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A G A Z I N E

MAY 2024

Building Bridges to Hope

Families in crisis find helping hands in Cedar Hill

Also inside:

Scavenger Hunt
Crossword/Sudoku

Featured Business:
Champions Cove
Independent Senior Living

Records Are Made To Be Broken

Byron Nelson's 11-tournament winning streak still stands

In the Kitchen With Imani Jeffery-Johnson

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Election Day | May 4th

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- Chad McCurdy

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ON THE COVER



Chandra Johnson
champions other women
at Bridges Safehouse.

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EDITOR'S NOTE



Adam

Adam Walker
SouthwestNOW Editor
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(469) 285-2008

Being a mother is not an easy job ...

My mother was initiated by me, and still accepted the assignment three more times. It's never easy being a mother, but I was her baptism by fire!

At 2, I scared her to death with my first asthma attack. At 5, I nearly died of pneumonia. I'd already had so many problems at school that she decided to keep me home until first grade and start again. I locked my sister in the fold-down back seat of the station wagon.


My then-youngest brother almost choked to death when Dad gave him a drink while he had a hard candy in his mouth. He also sneaked out the front door, locking the screen behind him to go play in the street.

After being tested for autism, epilepsy, brain tumors and a slew of other things, I was diagnosed with hyperactivity disorder, what they now call ADHD. The medications didn't work well and had side effects. Mom read every book available at the time on this new diagnosis with little known about it. She tried putting me on an all-natural diet with homemade mayonnaise, mustard and toothpaste. It didn't work, but *she* did all that extra work.

The next decades had times that were easier and times that were even harder. Mom was there through it all, persevering. She was the one rock, the one dependable person who was always in my corner. She never gave up on me, or any of my siblings. She loved, disciplined, encouraged, scolded, celebrated, wept and prayed. And now she has grandkids and a great-grandchild. Mothers are strong!


Happy Mother's Day!

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BUILDING BRIDGES TO HOPE

— *By Adam Walker*

Chandra Galloway Johnson currently stands at the helm of two organizations serving families in need in our community. Bridges Safehouse is a temporary shelter for homeless women and their young children, while Bridges Resource Center supplies struggling families with parenting classes and basic needs.

Bridges Safehouse started almost 26 years ago when Dr. Glenn Clark and his wife, Alicia, read a newspaper article about the plight of homeless women and children. They felt the need to do something. “Mrs. Clark remembered a property they owned in Cedar Hill and asked, ‘What about that house?’ The Clarks started Bridges Safehouse in that house, with an all-volunteer staff. A few years later, lightning struck the house and burned it to the ground. Fortunately, it wasn’t occupied at the time. But the community came together and rebuilt the safe house.”

Chandra has been the executive director for just over a year, but her involvement with the mission to help women in trouble goes back much further. “Eight years ago, a friend of mine was the house manager. She suggested to me that this would be a great ministry to serve in. But it was a volunteer position, and I had bills to pay, so I said, ‘No.’ Then she told me that the position started at 4:00 p.m., so I could have a paying job in the mornings and still do the volunteer work as the assistant house manager.

I agreed.

“Over the years, the five bedrooms at Bridges Safehouse have offered temporary shelter to thousands of women in trouble and their small children. Women end up homeless for a variety of reasons,” Chandra said. “Our program is set up to offer six weeks of assistance. We provide transitional housing, support services like counseling and mentoring, assistance with getting their children into school and work with community partners to provide continuing education for job skills. We even help with things like getting a new Texas ID, copies of birth certificates for the children and other documents that may have been lost or destroyed. We

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connect these women with continuing education opportunities and workforce placements and scheduling Lyft or Uber rides to and from appointments and help for pregnant moms. We also help them with hygiene items and clothing. We collaborate closely with other ministries for longer term assistance or for women who have children older than age 5 or who have more than two children and one on the way. We can help with obtaining a letter of homelessness, so they can access other services.

"It's overwhelming for many of these women. There are so many moving parts to putting your life back together. We are seeing more moms who are in between and just need a place to park for a short time, while they execute their plan," Chandra explained. "Staying here, they can focus on that plan instead of where they're going to sleep that night. You can't find a job if you don't have anyone to look after your kids. We ask about their plan, and how we can support them or help them make one if they don't have one yet. We have a program called Bridges out of Poverty. It's a binder they work through weekly. We teach them about self-love and live out the Christ life in front of them."

Another part of the mission is expressed through Bridges Resource Center, which is located at 800 W. Belt Line Rd., where their thrift store used to be. "Through the Resource Center, we offer free parenting classes, to help pregnant moms and families in crisis," Chandra said. "Once they finish the class, they have 'Class Cash' they can spend on whatever they need in the

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Anyone can make donations of unexpired food, clothing, shoes, toys or money to support Bridges' mission. They accept food donations when they're open, from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Monday and Thursday and from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday. Bagged (not boxed) clothing, shoes and toys can be placed in the donation bin outside, 24/7. Monetary donations can be made on the new and updated website, BridgesCanHelp.org.

