex, Abilene is home to Dyess Air Force Base, three major universities/colleges, and one place where families can find adventure, history and art all rolled into one city.

Designated as a state cultural art district, throughout the year opportunities abound for visitors. A favorite time to visit is early June when the Children’s Art & Literacy Festival runs for three days. Special events and activities allow children of all ages to enjoy favorite literature and try their hands at art. From the Storybook Parade to children’s artists, costume contests and much more, this weekend brings books to life.

But any time of the year, Abilene features multiple places children adore. In fact, on October 17, 2018, Abilene received the distinguished title of Storybook Capital of America. With

24 sculptures around town and new ones added annually, kids get to pose beside favorite characters cast in bronze. With an audio storybook tour and adventure guide, families have fun in the downtown area finding Dr. Seuss favorites as well as figures from other books, including the infamous *No, David*. In the Adamson-Spalding Storybook Garden, kittens, dinosaurs, Stuart Little, Marcel and Wilfred, Charlotte and Wilbur, plus others wait for visitors of all ages. These statues evoke memories of favorite nursery rhymes and beloved tales.

In addition to the sculptures, don’t miss the National Center for Children’s Illustrated Literature. The museum celebrates the artistic achievements of children’s book authors. During exhibits, they also offer free art activities for kids and their parents.

The Grace Museum and Center for Contemporary Arts are wonderful places where families enjoy a variety of art. At the

Grace, one floor also houses historic scenes depicting life over decades. And a children's area allows the entire family to enjoy this culturally rich environment. While the artist displays vary, the children's area remains static. With an oversized Operation game and a musical wall, everyone can have fun interacting together.

Live theater is also big in Abilene, some of it designed around the tastes of younger audiences. The perfect way to introduce children to ballet, live performances and old movie hits can be found in the city while adults can also appreciate events offered for them.

The historic Paramount Theatre is only one venue in Abilene. The fully restored 1930's theater still has a ceiling decorated with stars. During the early years, the stage and curtains allowed live performances, and the giant screens welcomed in movies. For a time, the theater changed to the hotspot for new movie releases. Today, they provide space for live theater, speakers and performances, as well as showing family films and classic movies. The building alone is an adventure that takes you back to a simpler time in history.

And Abilene has lots of history. The former T&P Train Depot now houses the Abilene Convention and Visitors Bureau. Part of the Texas fort trails, you can visit old Fort Phantom and Buffalo Gap Historic Village. For an extra treat, take in Frontier Texas where modern technology meets yesteryear and holographic figures help make history real. Learn about Texas in a unique way not soon forgotten.

On the wild side, the Abilene Zoo has 16 acres housing more than 1,000 animals, representing 250 species. Located at Nelson Park, there is also a splash area for warmer months and a park resembling a historic fort for fun beyond the zoo.

When in Abilene, local eateries and venues offer a great place to host events. The Mill and Soda District are two of many that welcome visitors. But the people of Abilene enjoy sharing the history and modern mix of art, culture and community. Some say the prettiest women live in Abilene. True or not, it's definitely a nearby destination you don't want to miss. **NOW**

Photos by Lisa Bell.

