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SouthwestNOW

M A G A Z I N E

JULY 2019

Ad Hoc Art

Ginger Hertenstein
and Nyadia Thorpe
encourage vocal
beauty

Also inside:

Kids' Fun Page

Crossword/Sudoku

Featured Business:
Jane Moore –
Farmers Insurance

Doing It All

Kamdyn Benjamin
has got what it takes

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- June 3 - July 19 Summer Meals (see web)
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- July 22 - Regular Board Meeting
- Aug. 3 - Back to School Fair
- Aug. 9 - 11 - Tax Free Holiday
- August 19 - First Day of School

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ON THE COVER

*Nyadia Thorpe coaxes dulcet
tones from the all-volunteer
Duncanville Community Chorus.*

Photo by
Shane Kirkpatrick.

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Adam Walker
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EDITOR'S NOTE

As American as...

Nothing could be more American than a Fourth of July celebration. We eat hot dogs, made with sausages called wieners or frankfurters, because they come from either Frankfurt, Germany or Vienna (Wien), Austria. Then there's the apple pie. Apples come from somewhere in Central Asia, probably Kazakhstan or the Xinjiang region of China, though the pies came to America with the English, Dutch and Swedes. Oh, and grab a slice of some good old West African watermelon! Then we can sit back and sing "The Star-Spangled Banner," written by Francis Scott Key, while he was a British prisoner during the War of 1812, setting the words to what amounted to a recent British pop song of the day. And once the sun goes down, we can take in some thrilling Chinese fireworks.

It may sound like I'm saying there is *nothing* American about the Fourth of July, but that's not true. I'm saying there is *everything* American about it. For a nation of immigrants, there could be nothing more fitting than a celebration that embraces the gifts of the whole world. Whether your name is Smith, Jones or McGregor; Svenson, Le Rouche or Kowalski; Chen, Yamaguchi or Lee; Gonzalez, Jimenez or Soto; Ayo-Olusanya, Mdlalose or Mulima; Levit, Al Masri or Patel, we're all Americans, and we all have something to celebrate — living in this country. We may not always get along, but what family does? Still we, or our ancestors, all came from somewhere else, and we all live here now. And to my way of looking at things, that's a good thing.

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AD HOC A

— By Adam Walker

In 2013, First Presbyterian Church of Duncanville wanted to find a way to bless the community. “We had some good singers and some good storytellers in our congregation,” Pastor Ginger Hertenstein remembered. “We were looking for a way to give something to the community, and the idea developed to do a community event. We joined forces with the Duncanville High School choir and others in the community to do an event at Armstrong Park as a way to bring people together and get them talking to each other.”

That first event was a success, and from that success the idea of forming something more permanent grew. In the second year, Centro Cristiano Familiar joined in, and in the third year a children’s choir was added. That’s also the year that Nyadia Thorpe got involved as First Presbyterian Choir director.

In 2015, it officially became Duncanville Community Choir, performing a Christmas concert under the new name. A few months later, they did another event in the courtyard between the Duncanville Community Theatre and what was then Toshio’s restaurant. That event was called ‘Have Faith,’ and it was focused on how to rebuild a city, based on the book of Nehemiah in the Bible.

As an unstructured, informal community choir, it has no dues and no regular practices. When they begin planning an event, anyone from the community who wants to join in does so, and the results can be amazing. “In 2016, we had a Good Friday event at the Shine Performance Hall at Duncanville High School. That was a 10-church event. We hired a 24-person orchestra, and there were 57 singers, white, black and Hispanic, from 18 to 80 years old.

“And then, in the fall of that year, we did a storytelling and musical event called Community in Unity that brought together 10 churches, Duncanville High School, the Dallas Police Choir, a children’s choir and other local talent. The pastors did the storytelling, and the high school choir did a flash mob to “I’d Like to Teach the World to Sing.” That year just really came together, and we were able to help people in the community come together.”

