

MansfieldNOW

M A G A Z I N E

MAY 2020

Staying Strong

Local leaders encourage us all to meet these times with hope

In the Kitchen With Jennifer Mendez

Also inside:
Scavenger Hunt

Kids' Fun Page

Crossword/Sudoku

Featured Business:
Trees Hurt Too, Inc.

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ON THE COVER

Strong together, Mansfield approaches the nationwide trauma with confident preparedness.

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How can I afford childcare when I am just returning to work?

Our community has been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. As families begin heading back to work, many cannot pay for childcare until they start receiving paychecks. NWWEI is here to help.



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MANAGING EDITOR'S NOTE



As we practice social distancing ...

During this COVID-19 pandemic, things have changed rapidly, necessitating companies make adjustments to how they do business, and we at NOW Magazines are no different. Like many of you, we are now officing from home, and our magazines may look a little different to you this month, due to some of the adjustments we have made as we navigate these challenging times. But we will get through these times together.

If you are like me, the events of the last couple of months have left you wondering what the future holds, but there is comfort in knowing our nation and the world have weathered many storms and come through OK on the other side. As I've pondered over this new reality, my thoughts have repeatedly gone back to one very brave lady named Corrie ten Boom. She and her family were Dutch Christians who lived in Nazi-occupied Holland during WWII. Their faith told them to love their neighbors as they loved themselves. So, they built a secret room in their home where, over time, they hid and saved nearly 800 Jews from the Nazi Holocaust. Eventually, they were betrayed, and the whole family was imprisoned in the concentration camps. Only Corrie survived.

In time, Corrie became an author and speaker with a worldwide ministry. Her message was one of forgiveness and reconciliation. While in college, I had the privilege of meeting Corrie's nurse, who cared for her during her last years. The stories about her life have always been an inspiration to me.

Corrie said, "Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God." Wow. So much faith and trust from someone who had experienced so much hurt, loss and tragedy. She lost her loved ones, her home and her job. But she never lost her faith, and it carried her through the dark times. And on the other side of the dark, was beauty again — full of life and hope and purpose. As we navigate the dark times our world faces now, we, too, can trust our unknown futures to God.

Beautiful stories are being reported of people finding ways to help, even in this time of social distancing. From a high school robotics class making face shields for medical professionals using 3-D printers and people shopping for neighbors in high-risk demographics to ministers holding online church services and entertainers live streaming concerts to add some joy to our lives, good is happening all around us, as people love others as they love themselves. What can you do within the guidelines our leaders have established to keep us safe and healthy? It may be no more than calling a family member or a friend, but hearing your voice might be exactly what that person needs at that very moment.

Is the future uncertain? Yes. But the truth is, the future is always uncertain. We never really know what the future holds. And it is always the best policy to live a loving, giving life.

We can know peace.

Becky Walker, Managing Editor · becky.walker@nowmagazines.com · (972) 937-8447

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Strong leaders like those in Mansfield are good at getting people to cooperate to solve each others' problems. In the face of the pandemic that changed the face of the world this spring, the goals of local leaders have boiled down to keeping people encouraged to tackle the issues before them. In recent months, their words have inspired leaders to emerge from all corners of our community.

STAYING STRONG

Parents of student athletes on the Legacy High School Girls' Varsity Soccer team helped the girls achieve solidarity in a time of social distancing. Within two weeks of enforced shelter-in-place, Kristi Chavarria had released a video of all the girls playing soccer virtually. It took a week to produce the montage. As one girl head-tossed the ball out of her yard, the next received the incoming ball in her completely different yard, kicked it up in the air and then kicked it out of range of the camera, so that the next girl, videoed all the way across town, could receive the ball and perform a trick with it before kneeling it off to another girl in another section of Mansfield. The team-building exercise worked wonders within the hearts of the girls, who challenged all area high schools to a video competition while quarantined. The resulting videos brought a jolt of much-needed joy to the community.

Throughout Mansfield, people have been identifying the needs of others. Mayor David Cook said, "The community has really taken hold of the fact that there are different needs of different people in different parts of our city. Picking up groceries, for instance, is an important and practical example," he said. "My email

address is david.cook@mansfieldtexas.gov. I'd be happy to share requests with our local churches, through whom we've been fulfilling the needs of elderly who are not able to go shopping. As a city, we will meet the needs of our neighbors."

