

# WeatherfordNOW

M A G A Z I N E

JUNE 2022



## Middle School Drama

Tison Theatre Arts  
Director, Kelly Nance,  
loves inspiring students

2022 Peach Festival  
Shopping Guide

In the Kitchen With  
Sophia Sexton

Also inside:  
Scavenger Hunt  
Crossword

Featured Business:  
North Side Baptist Church

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*Directing drama students makes Kelly Nance's job fun.*

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# EDITOR'S NOTE



*Lisa*

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WeatherfordNOW Editor  
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*Welcome to June!*

Last month, my oldest grandson finished high school. Tears play at the corners of my eyes as thoughts dance across my brain. I still picture him as this chubby baby playing in the dirt with a tiny baseball cap on his head and a massive smile on his lips. Yes, I have that picture, and I still treasure it as I reflect on his over 6-foot, slender frame, facial hair and deep voice.

I watch this man-child, already stepping toward his future. A responsible young man, he saved money from his first job and paid cash for a sweet little used car. Impressive in anyone's books. At the beginning of the rest of his life, I pray he remains a man with integrity and experiences achievements beyond his wildest dreams and imagination.

Although half my grandchildren have yet to reach double digits, the speed at which they grow amazes me. In this crazy world surrounding us, I wonder about their future. Many on the cusp of adulthood learned to survive and make the best of things in a world gone mad, and that gives me hope. As they step into the vast unknown land of college or work, I pray for these children who no longer want anyone to call them *child*. May you, as parents and grandparents, still pour love and wisdom into their lives with fresh methods. And may every graduate achieve more than he or she dreams possible.

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# MIDDLE SCH



*“Be awkward, brave and kind.” — Brene Brown. One of Kelly Nance’s favorite quotes, she repeats it often as the theater arts director for Tison Middle School. “I love middle school kids,” she shared. “I love the awkwardness of this age. I get to inspire them to build a strong foundation for the future.” Developing students through her passion for drama and performance gives the local teacher joy and pride. “I get to do this every day.”*

Early in life, Kelly experienced live theater. Because of her dad’s job, at 14 she saw her first Broadway show and loved it. She performed her whole life as a singer and married her guitar player, Erick “Scooter” Nance. Although she didn’t have theater arts in school when growing up, she served as a youth leader. “I always enjoyed doing skits and anything silly at camps,” she reminisced.

For three years, Kelly and Scooter worked as full-time musicians. With an aunt in Peaster who taught, both of them subbed at times. When Kelly got pregnant, Scooter earned his certification and then taught at Bill Wright for 15 years. Once the girls, Dandelion and Dahila (nicknamed Possum) started school, they all went together each day.

Around 2015, Weatherford College did a performance of *Hello, Dolly!* Scooter encouraged Kelly to audition. “Lana Robinson was there, an obvious choice for the lead role,” she said. “I just wanted to be in the ensemble, but they cast me as Irene Malloy.” Following the performances, Kelly’s husband inspired her to obtain a certification in theater arts. Her biggest fan and encourager, Scooter runs sound and helps build sets when he isn’t creating guitars for his company Dandee Possum Guitars. “He’s our rock,” Kelly said, beaming. “And he’s cool.”



# COOL DRAMA

— By Lisa Bell



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Both of their daughters also love participating in live theater, but she calls them her lifetime assistants. "In theater, an assistant just brings you coffee," she explained with a grin. Kelly treasures the support from her family, especially in the middle of productions and UIL contests.

After working with Angela Powell, Raven Lawes and other great mentors at Weatherford High School, Kelly went on to teach fourth grade, and then moved up to sixth grade, teaching ELA. When they moved up the sixth-graders to middle school five years ago, she moved with them. Ecstatic about moving to the Theatre Arts Department, she loves her current job as the director.

"It's not a blow-off class. We have expectations and boundaries, but it's about the relationships with the kids," she shared. "Theatre Arts is a safe place, like a baby learning to walk." As a teacher, she listens to problems that bother the students and helps them with other classwork when needed.

