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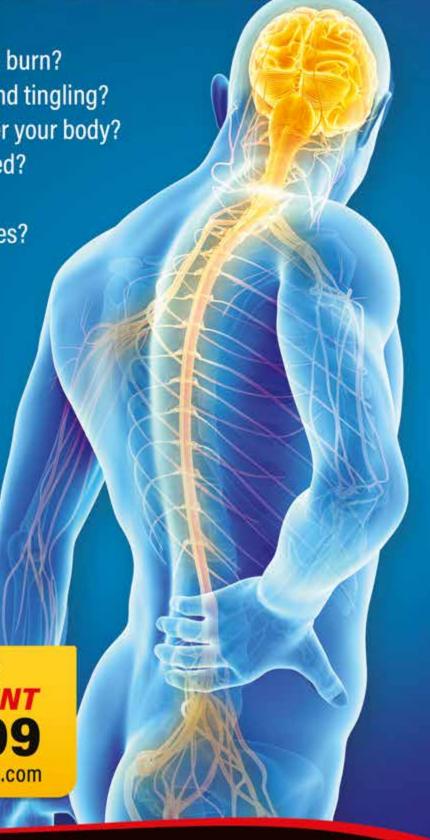
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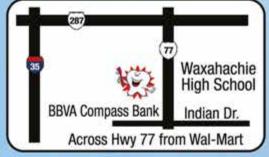
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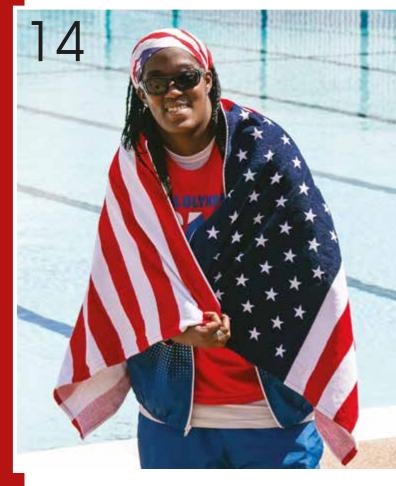
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ON THE COVER

The Pittman family is making precious memories in their beautiful, historic home.

Photo by Kobbi R. Blair.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

The sounds of summer are emerging . . .

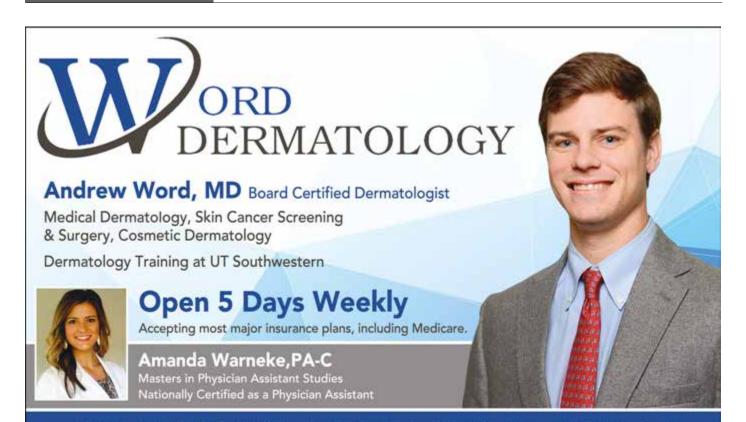
Zap! Pop! Nope — no fireworks yet. The bugs are back, and their sounds remind us that it's only getting hotter. Whether they are flying onto your porch or into your hair, the bugs are here, and here to stay. June bugs will be gracing my front porch for the next few months, so I might as well embrace it.

Having June bugs in your hair and seeing the first mosquito is always disheartening, but I really feel bugs undeservingly get a bad rap. The sound of cicadas in big oak trees will always be the sound of home. You might get a shock from an up-close sighting of these large, tree-dwellers, but they serve a purpose in our ecosystem, while their nostalgic songs bring the comfort of a familiar sound.

So often we think of bugs as pests rather than the beneficial creatures they are. Sure, those mosquitoes can go and go for good, along with the grub worms, but the monarch caterpillars eating up my parsley? They can stay, because one day, those same critters will be pollinating my herb garden and gracing my backyard with their beauty. Last year, the caterpillars were so plentiful on my dill plant, there wasn't much left after they had their share. This year, I have dill naturally growing in my garden, and the caterpillars haven't touched it. Nature has its way of doing things, I guess.

Soon, we will be watching fireflies radiating like stars among the trees, while children gather them to light up mason jars. It's these fascinating moments I live to see.

Happy summer, everyone!



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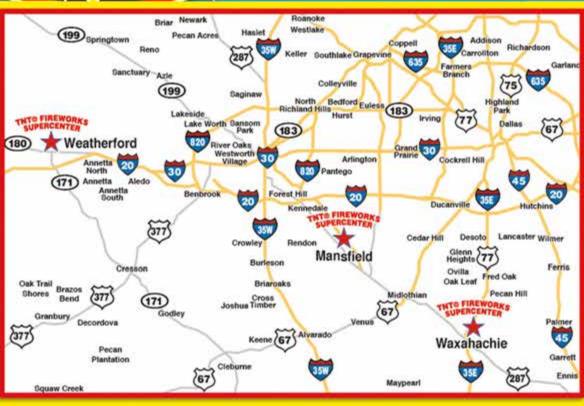
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HISTORYIN

The historic home of the Pittman family welcomes those passing by from behind stunning oak trees and a large wraparound porch cheerfully fashioned with seasonal decor. Though stylishly updated, the home was originally built in 1896 and possesses a rich narration of the past.

Upon entering, you will instantly notice the floor-to-ceiling windows, which give the home an open, airy feel. Family pictures adorn each living space, and it's obvious memories are being made within the walls of this lovely, spacious home. "Welcome to our circus," Tracie Pittman, mother of 4, laughed as she explained how life goes on inside the house.

Tracie and Matt Pittman live in the 4,300-square-foot, Victorian-style home with their two children, 7-year-old Ava and 6-year-old Sam. Their two older boys are currently attending college. Their oldest, Christian, is a senior business major at the University of Alabama, while Blake is currently a junior majoring in acting at Oklahoma City University.

Whether it's taking the kids to school, carrying Ava to gymnastics, or going to visit their son in college, the family stays busy with the bustle of life. "There is always something going on in the house," Tracie said. Entertaining is a big part of their everyday lives, so visitors are in and out frequently.

Ava and Sam make use of all the extra play space and are often found running around the porch when friends come to play. "They shake the whole house when they run out there," Tracie laughed. "I feel like we could have a reality show with all the shenanigans that go on around here."







