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ON THE COVER



Heidi Garbe, Pat Dexheimer and Kristen Tanz beautify the city with Keep Burleson Beautiful.

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Emma

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome, Easter!

When I was a kid, my family attended two Easter dinners: one at my paternal grandparents' house for lunch, then one at my maternal grandparents' house for dinner. This was a great deal because I got to do two egg hunts. One year, I complained about the Saturday egg hunt being too easy. Yes, the main goal of an egg hunt is getting the candy inside, but the fun part is the searching. What's the point in getting candy, if I don't get to earn it? I should've never opened my big mouth!

The next day, I couldn't find any eggs in my grandparents' backyard. I searched for *hours* (kid time)! It was only five minutes (adult time). I started to doubt there were even eggs to find. Maybe the adults were playing a mean prank on me — taunting me with nonexistent candy. Oh, what joy they took in watching a 7-year-old's plight!

Utterly defeated, I crawled back to my parents, begging for their aid. Surely, they would take pity on their beloved daughter and find the eggs for me. They did, of course. And they continued to bring up my Icarian Easter for years to come. Perhaps, my family meant to teach me to keep my ego in check and not complain. However, I maintain they didn't understand their audience, and that little kids get bored when they have no little accomplishments encouraging them to continue their task. Either way, it was a memorable Easter Day, and I certainly had fun once I got my candy! Whatever happens this year, I hope your Easter is memorable, too.

Happy hunting!



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GROWING A GORGEOUS COMMUNITY

— By Emma McKay

In 1984, Ann Heberle founded the Burleson Beautification Council to improve her city. “I had the good fortune of having Ann Heberle’s grandson in class in school,” said Johnson County historian Pat Dexheimer, who was corralled into the organization by Ann. “All who knew Ann Heberle were captivated by her energy and eagerness to improve Burleson.”

In 1996, the Burleson Beautification Council became affiliated with Keep Texas Beautiful. “We became a 501(c)(3) several years after, growing from the original roots to what it is now,” explained KBB board member Heidi Garbe. With a background in wildlife conservation and education, Heidi contributes her knowledge of sustainable living to the group. “I really wanted to make a difference in the community. This group is unique in that everyone can bring their skills and contribute something special in a variety of ways.”

While aesthetically displeasing, litter also causes long-term harm to the environment as it persists or moves across the landscape from our neighborhoods and into watersheds. “You don’t want trash going into our lakes and waterways,” Heidi stated. “Waterways drain into oceans and that becomes a problem out there, especially the plastic waste because it doesn’t biodegrade. It’s essentially forever.”

As the Environment Health Specialist for the city, Kristen Tanz inspects the storm water that collects in all the curb inlets and storm drains. “There’s a lot of litter the wind and rain can carry. Those wind up clogging the storm drains. If the clog is bad enough, it can cause flash flooding when we get heavy rain. Even when it’s just a minor clog, if we have standing water in the drains, they can be a mosquito breeding source.” Although it may be someone else’s litter, it impacts the entire community, so it takes the entire community to resolve the problem.

Two big ways KBB works to combat this litter problem are through their semi-annual Trash Bash and their Adopt-A-Spot program. Roughly 400 volunteers participate in each Trash Bash event in the spring and fall. “We meet at Warren Park. People come, and they get T-shirts and supplies. We deploy them out to the different areas across the city, and we get back together for a party at the end,” Heidi explained. “That’s a fantastic way that the community can come together to beautify and take care of their neighborhoods.”



Through their Adopt-A-Spot program, individuals or volunteer groups are assigned an area in Burlison to go pick up trash throughout the year. "We have residents who go out every single week and collect trash. They're the real heroes," Kristen informed. "Not only are people seeing this hard work, but they're being inspired by seeing them do that, and then others want to help out."

