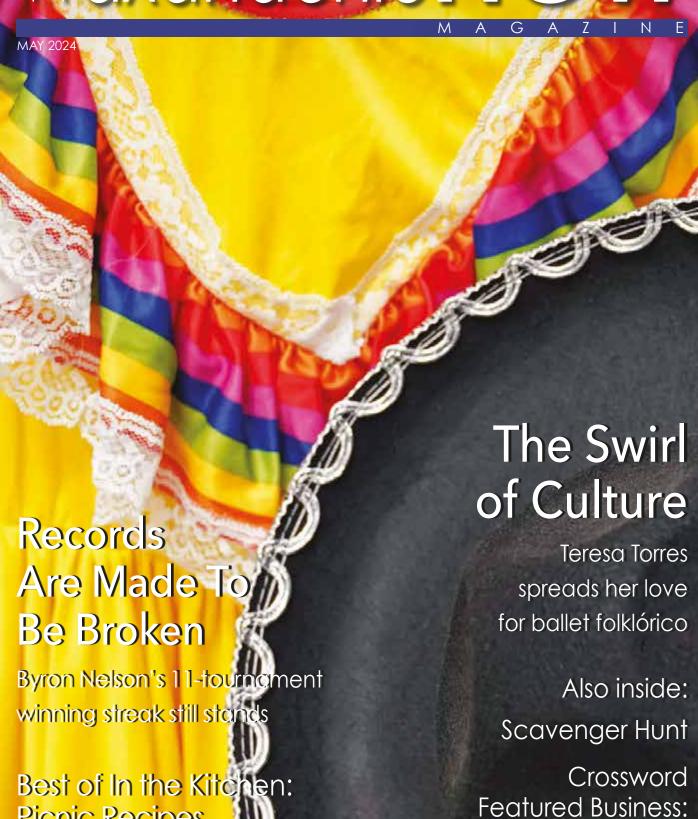
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Picnic Recipes



Dr. Alan M Taylor II

Martha, Midlothian, TX

For much of my adult life, I fluctuated with my weight. I'm 5-foot 2, and at my heaviest, I weighed 198 pounds. I used various fad diets to shed some of it off, but it always came back. I started my journey with Diet Solution in February, of 2023. What I discovered was I needed accountability. The best thing about Diet Solution Centers is that I've kept the weight off. I am on the maintenance plan and still losing pounds. This is not a short time diet program. It is a long-term lifestyle.



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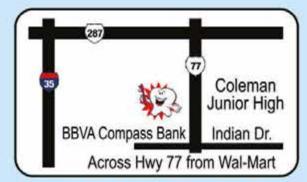
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ON THE COVER



Colorful culture thrives at Dunaway Elementary School.

Photo by Shane Kirkpatrick.

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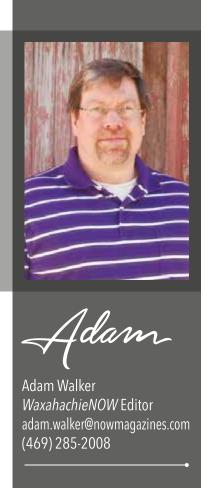
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EDITOR'S NOTE

It's Mother's Day ...

Everyone has a mother. Some people have several. They have incredible influence on our lives. Maybe that's why literature and art are filled with representations of mothers.

One of the most famous paintings in American art has to be *Arrangement in Grey and Black No. 1.* You may be thinking, *That's famous? I never heard of it.* You probably know it under another name, *Whistler's Mother.* It's a simple painting of James Whistler's mother, dressed all in black and sitting in profile. His mother, Anna, was 67 when she sat for the painting over 150 years ago. That image has been used on postage stamps, Army recruitment posters and parodies in cartoons. There's something universal about it, and everyone has intense feelings about their mothers.

Movies and TV are filled with depictions of mothers. There are good mothers, bad mothers, confused mothers, struggling mothers and mothers who are the only one holding their families together.

Forrest Gump depended on his mother's wisdom even after she was gone, and left pop culture with some unforgettable quotes, "My mama always said, 'Life is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're gonna get." She also taught him that, "Stupid is as stupid does." And, "You have to do the best with what God gave you."

Mothering is a huge job. It takes a lot of courage and strength. Take some time to really honor the women who raised you. Whether biological, adoptive, foster, grand or the woman who was just there for you. They are all worthy of respect for protecting, raising and teaching you.