AT HOME WITH MATT AND TRACIE PITTMAN

THEMAKING

— By Joy Horn







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The 1,800-square-foot porch is a popular place to be, and Tracie spends much of her time there caring for her potted plants and front-yard garden. "She is the crazy plant lady," Matt joked.

It is apparent Matt appreciates all the beauty Tracie brings to the home. She and her friends decorated the house together, and she enjoys adding new decor often to keep things feeling homey and fresh. "I am not afraid to put things together you wouldn't normally think of. I like taking chances and mixing up the old with the new," Tracie explained.

Tracie also likes updating furniture with chalk paint and recovering chairs to add pizazz to living areas. In the dining room, a French farm table from the 1920s is topped with a gorgeous, floral center piece Tracie designed herself. Seasonal decor is also a big part of her style, and she decorates for every holiday, especially Christmas.

Stepping into the backyard you will see a large, professional-looking outdoor kitchen, where Matt hosts barbecue lessons for students from around the world. In 2014, Matt was featured on the BBQ Pitmasters show and received recognition, which led to his current career. He was able to turn his hobby into a business after working in a corporate job for 21 years. Now he's living his dream as CEO and owner of Meat Church.

A comfortable sitting area welcomes visitors to kick back and relax by the beautiful pool the Pittmans had installed. Throughout the inside and outside of





the house you will see modern touches incorporated into the historic feel of the home, though every room contains echoes of the past.

"This is where Mrs. Rudolph sat," Matt pointed out in the dining room. "There was a button under her chair she pushed to call in the maid." Mrs. Rudolph was a wealthy woman who owned the home during the Great Depression when she ran the local funeral parlor.

It is believed the home's front room was a place where bodies were placed before their burial. "We don't believe in ghosts," Matt laughed. "But things have happened here we can't explain."

In the 1920s, the home was listed as The College Inn and temporarily acted as a men's dormitory after a fire on the Trinity University campus. Later, in the 1940s, Trinity sold the campus to SAGU, and Millard E. Collins, who was president of SAGU at the time, purchased the home to serve as his personal residence.

The great live oak in the front yard can be attributed to Millard, as he planted the acorn which originated from Stephen F. Austin's "Treaty Oak." In 1962, the owners prior to the Pittmans purchased the home and spent 17 years meticulously restoring it. They returned the home to its original beauty paying close attention to every detail.

Today, the home is livelier than ever and provides the Pittmans with exactly what they need. When they first laid eyes on the house three years ago, they knew it was perfect for them. "It might sound cheesy," Matt said. "But from the first moment we looked into the kitchen from the window, it was love at first sight."

The home has stood the test of time, and they don't plan on leaving anytime soon. "We want to keep this house in our family," Matt said. The family looks forward to many more years in the beautiful, historic home. NOW



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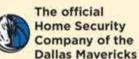
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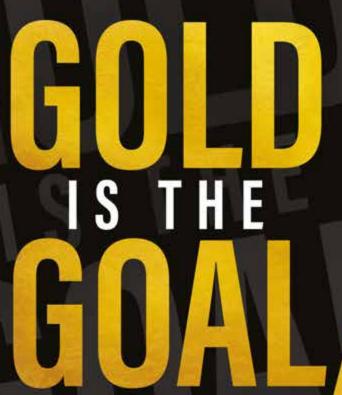


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— By Virginia Riddle

Well-toned muscles pound the water as 2004 Waxahachie High School graduate, Ashton Smith, moves swiftly and efficiently through her lane. Having risen through Special Olympics competition levels, she advanced to the World Games in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates, in March. "Over 200 people went in my group from the United States," she said. "It was so exciting! I just wanted to win and see the sites."

Ashton learned to swim at the Waxahachie YMCA at about age 8 in 1995. She counts Shawn Tate, her instructor, as one of her mentors. "Swimming is such a fun thing to do, and it can save your life," Ashton said. "That's why I started learning to swim, but I never, at that time, thought it would turn into this."

An all-around athlete, Ashton has played football, basketball and run track and field from her high school days until now. But it's swimming that took her to the World Games. She trains daily at the YMCA Fort Worth and after hours at 24 Hour Fitness.

"I do weight lifting and can power bench 250 pounds from the floor and swim four sessions daily in the pool,"













Ashton explained. "I spend three to four hours daily in the water, and I also try to eat as healthy as I can. I must be fast and have endurance, since these are long events."

Ashton, swims on the Special Olympics Sharks Team that works out at the Southlake Carroll ISD Aquatics Center. "James Molenntoff is our coach," Ashton said.

Ashton, along with 20 other athletes and seven coaches/staff members, comprised the USA swim team at the World Games. A gold medal winner in the 100-meter freestyle performance division and 100-meter butterfly high performance division during the Special Olympics USA Games in July 2018, Ashton qualified handily for the USA team at World Games.

Ashton also competed in the 200 IM Relay. "The IM is probably my favorite event, and the butterfly is very hard," Ashton admitted. "The butterfly requires long hours of training in the pool." Ashton's hard work paid off, and she was proud to bring home a silver and bronze medal for the medley and freestyle swimming relays.

As happens with athletes who rise to this level of competition, Ashton has appeared on ESPN and local sports news. She has also been interviewed and featured in several publications. The Special Olympics USA Games and World Games are televised.

With every interview, Ashton expresses a goal. "I want everyone to learn to swim and compete at their highest level possible," she said,

especially targeting the African-American community. "So few African-Americans learn to swim. I want to help prevent future drownings."

Finding time to train at this level has impacted Ashton's life in another way. For a while she was homeless, since her training schedule didn't work well with many employment possibilities. "While homeless, I couldn't train," Ashton recalled. "I was glad I was able to rise up from that life, but it taught me to persevere, overcome my challenges and follow my dreams."

As many amateur athletes discover, financing their sport can be difficult. "Luckily, once I got to the national and world levels of competition, everything I needed was supplied," Ashton explained. "My swimsuits can cost nearly \$500 each."

Ashton has, for a long time, competed with the guys in football, but she currently plays center, tackle and defensive end for the women's pro flag football team, the Arlington Impact. "I can really snap from the center," she said.



Ashton is also a competitor in the 400- and 200-meter relays and javelin in track and field events and has played center in basketball. In her non-athletic moments, Ashton likes the competition of video games.

Her future goals include getting better and faster every day and seeing her teammates swim even better. "Swimming last July at the USA Games in Seattle, Washington, let me see how big Special Olympics is," Ashton said. "I want to become a Global Messenger speaker when I retire from competition."