KBB supports a trash pick-up kit that can be checked out from the Burlison Public Library's Library of Things. "If the weather's great, residents can just pick up the supplies and go. It's got grabbers, trash bags, gloves, some hand sanitizer, a list of areas in town that are known to be litter hot spots and a brag sheet, so we can know what got cleaned up, and so people can share what they did," Kristen said.

Through her time with KBB, Pat has loved the ways they've helped educate children. "In the past, we would try to



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get involved whenever the kids go out to Russell Farm. We do a presentation there. For example, the old farmhouse had a cistern. We'd talk about how you would conserve water and use the actual water off the roof that could go into this cistern and pump it back up, and kids were amazed that that's where water could come from." They also used to go into the schools and even held recycled fashion shows for the students to participate in. "The kids came up with amazing fashions. These kids made clothes out of trash bags and plastics, but you could actually wear these out on the street. We're hoping to resurrect

that. It was spectacular." KBB initiatives and programs change over time based on resources, needs and board priorities.

Heidi enjoys volunteering at KBB's booth during Earth Day celebrations and talking to people about ways they can reduce waste and help the environment. "And people share their own ways, like, 'Oh, I compost.' It's inspiring to see what people are already doing and to know that you're not alone on this island working toward taking better care of your planet. It's everyone bringing their own special recipe to it."

"I love working with the planting committee," Kristen expressed. One of the things the committee does is harvest native wildflowers in development areas, collecting the seeds so they can spread them elsewhere. "Sometimes people come out who don't have a lot of plant experience, and they still love to learn from us. We're probably flooding them with information. It's a great way to feel really connected with your area — to know what grows here and what grows well here."

From spearheading the mural installation at Bailey Lake to

collaborating with the city in their "No Mow" gardens to winning the Governor's Community Achievement Award grant which beautified Burleson's I-35 entrance, Keep Burleson Beautiful has added to, and continues to cultivate, the beauty of Burleson. "I feel like there are so few things in life where you have that, 'I made a direct impact' feeling," Kristen stated. "But when you see the dumpster full of trash we collected at Trash Bash, or you see the pollinator garden in bloom, you're like, 'We made that happen!' It's so invigorating to know we can make a difference."

Keep Burleson Beautiful is led by a passionate board of community members and city liaisons from the Burleson Parks and Recreation Department. The board welcomes the community to sit in on their monthly meetings, which are posted to their Facebook page. **NOW**

Editor's Note: For more information about volunteering or financially supporting initiatives, email contactkeepburlesonbeautiful@gmail.com.

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DID YOU KNOW ...

JOHN WAYNE IS AN HONORARY TEXAN?

— By Angel Morris

Although born in Iowa and raised in California, many consider actor John Wayne the quintessential Texas cowboy. Fittingly, Texan Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick honored him as an honorary Texan in 2015. Texas House Concurrent Resolution 130 reads, WHEREAS, John Wayne is the prototypical American hero, symbolizing such traits as self-reliance, grace under pressure, resolve, and patriotism ... the State of Texas hereby resolves May 26th as John Wayne Day.

The resolution marked what would have been John's 108th birthday. Born Marion Robert Morrison in 1907, the boy who would become John Wayne was first nicknamed "Duke" because of his loyal relationship with a dog of that name. He was given his screen name after several years as a prop man and extra with Fox Film Corporation when director Raoul Walsh gave him his first leading role. The western flopped at the box office, but the new moniker stuck.

In almost a decade of B-movie roles, many portraying a Texan, John developed his on-screen persona as a man of action, which served him well in his first noteworthy film, *Stagecoach*, in 1939. The film earned seven Academy Award nominations and led John to a series of well-received film roles.

While John also began producing films in the late 1940s, his acting received recognition, as he tackled more challenging roles, and earned him an Academy Award nomination for Best Actor in *Sands of Iwo Jima*. Through the years, he had a mixture of on-screen and directorial wins and losses.