Other community leaders have maintained food as one of their top priorities. "Even during the declaration of disaster, Mansfield ISD came together with our wonderful community partners to ensure that students and families continue to get their needs met," Superintendent Kimberley Cantu said. "Free, healthy and delicious meals are available to all children and teenagers up to age 18 and adults with special needs up to age 21. Also, the district compiled a list of free community resources for food, clothing, Internet services and other necessities that was distributed to our families. The heart of the community continues to shine through in this time of uncertainty, and I'm very proud of the staff members and volunteers who have spearheaded the efforts to lend a helping hand."

Mansfield Mission Center has maintained their vital mission to help build strong families for a strong



NG

— By Melissa Rawlins



community. Executive Director Carmin MacMillan's team has expanded their food distribution in our market to serve four times the number they typically serve each week, while helping people who've lost jobs file for unemployment, apply for benefits and navigate their job search. "We're implementing a new tele-health option for our clinic, and we've created an e-commerce site for the Thrift Store, so our community can shop online," Carmin said. "It's our privilege to be able to serve the community in new ways, and we'll continue to be responsive as our community's needs change."

Every leader has had to realize that nothing is permanent when dealing with the coronavirus. Born and reared in Mansfield, Mayor Cook has seen no other disaster like the COVID-19 pandemic in his lifetime. "I cannot think of other times when there has been such uncertainty," he said. "The most unique aspect about this pandemic is that the virus is a moving target." Hence, the leaders he collaborates with daily have found messaging to the community most challenging both before and after March 20,

2020, when the mayor first proclaimed the Emergency Declaration, activating the City's Emergency Management Plan.

As convener of Mansfield Churches for the City, Mayor Cook is proud that the organization has functioned well as a communication tool. "We've had emergency preparedness as part of our monthly agenda for the past year, under advisement from Greg Cutler, the city's emergency manager," the mayor said. "More specifically, I'd gotten a request from Methodist Mansfield Medical Center for prayer. With the infrastructure of Mansfield Churches for the City already set up, we've been able to immediately ask the different churches to take a different part on the schedule for praying for the nurses and doctors treating individuals, the heroes who are battling on the front lines. It was a God thing that we had the plan in place."

During shelter-in-place, Mayor Cook has spent most days in his law office, going to City Hall on an as-needed basis. He has worked most closely with Greg Cutler, Police Chief Tracy Aaron, Fire Chief Mike Ross and City Manager Clayton Chandler.



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On Staff



"We're trying to keep up-to-the-minute on protocols called for by the CDC, our president, the governor and the county judges of Tarrant, Ellis and Johnson counties. I want to commend the cooperation we've witnessed, from the White House to Main Street, as well as amongst our team. Our history together, with myself as mayor for the better part of 12 years, has helped tremendously in our preparedness and execution as a city," he said. "We recognize the responsibility we share, and have the common goal of striking that balance of responsibility to take necessary protocols to keep our citizens safe, while requiring the minimum restriction necessary in order to ensure safety. Chief Tracy Aaron has been at the top, making sure protocols are being followed for protection of our citizens."

In these unprecedented times, the chief of the Mansfield Police Department wants to provide a calm and reassuring voice to the community. "We will get through this together as a city, as a state and as a country. Your police and fire personnel are dedicated public servants, who go into harm's way to protect our community. This situation will be no different," Chief Aaron said. "We are certainly taking every precaution we can to mitigate exposures in our workforce, however, our employees are on the front lines and still go out and serve honorably every day."

"As a community, you can partner with our men and women in uniform and support our current mission by practicing good social distancing and abiding by the orders that our governor, our county and our city have put into place," Chief Aaron said. "I encourage you to join me and pray for our country and pray a cover of protection over our city, city staff, our police, fire and health

care professionals and families. I assure you it will be appreciated.”