In January this year, they did the first live production at Tison Middle School in many years. Although they planned on presenting *Rock of Ages*, the change in school personnel resulted in losing rights, so she acted fast. "We needed something we could pull together quickly, so we chose *Annie Jr.* It also gave the kids an opportunity to learn sewing skills," she expressed. "We made most of the costumes, with two boys doing much of the work, but the girls got involved, too."

Only a handful of the students had ever performed on stage before opening night. With no adults backstage, the kids created magic for the audience, as Kelly taught them to do. She said, "I loved watching them say, 'We did this.'"







Going forward, Kelly plans to continue leading the kids to perform live productions and hopefully winning at UIL competitions, which they entered at the end of April. They brought home second place against eight other schools, with three students bringing home personal awards — two All-Star Cast medals and a Technician award. She already has plans in place for students to audition for next year's production, *The Little Mermaid*, which will run November 11-12. With sell-out crowds for the last production, she believes the program will continue growing. She wants to see every class do two performances, not just the advanced class or after-school program.

She also hopes to launch a technical theater class. The booster moms raised funds to buy microphones, but if they can purchase a sound board, they have more freedom in where they perform. Lights, of course, will go on a waiting list for future purchases. Kelly envisions students running the sound and lights after she trains them. Some students love live theater, but they don't want to appear on stage. She loves the idea of student involvement at his or her comfort level.

"It's taxing, exhausting, exhilarating all at the same time, to create and perform," Kelly stated. "The kids here are fortunate to have this opportunity. We teach them to trust the process, and that applies to everything in life."

While Kelly Nance enjoys the role as a favorite teacher, more importantly, she strives to teach her students respect, teamwork and maintaining good boundaries and relationships. Following the awkward middle school age, they have a lifetime ahead. The influence of a positive teacher builds a future foundation they can carry with them throughout life, and Kelly sees that role as the most important thing she gives her students. **NOW**

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# North Side Baptist Church

— By Lisa Bell

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After 125 years, North Side Baptist Church prides themselves on one thing that never changed — their location. Founded in 1897, they started in an abandoned church, which they purchased for \$300 in four installments. Over time, the congregation grew, and in 1907 or 1908, they added a new building. By 1950, they outgrew the facilities and enclosed a space to create an office area.

Around 2004, church leaders put a vote in front of the members. Needing more space, they asked whether people wanted to stay and develop the original location or move to a larger plot of land and build a new structure. An overwhelming vote to stay led to a unique situation, as many churches tend to move from their first place to somewhere larger. In 2010, they completed a new worship center, providing room for future growth.

Unique also in longevity, Sr. Pastor Van N. Houser has served at North Side for 24 years. Exec. Pastor Keith Warren came to North Side 20 years ago. Other staff members also hold

tenures of more than a decade there. Pastor Warren said, "I love God's design of the church, that it's His hands and feet, and that He would use normal people to carry out His supernatural mission. I'm thankful He lets us be part of it."

Throughout North Side's history, they always reached out to the community and continue doing so. In the 1920s, they offered music lessons, often providing musical instruments on an installment plan to help families. In 1925, they built an open-air tabernacle, which they shared with other churches. During World War II, the church opened a chapel at Ft. Wolters in Mineral Wells. Later in the 1990s, North Side opened a Community Life Center to host events open to the community.

"In carrying that banner forward, today we serve our local schools," Pastor Warren stated. "And we support and serve local benevolence agencies. It's our people that engage with our community in hundreds of ways."

A church for every generation, North Side has existed for every generation since 1897. They endured everything those generations in Weatherford experienced. Today, they offer ministry aimed at every living generation. From newborns to those in their 90s, they see four generations of a family worshipping together.

With many opportunities for each age group, at multiple levels of involvement and learning, North Side Baptist Church offers dozens of ministries. If anyone wants a place to learn and serve, he or she can find a fit within the many options. From newborns to great-grandparents, several classes or groups appeal to each person.

"Our goal is to be a strong presence in the community, supporting and preserving all that is special in Weatherford and Parker County," Pastor Warren shared.

In celebrating the 125-year anniversary, North Side will celebrate in both morning services on June 12 with former staff and a time of reflection on all the Lord has done. They look forward to memorializing the past as they move toward another 125 years of serving the Weatherford Community. **NOW**



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## Zoomed In: Lyn Walsh and Beverly

By Lisa Bell

Honored as recipient of the 2022 Klazuba Altruism Award, Lyn Walsh (Careity CEO) and Beverly Branch (Careity president) accept the award from Laura McWhorter, president of Texas Health Resources Foundation. Careity provides direct care that saves lives, gives hope, eases pain and allows cancer patients and families to focus on healing.