Texans may favor John's 1960 directorial debut, *The Alamo*, in which he portrayed Davy Crockett. The film was reportedly dear to John, who seemed to hone a Texan mindset after starring in many Texas-set (although rarely locally filmed) movies.

Almost a decade later, in 1969, John earned his first



Academy Award for Best Actor in *True Grit*. In 1976, John played an aging gunfighter dying of cancer in his last film, *The Shootist*.

Diagnosed with stomach cancer two years later, John passed on June 11, 1979. Known for his conservative political efforts as well as charitable work fighting cancer, John received a Congressional Gold Medal from the U.S. Congress and the Presidential Medal of Freedom posthumously. The Orange County Airport was renamed in his honor the month he died.

Established by his children in 1985, the John Wayne Cancer Foundation supports cancer-related programs, including those at the John Wayne Cancer Institute at Saint John's Health Center in California.

In 1990 and 2004, John was featured on a postage stamp, and in 2007, he was inducted into the California Hall of Fame. The John Wayne Film Festival began in 2011 in Snyder, Texas, benefiting the John Wayne Cancer Foundation. It moved to Dallas in 2014 but returned to Snyder in 2018. NOW

Sources:

1. www.texasstandard.org.
2. www.keranews.org.
3. www.biography.com/actor/john-wayne.

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Zoomed In:
Sidney and Lisa Roll

By Emma McKay

Sidney Roll with her mother, Lisa Roll, spent the morning at Warren Park watching some of her 11 nieces and nephews play. “I love kids,” said Sidney, who is currently studying to become a teacher. “I was an aunt when I was 4!”

“She went to school with her first [nephew]. They’d see each other in the hall, and he’d go, ‘That’s my aunt!’” Lisa added, laughing at the memory.

The mother-daughter pair enjoy spending time together looking after the kids, watching movies and coming up with fun activities to do when the weather isn’t so nice. Sidney also enjoys collecting stuffed animals and supporting the small businesses of Burleson and the people who work there when she can.



Rebecca Brown enjoys teaching Burleson’s youth the joy of music at Mountain Valley Studios.



Allison Nelms and Jackie Beth, the Pre-K3 teachers at Holy Cross Christian Academy, are ready to serve their students’ families at the Festival of Tables fundraiser!



The Nothing Bundt Cakes team bakes treats for their community.



Young drivers rev their engines at Burleson’s Off-Road Rally.



The May and Maloney families see how high they can go on the swings.



Kinsley Silva and Gaby and Carla Galvan spend the morning playing and reading in the park.



Burleson couples celebrate Valentine's Day at Russell Farm's Date Night Experience.



Kristen Hackenberg and Kyle Park take Buddy, Lily and Banzai on a walk.

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— By Emma McKay

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“My father had been doing it since he was 19,” Morgan Beach, president and owner of Beach Insurance Group LLC, said of the late James Beach. “He was doing life insurance, and he pivoted throughout the years. He’d done a lot of life, dental and group health. He was really involved in the industry. He eventually founded the company on his own.”

Morgan tried to distance himself from the family



business, wanting to find a passion of his own. However, after truly seeing how passionate James was and how much he helped the community, Morgan changed his tune. “When I told him I was interested in getting involved, he helped me get licensed and certified with the different carriers and began teaching me the ins and outs of the business.”

Morgan worked with his father for a few years before James passed away. Armed with the knowledge his father had shared, Morgan took over the family business and has been running it since.

Beach Insurance Group provides health care options for people in any stage of their life. “I have all the major insurance companies. If you come in here asking for Cigna, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Baylor Scott and White — I’m going to have all those different options, so if you want someone, we’re going to be able to get you that company or that plan. We try to be a one-stop shop.”

While Beach Insurance Group deals with all types of

individual health insurance, their bread and butter is Medicare. Morgan encourages individuals who want to enroll in Medicare to start applying three months before their 65th birthday. “That way you’re not running into delays.” He works to educate people on the basics of Medicare and what options it provides, so they can find the right plan for their needs. “I try to do the first meeting like a learning experience. Show them their options. The differences in cost.”