As individuals, Mayor Cook encourages people to reach out to their banks and/or CPAs for information regarding the stimulus package that was recently passed. The leaders in the Mansfield business community have been hard at work disseminating factual, up-to-date sources of information about solutions to economic pressure. Mansfield Area Chamber of Commerce President Lori Williams, who organized Feed the Frontline on Fridays, has consistently emailed well-researched updates and hosted virtual conferences for Chamber members interested in gleaned ideas for staying afloat and in business.

“The hope of local leaders is to cut through red tape,” Mayor Cook said. “One of the primary goals of the assistance programs is to ensure the speed upon which the stimulus dollars can hit local economies and personal bank accounts.”

As much as possible, the mayor and his family are staying close to their house. There are times when his job responsibilities require him to be out. “For example, El Primo’s has been a huge partner in providing hot meals to the kids whose families are dependent on free meals from MISD. Also, with the help of El Primo’s, we were able to get catering set up to feed 400 health care workers at Methodist Mansfield Medical Center, as a way of saying, ‘Thank you,’ to our health care heroes,” the mayor said. While focused on keeping people safe, employed and hopeful, he orders meals from local restaurants and encourages our community to both meet the spirit of the disaster declarations and at the same time, support local restaurants that are fighting for their existence.

“We’re all in the same boat of trying to make smart and healthy decisions, as we navigate through COVID-19. I’ve tried to be very responsible in choosing where I can and cannot go,” he said. “I’ve relied heavily on social media for getting the needs of our community out to our citizens, and I firmly believe our Mansfield community, time and time again, is very responsive to the needs I’m trying to promote. We’re so fortunate, and the giving that goes on in this community is astounding.” **NOW**



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MansfieldNOW Scavenger Hunt



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Chicks were found on pages 1, 21, 26, 27, 27

April winners are:

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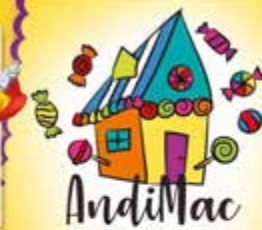
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BusinessNOW

Trees Hurt Too, Inc.

— By Melissa Rawlins

Trees Hurt Too, Inc.

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Saturday: 8:00 a.m.-noon

When you know your property needs help from plant health care specialists, call Trees Hurt Too. The authors of COVID-19 legislation recognize Trees Hurt Too as an essential business, since trees are valuable assets to properties and pests must be controlled for people's safety.

Arborist Ken Hewlett offers lawn care, ornamental tree care and pest control services based on intuition, knowledge and compassion for both trees and people. "We know the times



are changing since the COVID-19 is here," Ken said. "We've taken the appropriate measures to make sure our customers and employees are safe."

Saving people's money and trees' lives, Trees Hurt Too provides nontraditional fertilization and weed control. "We work on the soil to make it healthy, so the lawn and trees become healthy," Ken said. "It's more expensive to chop a tree down because on top of the cost to remove the tree, the cost of utilities increases when the tree is gone."

Ken takes pride in what he does and believes in passing on good information. In fact, he designed his website to be highly educational. "While working for another tree and lawn care company, I constantly noticed that trees were dying because of the chemicals people used on their lawns," he said. "So, as a certified arborist, with more than 20 years of experience and a dream of my own, I decided to start my own tree and lawn care company."

Trees Hurt Too uses organic and carbon-based products. "I don't believe in tree trimming just for the sake of trimming,

There's a time, a proper time," Ken said, adding that he spent the fall conducting borer treatments on trees that endured last summer's storms. "Summer storms cause cracks in tree bark, which mean trees leak sap, and that sap attracts tiny, baby insects that love to chew and feast on the inner bark and wood of trees."

This month, moisture management is the focus at Trees Hurt Too. "Regardless of how wet the winter and spring are, by July and August, water is gone because of evaporation and gravity. Watering more and more isn't the answer to protecting roots. You need good soil to hold moisture, and proper carbon makes the plant more drought tolerant," Ken explained. He and three licensed technicians can tend to compacted soils and unhealthy lawns, and then apply a biodegradable product that creates water for plants, so property owners don't have to water more than normal.

While on a property, technicians look for other ways to help. When they find weeds in cracks of sidewalks, around houses and near decks, they spray with environmentally friendly products that won't hurt trees when used properly. Ken empathized with trees while learning to inject their vascular system with medicine to take throughout the tree.

