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SURVIVOR After years of

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self-medicating, a local veteran shares his story to help others.

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The official state sport thrills Texans and boasts a vibrant history.



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ON THE COVER

Mike Coon and Lawson share life daily.

Photo by Constance O'Bryan.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

What is a mother?

We typically call a woman who gives us birth mother. Not all women deserve that title or the honor that goes with it. After over six decades of life, I understand that. Those mothers leave us with a quandary when they need assistance later in life. Although far from perfect, I'm fortunate that my mom left me with more wonderful memories than sad ones. Like her, I have plenty of shortcomings, so forgiving her for any missteps came easier. For those of you who struggle with this issue, forgive your mother, put boundaries in place for guarding your heart and attempt reconciliation, if possible. One day, you'll be grateful you did.

As we look at women surrounding us, how many of them deserve honor in this month when we celebrate moms? Biology doesn't make women mothers. A tender, caring heart can. Many need someone pouring into their hearts like only a mother-figure can. I strive to live worthy of honor, not only as a mother but also as a woman.

If I consider others instead of constantly dwelling on my needs, I might achieve that goal. I can show kindness everywhere I go and encourage others, whether with a smile or a random, unexpected act. How can we live intentionally, not to gain respect, but to revere others? May I challenge you? Look for opportunities to show honor and kindness this month, and strive for a life worthy of honor from others.

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Mike Coon served in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm during the Gulf War. Then he served in Operation Restore Hope in Somalia. He wasn't the only Marine to return home and experience a difficult time transitioning to civilian life. After watching a buddy, Anthony Batello, die in Somalia, he admittedly dealt with survivor's guilt. Rather than talk about his emotions, Mike tried self-medicating with alcohol. "I didn't reach out to the VA because I believed others deserved it more than I did. Never suicidal, but I was gonna end up drinking myself to death," he divulged.

After discharge from the military, Mike ended up in the gym business, starting out in Waco at first. He eventually moved to Fort Worth, working at Fit4Life for a long time. But when the economy changed, he contracted to work overseas again.

Around that time, he met Monte Magness while they both watched their sons play on the same Aledo peewee football team. Two days before scheduled to leave for Afghanistan, Mike confided to Monte his hesitancy in going back overseas. As an owner of National Land Partners, Monte offered Mike a job, giving him a way to work locally instead of contracting in other countries. Without a second thought, Mike accepted.

"Other than having my son, Ashtyn, it's the best thing that ever happened to me," Mike stated. "I joined Monte, Vince and one other guy back then. They're still my family." During a conference, Monte and others from NLP heard a speaker from Southeastern Guide Dogs. He came home, encouraging Mike to look into getting a service dog because of balance issues.



PEOPLE OVERCOME ADDICTION IN VARIOUS WAYS, BUT A SUPPORT DOG MADE A DIFFERENCE FOR MIKE.



— By Lisa Bell









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"Southeastern Guide Dogs are amazing. It was a neat experience getting Lawson, and we have an ongoing relationship," Mike shared. "Lawson's spoiled now, more than a service dog. He's my sidekick, always around. He senses when I don't feel good and alerts me to anyone coming up from behind. We stay away from large crowds."

After getting Lawson, Mike continued drinking. Unable to quiet his mind and sleep, memories haunted him. Although he tried to stop drinking several times, he failed. During a time of detox, his best friend from childhood happened to come by his house. They visited Anthony's grave in Oklahoma, Mike going for the first time. "I never wanted to go there for a long time," he said. "Somehow, visiting the gravesite helped." Returning from the trip with 30-40 days in rehab already set up, he asked Ashtyn to drop him off. "That was the most humiliating thing I ever did," he remembered.

More than a year later, Mike remains sober. "Until you decide you don't want to be a slave, you'll continue with addiction," he disclosed. "Alcoholics are basically liars. Be honest about drinking. I stayed at home, drinking until I passed out, which is probably the most dangerous kind. I'm lucky, and have no desire to drink now, but the biggest thing is a strong support system."

For Mike, ending drinking required a great deal of self-discipline. He's getting back into working out regularly and listens to podcasts and audiobooks. Of course, Lawson helps, especially with Ashtyn going off to college. "In society, not drinking makes you feel weird. Maybe that's changing. But you talk yourself out of it." Without the cravings, others drinking in his presence doesn't bother him. "It's the one day at a time thing. I'm not drinking today. I'll worry about tomorrow then."