"We are looking for a location to reopen the Boutique, the thrift store that supported the mission of Bridges that closed during the pandemic. We always need volunteers at the Resource Center for sorting, cleaning, tagging restocking and greeting. We want to build stronger partnerships with local churches and businesses. Also, we need more job skills classes, more mentoring and life coaching and after-school programs for the children. And we'd like to open safe houses and resource centers in other communities, so we can serve more women in need. Currently, we are also looking for new like-minded individuals to serve as board members." If you have a heart to serve, Chandra and the Bridges family have a place for you. **NOW**

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Byron Nelson at the 1945 Tam O'Shanter Country Club Tournament in Chicago. From the collection of the Texas Sports Hall of Fame - Waco, Texas.

— TALES OF TEXAS —

RECORDS ARE

MADE TO BE BROKEN

— By Bill Smith

During the 2023 edition of the AT&T Byron Nelson Golf Tournament (now the CJ Cup Byron Nelson), the television commentators mentioned Byron's record of 11 straight PGA tournament victories. They said, and rightly so, that 11 wins would be an outstanding career for any golfer today, but to win 11 in a row is essentially unheard of. Byron Nelson accomplished this feat in 1945, so he has held the record for 79 years.

Byron was born in 1912, the same year as a couple of other well-known and similarly accomplished golfers, Sam Snead and Ben Hogan. The Texas State Historical Association lists his birthplace as Long Branch, Texas, which may have been a "suburb" of Waxahachie, and many biographies of Byron simply list his birthplace as Waxahachie. His childhood included working on the family cotton farm until age 11, when the Nelson family moved to Fort Worth.

By age 12, Byron was working as a caddie at the Glen Garden Country Club. It was there that he first met one of

his great rivals on the course, the legendary Ben Hogan, who was also serving as a caddie. Originally, caddies were not allowed to participate in the game on Glen Garden, but the rules were later relaxed, and a tournament for caddies was eventually contested. Byron beat Ben by one shot in a nine-hole playoff in 1927.

Byron completed his formal education in 1928, and after a brief stint working with the Fort Worth and Denver City Railway, he began golfing full time in 1929. He joined the Professional Golfers' Association in 1932 and worked as a golf pro at a number of clubs around the country. His first professional tournament was in 1932 at the Texarkana Open. The entry fee at Texarkana was \$5. Byron finished third in the tournament and collected \$75 for the effort. His career as a professional golfer was underway, and while it was a very successful career, it would be considered brief, certainly by today's standard. Apparently, playing golf was a "means to an end" for Byron, and he retired from the tour at age 34 to purchase his dream, a ranch in Roanoke, Texas, known as Fairway Ranch.

It was also in Texarkana where he met and married Louise Shofner, his late first wife of 50 years. In an interview with *Sports Illustrated* in 1979, Louise made it clear that she was originally opposed to Byron retiring from golf and becoming a rancher. She reasoned that he knew a lot about golf and nothing about being a rancher. The ranch essentially cost the

Nelsons all they had, but the work to bring it to the comfortable home they enjoyed for many years was worth the effort.

There were a few lean years when Byron found it necessary to pick up his clubs again to help support the ranch. He was able to play some exhibition matches and was successful playing matches in the mornings, followed by luncheons, clinics and dinner speeches. He could still hit some great golf shots, but he did not take it too seriously. When he entered a tournament, he admitted that he was just playing for fun.

Byron's record of 11 PGA victories in a row may never be broken. The 11 wins are not the sum of his golf career, as he is also a top contender in several other categories. He had 54 career victories, twice winning The Masters, twice winning the PGA Championship and one victory in the U.S. Open. While the record he is most remembered for was set in 1945, he claimed 1939 was his best year on the course. That was the year of his U.S. Open victory, among others, and he set a professional scoring record with back-to-back rounds of 65 at the Phoenix Open.

In his later years, Byron regularly attended the golf tournament in the Dallas area that bears his name, along with his second wife of almost 20 years, Peggy. The Byron Nelson Tournament is the first PGA Tour event named in honor of a former player. Players who came off the course after the 18th hole looked forward to a wave or a handshake from him.

His reputation as a gentleman earned him the nickname "Lord Byron." In 2004, the World Golf Hall of Fame honored him with an exhibit called "Byron Nelson: A Champion ... A Gentleman." What a great legacy, regardless of the records. And besides, they are made to be broken, aren't they?