“LITTLE THINGS LIKE THAT WHERE YOU CAN ACTUALLY SEE THAT YOU’RE IMPACTING THEIR LIFE, MAKING IT EASIER FOR THEM, SAVING THEM MORE MONEY, MORE BENEFITS — IT’S A GOOD FEELING.”

At the end of their meeting, Morgan provides customers with different forms and booklets for them to reference. “If they don’t know everything by the time they leave, they’ll at least have some resources to look back on.” In order to answer any question that customers have, Morgan takes training courses throughout the year, allowing him to have the most up-to-date knowledge possible. “I’m just a resource for them.”

Morgan finds satisfaction in pairing people with the right plan. “They’ll call you later and say, ‘I love the plan you put me on. You’ve saved me so much money!’ Or, ‘I didn’t have dental benefits before. I just went and got a new crown done.’ Little things like that where you can actually see that you’re impacting their life, making it easier for them, saving them more money, more benefits — it’s a good feeling. Especially when it’s local people, and you can see them out and about. It’s nice to help the community.”

Morgan understands how overwhelmed people can feel, receiving countless spam mail and calls about all sorts of different health insurance deals. “I tell people if you work with someone local that you can see face to face, that’s usually your best bet. You know where I work. You know where to stop by if you have problems.” **NOW**

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46TH ANNIVERSARY

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Jean's Garlic Mashed Potato Casserole

CookingNOW

IN THE KITCHEN WITH

— By Emma McKay



When Jean Malcom says she's lived everywhere, she means it. Until age 5, she lived in a Texas orphanage, before moving to South Dakota, Germany, then California. In the '90s, she lived in Taiwan. "I was involved with a group of women called Christian Women's Club, and we put together two cookbooks in 1991 and 1994. I did the cover artwork!" the published watercolor and acrylic artist exclaimed.

Whether it be learning how to cook healthy dishes for her family's dietary needs, utilizing her home-grown herbs or making do with what ingredients are at hand, Jean enjoys challenging herself in the kitchen. "I arranged for an entire Thanksgiving meal for a couple we knew in the hospital in Taiwan! First," she laughed, "find a turkey!" **NOW**

Mamie's Corn Bread Dressing

3 cups corn bread, crumbled
2 cups (approximately 4) biscuits, crumbled
4 cups turkey stock
1/2 cup butter, melted
1 small onion, minced
1/2 cup celery, minced
3 eggs
1/2 tsp. pepper
1/2 tsp. salt
3/4 cup buttermilk
Pinch of baking soda

1. In a large bowl, combine the first 9 ingredients, beating the eggs in one at a time.
2. In a separate bowl, mix the buttermilk and baking soda; add to the large bowl. It should look like a soupy cake batter.
3. Bake in a greased pan for about 40 minutes at 350 F, or until firm on top.

Cranberry Salad

1 large bag cranberries
4-5 navel oranges
4-5 Red Delicious apples
2 cups pecan pieces

1. Rinse and sort the cranberries, removing the bad ones.
2. Put in a food processor with a large blade; chop.
3. Peel and chop the oranges. Cut the apples into 1/4 pieces and mix all the fruit together. Add the pecans.
4. *Note: This tastes best after sitting for a couple of days.*

Jean's Garlic Mashed Potato Casserole

Printed in the Best Of Georgia cookbook, Page 111.

6-8 potatoes, cubed
1/4 onion, chopped
1/2 cup butter
Pepper, ground, to taste
Salt, ground, to taste
1/2 cup sour cream
1/2 cup Southwestern Style Egg Beaters (If you can't find it, use scrambled eggs with onion and green peppers.)
2 tsp. freshly chopped herbs (I use parsley, chives and/or dill.)
1 cup cheese, shredded
Bacon or ham, to taste (optional)

1. Cook the potatoes in salt water until tender. Drain the water; mash the potatoes.
2. Pour all the ingredients into a greased, rectangular baking dish; bake at 425 F for 15 to 20 minutes.