Show them some love!



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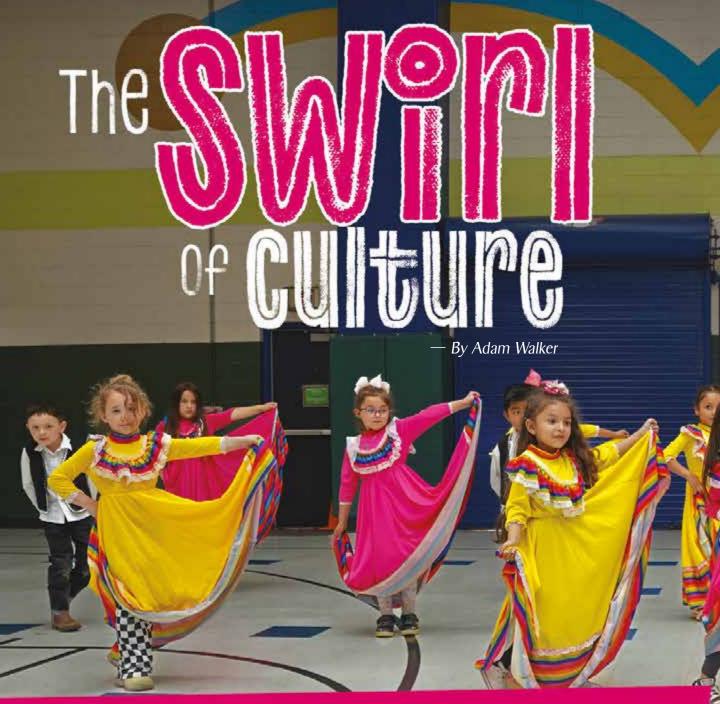






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Ballet folklórico is the athletic and vibrant folk dance of Mexico. Every state has its own unique dances and costuming. Some of the dances are even unique to a region within a state. Maybe you've seen the swirl of rainbow-colored skirts and gallantly clad gentlemen performing on TV or at the State Fair of Texas, but you might not know this cultural art form is thriving right here in Waxahachie.

Teresa Torres is a teacher at Dunaway Elementary School, one of WISD's dual language campuses. "This school became a bilingual school I3 years ago and a dual language campus I0 years ago," she explained. Dual language education has the goal of every student graduating bilingual — Spanish speakers learn English, while English speakers learn Spanish. So it was only right that culture should cross over as well. "It's very significant to expose children to all cultures. This is an art form expressed through dancing. It includes the music, costumes, makeup and flowers. The songs tell stories, as do the costumes, which are different for different dances. So it's also storytelling by dancing and singing."

This after-school club has been going and growing for some time now. "We started seven years ago when two classes got together. ECHO, the Ellis County Hispanic Organization, invited us to come dance for their Cinco de Mayo celebration, so some of the kindergarten and first grade students went to represent the school," she remembered. "We've grown from there. The following year, more classes wanted to join in. Three years ago, we opened it up to the whole school, and now we have about 80 students in the after-school club. All of the students from kindergarten to fifth grade can participate. They just need their parents' permission. At first, it was just the bilingual students, but last year, we had more students opt in from the general population students than from the bilingual students!"