The strong support system Mike has in place helps him weather the storms of life. NLP's Harry Patten donates a lot to things like Southeastern Guide Dogs and anything that assists veterans. When Judd Jordan told Monte about a working dog statue they wanted to add at the Veteran's Memorial, Mike's story prompted him to donate the last money to make the statue happen. As part of the military, the working dog sniffs out bombs. In Mike's life, Lawson sniffs out potential trouble and offers companionship for the veteran.



People overcome addiction in various ways, but a support dog made a difference for Mike. "Group therapy can help. Sometimes, opening up to those you don't know comes easier. Rehab includes a wide spectrum of people," he added. Most importantly, Mike relies heavily on those surrounding him with love and support. "I enjoy my job," he said with a smile. "I have too much to lose to be drunk, and my mental health is better without alcohol."

Monte confirmed the family atmosphere of their business and his relationship with Mike. He enjoys having him around and encourages him to share his story, so that his journey might help others. As for Lawson, he sticks close. Although he doesn't mind socializing, he's content to hang with his buddy and enjoy their solid companionship.



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AUTHENTIC TTOTAL AUTHENTIC TTOTAL AUTHENTIC SPORT - By Lisa Belf

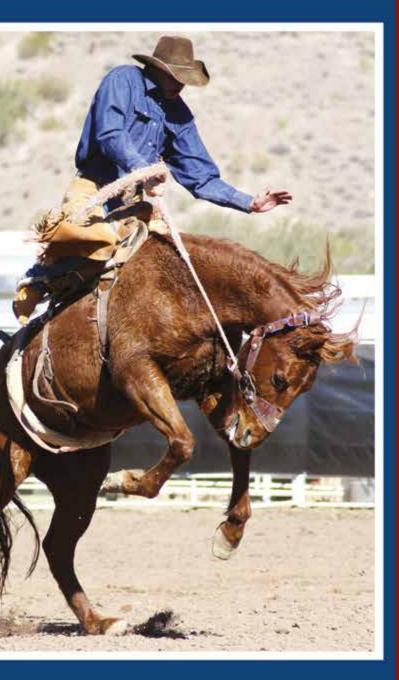
While Texans adore Friday night lights and other sports across the state, there is nothing quite like a rodeo. In the smallest counties across Texas, communities gather for both annual and regular events. That shouldn't surprise us, considering the Lone Star State took a leadership role at the beginning of this beloved sport.

Rodeos grew from the cattle industry, though no one knows for certain where or when the new sport began. Several towns inundated with cows claim the first rodeo. Santa Fe, New Mexico, claims they held the first one in 1847. Deer Trail, Colorado, boasts an event in 1869. But Pecos, Texas, declares an authentic rodeo in 1883 — the first that offered prizes.

Rebuilding from war, large ranches and cattle drives ushered in a golden era of cowboys, attracting young men seeking adventure. As young men do, they showed off skills through competitions, often inviting cowboys from other ranches to claim bragging rights or money.

As the industry flourished in the Southwest, West Texas and areas in the Panhandle of Texas established large ranches. John S. Chisum, Oliver Loving and Charles Goodnight became wellknown names, smaller ranches popping up beside them.

When fencing arrived in the late 1880s, however, the range cowboy experienced confinement. With communities building near ranches, holidays became social events and a perfect



environment for cowboys to shine with abilities of roping, riding and wrangling. Some even honed their singing talents.

The railroad expanded, changing the way cowboys worked. During the off-season, many joined shows and rodeos, exhibiting ranch life skills. Rodeos became annual events in various places, enticing cowboys to follow. While some held only small contests, the first two rodeos on record consisted of the 1883 one in Pecos, Texas, and one held in 1888 in Prescott, Arizona, which was the first rodeo to charge admission. The first indoor rodeo took place in Fort Worth, Texas, during 1917

According to *World Atlas*, more than in any other professional sport, residents of Texas played major roles in the development and leadership of rodeos. Texas boasts more hall of fame honorees than any other state, with more than 50 on

record. And the Lone Star State quickly became the focal point of the professional sport native to the Southwest.