The Bible is her inspiration, and Ashton wears an ankle bracelet that says, In God, In Peace. "I want to tell others to strive and never give up," Ashton concluded. "You must have a fighting, winning attitude." NOW

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Waxahachie Family Dentistry

— By Joy Horn

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Dr. Scott Clinton, dentist and owner of Waxahachie Family Dentistry, is truly passionate about what he does. "I love what I do. I knew I wanted to be a dentist since the third grade well, I really wanted to be a point guard for the Lakers, but I stuck with what I am good at," he laughed.

Today, Dr. Clinton has had the pleasure of owning his own practice for more than 19 years. He currently practices with two other full-time dentists and one part-time endodontist who specializes in root canal procedures.

When you enter the office, you can expect to be greeted with friendly faces and a comfortable waiting room where complimentary water or coffee is available. Patients will feel right at home in Waxahachie Family Dentistry's welcoming environment. "We try to create a fun atmosphere for our patients, and we feel that one-on-one patient interaction is very important," Dr. Clinton expressed.

One extraordinary aspect of the office is its commitment to community involvement. Waxahachie Family Dentistry provides many beneficial services. "We make mouth guards for the Waxahachie High School football players," Dr. Clinton said.

They also give out scholarship awards to one female student and one male student from the Waxahachie High School Fine

Arts program each year. Eligible students are nominated by program directors.

Additionally, charity services to citizens in need of dental care are provided to the community annually. "We have a big event each year called Dentistry of the Heart, usually the first Saturday in October. We provide fillings, extraction or cleaning for anyone who comes. It is first-come, first-served and a lot of people show up. We have had up to 75 patients at a time, donating as much as \$60,000 in one day," Dr. Clinton explained. They also provide services to Veterans in need during their Veteran's Day Event.

The office is equipped to treat many different patient needs. From dental necessities to surgical procedures, and even sleep apnea treatment. Waxahachie Family Dentistry can do it all. They have expanded the business to include Dental Sleep Medicine of North Texas, which specializes in treating snoring and sleep apnea. "Twenty-five percent of middle-aged adults have sleep apnea, yet only 10 percent of people actually know they have it," Dr. Clinton said.

Some common symptoms of sleep apnea include snoring and excessive daytime sleepiness. "Often it is not the patient, but the patient's spouse who notices there's a problem," Dr. Clinton noted.

If you notice your significant other snoring excessively, they may need to schedule an appointment. Waxahachie Family Dentistry offers different treatment options including an alternative to CPAP, which includes a facial air-pump device worn while sleeping, or other oral appliances to help patients keep their jaws open to prevent snoring. Dental treatment for sleep apnea is considered a medical condition, so medical insurance, including Medicare, may cover it.

Waxahachie Family Dentistry also sees the importance of staying up-todate with the newest technology in the field, so patients receive high-quality care. "That's one reason I became a dentist." Dr. Clinton said. "I like all the high-tech tools. We have the latest technology, so we can provide patients with the best care available." NOW







Around Town



Keenan and Monty McGonagill show off their 1940s Ford Rat Rod that they built from the ground up.



Neil McGinnis and Hollywood enjoy lunch out on a beautiful Sunday afternoon.

Zoomed In: Kara Nielsen

Kara Nielsen and baby girl, Adley Nielsen, love spending afternoons with Marsha Auld, Kara's mom and retired teacher, also known as "Mia." Kara and her husband, Kyle, teach in WISD, so Marsha drives from Tyler each week to stay with the family and care for Adley during the day. Kara and Kyle also have a 2-year-old boy, Knox, who adores playing outside with his Mia after school each day. "I feel very fortunate to have family who can be here to help me," Kara acknowledged. Marsha is happy to help, and she cherishes this precious time they have together. "Just getting to be here to see the grandbaby grow, the interactions between my daughter and grandchildren, to be a part of the family and to help my daughter — that is joy for me," Marsha expressed.



Stephanie and Aiden Jones enjoy a day out shopping together.



By Joy Horn

Captian Jon Wilson, Firefighter Wade Tedder and Driver Engineer Shane Petty stop for a photo at the station.



Haley and Hannah Westbrook show off the four fish they caught with the help of their dad. James Westbrook.



Kaitlyn Hancock handles business with a smile at Waxahachie Nissan.



Vance and Mary Hinds enjoy a refreshing lunch on the patio at Anne's Health Food.



Blake English helps customers looking for treasures at the Red Barn.





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When Karen Emery was 12 years old, she was challenged to cook dinners while babysitting. "I asked if they liked spaghetti. They said, 'No," she shared. "I said, 'Oh, well, you haven't had mine." After calling her older brother for help with spaghetti ingredients, she whipped up the "tastiest spaghetti in Fort Worth. They loved it and never knew I'd never made it in my life!"

Now, many years later, she's excited to make cooking memories with her grandchildren. "We make sugar cookies at Thanksgiving and dance to Christmas music," she said with a smile. "I bought a stool for our first granddaughter to help me in the kitchen. Now, she and her sister fight over who gets to stand on it. I guess it's time to increase my stool supply for more grand helpers!" Now

Cinnamon Rolls

Dough:

- 4 1/2 cups bread flour
- 1 cup warm milk
- 2 eggs, room temperature
- 1/3 cup butter, melted
- 1 Tbsp. salt
- 1/2 cup sugar
- I tsp. vanilla
- 2 1/2 tsp. yeast

Filling:

I cup brown sugar

2 1/2 Tbsp. cinnamon 1/3 cup butter, softened

Frosting:

- 1 3-oz. pkg. cream cheese, softened
- 1/4 cup butter, softened
- 1 1/2 cups powdered sugar
- 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1/8 tsp. salt
- **1.** For dough: Place all ingredients in the pan of a bread machine in the order recommended by the manufacturer. Select dough cycle; press start.

- **2.** After the dough has doubled in size, turn it out onto a lightly floured surface. Cover; let rest for 10 minutes.
- **3.** For filling: In a small bowl, combine brown sugar and cinnamon.
- **4.** Roll dough into a 16x21-inch rectangle. Spread butter on dough; sprinkle evenly with sugar mixture.
- **5.** Roll up dough; cut into 12 rolls. Place rolls in a lightly greased 9x13-inch pan. Cover; let rise until nearly doubled, about 30 printers.
- **6.** Preheat oven to 400 F. Bake rolls until golden brown, about 15 minutes.
- **7.** For frosting: Beat together cream cheese, butter, powdered sugar, vanilla extract and salt. Spread frosting on warm rolls before serving.