"I realized trees are living organisms, and they hurt like people do," he said. "Some trees, when I walk on a property, if they could talk, they'd be screaming, 'Get this truck off my feet!' People park their heavy trucks on the root system of a tree, and it compacts the soil and damages the tree. Save your trees. Save your money."

Ken consults with people planning to build on property with established ornamentals, like 200-year-old oaks. "We deal with urban forests when working with people's landscapes," he said. "Unfortunately, most people call me five to seven years after building, and it's harder to bring sick, native trees back. It's less costly to prevent than it is to treat after."

Trees Hurt Too techs travel in a 25-mile radius around Mansfield to save trees, plants and lawns. Call Ken today. He'll call you within 24 hours and make himself available to restore your plants' health. **NOW**

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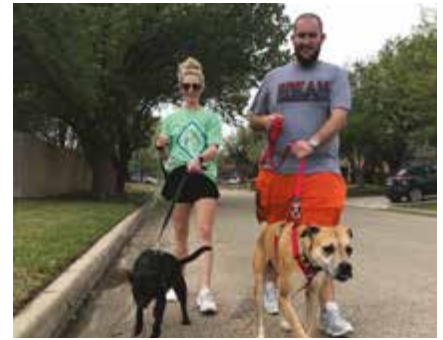


Zoomed In: Keri Roberson and Lori O'Connell

By Melissa Rawlins

While distancing from each other during sheltering-in-place, NOW Magazines' sales representatives stay in contact with clients the only way they safely can: through emails, phone calls and texts. "Working from home is my everyday normal. Now, I have my own personal genius IT team all the time," Lori O'Connell noted. "My husband can do everything well, especially when it comes to computers. He, along with my daughter (who is majoring in computer science in college) are always available to save the day."

Another silver lining to this new normal has been discovered by NOW ad rep Keri Roberson. "This pandemic has allowed me to have a deeper connection with my customers," Keri said. "We've been able to have more personal conversations, which has led to stronger bonds."



Kat and Lucas Crabtree take Decker the Elder and Duke the Wild n Crazy for a walk.



Emily Rozak, 15, joins her mother, Lynn Rozak, in live-streaming yoga.



Omar Omeira and his dad, Helal Omeira, bond over tea and *Clash of Clans* on their phones.



Lori Williams and various other Chamber members interact during a Virtual Chamber event.



Drake, 16, and his brother, Parker, 13, celebrating Easter with a QR-Code egg hunt hosted by their parents, Jason and Linnéa.



Alex Russ focuses intently on his school work, made possible by a partnership between his mother, Té Russ, and the MISD distance learning program.



Carmin MacMillan and Kelly Myers from Mansfield Mission Center work from home on a conference call with Ali Crocker and Kursten King from Crocker Russell & Associates.



Lary Zink builds a raised bed planter during his shelter-at-home time.



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CookingNOW *In the Kitchen With* JENNIFER MENDEZ

— By Melissa Rawlins

Cooking has always been fun for Jennifer Mendez. Her mother taught her with love. She married, and at first, prepared simple egg dishes before venturing into new recipes. “I remember cooking Green Chicken Enchiladas for the first time after gathering the recipe from my sister,” Jennifer said. It has since become a special request from her family and friends.

She and her husband moved from New Mexico to Ellis County in 1998. During the last 20 years — while teaching her teenage daughters how to cook — Jennifer also sold homes in Mansfield. She grew to love the area, and not only moved here but partnered in One Stop Real Estate Group on Main Street. An empty nester now, Jennifer still cooks for her family on a weekly basis. Their favorite meal is the Alfredo Vegetable Lasagna. **NOW**

Penne Pasta

A Jennifer original that has always thrilled her family.

- 1 lb. hamburger meat
- 4 cups water
- 12 oz. penne pasta
- 1 26-oz. can Hunt's Traditional Pasta Sauce
- 1 28-oz. can Del Monte Diced Tomatoes With Garlic, Basil and Oregano
- 1 16-oz. bag Italian cheese, grated

1. In a medium skillet, brown the hamburger meat.
2. Add the water to a large saucepan. Boil penne pasta. Cook only to al dente; drain well.
3. Once pasta and meat are done, mix the hamburger meat, pasta, pasta sauce and tomatoes together. Pour mixture into a large casserole dish. Bake for 25 minutes at 375 F.
4. Remove pasta from the oven; layer cheese on top of the pasta. Bake an additional 10 minutes.