Then in 1997, the state legislature voted rodeo as the official state sport of Texas. Only two other states, Wyoming and South Dakota, share that designation for rodeo. In 1993, Mesquite, Texas, received a legislative declaration as Official Rodeo Capital of Texas because the city hosts more rodeo events than any other in the state.

Today, rodeo participation includes far more than the lonely range cowboy. The Women's Professional Rodeo Association will celebrate its 75th anniversary in 2023. Once thought of as a choice between glam or grit, most women who ride professionally maintain both. They work and ride as hard as any man, looking beautiful doing it. Once considered a shameful display for women, professional female rodeo riders now command respect, admiration and wide publicity. Women compete, enjoying wonderful careers. Many use their fame for good causes.

Children, both boys and girls, also get involved at young ages. Many compete in mutton busting while between 35 and 55 pounds. Mini-bull riding events also bring in competitive kids, geared to their size and skill-levels. State requirements protect these junior rodeo lovers, especially their heads and faces. Like men and women of rodeo, the youngsters simply love the competitive aspect.

Throughout the years, Texas continued supporting the rise of rodeos. There are many organizations, like the Texas Senior Pro Rodeo Association, created in 1978, Texas Youth Rodeo Association, which caters to families, Texas Junior and Texas Junior High Rodeo Associations, and more. Anyone interested can find support and information. Many colleges in Texas also offer rodeo teams.

Often coupled with stock shows in Texas, the love of rodeo continues growing. The events provide an opportunity for families to experience something they may never live. A long way from the initial days of cowboys competing on the open range, Texans — both native and transplanted — have the chance to experience the thrill of animals and riders doing what they love.

While the sport of rodeo changed over the years, the spirit of competition remained the same. Everyone involved wants to do their best, ride away with bragging rights and perhaps with a little money in their wallets. NOW

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Zoomed In: WCS Athletes

On Weatherford Christian School's first ever signing day, Jaxon Foland, Isabell McKamey, Trajan Lewis and Logan Perkin sign letters of intent for various colleges. "To have four students at a school this size is phenomenal," said Kasey Petzold, director of marketing, WCS has a total enrollment, K-12, of 350 students.

Jaxon plans to continue playing baseball as an Aggie at Murray State in Oklahoma. Headed to The University of Dallas, Isabell looks forward to continuing volleyball during her college years. Trajan takes on the toughest basketball region in the state as he heads to Victoria College. And Logan chose Wayland Baptist as a good fit for both baseball and academics. All four students take vast awards, leadership skills and a Christlike example with them into their futures.

Around Town



Jonathan Schiller, owner of Flavor on 51, cooked a 10-lb. burger in celebration of their first anniversary and ribbon cutting.



At Blessings Recycled, Manager Gina Smith proudly displays their 2021 map depicting visitors from every state and seven countries.



By Lisa Bell

Texas Festivals and Events Association honors the 2021 Parker County Peach Festival with three awards.

NOW



Debra Gass, of Chicago Title Weatherford, receives the Ambassador of the Year award at the East Parker County Chamber Awards Banquet.



Graham Lindley came from England to stay and sells Hot Wheels at First Mondays.



Heather Berry prepares a downtown display window for Easter.



Texas A&M University — Commerce President, Dr. Mark J. Rudin, and Weatherford College President, Dr. Tod Allen Farmer, sign a master's degree articulation agreement.



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— By Lisa Bell

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"The most common thing I do is educate people," Greg Willis said. "You can get full service without higher fees." With more than 25 years of experience, the owners/brokers at TexasRealEstateSavings.com interface with each of their customers. Greg's wife, Dawn, has 20 years of experience. Although they do have one assistant, Greg and Dawn work long hours to personally meet the needs of their business. Customers work directly with the owner/broker, not an agent who may be new to the industry.

In 1997, as a minister, Greg needed a second income, so he pursued real estate. After the required two years, he opened his own business while living in Colorado and did well. With two



children, Greg and Dawn wanted to be closer to their parents, near Parker County. In 2005, they moved back to Texas, and then in 2014, they opened TexasRealEstateSavings.com.

When Greg started, he recognized the coming technological changes. Back then, buyers had to look through a large book of black and white photos, choose a house and then go look at it. Eventually computer sites appeared where Realtors posted current pictures. Today, most people can look at a house on their phone or tablet and get notifications of new listings.