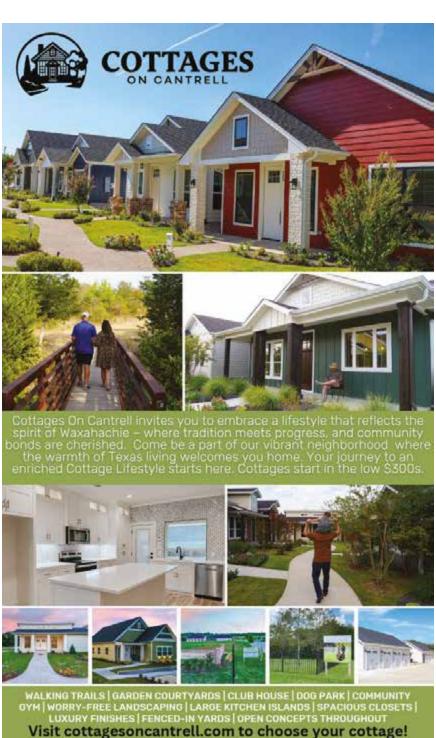












Crossing cultures can be intimidating, or it can be fun. "I wanted to introduce Hispanic culture through this club, so the rest of the students could understand. When we show our culture through music and dance, they love it," Teresa enthused. "It's new and pretty and fun. Kids like to dance. It's significant to me because it's an opportunity to share knowledge about different states in Mexico and pay homage to our culture and ancestors. Certain dances are for boys and girls. Others are just for boys or just for girls. If you were judging us and critiquing everything, we might fail. We haven't been able to be very correct with the costuming. We're not professionals. We're just exposing the kids. It would be great to take them on a field trip to Dallas to see the professional ballet folklórico."

As student participation increased, so did teacher participation. "We have 10 teachers helping now. There's no way I can do this by myself!" Teresa said. "The club meets for eight weeks to practice for an hour each time. We learn about the songs and the steps for the dances. Each year ECHO calls us back to perform at the Cinco de Mayo event. They gave us a \$500 donation to help us buy more costumes, hats and instruments."

As their fame has spread, the folklórico dancers from Dunaway have received other invitations to dance. "Last year, one of the funeral homes asked us to come dance for the Day of the Dead, to honor our ancestors. And, of course, we always do a program here at Dunaway close





to May 10, which is Mother's Day in Mexico. All the students' mothers and grandmothers and the rest of the families come to see their students dance. Especially with the kinder students, it's all about looking cute. The dancers really get into their costumes. Some of the parents go all out with the dresses and hair and makeup. They're so excited, they don't even look at their feet!"

Some of the older students take it more seriously. "You see them up there, having ownership. They have such confidence," Teresa shared. "They look like mini professionals, and the general population students are really taking a risk, but they love it. Maybe some of these students will grow up to dance ballet folklórico professionally. Who knows?"

Each age group of students learns two dances to perform. The club is divided into four groups: kindergarten, first-second grades, third grade and fourth-fifth grades. This year, some of the dances they are learning include Los Machetes (with sticks only!), La Raspa, La Vibora del la Mar, El Toro Mambo, Son de la Negra, Jarabe Tapatío, China Poblana and Baila Esta Cumbia by the Kumbia Kings. The students from Dunaway will be performing at the Coleman Junior High Fine Arts Center on May 2 and at the communitywide Cinco de Mayo event in downtown Waxahachie on May 4. There will be swirling skirts and stamping feet and plenty of enthusiasm on stage. These kids are learning to dance back and forth across cultural lines and celebrating the fabric of local culture. NOW



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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 II 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?

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Around Town



Johnny Edward Campbell III a secondgrader at Felty Elementary, and mom, Leporsche Campbell, celebrate Pi Day.

Bonnie and Mark Walker take their grandchildren, Otto and Lylelynn, to the carnival.

Zoomed In:

By Adam Walker

Christopher and Jessica Chambliss

Jessica Chambliss, a teacher at Howard Junior High School; her son, Christopher, a freshman; and Frank, the family dog, were among the crowd at Railway Park to view the eclipse. "It's a fun family time," Jessica explained. "We get to see something you don't get to see every day. It is a way to make some memories together. It's Frank's first outing. He's 3 years old, but we got him a month ago. He's a rescue, and he'd been really sick with that respiratory thing that was in the news." Frank wasn't exactly thrilled about trying on the glasses but seemed thrilled to be with family for the big event. Even when Jessica and Christopher joined the crowd, cheering for totality, Frank took it in stride.



Daizjia Bluitt of Life High School Waxahachie helps Life School Red Oak student Eliana Cuellar with math.



Kalise Lowe explains the eclipse to her family, using what she learned from Mrs. Deny at Shackelford Elementary.



Joshua Moore helps Stand for the Silent in their efforts to end bullying and raise suicide awareness.



Elias Carreon and Jen Graf celebrate the eclipse at the Sims Library children's event with Sun Chips and Moon Pies.



Sania Arnold greets guests at the soft opening of Scorez Sports Grill.













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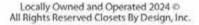
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Options Plumbing, a trusted presence in Ellis County since 2022, recently extended its reach with a new office in Waxahachie. Spearheaded by experienced plumber, Don Hill, the company has built a solid reputation for excellence throughout the years.