Breakfast Quiche

- 1 Pillsbury Pie Crust
- 4 slices jalapeño bacon, crumbled (or 1/2 lb. sausage, browned)
- 4 whole eggs, scrambled
- 1/2 cup half-and-half
- 1/4 tsp. onion powder
- 1/2 tsp. garlic
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. black pepper

Dash cayenne (optional) 1/2 cup cheddar cheese 1/4 cup Parmesan cheese

- **1.** Place piecrust in a 9-inch pie dish. Bake per package directions.
- 2. Cook bacon or sausage; set aside.
- **3.** Mix eggs, half-and-half and spices. Layer meat, cheeses and egg in the piecrust; bake at 350 F for 20 minutes, uncovered. Let cool before slicing to serve.

Bacon-wrapped Smokies

1 lb. bacon1 lb. Lit'l Smokies2 cups brown sugar

- **I.** Preheat oven to 350 F. Cut bacon into thirds; wrap each smokie with a piece of bacon
- **2.** Place all wrapped smokies in a single layer in a baking dish.
- **3.** Sprinkle brown sugar over the top; bake for 15-20 minutes. Bump the heat up to 400 F. Bake another 5 minutes until bacon is crispy.

Chicken Enchilada

1/4 cup butter

1/4 cup flour

1 15-oz. can chicken broth

I cup plain Greek yogurt

1 lb. chicken breast, canned preferred

I tsp. onion powder

1/4 tsp. cumin

1/2 tsp. chili powder

1/2 tsp. paprika

8 8-inch tortillas

1 Tbsp. vegetable oil

2 cups cheddar cheese

- **I.** Make a roux with butter, flour and broth. Remove from heat; add Greek yogurt. Use I cup to spread in a casserole dish.
- **2.** Mix chicken and spices in a bowl. Dip each tortilla in oil to soften. Fill with chicken; roll up and place in the casserole dish on top of the sauce.
- **3.** Pour remaining sauce over enchiladas; place cheese over the top. Bake at 350 F, or until hot.

Fruit Salad

I can mandarin orangesI6 oz. peaches, dicedI cup maraschino cherriesI 16-oz. can crushed pineappleI green apple, dicedI egg yolk





- 1 Tbsp. white vinegar
- 1 Tbsp. sugar
- 2 cups mini marshmallows
- 1 8-oz. tub Cool Whip
- I cup pecans, chopped
- **I.** Drain all fruit; cut into small pieces. Using a colander, press as much juice out as possible. Set aside fruit, saving the juice.
- **2.** Blend egg yolk, vinegar and sugar over medium heat; stir continuously until thickened. Remove from heat.
- **3.** Add marshmallows, stirring until they melt. Fold in entire tub of Cool Whip; blend.
- **4.** Blend the mixture with the fruit, stirring well. Add pecans over the top prior to serving.
- **5.** Note: Like my Noni did, I save the fruit juice to add to Jell-O for a tasty treat later.

Crock-Pot Mac and Cheese

2 cups uncooked elbow noodles

- 1 tsp. onion powder
- 1/2 tsp. black pepper
- 1 10.5-oz. can cream of chicken soup
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1/2 cup Hellmann's mayonnaise
- 3 cups cheddar cheese, grated



- I cup Gruyere cheese, grated (smoked is a good option)
- I can Hatch green chilies, chopped (optional)
- **I.** Boil noodles for 6 minutes until al dente; drain.
- **2.** Mix all other ingredients well to make the cheese base.
- **3.** Place noodles and cheese base in the Crock-Pot. Cook until hot; serve.

Beans

2 cans pinto beans 1 cup Taco Casa meat **I.** Mix together both ingredients in a Crock-Pot; heat and serve!

Mexican Rice

- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- I cup white rice
- 3 Tbsp. Fiesta Spanish rice seasoning
- I can Ro-Tel (can substitute with diced tomatoes for less heat)
- 3 cups water
- **1.** Heat oil in a skillet; brown rice.
- **2.** Add seasonings and Ro-Tel or tomatoes. Add water; bring to a

boil. Reduce heat to low; let simmer for 30 minutes.

To search for more great recipes from any of the 10 NOW Magazines publications, visit www.nowmagazines.com.



THE LOCAL TABLE

One cannot think well, love well, sleep well, if one has not dined well.

- Virginia Woolf











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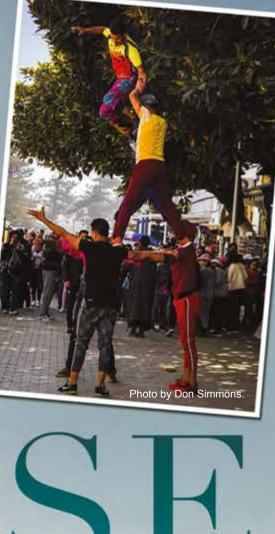
Step into Marrakesh for a unique look at city life, from snake charmers to markets filled with local treasures. Fresh food in this African paradise satisfies hard-to-please cravings and awakens senses with new flavors.

Marrakesh is one of the largest cities in Morocco and a common first stop, immersing visitors in local culture and cuisine. In this must-see mecca of beauty, orange trees decorate every corner of the city, while palm trees and cacti seem to reach the sky.

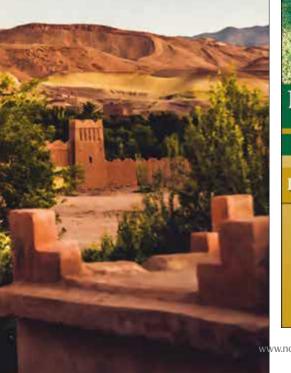
Visit the La Mamounia historic hotel to enjoy 200-year-old gardens and a place Winston Churchill called "the most beautiful spot in the world." Balconies overlook the terra-cotta buildings of the desert-like city, while the snowcapped peeks of the Atlas Mountains create harmonious views. In the busy streets, motorcycles and people commuting by donkey give the city a primitive feel.

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Freshly squeezed orange juice and mint tea are staples of Moroccan culture everyone must try. Visit nearby eateries to enjoy traditional dishes, such as tagine: a slow-cooked stew often prepared and served in a distinctive cone-shaped pot. The dish comes in many varieties including vegetables, lamb, chicken and fruit.

Other Moroccan delicacies include couscous, shish kabobs and roasted lamb. Exotic spices, such as cumin, saffron, turmeric, cinnamon and ginger, are used to enhance the flavor of fresh food and are sold at the market in heaping mounds of colorful displays. Sign up for a cooking class to learn the art of Moroccan cuisine.

Once the sun sets in Marrakesh, wander into the world-famous market called the Jemaa el-Fnaa, located in the old city, or medina, to experience live entertainment, such as dancing, snake charmers and magicians. Even with all the excitement, alcohol is never seen and not an element of the culture, although some restaurants serve alcoholic beverages.