Sources:

- <https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/nelson-john-byron-jr>
- <https://vault.si.com/vault/1979/05/07/good-lord-of-golf-in-those-days-he-was-lord-byron-and-set-records-still-unequaled-then-at-34-byron-nelson-quit-the-game-to-fulfill-an-old-dream>
- <https://thecjcupbyronnelson.org/legacy/>

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Bishop Dr. Eric Tate Martin and Sis. Alice Atchison celebrate at his book signing at the Cedar Hill Rec Center.

Zoomed In: Cain and Carolyn Campbell

By Adam Walker

Carolyn Campbell and her grandson, Cain, had their own little eclipse watch party on the IBOC parking lot. “Cain goes to school in Cedar Hill, but they were out for the day, so he came to work with me,” Carolyn explained. “He thought it was happening too slow and kept asking, ‘Is it going to happen?’ I suggested we lay out in the parking lot, that he could hang out with granny, and we’d be making history together. I guess I was pretty cool that day!”

She streamed the eclipse on Facebook Live. “I should be embarrassed, but I was screaming,” she explained. “It was so exciting! It was fun to witness. We could see the beads. Not to be all cheesy, but it was a breath of fresh air.”



DeSoto PD Officers Green, Fuentes and Woods take a moment to clown in the bluebonnets.



Duncanville's Interim Fire Chief Greg Chase and Assistant City Manager Robert Brown check out Fire Station 271.



Members of DeSoto's Madison, Johnson and Porter families view the eclipse from Waxahachie.



Waterford Oaks Bunny Counselor Ryann Campbell and the school's bearded dragon, Winston, prepare for the Easter festivities.



Donovan Dock of Succeed Forever/The Outlet Thrift Store leads a basketball open gym.



Kertrina Dauway starts early celebrating the big 6-0.



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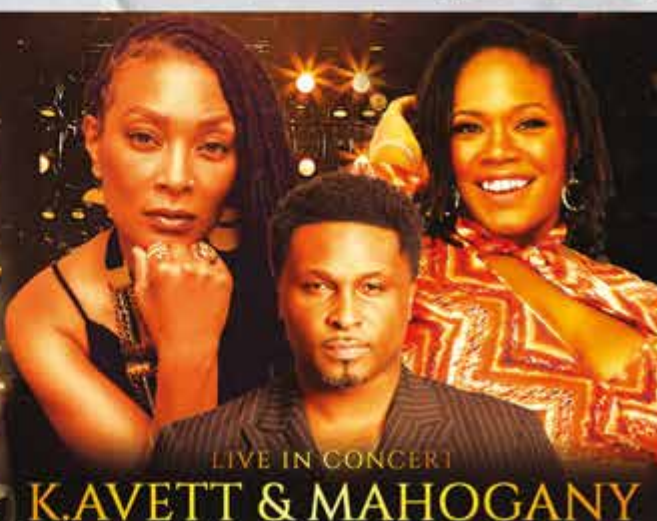
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— By Adam Walker

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Saturday and Sunday: By appointment



Champions Cove is an apartment community for active seniors that has been a part of the Duncanville community since 2003. “We’re a community for people age 55 and over. When you walk through the doors, it’s warm and welcoming. People who come here to visit and check us out say it feels like family,” Manager Kristi Rogers reported. “They tell us that they toured other places and never saw anybody, but here they were greeted by smiles from residents and staff. We have a lot of fun here.”

Champions Cove offers apartments in a number of sizes ranging from 736 square feet to 1,264 square feet. “We have units in various sizes — 1 bedroom, 1 bedroom with a den, 2 bedrooms and 2 bedrooms with a study. They’re much bigger than many of the newer senior living facilities offer,” Kristi explained. “All of them have full kitchens. They’re spacious with nice floor plans and layouts. All of the units are being remodeled with stainless steel appliances, granite countertops and plank flooring. They’re unfurnished, so you can bring your own furniture. They’re open concept with no

hallways, so you can fit a lot more furniture than you'd think. We have valet trash, so you just set it outside your door twice a week to be picked up." They even offer a guest apartment, which visiting friends and relatives can rent for \$75 a night.

Champions Cove offers residents a lot of amenities. "We have a workout room, and a trained instructor comes three times a week to lead chair exercises. We have a theater room with movies and popcorn every Friday. There are two libraries and a puzzle room," she added. "There's a craft room and a game room where we have shuffleboard, cornhole, a pool table, card tables and two big screen TVs. We also have a 24-hour coffee bar and a salon/barbershop. There's also a legal-size horseshoe area outside."

"WE'RE A COMMUNITY FOR PEOPLE AGE 55 AND OVER. WHEN YOU WALK THROUGH THE DOORS, IT'S WARM AND WELCOMING. PEOPLE WHO COME HERE TO VISIT AND CHECK US OUT SAY IT FEELS LIKE FAMILY."