Then in 2017, something else happened. Nyadia, who had been the director of what is now called the Duncanville Community Chorus for several years, decided she wanted to do part of Handel’s *Messiah*, since she had never done that before. Though it contains some of the most beautiful music ever written, choirs that practice year-round can find the score challenging.



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In fact, *Messiah* is often viewed as downright intimidating. But Nyadia and the group pulled it off, and word got around. Far around. Distinguished Concerts International New York saw the performance on YouTube, and two weeks later, invited DCC to join a live performance at Carnegie Hall in New York! “We had to check to be sure it was legit!” Pastor Ginger exclaimed. “They were. There were 18 choirs involved. They were from across the United States, the United Kingdom, Hong Kong, South Africa and even one from Qatar, all joining together, nearly 500 singers in all, to sing the *Messiah*.”

“It was very special that this chorus got to represent Duncanville at Carnegie Hall,” Nyadia explained. “Eighteen singers were able to raise the funds to go with community support. They were from several different church groups and a couple of singers from the high school also went. The Rotary Club, the Lions Club and other groups gave the money.

“New York is expensive. It cost about \$2,000 per person to go. But singing the *Messiah* gave local singers an opportunity they wouldn’t have had otherwise. One of the singers from the high school is really talented. He got two full-ride scholarship offers.”

To Pastor Ginger, it was an opportunity to build the self-image of the community by celebrating the talent of the community. “Spirit-led things come up, and at First Presbyterian Church, we walk through open doors. This was one of those opportunities.”

Tackling a classical masterwork was a challenge, but the musical scope of DCC is broad. For a performance called *TGIF* this past Good Friday, selections included

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pieces from *Messiah*, Contemporary Christian music, Gospel and hymns in a bilingual celebration, pairing music with readings based on the seven last words of Christ. "We're not shy about mixing musical types," Nyadia explained. "We looked for pieces of music expressing the themes of each of those seven passages. We wanted to pair the music and the text to take the listener on a journey. We had nine different churches involved, including an a cappella selection from the Church of Christ."

For Thanksgiving, Nyadia is thinking about going back to *Messiah* and doing the whole thing this time, not just the Christmas sections. "The community really helped us get to New York, but they've never gotten to hear us sing it! It seems like a great way to end the year."



"And it's a good way to let the community see what this community can do," Pastor Ginger added. "When we see an opportunity, we like to go for it. We listen to the culture, to the people around us. And we try to understand what they need, and how we can be a positive impact. Doing things like this chorus is a lot of work, but the important thing is bringing people together."

Nyadia and Pastor Ginger are looking forward to whatever the next project will be and continuing their mission of bringing the community together to learn and grow. They've already proven that serious art can come from the ad hoc combination of the community. And when people come together, great things can happen. **NOW**