Nearby, markets, or "souks," beckon shoppers or curious onlookers into a world of color, aroma and diversity. Treasures, such as leather bags, Moroccan-style rugs and brass hanging lamps, are among the loot that can be bought at a bargain.

One thing you must know when traveling to this area is how to barter. Additionally, though the official languages of Morocco are Berber and Arabic, almost everywhere you go people speak some English or Spanish making communication possible.

Photo by Don Simmons.





Venture out of the city for a change of scenery and trip to the mountains. For about \$130 plus tip, hire a driver to take you through beautiful farmland flourishing with orange trees and olive groves. Along the way, visit the Atlas Studios to see the world's largest film studio, home of shows such as Ben Hur. The Mummy and Game of Thrones.

Another attraction worth seeing is Aït Benhaddou, also known as "The Mud City." located in the foothills of the Atlas Mountains. The buildings, made from clay brick, date to more than 1,000 years old. Throughout the countryside, you can also find Argan farms where the popular oil is harvested by goats who climb the trees.

If beach life is your vibe, there is plenty of coast to choose from, where life slows down compared to the frantic streets of Marrakesh. Stop into Essaouira. and go for a camel ride on the beach, or visit a local market to feast on freshly caught fish.

Seaport fisherman sell their catch for the day and throw carcasses to the birds while outdoor restaurants allow you to pick your own fish before cooking it to perfection. Visit the farmer's market to see tables piled with strawberries, oranges with the stem and leaves attached and blueberries arranged in huge mounds free from plastic containers.

The Sahara Desert is just around the corner if you're up for a true adventure. Climb aboard a camel's back to explore the sand dunes on a guided tour for a once-in-a-lifetime, magical experience. Guides offer many different packages from day trips to overnight camping excursions where you can watch the sunset to the beat of drums then spend the night in a tent under the stars. NOW

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Start by choosing the right fruit.

Purchasing bulk fruit or gathering it from your yard is one of the best ways to begin. However, be sure the fruit is ripe or slightly under ripe. Overripe fruit may need additional acid to gel properly. Lemon juice makes a good addition to help with this process.

Fruits low in pectin, such as cherries, grapes and strawberries, may require additional ingredients to form the right consistency for jelly. These lower-pectin fruits can work well if mixed with higher-pectin fruits. Prepare the fruit by washing and cutting away stems or cores and peeling those requiring it.

Select the best recipes.

Do you have a time-tested family recipe or one a friend gave you? Those are always great. The Internet also has many sites with recipes. Some even use juice or natural sweeteners instead of sugar, important for people on restricted diets or those watching calories.

The beauty in creating your own jelly, jam or preserves means you get to choose every ingredient. Once you learn a recipe, then you can try new flavor combinations and other adjustments to get truly creative with your homemade spread.

Gather and inspect supplies for finishing the process.

Making sure you have all the correct equipment and ingredients prevents headaches and frustration. Some concoctions don't require a hot pack, but if they do, you need a water-bath



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canner. Although not all stores carry them, you can usually find one at a feed store or online. Sometimes, you can get a good used one with patient searching.

You can reuse jars and rings, but always purchase new seals. The jars must be free from nicks, cracks and chips. Using a compromised jar not only makes a mess, but it can also cause serious burns. Because you are cooking the contents, preheating the jars is also critical to avoid breakage. Never use a jar that is larger than specified in the recipe. Use smaller jars, whether plain or decorative.

Follow these tips for a better experience.

Make jams and preserves in small batches. The fruit cooks quickly, and you maintain the color and flavor. Generally use 3/4 cup of sugar for every cup of fruit. Four cups of fruit makes a manageable batch. However, refer to your recipe for the correct amounts, especially when using lower sugar. Cook slowly and stir often to avoid scorching. If your recipe requires added pectin, be sure to have a fresh package on hand.

Making your own jelly, jam or preserves is a wonderful way to enjoy fruit in and out of season. You can enjoy flavor options unavailable in prepackaged varieties, and use only preservatives you desire. When done correctly, you can store your creations for up to 18 months and wow your friends and family. Above all, have fun in the process.

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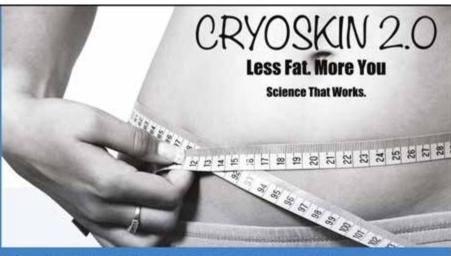
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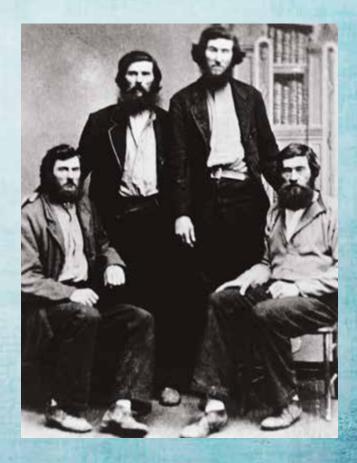
TALES OF TEXAS ADOGLIKE TEXAS TOTAL TEXAS TOTAL TEXAS TOTAL TEXAS TOTAL TEXAS

By Adam Walker

If you grew up in Texas, you probably learned about many of our state symbols in school: the bluebonnet, the mockingbird, the pecan tree, the ninebanded armadillo, a bowl of chili. But you may not know much about one of the newest official state symbols, our state dog, the Blue Lacy.

While the Blue Lacy was only recognized as the official state dog in June 2005, when Governor Rick Perry signed a bill establishing the title, this dog has deep roots in the history of our great state. Back in 1858, when Texas had been a state less than 13 years, the four Lacy brothers, George, Ewin, Frank and Harry, moved to the Marble Falls area of Texas from Kentucky. They were a family who bread cattle, hogs and chickens, and they kept dogs to work their stock. They are known to have owned Greyhounds and various scent hounds. Today's Blue Lacy is descended from these dogs — and something else.

Marlo Ondrej, a great-great-granddaughter of Frank Lacy, has researched the history extensively. "The Lacy









brothers were big in government circles. They donated much of the pink granite for the capitol building," she said. "They also collected data on coyotes for the state and sometimes held them in pens on their land. At that time, there were still Indians living in the area, and they kept coydogs. Some people think the other element in the Blue Lacy is wolf. I'm pretty sure it's coyote, but officially it's listed as pariah dog."