Thankful for the award, Beverly said, "God has blessed us with tremendous support from friends, sponsors and celebrities. We feel honored to be trusted as stewards of this opportunity God provided."

Lyn shared, "There are no adequate words to describe how we feel when someone calls and says, 'Thank you for saving my life.' And there are no adequate words to describe how honored and appreciative we are to receive this award."



Director of Dramatic Studies James Brownlee enjoys greeting those who come to productions.



Artist of the Month, Linda Young, wins with Peace in Palo Pinto.



AgriLife Extension clubs celebrate the annual spring fling with an Easter parade.



The Betsill family ventures out for lunch on a chilly spring day.





Local author Clarica Burns braves the sunshine at Chandor Garden's Spring Fling.



Tarleton State University's Dr. James Hurley welcomes Weatherford College for a second master's degree articulation agreement.



Vickie and Jerry Durant celebrate the groundbreaking for the new student housing building at Weatherford College.



Baker's Ribs celebrates its 22nd anniversary in Weatherford.

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*In the Kitchen With*

SOPHIA SEXTON

— By Amber D. Browne



Sophia Sexton has always felt at home in the kitchen. At the young age of 4, Sophia began attending Parker County 4-H Food and Nutrition meetings to learn more about how to cook. Now at 16, Sophia is a teen leader at those 4-H meetings and shares her knowledge with the younger generation.

Down-home cooking is one style Sophia enjoys, but she is learning how to prepare other types of cuisine. “I attend St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, where I have been taught to cook many different Greek dishes, one of my favorites being tzatziki.”

Most of her recipes are inherited, such as Celesta’s Coffee Cake and Lemon Thyme Chicken, but Sophia enjoys experimenting with her creations. “I always make my siblings taste first,” she shared. **NOW**

### Celesta’s Coffee Cake

**1 cup butter or margarine, softened**  
**2 3/4 cups sugar (divided use)**  
**1 tsp. vanilla**  
**4 eggs**  
**3 cups all-purpose flour**  
**2 tsp. baking powder**  
**1 tsp. baking soda**  
**1 tsp. salt**  
**2 cups sour cream**  
**2 Tbsp. cinnamon**  
**1/2 cup pecans, chopped**

**1.** Preheat the oven to 350 F. In a large bowl, cream together the butter and 2 cups of sugar until fluffy. Add the vanilla; mix well. Add the eggs, one at a time, combining the batter well after each addition.  
**2.** In a separate bowl, whisk together the flour and the next 3 ingredients. Alternate mixing the dry ingredients and sour cream into the butter and sugar mixture. Combine until the batter is smooth.  
**3.** In a separate bowl, mix the remaining 3/4 cup sugar, cinnamon and pecans.  
**4.** Spoon 1/3 of the batter into a greased

Bundt pan; sprinkle 1/3 of the nut mixture onto the batter. Repeat layers two more times.

**5.** Bake for 50 minutes; remove from oven. Cool for 10 minutes before transferring to a wire rack; serve.

### Lemon Thyme Chicken

**6-8 boneless chicken thighs, skinless or with skin**  
**1/3 cup low-sodium chicken broth**  
**Juice of 1 lemon**  
**Zest of 1/2 lemon**  
**1 tsp. garlic powder**  
**1 tsp. onion powder**  
**1/2 tsp. paprika**  
**1 tsp. Italian seasoning**  
**3 Tbsp. fresh thyme**  
**Salt, to taste**  
**Pepper, to taste**  
**4 garlic cloves, sliced or minced**  
**1/2 stick butter, diced**

**1.** Place the chicken thighs in a slow cooker.  
**2.** In a small bowl, combine the chicken broth, lemon juice and zest; pour the mixture over the chicken.



3. In a separate small bowl, combine the garlic powder and the next 6 ingredients. Sprinkle the seasoning over the chicken.

4. Top the chicken with garlic and butter. Cover; cook on high for 3-4 hours. Serve with mashed potatoes, rice or quinoa.