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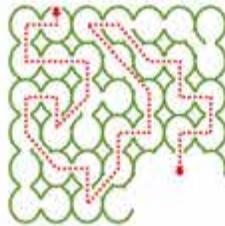
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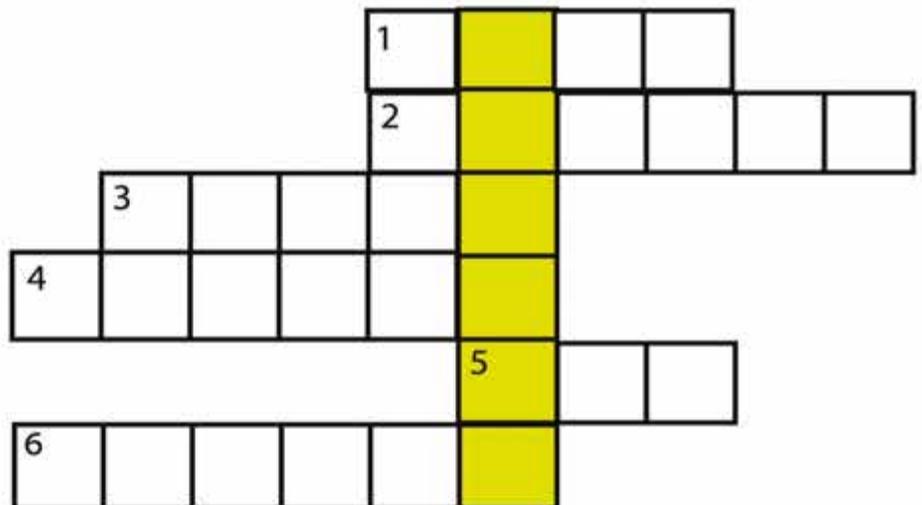
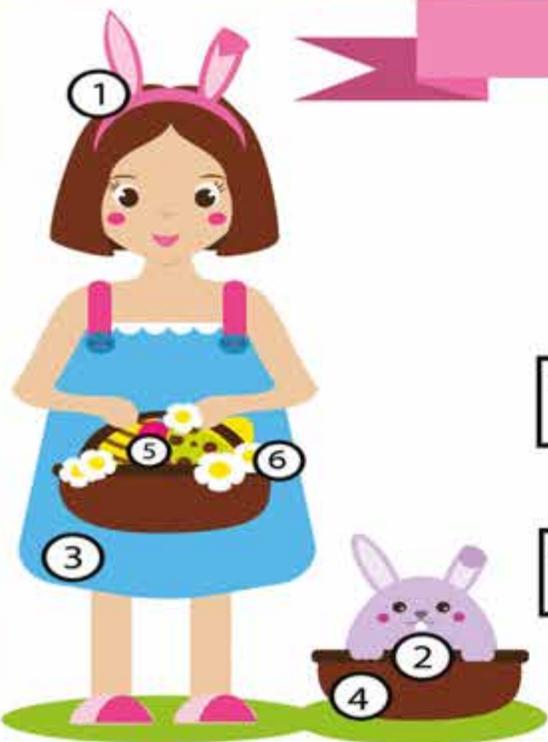
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ANSWER: 2-1, 4-9, 5-3, 6-8, 7-12, 14-10, 15-11, 16-13

CROSSWORD



Answer: 1-ears; 2-rabbit; 3-dress; 4-basket; 5-egg; 6-flower

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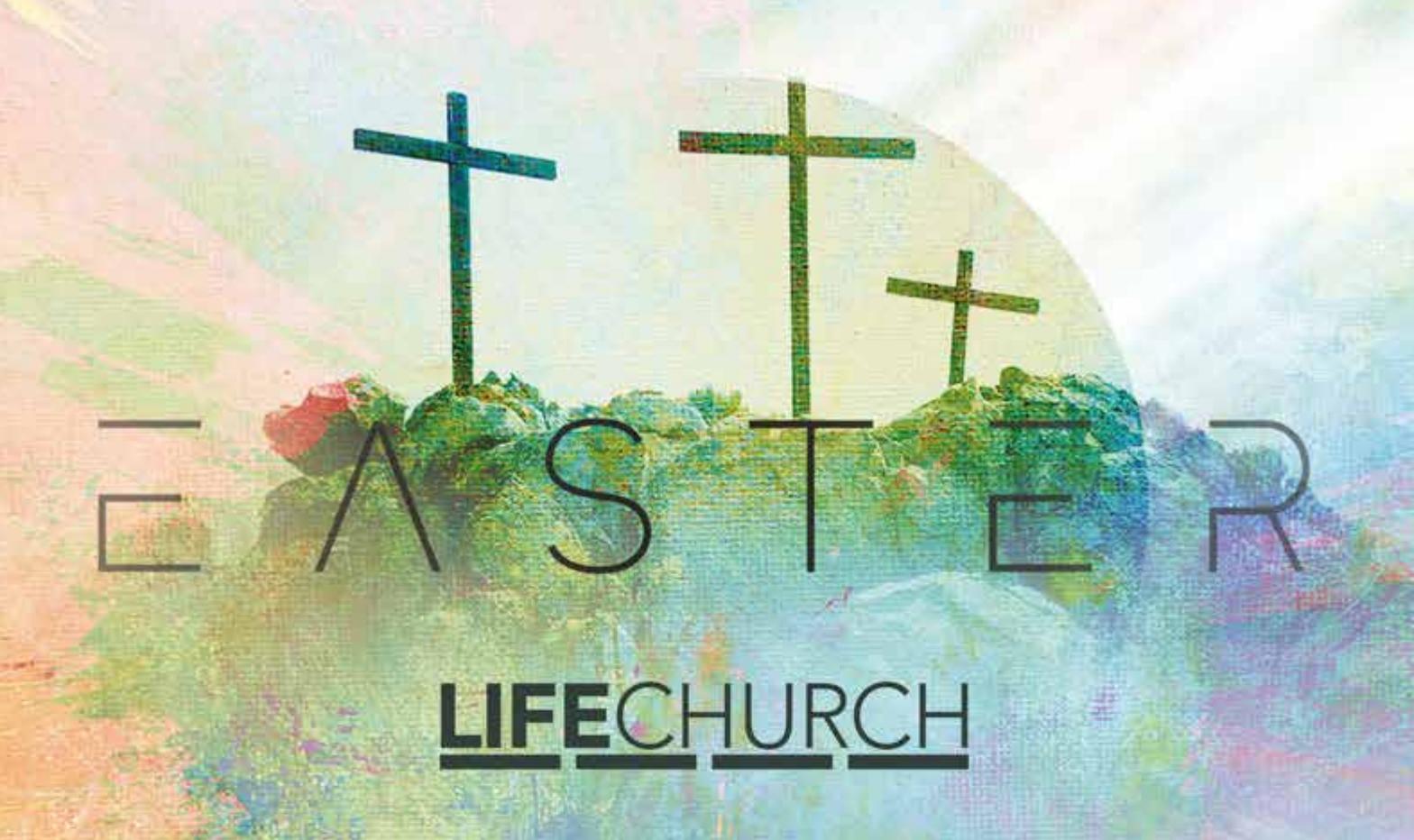
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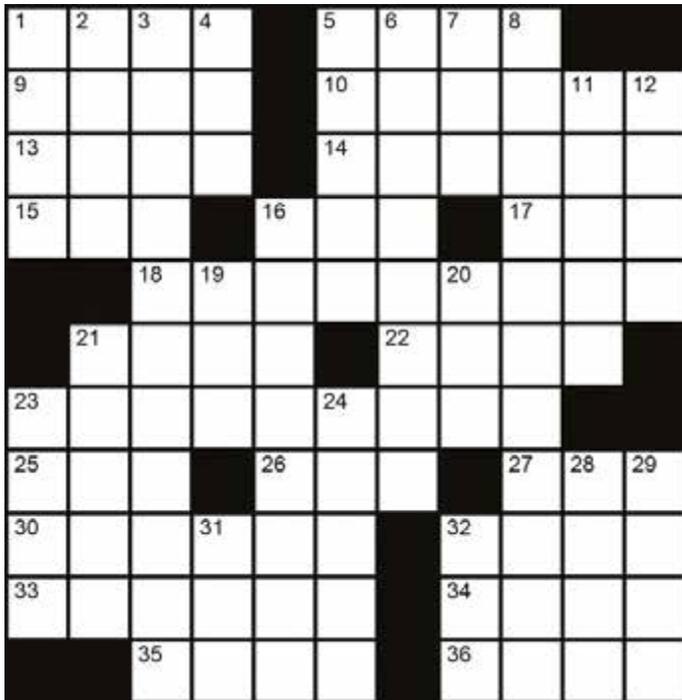
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Across