For a long time, the breed was mostly known in the Marble Falls area, where they were just called Lacy dogs. As cattle ranching faded into history, the breed was nearly lost, but now they are going strong with breeding populations in other states and even internationally. though the majority still call Texas home. The Blue Lacy is a recognized breed in the Atlas of Dog Breeds of the World. and various kennel associations. It is the only breed created in Texas. They're big, intelligent, short-haired dogs, with lots of energy. And all of them, whether blue, red or tri-colored, carry the gene for blue fur, thus the addition of the word blue in the modern name of the breed.

They're all-around working dogs, used for droving, herding and for hunting. Blue Lacys, unlike many other herding dogs, are headers, not heelers. They control the cattle from the front, rather than from the back. According to Marlo, that means that they don't keep aggravating the cattle once the cattle are doing what they want them to do. This means they don't cause the cattle as much stress as some breeds of heelers do. Blue Lacys also make great hunting



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dogs, who are willing and able to take on game as large as the wild boars that are such a problem in some parts of Texas today. But they are also smart enough to hunt wily raccoons and just about anything else.

Blue Lacys are very much a working breed, so they will find a way to occupy their time. If kept as a pet, they need big yards and owners with active lifestyles who enjoy taking their dogs for runs and playing lots of fetch or frisbee. "Lacys meet the needs of country life," Marlo explained. "They have to have outdoor exercise to be the dogs they were meant to be. And you need to be an alpha. You have to be their pack leader, or the dog will be in charge! They aren't a dog for the meek and mild. They have a big Texas personality."

Marlo, as a descendant of the breed's originators, held the files on the breed for years and led the fight to get these dogs the recognition they deserve as a Texas original breed. In 2001, the Texas Senate gave honorary recognition to the breed. Then in 2005, the Texas House of Representatives passed House Concurrent Resolution 108, stating:

WHEREAS, The Blue Lacy is a Texas native, a working dog bred to play an essential role in ranch operations, at a time when ranches themselves became one of the iconic Texas symbols, and a dog that has more than pulled its weight on many a Texas spread; this proud heritage assuredly gives the Lacy a unique and powerful claim of its own to represent the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 79th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby designate the Blue Lacy as the official State Dog Breed of Texas.



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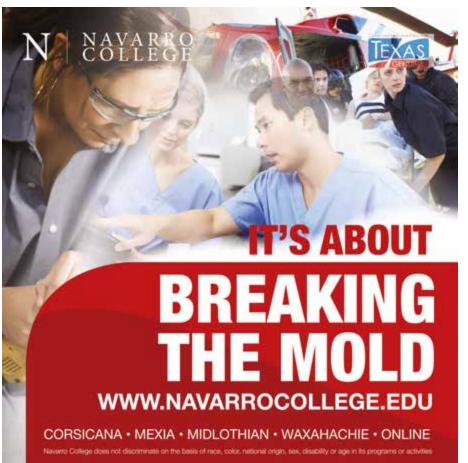
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Osteoarthritis, also known as degenerative joint disease, is the most common type of arthritis. In Osteoarthritis, the surface layer of cartilage breaks down and wears away. This allows the bones under the cartilage to rub together resulting in pain, swelling and loss of motion of the joint. Although in some people it progresses quickly, in most individuals joint damage develops gradually over years.

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WHEN WILL I FEEL RESULTS?

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Texas is home to many larger-than-life icons, which serve as a source of pride and identification for Texas residents. For example, who can forget the image of Big Tex himself standing watch over the State Fair of Texas each year giving his customary cowboy greeting to guests? No one but Big Tex could fill his 95-gallon hat. The size of the famous cowboy is appropriate as the event draws some of the largest crowds of any state fair in the U.S., and what better place for the State Fair of Texas than the sprawling metropolis of Dallas, which is also referred to as *Big D*.

If size matters, then one only needs to look to the city of Austin — the home of the Texas State Capitol. From its entertainment industry to politics, Austin exhibits the big Texas spirit. The city bills itself as "The Live Music Capital of the World," and this is demonstrated by Austin's many music festivals and venues. Even the State Capitol reveals the spirit of largeness by standing as one of the tallest state capitol buildings and one of the few which stands higher than the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.

During the summer months, hundreds of people can be spotted in the evening by Congress Avenue Bridge (also known as Bat Bridge) waiting to see the world's largest urban bat colony emerge from under the bridge in a frenzy of flight in search of food. The robust atmosphere of Austin makes it the perfect location to serve as the capital of such a grand state.

When it comes to everything being bigger in Texas, perhaps the state's most prolific mark is in that of wideopen spaces that lend themselves to





romantic thoughts of Texas cowboys roaming the range on horseback. Two national parks are located within the borders of Texas — Big Bend National Park and Guadalupe Peak National Park. Guadalupe Peak is home to the tallest mountain in the state, which rises 8,751 feet, and stands taller than famous El Capitan in Yosemite National Park. From its summit, a hiker can see the floor of Texas spread out beneath them.

Big Bend National Park serves up seemingly infinite miles of wilderness with the Rio Grande flowing along its border. If in the mood for a different landscape other than desert, Padre Island will offer a needed change in scenery. Padre Island is the world's longest barrier island and presents white sand dunes, endless ocean vistas and beautiful Texas sunsets. These open and wild spaces conjure up images deserving of a state that prides itself on size.

Sometimes, however, bigger is not always better. In 2017, Hurricane Harvey, one of the largest and most costly hurricanes to hit the United States, made landfall on the gulf shores of Texas. Although government aid was essential during this crisis, it quickly became clear it would not be enough. As the extent of the destruction of the hurricane began to surface, so did incredible stories and images of regular people helping one another. Neighbor helping neighbor became a prominent theme emerging from news sources and demonstrated the true depths of human compassion and the size of Texans' hearts. Hurricane Harvey was no match for the size of the spirit of Texas.

Whether you were born here, moved here as quickly as possible or are just passing through, the uniqueness and grandeur of The Lone Star State is enchanting. The slogan, "Everything is bigger in Texas," is part of the state's tradition, and it holds true that many things really are bigger here.



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Autumn Bla

Employee SPOTLIGHT Jennifer Maggard Escrow Officer



A native of Grand Prairie, TX, Maggard entered the title industry in 1999. She started as a receptionist and quickly advanced to Escrow Assistant. Jennifer has been a resident of Mansfield since 2000 and a licensed Escrow Officer for nearly 20 years. She handles a variety of escrow transactions and takes pride in helping her clients navigate the closing process. In her free time, Jennifer and her husband, Heath, enjoy spending time with their children – Taylor, Hayley and Camden – and three Pomeranian pups. Jennifer also loves to travel any chance she can get. A die-hard Dallas Cowboys fan, she especially enjoys attending sporting events and concerts.