Specializing in residential and light commercial plumbing repairs and renovations, Options Plumbing operates as a fully licensed and insured entity. Don stresses their dedication to resolving an array of issues, spanning from water and gas to sewer problems. Noteworthy is their increasing focus on installing home water filtration systems, a project driven by their passion to educate homeowners on the manifold benefits for skin, hair, laundry and culinary pursuits.

What sets Options Plumbing apart is not only their professional prowess but also their familial ambience. With Don; his wife, Rebecca; and their extended family at the helm, the company radiates a sense of belonging and continuity, underpinning their enduring vision.

Beyond their core services, Options Plumbing actively engages in community endeavors across Ellis County. From sponsoring local sports teams to partaking in events like the Waxahachie Fourth of July parade, they infuse a spirit of fun and community spirit, evident in whimsical touches like bathtub floats and rubber duckies.

When queried about the expansion into Waxahachie, Don underscores the company's commitment to expansion and broadening their service reach. Moreover, he highlights their steadfast dedication to offering transparent pricing and multiple solutions to clients, ensuring each customer receives equitable and honest treatment.

They are dedicated to resolving an array of issues, spanning from water and gas to sewer problems. **Noteworthy** is their increasing focus on installing home water filtration systems.

In addition to their professional endeavors, Options Plumbing understands the significance of preserving historical fixtures within homes. With their expertise, they adeptly work on these fixtures, maintaining the historical essence of each home while addressing modern plumbing needs.

While accolades like being voted 2023's "Best Plumber in Ellis County" underscore their achievements, Don attributes their success to their faith, their loyal customers and their unwavering commitment to integrity and value. NOW







Ready for a fun, summer day at the park? Nothing makes time spent in the great outdoors better than great food! If you'd like to add something new to your picnic basket, here are a few ideas to help you change up your menu. We have selected one recipe from each of our nine market areas. Bon appétit! NOW

Avocado Tomato Salad

Provided by Linda Cross for the April 2017 issue of CorsicanaNOW Magazine.

Salad:

- I avocado, cut into chunks
- 2 tomatoes, cut into chunks
- I cucumber, sliced

Tequila Lime Vinaigrette:

- 2 tsp. tequila
- 3 Tbsp. olive oil
- 1 Tbsp. lime juice
- I tsp. herb spice salad dressing

- **1.** For salad: Toss ingredients together well.
- **2.** For vinaigrette: Mix ingredients together well; drizzle over salad.

Sweet and Spicy Turkey, Apple and Cheese Sandwiches

Provided by Rachel Grossman for the April 2018 issue of *MansfieldNOW Magazine*.

- 4 large croissants
- 1 5-oz. pkg. Alouette Crème de Brie
- 1 4-oz. pkg. Montchevre Herb Goat Cheese
- 1 10-oz. jar Tabasco Spicy Pepper Jelly

- 1 12-oz. jar Smucker's Red Raspberry Preserves
- 8 slices deli turkey meat
- 2 Granny Smith apples, thinly sliced
- **1.** Slice open croissants, evenly down the middle.
- **2.** Add a thick layer of brie and goat cheese to half of a croissant.
- **3.** To the other croissant half, add a thick layer of the jalapeño and raspberry jams.
- **4.** Place two turkey slices on each croissant half and several slices of apple to cover the turkey; bring the halves together. Repeat steps for each croissant.

Baked Beans

Provided by Marci Richardson for the April 2017 issue of *WeatherfordNOW Magazine*.

I onion, chopped I bell pepper, chopped Small amount of oil

- 2 15-oz. cans pork and beans
- 3 Tbsp. maple syrup
- 4 Tbsp. brown sugar
- 1/2 cup ketchup
- 1 14.5-oz. can diced tomatoes
- 1. Preheat oven to 350 F.
- **2.** Sauté onion and bell pepper in oil; add all other ingredients.
- **3.** Pour into a baking dish and bake for 1 hour.

Nana's Deviled Eggs

Provided by Ashleigh Domkowski for the April 2019 issue of *WaxahachieNOW Magazine*.

12 hard-boiled eggs Mayonnaise, to taste Sweet relish, to taste Paprika, to taste

1. Peel shells from the eggs. Cut eggs in half; scoop out the yokes. Put yokes in a bowl.

2. Add mayonnaise and relish to the yolks, making sure to mix slowly; taste often before replacing the mixture back into the egg white halves. Sprinkle with paprika.