Champions Cove offers a wide variety of activities. "We have Monday and Friday donuts, delivered by Chaplain Curtis, one of our residents, who also leads church services every Sunday. There's a Bible study that is held in our theater room twice a month. We have three monthly events — Happy Hour, with live entertainment, food and adult beverages; Let's Celebrate, for new residents and birthdays; and a monthly themed event, like Mardi Gras or a Motown party. One of our residents is a storyteller who does tellings each month to entertain, and a book club was organized by the residents who enjoy reading. This month, there will be a wedding happening in our clubroom. This couple is 90 and 89 years old!"

Kristi is proud of the community they're continuing to build at Champions Cove. "Residents come here to stay, and they rarely move out unless they need an assisted living environment. People stay busy here. This is a vivacious group of residents 55 and above. They like it here because it's homey. It's like living with one big family!" **NOW**

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CookingNOW
In the Kitchen With
 IMANI JEFFERY-JOHNSON

— By Adam Walker

Imani Jeffery-Johnson grew up in Cedar Hill. She recently graduated from Hilltop Academy, and she loves to cook. “I enjoy cooking because it gives me a sound mind. It helps me focus on my task, instead of everything around me. I am self-taught, but I would love to take lessons. I love watching *Chopped Kitchen* and Ina Garten’s show, *The Barefoot Contessa*. I’m interested in gourmet cooking, and I find a lot of recipes on Pinterest and YouTube. I started cooking when I was around 15 and was able to know what to do if I started a fire! My family influences my cooking. They enjoy what I cook.” She plans to join the U.S. Air Force before going to college to study business and culinary arts. **NOW**

Taco Samosas

- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1/2 onion, diced
- 2 Tbsp. chili powder
- 1 1/2 tsp. paprika
- 2 tsp. cumin powder
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. pepper
- 1/2 tsp. garlic powder
- 1/2 tsp. onion powder
- 1/4 tsp. oregano

- 4 Tbsp. salsa
- 1 block cream cheese
- Shredded cheese, to taste
- Flour tortillas
- 2 Tbsp. flour
- 1 Tbsp. water
- Sour cream, to taste (optional)

1. In a skillet, fry the ground beef and the onions. Add the chili powder, paprika, cumin, salt, pepper, garlic powder, onion powder, oregano and salsa; mix until

well-seasoned. Add the cream cheese and shredded cheese.

2. Stuff the tortillas with the meat and cheese.
3. Combine the flour and water to make a paste. Use the paste to seal the tortillas. Fry the stuffed tortillas in grease until they are light brown in color.
4. Serve with sour cream for a dipping sauce, if desired.

Pineapple Dream Cheesecake

- 2 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1 cup melted butter (divided use)
- 8 oz. cream cheese
- 1/2 cup butter
- 2 cups powdered sugar
- 8 oz. Cool Whip
- 1 20-oz. can crushed pineapple

1. In a bowl, combine the graham cracker crumbs and 1/2 cup of the butter. Press into a pie plate to form a crust.

- In another bowl, add the cream cheese, remaining butter, powdered sugar, Cool Whip and pineapple; mix until smooth.
- Put the filling into the crust; place the pie in the refrigerator for 1 hour, or until the filling is smooth and not runny.

Yumbo Gumbo

- 1 cup flour
- 1 tsp. paprika
- 1 tsp. ground thyme
- 1 tsp. Old Bay Seasoning
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. cayenne pepper
- 2 qts. chicken stock
- 1/2 lb. smoked sausage, sliced
- 1 cup onion, chopped
- 1/2 lb. green peppers, chopped
- 1/2 cup celery, diced
- 1 cup water
- 1 lb. boneless chicken breast
- 1 lb. peeled shrimp
- 4 all-beef weiners, cut into 1/2-inch pieces

- In a baking pan, mix together the flour, paprika, thyme, Old Bay Seasoning, salt and cayenne pepper. Toast the spices in the oven at 350 F until browned; set aside.
- In a large pot on high heat, add the chicken stock, smoked sausage, onions, bell peppers and celery. Bring to a boil. Reduce the heat; simmer for about 15 minutes.
- Combine the toasted spice mixture with 1 cup water to make a paste. Slowly add the paste to the stock.
- Add the chicken, shrimp and weiners. Simmer for another 15 minutes, until fork tender.