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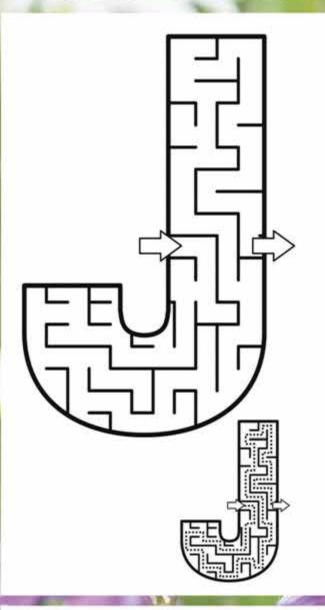




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Flowers

C	W	Ε	R	Α	C	В	L	U	E
o	0	R	N	Α	T	L	L	E	В
R	L	L	1	P	1	0	N	D	Α
N	F	U	T	A	D	R	Y	Α	1
F	P	Α	N	1	S	Н	S	Н	L
0	Т	Υ	s	Υ	Y	C	Α	N	Т
R	0	E	L	L	М	U	М	Ε	Н
G	N	E	٧	Α	G	L	Α	D	1
E	Ε	Н	T	F	0	S	U	L	0
т	M	L	1	L	Υ	R	0	S	Ε

Find all the words from the word list (ignore spaces and dashes):

ROSE

TULIP

BLUEBELL CARNATION CHRYSANTHEMUM

CORNFLOWER

DAHLIA

DAISY

FORGET-ME-NOT

GLADIOLUS

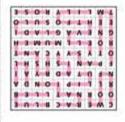
LILY OF THE VALLEY

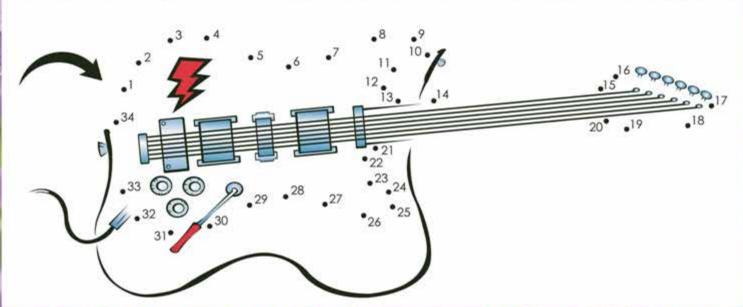
PANSY

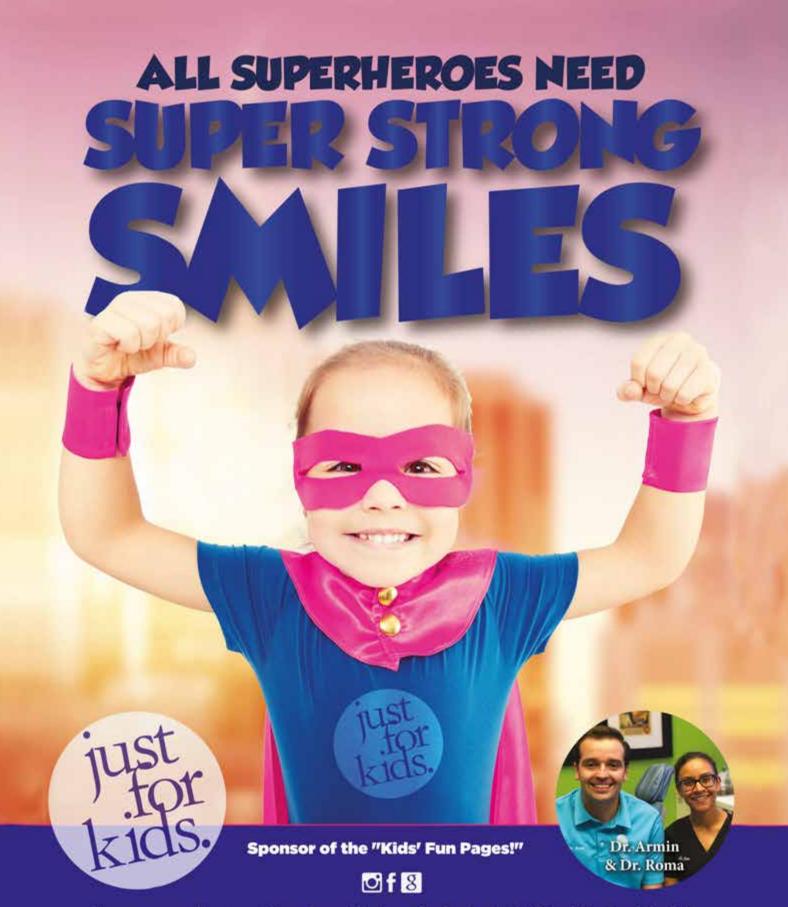
合合合合合

This is a zigzag word search puzzle.
Words go left, right, up, down, not diagonally, and can bend at a right angle.
There are no unused letters in the grid, every letter is used only once.

ANSWER:







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Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9
10		\vdash		11	T	T		12	t	+
13	1	T		14	t	T	15		t	1
16	T	+		17	t	T			t	
18	T	T	19		t	\vdash	T			
	20	T	T	t		21	t	22	23	
			24	T	25		T		T	26
	27	28	Т	T	T	t		29	T	
30			T	T	T	T		31		1
32				33	\vdash	\vdash		34	T	T
35	+	+		36	+	+	1	37	+	+

Solutions on page 68

Crosswordsite.com Ltd

Across

- 1 In place of
- 4 Dashboard acronym
- 7 Ungentlemanly sort
- 10 Newsworthy N Y S E event
- 11 A Gershwin
- 12 Tint
- 13 And so on
- 14 Scooting
- 16 Old card game
- 17 Enthusiast
- 18 Fix-all material
- 18 Fix-all mate 20 Implement
- 21 Hazard
- 24 Deplored
- 27 Rock concert venues, often
- 29 Before in verse
- 30 Inner city areas
- 31 Nelson Mandela's party
- 32 Silver state
- 33 Anger
- 34 Meadow
- 35 Tony Blair and others, briefly
- 36 Spanish literary hero
- 37 Wily

Down

- 1 Paddock
- 2 Decide to guit
- 3 Post-Baroque architectural style
- 4 Delaware's region
- 5 Italian designer Mario ---
- 6 Put-upon
- 7 With it, sartorially
- 8 Agatha, to Bertie Wooster
- 9 Acad award
- 15 Connection
- 19 Property manager's sign
- 22 Purloins
- 23 Essence
- 25 Native New Zealander
- 26 Rot
- 27 "May I interrupt?"
- 28 Guns
- 30 Country's output, for short