- 1 Mountains
- 5 Set one back
- 9 Inamorato
- 10 Discord
- 13 Barely cooked
- 14 Westernmost Oregon cape
- 15 Alias
- 16 Speak
- 17 At the present time
- 18 Liberal magazine
- 21 Idle Monty Python comic
- 22 Swift
- 23 They'll make a play for you
- 25 Fifth Beatle?
- 26 Rank
- 27 Slugger's stat.
- 30 Muscular
- 32 Mattress feature
- 33 Sewer
- 34 Balladeer --- Seeger
- 35 Flatfish
- 36 Took advantage of

Down

- 1 Siren in "East of Eden"
- 2 Escaping fluid
- 3 Jumpy guy?
- 4 Johnny Cash's boy
- 5 Type of cigar or sandwich
- 6 Not many
- 7 Mexican Mrs.
- 8 Wear for those who serve
- 11 "Vamoosel"
- 12 Itty-bitty city
- 16 Firmly
- 19 Took cover
- 20 Sailor
- 21 Sgt. Bilko
- 23 Blue matter
- 24 Ciphers
- 28 Religious practice
- 29 Snow vehicle
- 31 Smartphone forerunner
- 32 Chip

Solutions on page 36

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Easy

Medium

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

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

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HELLO Spring!

APRIL

4/6

Ferris FFA Show & Shine Car Show:

Food, a bounce house, face painting, and of course, cars! All proceeds benefit the Ferris FFA. Come show off your antique or sports car at this family-friendly fundraiser. 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., 1025 E. 8th St. For information, kchapman@ferrisid.org or mdalton@ferrisid.org.

4/13

Harvest of Praise True Nations Link Fundraiser:

A day of discovering how you can be part of a global effort to help with education, medication, food, clothing and more. Come learn from guest speakers while enjoying complimentary food and drinks. 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Harvest of Praise Church, 2603 S. Hampton Rd., Glenn Heights. (214) 298-1421 or Cspencercsi@gmail.com.