Chicken Fingers

Provided by Jan Mulholland for the May 2017 issue of *BurlesonNOW Magazine*.

1/2 tsp. sea salt

3/4 tsp. paprika

1/4 tsp. coriander

1/4 tsp. cumin

1/2 cup almond meal

I egg, beaten

1 lb. skinless chicken breast, cut into strips

- **1.** Preheat oven to 425 F. Line a 9x13-inch baking dish with parchment paper.
- **2.** Combine seasonings with almond meal on a plate. Put the egg in a shallow bowl. Dip the chicken strips in the egg first, and then in the dry mixture.
- **3.** Place the coated strips in the baking dish. Bake for 15-18 minutes, turning them halfway through.

Chicken Salad

Provided by Kathy Chaney-Padak for the May 2019 issue of North Ellis Co.NOW Magazine.

3-6 boneless chicken breasts Water to cover chicken

I tsp. poultry seasoning

I tsp. salt

1 tsp. pepper

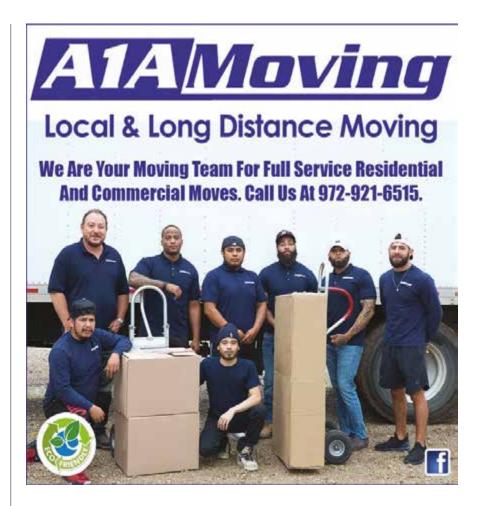
2 bay leaves

1/2 to 1 onion, finely chopped

2-3 stalks celery, finely chopped

1 1/2 to 2 1/2 cups red seedless grapes, halved

1-2 apples (Gala or Honeycrisp), chopped small





2-3 cups mayonnaise Additional salt and pepper, to taste (optional)

- **1.** Boil chicken, poultry seasoning, salt, pepper and bay leaves for 1-2 hours, until the chicken shreds easily. Remove chicken from water; shred and cool for about 15 minutes.
- **2.** Add all remaining ingredients, adjusting amounts depending on how many chicken breasts are used. Chill before serving.

Honey Bun Cake

Provided by Kimberly Bell for the May 2019 issue of *SouthwestNOW Magazine*.

Cake:

- 1 box Duncan Hines Yellow Cake Mix 3/4 cup vegetable oil
- 4 eggs, room temperature
- I tsp. vanilla, or more to taste
- 1 8-oz. pkg. sour cream
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 3 tsp. cinnamon

Icing

- 2 cups powdered sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 4 Tbsp. milk
- **I.** For cake: Mix first 5 ingredients together; pour into a greased baking pan.

- **2.** In a separate bowl, combine brown sugar and cinnamon. Sprinkle the mixture over the cake batter; twirl with a fork. Bake at 325 F for 40 minutes.
- **3.** For icing: Mix sugar, vanilla and milk; pour over hot cake.

Red, White and Blue Salad

Provided by Mariah Marshall for the July 2018 issue of *EnnisNOW Magazine*.

Blueberries, to taste Strawberries, to taste Bananas, to taste

1. Place blueberries, chopped or sliced strawberries and chopped or sliced bananas in a large bowl and mix together.

Mandarin Orange Salad

Provided by Vera Wofford for the May 2016 issue of *MidlothianNOW Magazine*.