Dash of Sanity

- 2 cups rotisserie chicken, shredded
- 1 14.5-oz. can Great Value Diced Tomatoes With Green Chiles
- 1 32-oz. can Imagine Organic Free Range Chicken Broth
- 2/3 cup Great Value Ranch Dressing
- 1 14-oz. pkg. frozen corn
- 1 pkg. mild taco seasoning

1. Before work, stir all ingredients together in a Crock-Pot. Place lid on top; turn to medium setting.

2. After 8 hours, lift the cover from the Crock-Pot. Stir the ingredients well; serve steaming hot.

Alfredo Vegetable Lasagna

- 2 rolls Jimmy Dean Breakfast Sausage
- 2 Tbsp. olive oil
- 1/2 yellow onion, chopped
- 2 Tbsp. garlic, chopped
- 1 15-oz. can Del Monte Diced Tomatoes With Basil, Garlic and Oregano
- 1 large zucchini, cut into 1/2-inch chunks

- 1 large yellow squash, cut into 1/2-inch chunks
- 1 16-oz. bag frozen spinach
- 1 15-oz. bag ricotta cheese
- 1 15-oz. box oven-baked lasagna noodles
- 2 15-oz. jars Bertolli Alfredo Sauce (divided use)
- 1 16-oz. bag mozzarella cheese or Italian blend cheese, shredded

1. Brown the breakfast sausage in a medium skillet.
2. In a separate skillet, add olive oil, onion and garlic; sauté for about 3 minutes.
3. Add tomatoes to the onion mixture; sauté for several minutes. Combine with the sausage; sauté for another few minutes. Set aside.
4. In a separate bowl, combine the zucchini and squash; set aside.
5. Boil spinach as directed on package; drain. Add the ricotta cheese to the spinach; set aside.
6. Prepare a casserole dish with a layer of the oven-baked lasagna noodles. Pour 1 bottle of the alfredo sauce over the noodles. Add a layer of the meat mixture; add a layer of the blended zucchini and squash. Lastly, apply a layer of the spinach and ricotta mixture. Sprinkle cheese on top; repeat steps with the same ingredients, reserving enough cheese for one final layer.
7. Bake at 375 F for 25 minutes. Remove the lasagna from the oven; apply the last layer of shredded cheese. Bake for an additional 10 minutes.

Green Chicken Enchiladas

- 2 10.5-oz. cans cream of chicken soup
- 1 10.5-oz. can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 16-oz. bottle La Costena Salsa Verde
- 1 4.5-oz. can Old El Paso or Hatch chopped green chiles, mild or hot
- 4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts, boiled and cut
- 12 corn tortillas
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 1 8-oz. bag Mexican cheese mix, grated

1. Preheat oven to 375 F.
2. Mix soups with salsa verde, chiles and chicken in a large saucepan over medium heat, bringing to a simmer.
3. While the mixture is simmering, add a little oil to a small pan; warm each corn tortilla.
4. In an 11x8-inch casserole dish, place 6 corn tortillas flat, covering the bottom of the dish. Next, fill a layer of chicken mixture over the tortillas; sprinkle with half of the cheese.



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Alfredo Vegetable Lasagna

Repeat this step with remaining tortillas, chicken mixture and cheese.
5. Bake for 25-30 minutes.

Ham & Cheese Sliders

Nonstick cooking spray
3/4 cup butter
1 Tbsp. Dijon mustard
1 tsp. brown sugar
1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
1 Tbsp. poppy seeds
2 tsp. onion, dried

12 King's Hawaiian Dinner Rolls
16 oz. deli ham, thinly sliced
8 oz. Swiss cheese, thinly sliced

1. Heat oven to 350 F. Grease a 9x13-inch baking dish with nonstick cooking spray.
2. Combine the butter, mustard, brown sugar, Worcestershire sauce, poppy seeds and dried onions.
3. Slice the rolls to make sandwiches. Remove the tops; set aside.
4. Place the bottoms of the rolls in a baking dish. Layer the ham onto the rolls; top the ham with Swiss cheese. Place the tops of the rolls onto the sandwiches.
5. Brush or pour the butter mixture over the rolls.
6. Bake 15-20 minutes or until the rolls are browned and the cheese has melted.