Country Style Beef Ribs

- 1 tsp. garlic powder
- 1/2 tsp. black pepper
- 2 Tbsp. brown sugar
- 2 tsp. chili powder
- 1 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 1/2 tsp. cumin powder
- 4 lbs. beef ribs
- 1 cup barbecue sauce
- 2 Tbsp. apple cider vinegar
- 2 Tbsp. water

- Preheat the oven or grill to 400 F.
- In a bowl, combine the garlic powder, pepper, brown sugar, chili powder, salt and cumin.
- Wash the ribs; pat them dry. Rub the ribs all over with the spice mixture, until well coated.
- In another bowl, combine the barbecue sauce, vinegar and water.
- Place the ribs in a pan. Coat the ribs with the sauce.
- Cook the ribs for approximately 2 hours.

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Taco Samosas

3 cups flour
1 tsp. baking powder
1/4 tsp. salt

- 1.** Preheat the oven to 300 F. Grease and flour a loaf pan.
- 2.** In a bowl, cream together the butter and sugar, until light and fluffy. Add the eggs, one at a time, beating after each addition.
- 3.** Add the vanilla, lemon juice, lemon zest, buttermilk and sour cream; combine thoroughly.
- 4.** In a separate bowl, combine the flour, baking powder and salt.
- 5.** Add the dry ingredients to the wet ingredients, a little at a time, until all are combined, and the batter is smooth.
- 6.** Spoon the batter into the loaf pan, and smooth it out. Bake for 60 to 70 minutes, until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out mostly clean.

Cranberry Salsa

1 cup whole cranberries
14 Thai chilis
4 cloves garlic
2 Tbsp. orange zest
Juice of 1 orange
1/2 cup brown sugar
2 tsp. lime juice (optional)

- 1.** Add the cranberries, chilis and garlic to a pan. Cover with water; boil until soft. Strain the cranberry mixture and crush.
- 2.** Add the orange zest; return to medium heat. Strain again.

- 3.** Add the orange juice and brown sugar; mix them in. Continue cooking on low heat until the sugar caramelizes.
- 4.** Finish with lime juice, if using.

Italian Lemon Pound Cake

1 cup soft unsalted butter
2 cups sugar
3 eggs
1 tsp. vanilla
4 tsp. lemon juice
Zest of 2 lemons
2 cups buttermilk
1/2 cup sour cream

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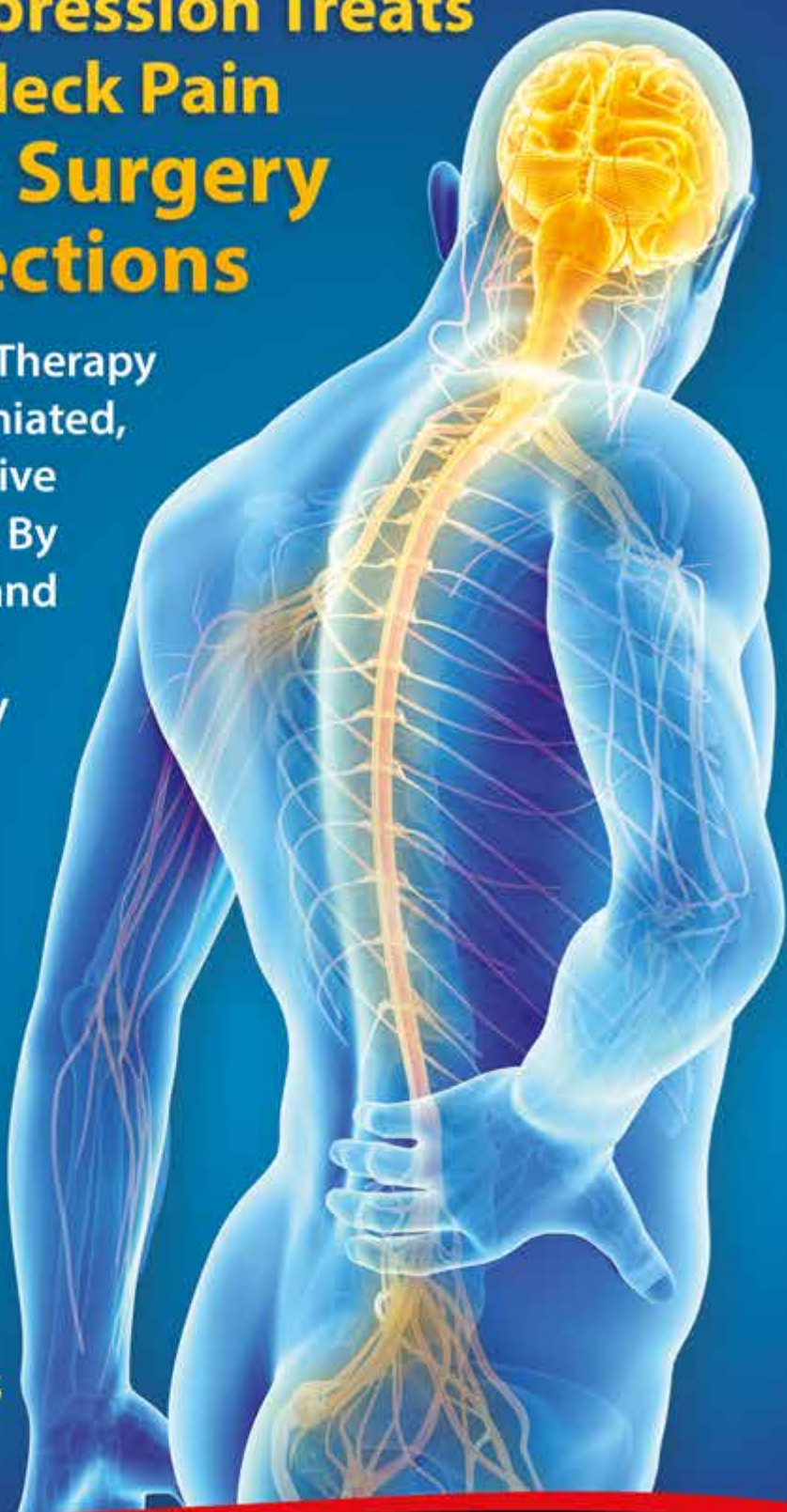