Because of technology, operating a real estate business costs less these days and enables them to help more people, which is what Greg loves about his job. He personally handles every listing and showing and writes the contracts. Dawn takes it from there, working with customers to finalize all paperwork and negotiations.

"Dawn does an excellent job of organization," he said. "Her attention to detail is unparalleled." A lot of their business comes from past clients returning to buy a new house or referring TexasRealEstateSavings.com to others. To Greg, that says something. He is proud of more than 265 five-star reviews on www.Willisreviews.com, which goes directly to Zillow.

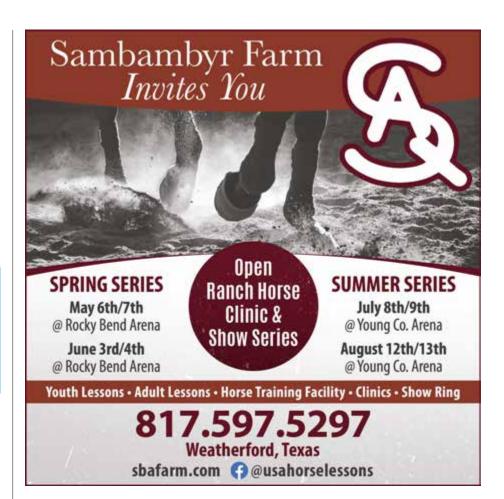
Greg and Dawn live locally and have great knowledge of the many different areas in the community. "We always help sellers save money," Greg shared. And they offer cash rebates to buyers, giving them an incentive to work with the Willis team.

"The most common thing I do is **educate people**."

During his years in real estate, Greg has more than 1,400 sales — more than 450 during the last five years. Yet, as a former pastor and youth minister, he understands the importance of never pressuring a buyer. "Not that you can really manipulate a person into buying a home," he admitted. But he wants to be seen as someone who doesn't push. He wants people to see him as honest, with the customers' best interest in mind. After so many years, he is still passionate about helping each family find exactly what they're looking for while saving money for both sides in the process.

Both Greg and Dawn are very accessible to their customers, often answering emails and calls late at night, on weekends and even holidays. Although they live in Parker County, they also work all over Hood County, as well as Johnson and Tarrant counties.

Greg shared that according to the NAR, the average agent completes 11-12 transactions per year. In the last four years, Greg sold more than 400 properties. In addition, TexasRealEstateSavings.com won the 360 West Best Real Estate Agent award each year from 2017-2021, selling over \$25 million in real estate each year. Go online or give them a call for your real estate needs. **NOW**







With a husband who loved to cook, LeeAnn Polster never worried about whipping up savory or sweet dishes for family and friends. That all changed when her husband, Robert, suddenly passed away four years ago.

"It's difficult to know how grief may affect you. I started cooking and using many of my husband's recipes and tweaking them for myself," LeeAnn explained. "It was a type of therapy for me."

LeeAnn learned a lot from watching Robert cook over the years. "There were tips and techniques I learned that I didn't even realize I was paying attention to."

She shares that presentation matters. "Plate your dishes nicely," she explained. "It makes the meal special and encourages mindful eating. Eating a meal at home can be as enjoyable as dining out." Now

Best Steak

- 3 Tbsp. kosher salt
- 3 Tbsp. smoked paprika
- 2 Tbsp. onion powder
- 2 Tbsp. garlic powder 2 Tbsp. dried oregano
- 2 Tbsp. coarsely ground black pepper
- 1 Tbsp. brown sugar or sugar replacement
- 2 grass-fed filet mignon or high-quality ribeye
 3 Tbsp. butter, melted (optional)

I. *For rub:* In a small bowl, combine the kosher salt and next 6 ingredients to create a seasoning rub; mix well. Generously apply the rub to the steaks; cover with plastic wrap. Refrigerate for at least 15 minutes before cooking.

2. Preheat a gas grill to medium-high. Place the steaks on the grill; cook about 4 minutes on each side for medium-rare steaks. As the steaks are on the grill, baste with butter, if desired. If no grill is available, add the butter to a pan on medium-high heat and cook the steaks as recommended above, basting with butter.