Chicken Tortilla Soup

2 cups rotisserie chicken, shredded
1 16-oz. can Bush's Black Beans
1 16-oz. can corn
1 10-oz. can Ro-Tel
1 32-oz. container chicken broth
2/3 cup ranch dressing
1 pkg. mild taco seasoning
8 oz. sour cream (optional)
1 bunch cilantro (optional)

2 avocados (optional)
1 cup tortilla strips (optional)

1. Add the first 7 ingredients to a pot; place over medium-high heat. Allow to come to a slow boil.
2. Reduce the heat to low. Cover partially with a lid; cook for 20 minutes.
3. For the last 5 minutes of cooking time, remove the lid; allow it to continue to simmer.
4. Remove from heat; let the soup sit off the heat for 5 minutes before serving. This will allow it to thicken up and cool off a bit.
5. Place the optional garnishes on the table in small serving bowls.

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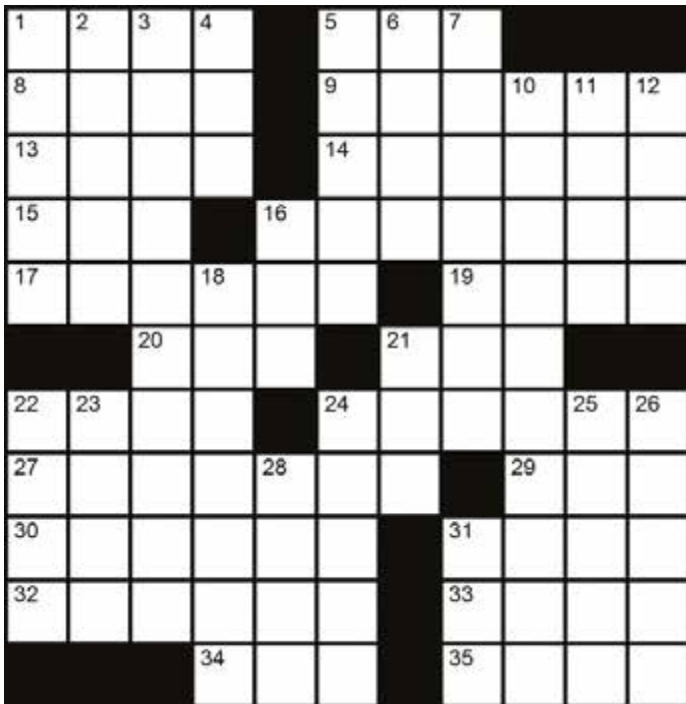
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Across

- 1 Greatest part
- 5 Pull laboriously
- 8 Fuzzy red monster
- 9 It's on top of the world
- 13 --- Turing, of "The Imitation Game"
- 14 Dark
- 15 Abner's intro
- 16 Ladies' man
- 17 Scold
- 19 Basic unit of heredity
- 20 Average
- 21 Fondle
- 22 Supercilious manner
- 24 Discontinued Chrysler marque
- 27 Bewitched
- 29 One circuit
- 30 Deliver to a judge
- 31 Opportune
- 32 Not destroyed or lost
- 33 Way out yonder
- 34 Defiant exclamation
- 35 View from Los Alamos

Down

- 1 Soft, dry and friable
- 2 Skateboard maneuver
- 3 Contract details
- 4 Weight unit: may be long or short
- 5 Illumination
- 6 "Daily Bruin" publisher
- 7 Composer --- Bizet
- 10 Perk up
- 11 So be it
- 12 Funerary bonfire
- 16 Amtrak unit
- 18 Urgent sale words
- 21 Write
- 22 His name is on a stadium in Queens
- 23 Large-screen format
- 24 Pool dimension
- 25 Spanish appetizers
- 26 Musical drama
- 28 Sushi option
- 31 Run into