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Dip Your TOES in the sand

— By Amber D. Browne

On the coast of Alabama sits a 32-mile stretch of white sand beaches that entices visitors to frolic in the Gulf of Mexico. Children build castles or toss the football, and parents relax in the sun, slathered in sunscreen, of course, as they take in all that Alabama Beaches — the twin cities of Gulf Shores and Orange Beach — have to offer.

Alabama Beaches are about a 10 1/2-hour drive southeast from the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. With 15 public beaches from Gulf Shores east along Alabama Highway 182 to Orange Beach, beachgoers have much to explore. Temporary vacation accommodations are offered at a variety of hotels, condos and houses along both sides

of the highway. Caribe Resort is a popular travel destination in Orange Beach. The resort features an on-site restaurant, several pools, beach trolley service and access to a marina.

Best Western Premier – The Tides Hotel is an affordable alternative. Best Western Premier offers typical room options, plus a double queen room with two bunk beds for the youngsters and suites. The outdoor pool on the lower level includes a bar for cocktails and beer for adults, or fruit smoothies for the children. With beach access and available chairs and umbrellas for rent, it is easy to spend most of your time on the beach near the hotel.

Swimmers might catch a glimpse of various species of marine life in the clear Gulf waters. Seasonal lifeguards keep a watchful eye to aid in emergency situations. For a view from outside the water, dolphin tours, parasailing, offshore fishing and even an Orange Beach Pirate Cruise can be booked for some fun out on the Gulf.

Orange Beach offers a variety of dining options from

The Gulf, with offerings of American fare near Perdido Pass, to Coastal and its menu of seafood, sandwiches and more, plus creative cocktails. Whatever restaurant is on the agenda, try the gumbo (if available) and try to make a reservation. For dessert, Kayden's Candy Factory is a must-try, but several ice cream and dessert shops offer tasty treats in the area.

Orange Beach's retail shops are open for all your vacation necessities and souvenirs. For an afternoon of entertainment, vacationers can visit Adventure Island for go-karts, golf, arcades and more. At Gulf State Park, visitors can spend their days swimming, hiking, biking and simply enjoying time in nature. Anglers can catch a big one at area fishing spots, including the Gulf State Park Pier, which is expected to reopen this summer following renovations for damage caused during Hurricane Sally in 2020. The state park offers a variety of camping and lodging options, as well.

Just a short drive north sits The Wharf, where visitors can spend hours shopping retail stores, enjoying entertainment and feasting at waterfront restaurants along Portage Creek. Go for a spin on the Ferris Wheel, view the nightly SPECTRA Laser Light Experience or catch a concert at The Wharf Amphitheater. Hotel accommodations are available at The Wharf, and The Wharf Marina provides access to guests joining by land, air or sea.

Several miles west of Orange Beach, vacationers will find Gulf Shores, where more white sand beaches await to tempt them into the warm waters. Gulf Shores offers even more dining, nightlife, entertainment and shopping options.

Regardless of where you choose to dip your toes in the sand at Alabama Beaches, much fun is to be had and fresh seafood to be shared with family and friends. The peak season includes the summer months, so if Alabama is on your mind, make those reservations soon. **NOW**

Sources:

1. gulfshores.com.
2. cariberesort.com.
3. alwharf.com.
4. alapark.com/parks/gulf-state-park.