Salad:

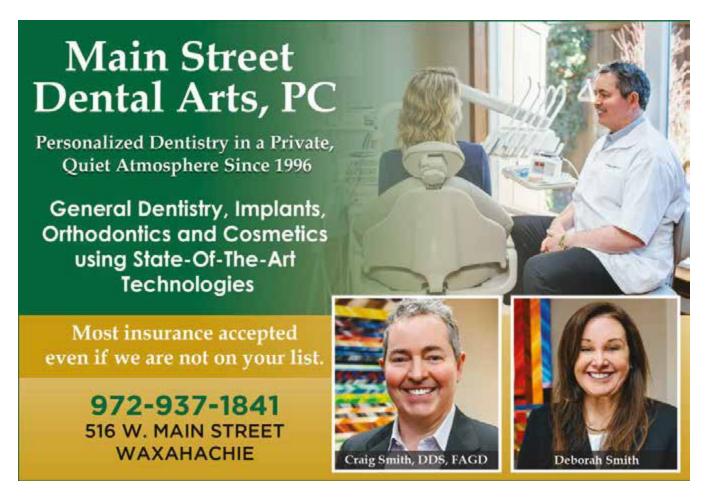
- 1/2 head lettuce, chopped
- I cup celery, chopped
- 1 Tbsp. minced parsley
- 2 green onions and tops, thinly sliced
- 1 11-oz. can mandarin oranges, drained

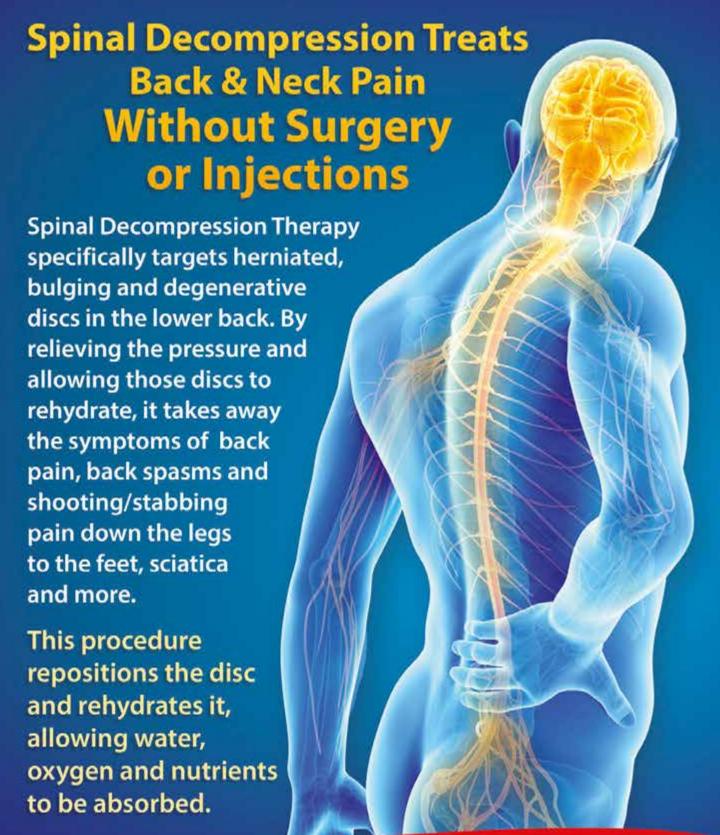
Dressing:

1/2 tsp. salt

- 2 Tbsp. rice wine vinegar 2 Tbsp. sugar 1/4 cup oil 1/4 tsp. Tabasco sauce Dash pepper
 - **1.** For salad: In a large mixing bowl, toss all ingredients together.
 - **2.** For dressing: Mix together all dressing ingredients in a jar with a tight-fitting lid. Shake well before using.







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"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 comy, 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 lazmine three years, both in Red Oak. Our newest team member is lessica. She found us three months ago when she emailed me looking for an opportunity to shadow a dentist."

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theserenitydentist.com | 972-634-1434 Dr. Cristina Allala 605 E. Belt Line Rd., Suite 101, Cedar Hill

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Crossword Puzzle

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Crosswordsite.com Ltd

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
- 33 E M Forster's 6 Sound of a "Howards ---" small bell
- 34 German-Polish 7 Resistance border river 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 Homors* dentist ---Scrivello
- 28 Shakespeare character "more sinned against than sinning*
- 30 Medical insurer

Online versions and solutions available at www.nowmagazines.com. From our Homepage, click on the Crossword-Sudoku tab. Click on a puzzle. Click on the See All button to view solutions.