Chili Relleno Casserole

- Cooking spray
- 2 7-oz. cans whole green chilies, drained (divided use)
- 8 oz. Monterey Jack Cheese, shredded (divided use)
- 8 oz. Longhorn or cheddar cheese, shredded (divided use)
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 15-oz. can evaporated milk
- 1/2 cup milk
- 2 Tbsp. all-purpose flour

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F; spray a 9x13-inch baking dish with cooking spray.
2. Place 1/2 the green chilies evenly on the bottom of the prepared dish. Sprinkle 1/2 the Monterey Jack and 1/2 the cheddar cheese over the chilies. Cover the cheese with the remaining chilies.
3. In a bowl, mix the eggs, milks and flour; pour the mixture over the chilies.
4. Bake for 25 minutes. Remove from the oven; sprinkle the remaining cheeses on top. Bake for an additional 10-15 minutes. If you want to mix it up, I like to put cooked hamburger meat in the mixture!

Chili Cheese Grits

- 3 cups water
- 3/4 cup quick grits
- 1 stick margarine or butter
- 1/2 cup Colby or Longhorn cheddar cheese
- 1 4-oz. can green chilies
- 2 eggs
- Dash of salt
- Dash of pepper
- 4 slices bacon or sausage, cooked (optional)

1. Pour the water and grits into a pot; cover and simmer on low heat for 10 minutes.
2. Add the butter, cheese and chilies.
3. Beat the eggs with a fork. Temper the eggs with a little of the grits, so they don't scramble. Slowly incorporate them into the pot.
4. Season with salt and pepper. Add the bacon or sausage, if using.
5. Pour the mixture into a greased dish; bake at 375 F for 1 hour or until set.

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

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- Virginia Woolf

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

Medium

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

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Hello, Spring

APRIL

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.

4/5

Trash Bash:

Help Keep Burleson Beautiful by participating in a citywide cleanup event. Trash-busting supplies provided. After the cleanup, enjoy free pizza and a prize raffle.

8:00 a.m.-noon, Warren Park, 301 SW Johnson Ave.

Register your group at burlesontx.com/FormCenter.

Show Me How Festival:

Bring your family to watch as Texan artisans give live demonstrations of their skills. Enjoy delicious food, live music and unique wares. 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Russell Farm Art Center, 405 W. CR 714.

4/13

Bunny Daze:

Bring your Easter basket, and fill it as quickly as you can during our Egg-stravaganza! There will be activities including games, bounce houses, vendors, Country Critters Farm and more! The egg hunts will be divided into five age groups, and there will also be an egg hunt just for children with special needs and learning disabilities. This is a free event. Easter activities: noon; first egg hunt: 1:00 p.m., Chisenhall Fields, 500 W. Hidden Creek Parkway.

4/19

Aqua Egg Hunt:

Dive in to hunt for Easter eggs in the BRiCK's Indoor Pool! Participation is limited, so pre-registration is highly recommended. This event is for children ages 2-11. \$2 per child; parents get in free.

9:00 a.m.-noon, BRiCK, 550 NW Summercrest Blvd. For more information, visit burlesontx.com/Calendar or call the BRiCK at (817) 426-9104.

4/22

Earth Day Celebration:

What better way to celebrate Earth Day than by spending time outside enjoying nature? Come explore the outdoors, and participate in fun activities,

including education about ancient plants and animals, environmentally conscience crafts and live animal showings! This is a free event. 6:00-8:00 p.m., Bailey Lake Park, 280 W. Hidden Creek Pkwy.

4/25

Arbor Day Celebration:

Join the Burleson Parks and Recreation team in planting 15 trees and partaking in yummy snacks. This is a free event. 10:00 a.m., Centennial Park, 1100 Scarlet Sage Pkwy.

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

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