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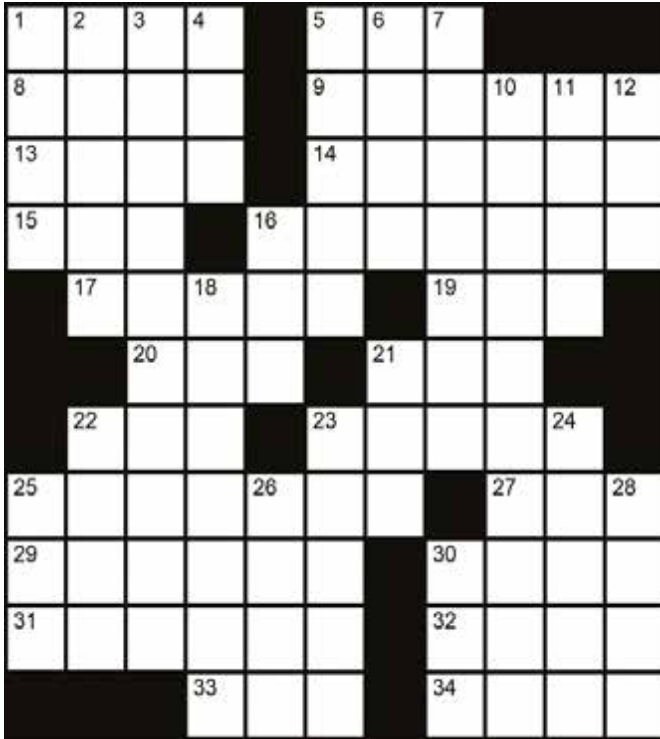
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Crossword Puzzle



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Across

- 1 Diamond element?
- 5 Norm, briefly
- 8 October's birthstone
- 9 Puncture
- 13 Goose cry
- 14 Tip off
- 15 Piece
- 16 "And Still I Rise" poet
- 17 Luxurious
- 19 Kind of deal in the 1930s
- 20 Open mesh fabric
- 21 Cleo's nemesis
- 22 "--- Degrees of Separation"
- 23 Live
- 25 Heal
- 27 Big ISP
- 29 Apparel
- 30 The nasty half of R L Stevenson's split personality
- 31 Muse of comedy a hit, L A resolved
- 32 Start of something big?
- 33 E M Forster's "Howards ---"
- 34 German-Polish border river

Down

- 1 Atomic physicist Niels ---
- 2 "... --- player, that struts and frets his hour upon the stage ..." (Shakespeare, "Macbeth")
- 3 Nicaraguan politico
- 4 Large deer
- 5 Like a porcupine
- 6 Sound of a small bell
- 7 Resistance against attack
- 10 Deploy Earl badly on stage, perhaps?
- 11 Humiliating meal?
- 12 It'll never get off the ground in Australia
- 16 AIDS fighter
- 18 Cloth
- 21 Amazement
- 22 Adam and Eve's third
- 23 Overpowering fear
- 24 Skier's shelter
- 25 First animal in the Chinese Zodiac
- 26 "Little Shop of Horrors" dentist --- Scrivello
- 28 Shakespeare character "more sinned against than sinning"
- 30 Medical insurer

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Sudoku Puzzle

Easy

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

Medium

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

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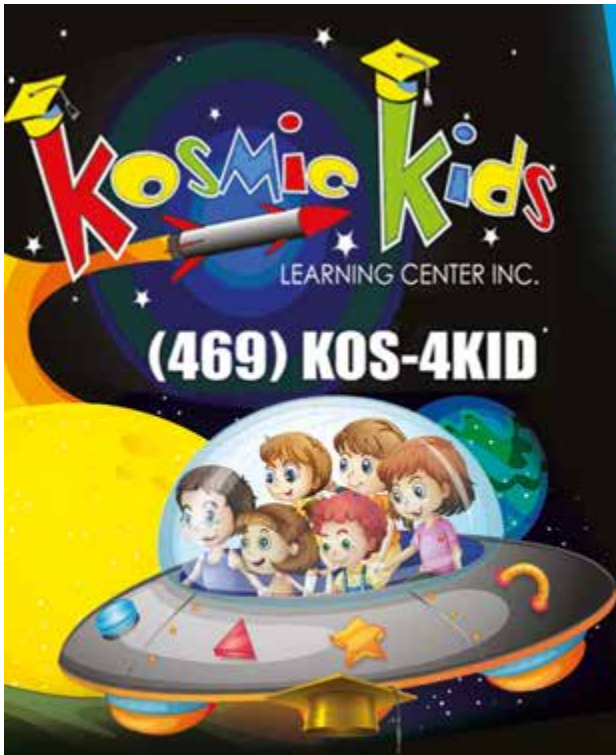
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HAPPY Mother's Day

MAY

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.