3. Once cooked, remove from the grill or pan; cover with foil. Allow the steaks to rest for 5 minutes before serving.

Dinner at the Zoo Grilled Chicken Salad

Dressing:

- 3 Tbsp. lemon juice
- 2 Tbsp. Dijon mustard
- 3 Tbsp. red wine vinegar
- 2 tsp. granulated sugar
- 2 Tbsp. shallot, finely minced
- 1/2 tsp. dried oregano 1 1/2 tsp. dried parsley

2/3 cup olive oil Salt, to taste Pepper, to taste

Salad:

- I lb. boneless skinless chicken breasts
 6 cups romaine lettuce, coarsely chopped
 3/4 cup cherry tomatoes, halved
 3/4 cup corn kernels fresh, thawed from
- frozen or canned
- 3/4 cup cucumber, chopped
- 1/4 cup red onion, thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup cooked bacon, crumbled
- 1/2 cup blue cheese, crumbled
- I avocado, peeled, pitted and sliced

I. *For dressing:* In a medium bowl, add all the ingredients; whisk until well-combined. Pour half of the dressing into a container for later use.

2. For salad: In a bowl with the remaining dressing, add the chicken breasts and marinate at least 1 hour in the refrigerator. **3.** Preheat a gas grill to medium-high. Remove the chicken from the marinade. Dispose of the remaining marinade. Cook the chicken on a grill for 5-6 minutes on each side, or until browned and cooked thoroughly. Remove chicken from the grill. Cool for 5 minutes before slicing; set aside. 4. In a large bowl, add the lettuce. Drizzle half of the reserved dressing on top of the lettuce. Arrange the chicken, tomatoes and the remaining ingredients on top of the lettuce. Drizzle the remaining reserved dressing on top; serve immediately.

Easy, Fresh Green Beans

1 1/2 Tbsp. olive oil
3/4 lb. fresh green beans, trimmed
1/2 tsp. onion salt
1/2 tsp. garlic salt
1/2 tsp. garlic powder
Freshly ground pepper, to taste
1/2 cup almonds, sliced (optional)

I. Heat the olive oil in a skillet over medium heat.

2. Add the green beans and the next 4 ingredients. Combine; cook about 5-10 minutes until the green beans are at desired tenderness. If desired, add sliced almonds during the final 5 minutes of cooking.

Mama Helen's Ranger Cookies

cup shortening
 cup sugar
 cup brown sugar
 eggs
 tsp. vanilla
 cups flour



I tsp. baking soda 1/2 tsp. baking powder 1/2 tsp. salt 2 cups quick oats I cup shredded coconut 2 1/2 cups walnuts, chopped (optional)

I. Preheat the oven to 350 F. In a large bowl, add the shortening and sugars; cream together using a mixer on high speed. Reduce the mixer to medium speed. Add the eggs and vanilla; combine. **2.** In a separate bowl, mix together the flour and the next 3 ingredients. Slowly add the dry mixture to the wet sugar mixture, combining well. Once all combined, add the oats, coconut and walnuts, if desired. 3. Grease a cookie sheet. Roll the mixture into balls: place 2 inches apart on the cookie sheet. Bake for 10 minutes. For less gooey cookies, bake for 15 minutes.

"No Nuts" Banana Bread

I cup sugar

1/2 cup margarine or butter, softened 2 eggs

- $1 \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{cups} (3 \text{ or } 4)$ overripe bananas, mashed
- 1/3 cup water
- 1 2/3 cups all-purpose flour

I tsp. baking soda 1/2 tsp. salt 1/4 tsp. baking powder 1/2 cup nuts, chopped (optional)

I. Preheat the oven to 350 F. Grease the bottom only of a loaf pan. In a bowl, mix together the sugar and margarine. Stir in the eggs until blended. Add the bananas and water; beat 30 seconds. Stir in the flour and the next 3 ingredients; combine well. Mix in the nuts, if desired. Pour the batter into the loaf pan.

2. Bake 1 1/4 hours if using an 8-inch loaf pan or 55-60 minutes if using a 9-inch loaf pan. Bread is baked once a wooden toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean. Once baked, remove from the oven; cool 5 minutes. Remove from the loaf pan: cool completely before slicing.