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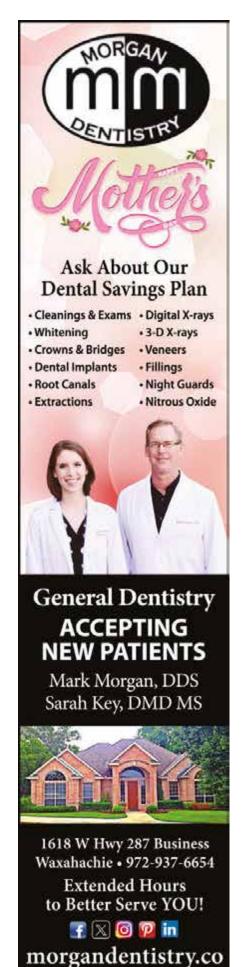


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5/1-5/27

Scarborough Renaissance Festival: 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., 2511 FM 66.

5/4

Cinco de Mayo:

Come for the fun, food, vendors, car show, dancing and music. Free. 11:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m., Downtown Waxahachie.

5/4-5/5

The SpongeBob Musical:

Saturday: 7:00 p.m.; Sunday: 2:30 p.m. See waxahachiecommnitytheatre. com for tickets. University Church, 221 Solon Rd.

5/9-5/12

Legally Blonde:

WHS presents this classic comedy. \$10; students and senior citizens: \$7. Thursday-Saturday: 7:00 p.m.; Sunday: 2:00 p.m., 3001 Hwy. 287.

5/10

Author Talk:

Michelle Stimpson will share about her latest book, *Sisters* with a Side of Greens. Free. 5:30 p.m., Sims Library, 515 W. Main St.

5/11

Matt Toletino and the Singapore Slingers: The WSA presents this

fun evening. 7:00 p.m., Getzendaner Park, Chautauqua Auditorium, 300 S. Grand Ave.

5/17-5/18

Texas Tree Climbing Championship:

Friday: Timed events; Saturday: Masters' Challenge for top men and women. Getzendaner Park, 300 S. Grand Ave.

5/18

Strut Your Mutt:

Get some exercise, and raise money for the SPCA. \$35; under 11: free. Registration: 8:00 a.m., Getzendaner Park, 300 S. Grand Ave.

5/27

Memorial Day Luncheon: Noon, VFW Post 3894, 1405 N. I-35 E.

6/1

Mid-Way Regional Airport Pancake Breakfast Fly-in/ Drive-in:

See classic airplanes and helicopters, and hitch a ride! Free entry. Breakfast: \$7; under 8: \$3. 8:00-11:00 a.m., 131 Airport Dr., Midlothian.

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



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these scavenger hunts, and I'm glad I won 50 dollars."



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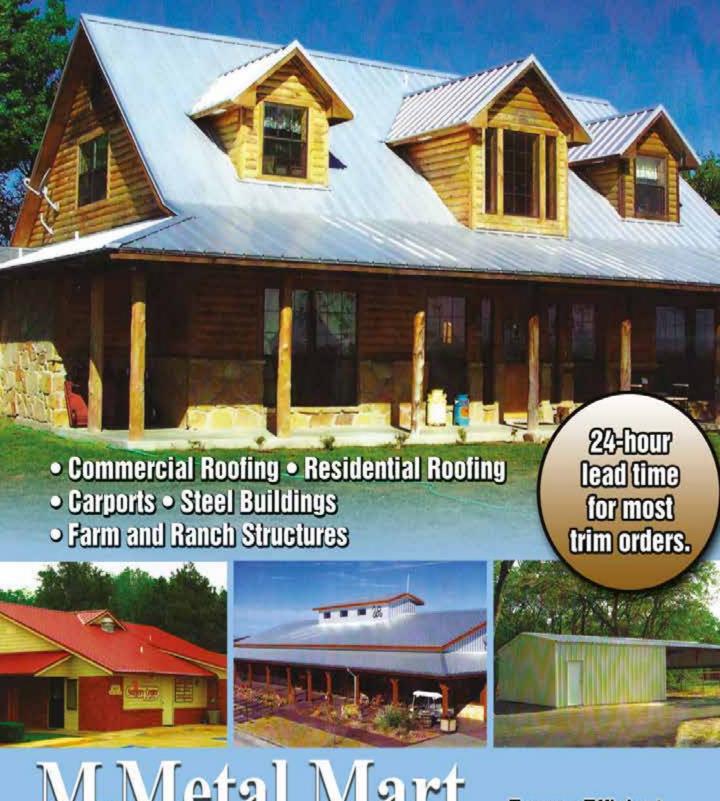
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