5/3

Fire Station 271 Grand Opening:

Tour the newest fire station.
1:45-4:00 p.m., 308 W. Camp
Wisdom Rd., Duncanville.

Cinco de Mayo:

Enjoy ballet folklórico, food
and fun. Free. 6:30-8:30 p.m.,
Traphene Hickman Library,
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Cinco de Mayo:

Celebrate with the Elks Lodge.
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5/4

Worldwide Labyrinth Walk Day:

Prayer walk the labyrinth to
create world peace. Free.
1:00-2:30 p.m., Trinity UMC,
1302 S. Clark Rd., Duncanville.

May the Fourth Be With You:

Come celebrate *Star Wars* and
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2:00-4:00 p.m., Duncanville
Library, 201 James Collins Blvd.

Mother and Son Dance:

All Star Tennis Shoe Ball. See
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tickets and pricing. 6:30-9:30
p.m., DeSoto Civic Center,
211 E. Pleasant Run Rd.

5/6

Rummage Sale:

Buy antiques and other

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Cedar Hill Museum of History.
9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.,
409 Texas St.,
Cedar Hill.

5/17

Parade of Hats Tea Party:

Indulge in elegance,
camaraderie and flavor.
10:00-11:00 a.m.,
Senior Activity Center,
204 Lion St., DeSoto.

5/18

Head for the Hills Rally:

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Village, W. FM 1382,
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5/25

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5/27

Memorial Day Ceremony:

Come honor those who
gave all. 10:00 a.m.-noon,
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*Submissions are welcome and
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SouthwestNOW Scavenger Hunt



 Find 5 hidden Graduation Hats 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 **Scavenger Hunt Email** scavenger.swn@nowmagazines.com

One entry per person.

..... **WIN!**

\$50 Cash Prize
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Winner must pick up prize within 30 days of drawing.

Lanterns were found on pages 15, 27, 32, 35 & 37.

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Serenity Advanced Dentistry

If you are an adult who is afraid of going to the dentist, or even just a little extra anxious, Serenity Advanced Dentistry may be just what you are looking for. “We do a lot of sedation dentistry, mostly for adults,” Dr. Allala explained. “It’s kind of my niche. Many adults may have some pretty serious anxiety about going to the dentist. They may not even seek care. They’d rather be in pain. I provide a place to take care of these people. When patients elect to get treatment, we lower the statistics of people living in pain. I like being able to contribute to improving people’s lives.”

“Coincidentally, a lot of people who are anxious about going to the dentist are also people who don’t have good insurance. That’s a bad combination. I have membership plans for patients without insurance, and really good discounts on implants and dentures. A membership might not be necessary if you only need one simple procedure, but if you need sedation and a lot of work, it really pays for itself.”

Dr. Allala is a graduate of the Texas A&M School of Dentistry. “When I started there, it was still Baylor. My diploma has both names on it,” she recalled. “I specialize in oral surgery, and we’re really good at it. I’m nothing without my team. We do everything in dentistry. I like being well rounded. I enjoy being an overachiever, so I’m constantly taking continuing education, keeping up with all the

newest techniques and technology. I’m also a native Spanish speaker. I grew up speaking both languages. Our YouTube videos explaining procedures are available in both English and Spanish.”

Dr. Allala is proud of the service they provide at Serenity Advanced Dentistry. “I think we give five-star service. And I know my staff is five-star. We know what works and what doesn’t. I know it sounds corny, but this is my life’s work. Most of my staff have been with me for years, at different locations around DFW, before I came to Cedar Hill. I met Mariela seven years ago, in Pleasant Grove. It was my first job out of school. Racine has been with me four years, and Jazmine three years, both in Red Oak. Our newest team member is Jessica. She found us three months ago when she emailed me looking for an opportunity to shadow a dentist.”

“I LIKE BEING WELL ROUNDED. I ENJOY BEING AN OVERACHIEVER, SO I’M CONSTANTLY TAKING CONTINUING EDUCATION, KEEPING UP WITH ALL THE NEWEST TECHNIQUES AND TECHNOLOGY.”

Serenity Advanced Dentistry has all the newest technology to make your experience convenient. “We have hospital-grade blood pressure machines, so we can do sedation. We also have intraoral scanners, so I can see inside your mouth, from every angle, before I ever go in for your procedure. We print dentures and place implants right here in the office. With our skills and strategies, most patients don’t even feel our injections. We have TVs in every room to keep you entertained while we work. It’s all about efficiency — working smarter, not harder. That’s why I designed the floor plan of the office myself. And we’re really big on sanitation and sterilization. It’s important to maintain a sterile environment, which is why we’re closed every Friday for deep cleaning the office and training.”



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Dr. Cristina Allala
605 E. Belt Line Rd., Suite 101, Cedar Hill

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