Neiman Marcus Cookies

- I cup butter, room temperature 1 cup brown sugar I cup sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 2 cups flour I tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. baking powder



1/2 tsp. salt

- 2 1/2 cups oatmeal, blended into fine powder
- 12-oz. chocolate chips
- 1 4-oz. HERSHEY bar, chopped
- 2 1/2 cups nuts, chopped (optional)

I. Preheat the oven to 375 F. In a large bowl with a mixer on high speed, cream together the butter and both sugars. Reduce the mixer to medium speed. Add the eggs and vanilla; mix well.

2. In a separate bowl, combine the flour and the next 4 ingredients. Add the dry mixture to the wet mixture; combine well.

3. Add the chocolate chips. HERSHEY bar and nuts, if desired; combine well.

4. Roll the mixture into balls; place them 2 inches apart on a greased or parchmentlined baking sheet. Bake for 10 minutes.



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If you are looking for a weekend getaway that's packed with adventure and full of small-town charm, look no further than Denison, Texas. Just 75 miles north from the heart of Dallas, you'll be in town and checked in before you know it with plenty of time left to explore!

TravelNOW

Known as the gateway city, Denison was founded in 1872 in conjunction with the Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad and was the entry point of the first non-Texas-based railroad. The historic Katy Depot still stands today and can be reserved for private events and weddings. You can also visit the Red River Railroad Museum one block away at 124 W. Main Street.

Denison is the birthplace of President Dwight D. Eisenhower. He was the only one of David and Ida Eisenhower's seven children born in Texas. David brought his wife and their two young sons, Arthur and Edgar, from Hope, Kansas, in 1889 to pursue a new life in Texas, working on the railroad. His home has been restored and is open to the public for tours.

The home of T.V. Munson, who saved the French Wine Industry from devastation in the 1800s, Denison is rich with craft beverages that you cannot get at home. Take a stroll through the vineyards at Hidden Hangar Vineyards and Winery. From 1928 until the 1950s, the land the vineyard sits on served as a training airport for "wanna-be" pilots and a fuel stop for those traveling between Oklahoma City and Dallas. The tasting room is open Thursday-Sunday from 12:00-6:00 p.m., where you can sip on varietals such as Riesling, Cabernet Franc, Malbec and Syrah. For whiskey lovers, Ironroot Republic Distillery is a must. The name "Ironroot" pays tribute to T.V. Munson and the "iron" roots that helped save the French wine industry. The distillery is family-owned and -operated by the Likarish brothers (Robert and Jonathan) along with their mother Marcia, and everything is mashed, fermented, distilled, barrel-aged and bottled on-site in Denison. The spirits are made using high-quality heirloom and non-GMO corn from local farms to capture the authentic flavor of North Texas. The distillery is open for tours every Saturday at noon and 2:00 p.m.

If you like farm-fresh ingredients, check out the Downtown Denison Farmers Market. From farm-fresh eggs, meat, produce and even canned goods, purchase something locally grown and get to know our farmers! You can catch the market Saturdays on the 700 block of Main Street from the beginning of May through October.

After you've hit up the Farmers Market, take a stroll down Main Street, where you will find antique shops, boutiques, breweries, wineries and restaurants. Peruse the public art displays, galleries and studios and even create a masterpiece of your own to take with you. And in the summer, you can enjoy Music On Main, the IO-week free summer concert series on Friday nights.

For the outdoor lovers, Denison is surrounded by picturesque parks, trails and natural beauty. From biking around Waterloo Lake, to camping at Eisenhower State Park or striper fishing on Lake Texoma, you're sure to relax, unplug and unwind.

Rebecca Robinson Marketing & Tourism Coordinator Denison, Texas Photos courtesy of the city of Denison, Texas.