Solutions on page 28

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

Medium

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

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Solutions on page 28



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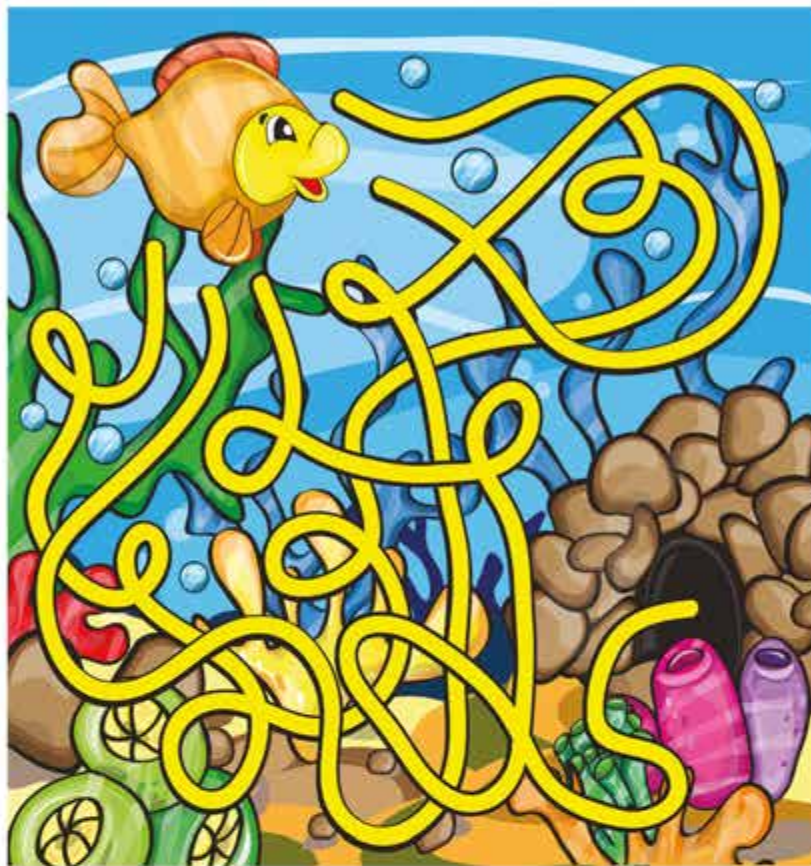


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G	S	S	E	G	A	E	R	R	U
G	I	T	P	E	E	A	I	N	E
P	L	O	P	B	P	C	C	O	B
L	P	R	E	L	E	H	O	L	E
A	E	R	R	U	M	R	T	E	R
N	A	A	P	P	L	E	R	M	R
T	R	C	C	H	E	R	R	Y	Y
N	O	L	E	M	R	E	T	A	W



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1	M	O	S	T	5	L	U	G				
8	E	L	M	O		9	I	C	E	C	A	P
13	A	L	A	N		14	G	L	O	O	M	Y
15	L	I	L		16	C	H	A	R	M	E	R
17	Y	E	L	L	18	A	T		19	G	E	N
				20	P	A	R		21	P	E	T
22	A	I	R	S		24	D	E	S	O	T	O
27	S	M	I	T	T	28	E	N		29	L	A
30	H	A	N	D	U	P			31	R	I	P
32	E	X	T	A	N	T			33	A	F	A
				34	Y	A	H		35	M	E	S

Easy

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

Medium

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



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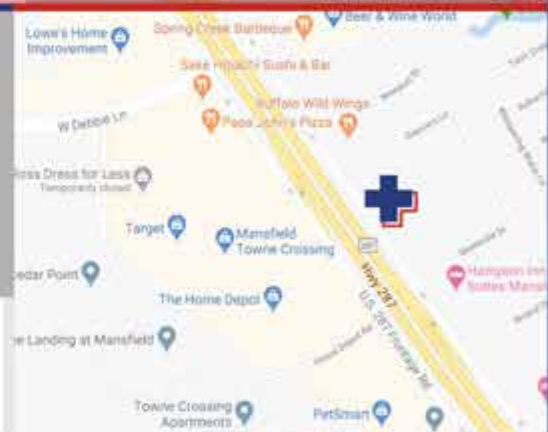
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