## Bacon Garlic Mashed Potatoes

6 potatoes peeled, washed and cut into medium-size chunks  
 3 strips bacon, cut into bite-size pieces  
 3 garlic cloves, minced  
 1 stick butter  
 1/2 cup heavy whipping cream  
 1/2 cup whole milk  
 Salt, to taste  
 Pepper, to taste  
 1/3 cup cheddar cheese, grated  
 4 green onions, chopped

1. Place the potatoes in a large pot of salted water; boil for about 15 minutes, or until softened.

2. In a separate pan, add the bacon and garlic; cook until the bacon is crispy. Drain the fat; set the bacon aside.

3. Strain the potatoes; add the butter and next 4 ingredients. Whip the potatoes with a hand mixer on high until fully combined. Stir in the bacon and cheese until the cheese is melted. Top with green onions; enjoy.

## Pot Stickers

1 lb. ground pork  
 4 cloves garlic, minced  
 1/2 cup green onions, finely chopped  
 3 Tbsp. fresh ginger, finely minced  
 2 Tbsp., plus 1 tsp. soy sauce  
 1 tsp. sesame oil  
 1 pinch cayenne pepper  
 1 1/2 cups green cabbage, finely chopped  
 32 wonton wrappers  
 2 Tbsp. olive oil  
 Water

1. In a large bowl, add pork and the next 6 ingredients; mix well. Add the cabbage; thoroughly combine. Tamp down lightly, cover with plastic and refrigerate for about 1 hour.

2. Lightly moisten the edges of a wonton wrapper with a wet finger. Place a small scoop of the ground pork mixture onto the center of the wrapper. Fold up two sides and pinch together in the center. Pinch together the remaining edges, forming pleats. Repeat with the remaining dough and filling until all the wonton wrappers are filled.

3. In a skillet, heat olive oil on medium-high heat. Add 6-7 pot stickers, flat side down,



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Tzatziki

**1 clove garlic**  
**Salt, to taste**  
**Pepper, to taste**

- 1.** Drain the chickpeas; reserve the liquid. In a blender, add the chickpeas, half of the liquid from the chickpeas can and the remaining ingredients.
- 2.** Blend until smooth. Refrigerate; serve with pita chips, pita bread, crackers or vegetables.

## Tzatziki

**1 English cucumber, grated**  
**Salt, to taste**  
**3 garlic cloves, minced**  
**1 cup full fat Greek yogurt**  
**1 cup sour cream**  
**2 Tbsp. dried dill**  
**2 Tbsp. lemon juice**

- 1.** Place the grated cucumber on a paper towel-lined plate. Salt the cucumber; place paper towels on top to remove moisture. Let the grated cucumber drain for 30 minutes.
- 2.** In a large bowl, add the garlic and cucumber; mix until thoroughly combined. Add the yogurt and sour cream; mix until combined.
- 3.** Add the dill and lemon juice; combine well. Add salt, to taste.

into the hot oil. Cook about 2 minutes until bottoms are golden brown.

**4.** Drizzle in about 2 Tbsp. of water and quickly cover the pan; steam the pot stickers for 3 minutes. Uncover; reduce heat to medium.

**5.** Continue cooking about 1-2 minutes until the water evaporates and the bottoms are browned and crunchy. Transfer to a warm

serving dish. Repeat until remaining pot stickers are cooked. Serve with soy sauce.

## Hummus

**1 16-oz. can chickpeas**  
**1 Tbsp. tahini**  
**Juice from 1/2 lemon**  
**1 Tbsp. olive oil**

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# Hip MEETS HISTORIC

— By Virginia Riddle



*A casual stroll around the courthouse square; leisurely shopping and dining, while enjoying live music; and soaking in some of Denton's rich history and cultural arts may be just the ticket for a visit. But there's even more to this beautiful city. Located just north of the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, Denton is home to the University of North Texas, Texas Woman's University and North Central Texas College. Music of every genre can be heard day and night pouring out of some very hip venues.*

Denton was the third city, behind Austin and Fort Worth, to be named a Music Friendly Community by the Office of the Governor's Texas Music Office in 2017. However, Denton glows culturally vibrant in the other arts, too. Bright murals decorate many of the buildings, and the Patterson-Appleton Arts Center, repurposed in the city's historic steam power plant with its soaring ceilings and original industrial hardware, offers more than 20 art exhibits annually in two galleries and a sculpture garden. Art galleries, studios and performance halls abound in this city and its institutions of higher learning. Campus Theatre, located in a historic movie-on-the-square theater, hosts live productions, concerts and film festivals.