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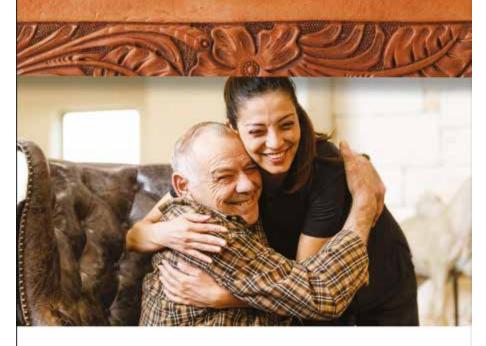
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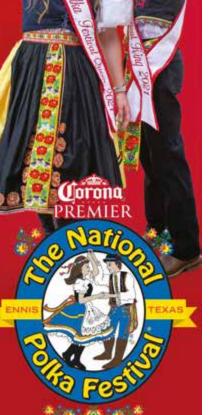
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Crossword Puzzle

		6	5	4				3	2	1
11	10				9	1	8	\vdash	\vdash	7
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1	\vdash	16		+		15		\vdash	1	14
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+			34		\vdash	⊢	⊢			33
	+	36				-		35		

Solutions on page 36

Across

- 1 "--- in 'Sierra'"
- 4 Turn in a horizontal plane
- 7 European peaks
- 9 Duelist's assistant
- 12 Suffer from the heat
- 13 Wonder Woman's General, Steven -
- 14 This crowd controller's a real weepie
- 16 First of her kind
- 17 Iroquoian word for "beautiful water"
- 18 Scientific truth
- 19 "I --- be sedated" (Ramones)
- 21 Javhawk state
- 24 Got agitated
- 28 Lawyers' league
- 29 Merry
- 30 Alamo commander
- 32 Travail
- 33 Cat shy about floaters
- 34 Took --- loan
- 35 Tire inflation measure

- 36 Enunciate

- Down
- 1 Looked after
 - 2 Unfamiliar
 - 3 Bug's last sound
 - 4 Public faces
- 5 Poker bullet
- 6 Original
- 8 No-one wants the short one
- 9 Durable type of steel
- 10 Old Chevy model
- 11 Pulled a gun
- 15 Tagger's art
- 20 "I shall not find myself so --- die": (Antony, "Julius Caesar")
- 21 Houston suburb
- 22 Start of an incantation
- 23 Civil rights org. since 1909
- 25 Religious
- 26 Short-lived Argentinian First Lady
- 27 Holdup
- 31 Old tape letters

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MOP HEADS -103



Sudoku Puzzle

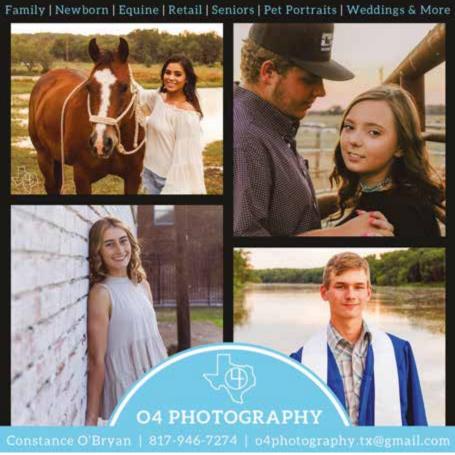
Easy									1	Mediu	m							
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9								1				8						1
		8						7				9				6		
1	7						8			5				4	8			9

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Solutions on page 36





HAPPY HAPPY HOUSE HAPPY HOUSE

4/27, 5/4, 5/18, 5/25 and 6/1

Do Well Be Well: Educational series on diabetes management with mealplanning, self-care and working with a doctor. \$10/series. 10:00 a.m.-noon, Parker County Extension Office, 604 N. Main St., Ste. 200. Register at (817) 598-6168 or kl-smith@tamu.edu.

5/1

Sunset on the Square: Highly anticipated 2nd annual event with fabulous food from local restaurants in an unforgettable outdoor dining experience. 5:00-9:00 p.m. www.d-winc.org.

5/4

Countdown to the Cliburn:

Free concert with Rachel Cheung. Seating limited; reservations required. 7:00 p.m., Chandor Gardens, 711 West Lee. www.chandorgardensfoundation.org.

5/19 and 5/21

Peach Festival Art Competition Registration: Register to compete in the annual art show. Thursday: 4:00-7:00 p.m.; Saturday: 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Doss Center, 1400 Texas Dr. www.weatherfordart.com.

5/6-5/7

Romeo & Juliet: TOTS live production of the William Shakespeare classic play. 6:00 p.m., Chandor Gardens, 711 West Lee. www.theatreoffthesquare.org.