Red Oak Area Chamber of Commerce's North Ellis County Community Marketplace:

Information about home improvement, health, personal services, plus food, fun, giveaways and door prizes. 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., ROISD Live Oak Professional Center, 200 Live Oak St. (972) 617-0906 or admin@redoakareachamber.org.

Red Oak Lions Club Charity Bowl:

This event benefits Lions Club charities. \$5 spectator's fee requested. Team check-in: 2:30 p.m.; bowling begins: 3:00 p.m., Hilltop Lanes, 2010 W. Hwy. 287 Waxahachie. Melanie Peterson, (214) 864-8014, mpetersen@winstead.com, or John Hawkins, (214) 354-1297, johnmhawkins84@gmail.com.

4/20

Easter Egg Hunt:

Everyone is invited! 2:00-4:00 p.m., Red Oak First United Methodist Church, 600 Daubitz Dr. (972) 617-9100 or fumcro.org.

4/27

Eighth Annual Race for the King 5K Run/Walk and Kids' Fun Run:

This event benefits the Kyle King Scholarship Fund. Prerace packet pickup: 04/26, 1:00-4:00 p.m., Ferris ISD Admin. Building, 301 E. 5th St.; race begins and ends at Yellowjacket Stadium, 1008 E. 8th St. Traci Rodriguez, (972) 544-2043 or tdrodrig@ferrisid.org.

Ovilla Movie Night in the Park:

Come enjoy *Ralph Breaks the Internet*. Free popcorn and bottled water. Snow cones available for purchase. 8:30 p.m., Heritage Park on Main St.

4/30

Red Oak Area Golf Tournament Early Registration Deadline:

Register early for the annual May tournament. Four-person team: \$460; individual: \$125; 7:00 a.m. sign-in, 5/10, Thorntree Golf Club, 825 W. Wintergreen Rd., DeSoto. (972) 617-0906 or admin@redoakareachamber.org.

Tuesdays

Red Oak Library Toddler Playtime and Story Time:

Free crafts, story time and learning games for children 18 mo.-5 yrs. accompanied by a parent or caregiver. 9:45-11:00 a.m., 200 Lakeview Dr. (469) 218-1230.

Lariat Bridge Club:

6:30 p.m., Boy Scout Cabin, 1139 Brown St., Waxahachie. (505) 270-4017 or weatherscf@yahoo.com.

Tuesdays and Thursdays

North Ellis Co.

Outreach Assistance:

Assistance is for those living within the 75154 and 75125 ZIP codes or within the Red Oak and Ferris ISD boundaries. Ferris location: 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 205 S. Main St., Ferris. Red Oak location: Monday-Friday,

9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 404 S. State Hwy. 342, Red Oak. (972) 617-7261.

Wednesdays

Ferris Public Library Story Time:

Preschool children and their caregivers are invited for stories. 11:00 a.m., 301 E. 10th St. (972) 544-3696.

Second Saturdays

Red Oak Opry:

Live country and gospel music. Tickets available at the door. Adults: \$12; children: \$5. 7:00-9:00 p.m., Lone Star Cowboy Church, 1011 E. Ovilla Rd. redoakopry@gmail.com, www.redoakopry.com.

Third Saturdays

Ferris Police Department's Coffee With a Cop:

8:00-10:00 a.m., 1-45 Donuts, 502 E. 8th St. (972) 544-2233.

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

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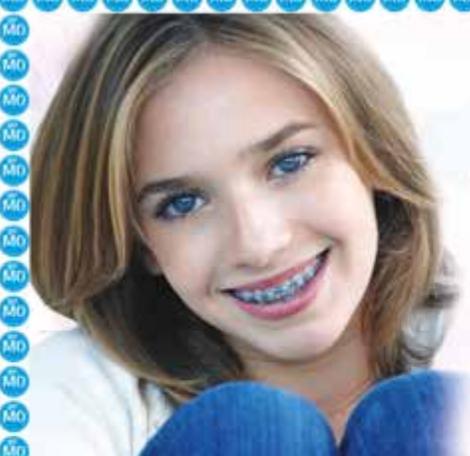
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Tuesday, April 2
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Red Oak Middle
School

REDOAKISD.org

PRE-K
&
KINDERGARTEN
ROUNDUP

Kindergarten:
Tuesday, April 16
4-7 PM

All Elementary Campuses

Pre-K:
Thursday, April 25
1-6 PM

Live Oak Professional
Development Center

**COMMUNITY
MOVIE NIGHT!**

Friday, April 12
6:00 PM
Red Oak High
School



*Senior Citizen
Luncheon*

Tuesday, April 23 10:30 AM
Red Oak High School