The city, founded in 1857, is also Denton County's seat of government. The courthouse, built in 1896 and restored in 2004,



majestically anchors the Courthouse-on-the-Square District and is host to the county's museum. Just south of downtown, docents and staff welcome visitors for tours of two historic homes. The Bayless-Selby House Museum, a Victorian home, tells the story of life in the late 1800s into the next century. Next door is the Denton County African American Museum, housed in a home that once was part of the Quakertown community. It features the papers and medical instruments of Dr. Edwin D. Moten, Denton's first African-American doctor.

Visitors can time their journey to Denton to coincide with one of the city's many festivals and communitywide or college sporting events. There's a special event to interest every visitor and offer family-friendly fun, including: a Black film festival; Texas storytelling; a redbud festival; Juneteenth; a comic art exposition; a blues festival; Twilight Tunes, a free concert series on the courthouse grounds; and festivals honoring hot rods, dogs and wassail. Children can also enjoy the Explorium Children's Museum and colorful park playgrounds.

Outdoor and sports enthusiasts and animal lovers can experience the thrill of fast cars or additional festivals and concerts at the Texas Motor Speedway, host of the NASCAR Cup, or take a walk or bike ride on one of the 27 hike-and-bike trails in parks around Denton or the trails at the Clear Creek Natural Heritage Center. Nearby Ray Roberts Lake State Park offers camping, hiking, biking, horseback riding, rollerblading, swimming and boating opportunities. Horseback riding is offered at several area facilities, and canine companions are welcome in most parks and on trails.

At the end of a busy day, after dancing the night away to a favorite tune played in one of the many venues around town, settle into a stay at your choice of Denton's hotels, motels, area bed-and-breakfast inns or camping opportunities in cabins, tents or RVs. The stars of Texas shine brightly over Denton — home to fine dining, great music, fun activities and history.

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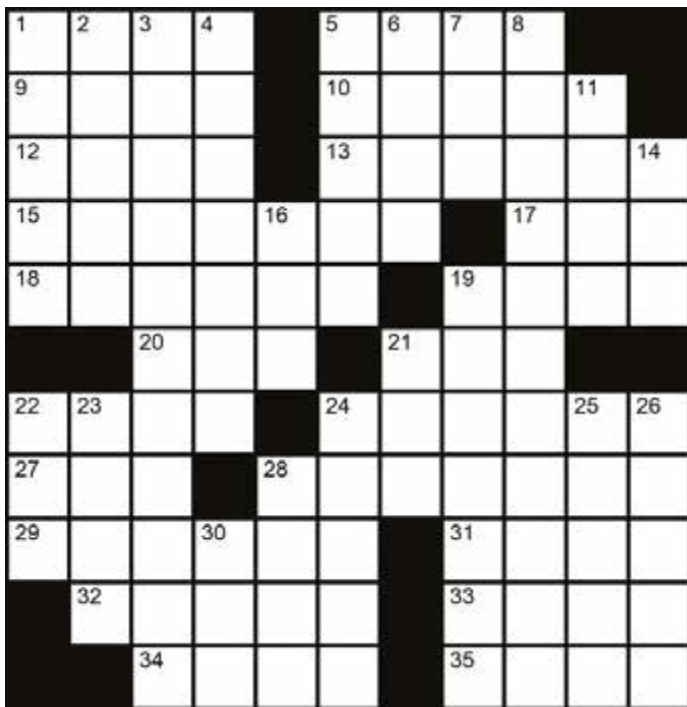
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## Across