5/6

Friends of the Library Luncheon: Black Hawk Pilot Elizabeth McCormick shares at this fundraiser for the Weatherford Public Library. \$25/person. 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Doss Heritage Center, 1400 Texas Dr. Call Kathy Ott at (817) 994-7360 or email Kathy_2r@hotmail.com for tickets.

5/7

Weatherford College Matilda Jr. Auditions: Applications accepted 3/25-5/7 for students who completed grades 9-12. Chorus limited spaces for third- through eighth-graders. Auditions: 8:00 a.m.-noon; callbacks: 1:00-3:30 p.m., Alkek Fine Arts Center, 225 College Park Dr. www.wc.edu/calendar/.

5/12

Taste of Parker County: 13th annual event, enjoy sample-sized tastings. Benefits Weatherford College Foundation. \$35 until 5/11; \$40 on 5/12. 5:00-8:00 p.m., Heritage Park, 317 Santa Fe Dr. www.wc.edu/ about/foundation/taste.php.

5/13

Movies in the Park: Community event showing *Luca*. Free. Movie begins at sunset, but come early. 7:00-9:00 p.m., Heritage Park Amphitheater, 378 Jack Borden Way. www.experienceweatherford.com.

5/13-5/14

Romeo & Juliet: TOTS live production of the William Shakespeare classic play. 6:00 p.m., Aledo Community Center Park, 104 Robinson Ct., Aledo. www.theatreoffthesquare.org.

5/26-7/21

Peach Festival Art Show: View numerous entries from artists in Parker County. Display available during normal business hours. Doss Center, 1400 Texas Dr. www.weatherfordart.com.

5/27-6/12

The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940: TOTS live production. Friday and Saturday: 8:00 p.m.; Sunday: 2:00 p.m., Theatre Off the Square, 114 North Denton St. For more details, visit www.theatreoffthesquare.org.

6/3-6/4

Matilda Jr. Teen Musical Camp Production: Presented by Weatherford College. \$10. Purchase tickets online. 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., Alkek Fine Arts Center, 225 College Park Dr. For more information, visit www.wc.edu/calendar/.

6/4

Mid-Way Pancake Breakfast Fly-In:

Classic airplanes, cars and motorcycles, helicopter and airplanes rides, live music, children's activities and more. Adults & children over 8: \$6; children under 8: \$3. 8:00-11:00 a.m., Mid-Way Regional Airport, 131 Airport Dr., Midlothian. For more information, visit www.mid-wayregional.com.

Secret Gardens of Parker County Tour:

Self-guided journey through five unique gardens in Parker County. Tickets \$12 online; \$15 day of event. 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., I Courthouse Square. For more information, visit www.chandorgardensfoundation.org.

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



WeatherfordNOW Scavenger Hunt





Find 5 hidden Money Bags

in 5 different ads in this issue (not counting the one above).

Email the page numbers and specific ads where they are found, plus your phone number, by May 15th. To ensure your Scavenger Hunt answers go in the drawing, you must use the

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Clocks were found on pages 7, 11, 17, 23 & 28

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Crossword -Sudoku Solutions

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⁷ A	L	Ρ	° S		° S	Е	С	0	10 N	¹¹ D
12 W	T	L	Т		¹³ T	R	E	٧	0	R
¹⁴ T	Е	A	R	15 G	A	S		¹⁶ E	٧	E
17	Ν	Т	A	R	1	0		18 L	A	W
			19 W	A	Ν	N	20 A			
21 K	22 A	23 N		²⁴ F	L	A	Ρ	25 P	26 E	27 D
28 A	В	A		29 F	E	s	Т	1	٧	E
³⁰ T	R	A	³¹ V	.1	S		³² T	0	Т	L
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Easy

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

Medium

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

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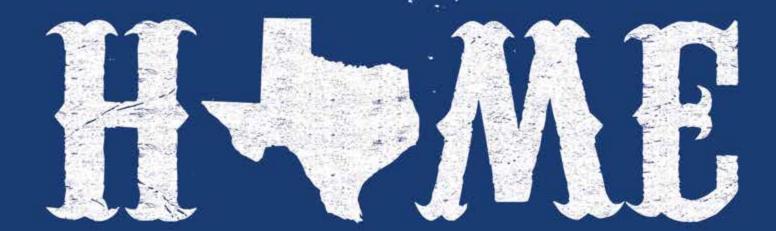




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