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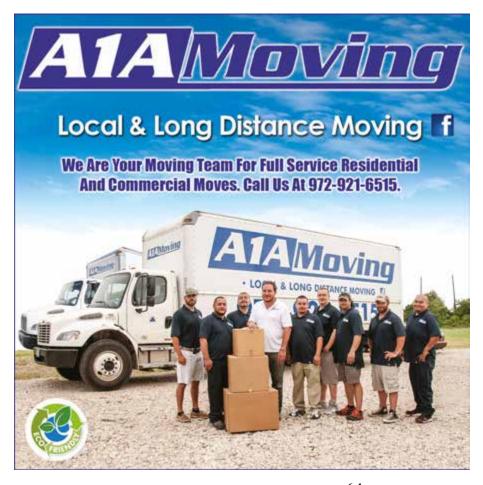
Sudoku Puzzle

Easy									١	Mediu	m							
			8	6											9			3
						3		2							2		8	1
1		3										5	7		8		4	
	5		7		2			1		9						2		
							6						1				3	
		7						9			4	7				5		9
		8	4	2	5						6	4			7			
2	3	4			9											8		
		6					8				5	8		2				

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Solutions on page 68













6/1-6/2

Gingerbread Tour of Homes:

Visit the beautiful, historic homes of Waxahachie, which include such architectural styles as Queen Anne Victorian, Gothic Revival, Bungalow, Romanesque and Greek Revival. Visitors will also get the opportunity to tour historically recognized buildings, such as the Sims Library and the Ellis County Courthouse downtown.

6/3-6/14

Ellis County Children's Theatre — Kamps for Kids:

A theater arts program designed to encourage children to "explore the power of live theater." For more information, go to www.ecctheater.org.

6/4

Butterfly Demonstration Garden Workday:

Ellis County Master Gardeners will be tending to the beautiful butterfly garden on the Getzendaner Trail near the dog park. The public is invited to ask questions from any Master Gardener who may be present. 8:30 a.m., 700 Howard Rd.

6/15

Junk in the Trunk:

Everyone is invited to become

a vendor in downtown
Waxahachie. Setup resale
or antique items in your
trunk for all shoppers to see.
Vendor check-in:
7:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m.;
event: 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.,
southeast comer of
the town square
(Franklin St. & S. College).
For more information,
see the Facebook event page.

7/3-7/4

Crape Myrtle Festival:

Food trucks, live music, children's activities and fireworks at the Waxahachie Sports Complex. On the **4th**, a parade will take place downtown, starting at Getzendaner Park.

Mondays

Bridge Club:

12:15 p.m., Waxahachie Senior Center, 122 Park Hills Dr. For more information, email Jeanee Smiles at smilestoremember@gmail.com or call (469) 309-4280.

First Mondays

Friends of Sims Library:

This nonprofit group was created to foster a closer relationship between the library and the citizens of Ellis County.
All meetings are open to the public. 10:00 a.m., Sims Library, 515 W. Main St.

Fourth Mondays

Creative Quilters Guild of Ellis County Meeting:

6:30-8:30 p.m., Waxahachie Bible Church, 621 N. Grand Ave. www.elliscountyquilters.com for more information.

Tuesdays and Fridays

Dig It! Gardening Club:

This club is for children ages 5-12. If you have an interest in gardening, come for gardening-related activities and help maintain the Sims Library garden. **Tuesdays**: 4:00 p.m.; **Fridays**: 2:00 p.m., Sims Library, 515 W. Main St.

Second Wednesdays

Sarah's Laughter Infertility Support Group for Ellis County:

7:00-8:30 p.m., Gateway Church Midlothian, 555 N. Walnut Grove Rd. Midlothian. Contact amy@sarahs-laughter.com.

Last Thursdays

Marine Corps League, Detachment 1452 Meeting:

All active, retired or former Marines, Navy chaplains or corpsmen are welcome. 7:30 p.m., Refiner's Fire Church, 1611 W. Ennis Ave., Ennis. (214) 803-4954.

Saturdays

Farmer's Market:

Every Saturday through October, visit the market for delicious, locally grown produce, fresh baked goods, plants and much more.
8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., downtown at 410 South Rogers Street.

Super Science Saturday:

The Sims Library will be hosting a STEM-based program for kids 5 or older. Join the group every other Saturday during the summer. 10:00 a.m., Sims Library, 515 W. Main St.

Second Saturdays

Tail Waggin' Tutors:

The Sims Library will have trained dogs come to the Library to help kids love to read. The kids can read to the dog in a calm environment while strengthening their confidence and reading level. Noon, Sims Library, 515 W. Main St.

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



Dr. Richard R. Knight, M.D.

Hailey R., Burleson, TX

I am really grateful that my mom suggested I do this program with her. I was able to learn and understand how I should treat my body and what I need to do to achieve my goals. I lost 27.2 pounds and 5 inches off my waist in just 16 weeks! I didn't really have a reason to lose the weight besides just wanting to, but I am thankful I did because I feel and look great! Hopefully I will be able to continue this even when I go back to school! Heather has been amazing help and I am grateful to have had her BEFORE support through this.

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in 16 weeks

Individual results

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Crossword Sudoku Solutions

F	20	3 R		⁴ M	⁵ P	۴н		C	⁸ A	°D
10	Р	0		"1	R	Α		12 H	U	Ε
13 E	Т	С		14 D	Α	R	15 _T	1	N	G
16 L	0	0		17 A	D	D	1	С	Т	
18 D	U	С	19 _T	Т	Α	Р	E			
	²⁰ T	0	0	L		²¹ R	-1	²² S	23 K	
			24 L	Α	25 M	E	N	Т	Ε	26 D
	27 A	28 R	Ε	N	Α	s		²⁹ E	R	E
30 G	Н	E	Т	Т	0	S		31 A	N	С
32 N	Е	٧		33	R	Е		34 L	E	Α
35 P	М	s		36 C	1	D		37 S	L	Y

Easy

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

Medium

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



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Valerie J. Gorman, MD, FACS, is a breast surgeon who specializes in surgical oncology and surgical diseases of the breast. She is board-certified by the American Board of Surgery and serves as Chief of Surgery and Medical Director of Surgical Services at Baylor Scott & White Medical Center – Waxahachie.

Dr. Gorman performs breast surgery that includes mastectomy and lumpectomy, allowing the cancerous tissue to be removed through a single incision made in a cosmetically appealing area while preserving the natural shape of the breast and reducing any visible scarring. Dr. Gorman is dedicated to offering her patients an advanced, personalized and targeted approach to breast surgery and the treatment of breast cancer.

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