- 1 Knock, knock, --- there?
- 5 Scotch partner
- 9 Spellbound
- 10 It may be grand or petty
- 12 Inking
- 13 Undivided duet in confusion
- 15 It huffs and it puffs and it blows your house down
- 17 Mess up
- 18 Passes
- 19 Type of ant
- 20 Ball stand
- 21 Concealed oneself
- 22 Phrase meaning "caveat emptor"
- 24 Pleasure boat harbor
- 27 Mahmoud Abbas's organization
- 28 Crack Tom's nut to reveal part of an instruction to refrain
- 29 Bike for Daisy
- 31 Like some JFK or LAX flights
- 32 Old Clipper operator
- 33 Flat tableland
- 34 --- Luck
- 35 Aphrodite's son

## Down

- 1 Compose
- 2 Wore
- 3 In working order
- 4 Political positions
- 5 Wall supports
- 6 Shout of dismay
- 7 Roman gods
- 8 Postprandial
- 11 Limited period
- 14 Without bars
- 16 Eroded
- 19 Broadcast length
- 21 Laughing sounds
- 22 Prone
- 23 Directly
- 24 One wrapped up ages ago
- 25 Untrue
- 26 Sky-carrying Titan
- 28 Lake on the Colorado
- 30 Used to prove identity

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Due to COVID-19, 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.

JUNE

6/3

#### Safe @ Home:

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension class for fourth- through sixth-graders (9-12) equips them to be safe when home alone. Must pre-register. \$20 includes booklet and snack. 10:00-11:30 a.m., Parker County Extension Office, 604 N. Main St. (817) 598-6168.

6/3-6/4

#### Teen Musical Camp Production:

Matilda Jr. presented by Weatherford College. Purchase

tickets online. \$10. 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., Alkek Fine Arts Center, 225 College Park Dr. [www.wc.edu/calendar/](http://www.wc.edu/calendar/).

6/4

#### PCSP's Cattle Drive/Rodeo Kickoff:

Full day of rodeo events, from parade to a street dance with Leon Payne & Friends. Trail drive: 8:00 a.m.; parade: 6:30 p.m.; street dance: 7:30 p.m., Main St. and downtown area. [www.pcsp.net](http://www.pcsp.net).

#### Aledo Summer Blast:

Family-friendly event with fun

activities, classic car show, rows of vendors and food trucks, plus a fireworks show.

6:00-10:00 p.m., Aledo High School south parking lots, 1000 Bailey Ranch Rd., Aledo. [www.aledotx.gov](http://www.aledotx.gov).

6/13-6/17, 6/20-6/24, 6/27-7/1

#### TOTS Kid's Theatre Camp:

Two-week camp, entering grades three-nine. Week three for students entering grades one-two only. Separate classes. 8:30-11:30 a.m.; 12:30-3:30 p.m., Theatre Off the Square,

114 N. Denton. [www.theatreoffthesquare.org](http://www.theatreoffthesquare.org).

6/21

#### Safe Sitter Course:

Classes for boys and girls ages 11 and up. \$50 covers materials and lunch. 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Parker County Extension Office, 604 N. Main St. For more information or to register, call (817) 598-6198.

Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your current event details to [lisa.bell@nowmagazines.com](mailto:lisa.bell@nowmagazines.com).

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## WeatherfordNOW Scavenger Hunt



### Find 5 hidden Seashells

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 June 15th.

To ensure your Scavenger Hunt  
answers go in the drawing,  
you must use the

**Scavenger Hunt Email**

**scavenger.wfd@nowmagazines.com**

One entry per person.

**WIN!**

### \$50 Cash Prize

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Winner must pick up prizes  
within 30 days of drawing.

Money Bags were found on  
pages 4, 17, 21, 30 & 33

May winner is:  
Christel Brenner - \$50 Cash  
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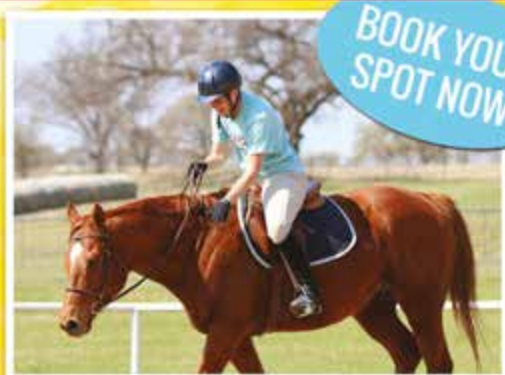
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