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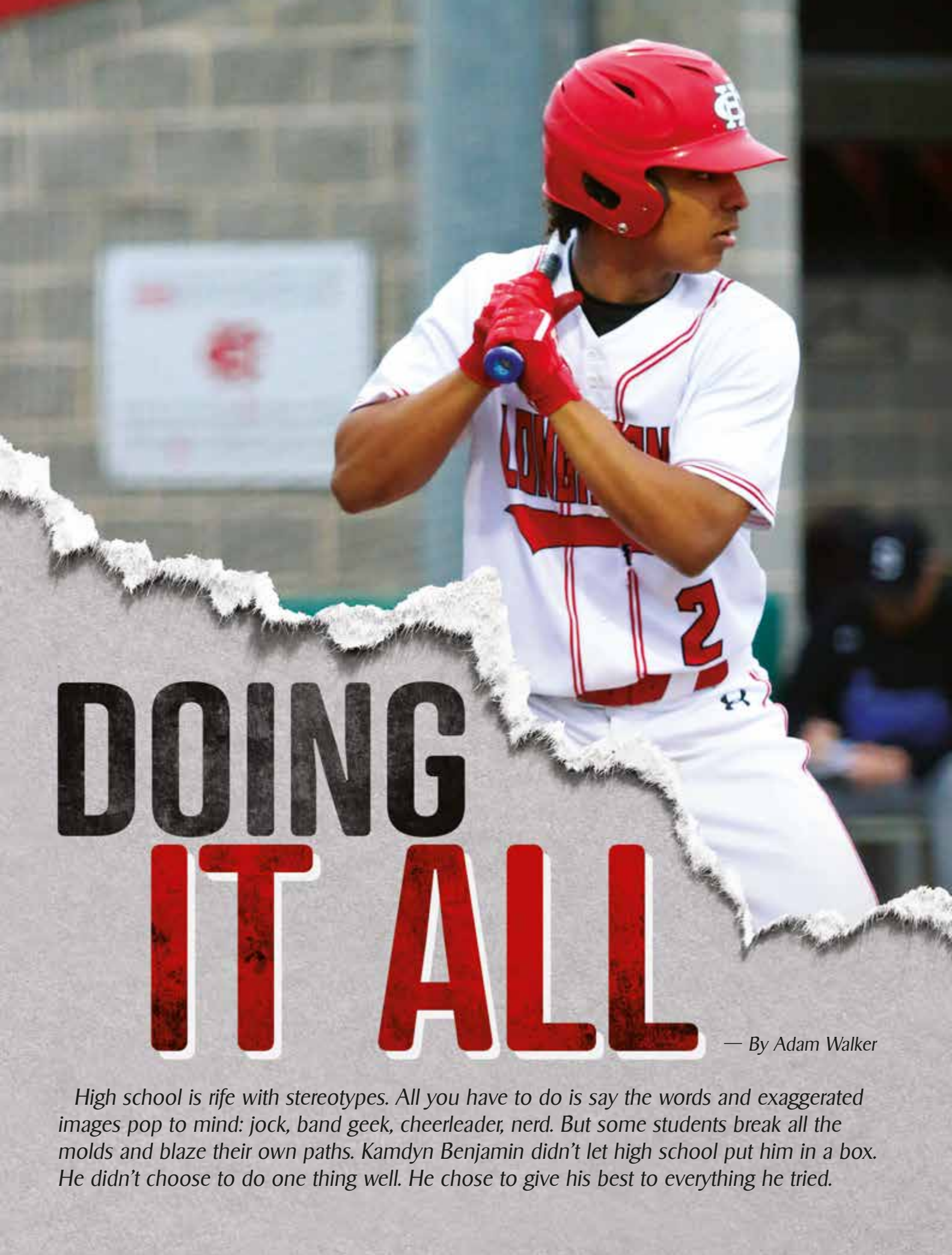
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DOING IT ALL

— By Adam Walker

High school is rife with stereotypes. All you have to do is say the words and exaggerated images pop to mind: jock, band geek, cheerleader, nerd. But some students break all the molds and blaze their own paths. Kamdyn Benjamin didn't let high school put him in a box. He didn't choose to do one thing well. He chose to give his best to everything he tried.

As the only child of an assistant athletic director and the head track coach, you'd expect Kamdyn to be involved in some sport or other. But Kamdyn lettered in four sports! He was only a freshman when he lettered in powerlifting. "I was the lightest guy in the lightest weight class. The other guys were all running around in trash bags trying to cut weight, and I was eating a big old breakfast!" He later dropped powerlifting after a knee injury, but went on to letter in track, where his dad is head coach, as well as baseball and football, where his dad coaches his position, wide receiver. This last year, Cedar Hill finished its season as district champs, and Kamdyn received scholarship offers. He made all-district



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teams in both baseball and football this year. "I'm going to University of Tulsa to play football and get a degree in exercise science," he said. "I want to coach collegiate football, but I'm also interested in physical therapy and training."

College is a challenge for some athletes, but Kamdyn has already done dual credit for several classes like college algebra, trigonometry and AP calculus. "Math has always been me. At a young age, my parents instilled in me that I had to pass to play, but not just pass, excel. After about second or third grade, I wanted to excel for *myself* not just for them. I wanted to be the best I could be." Graduating ninth out of a class of 566, most would say he succeeded quite nicely.

For most students, that would be more than enough to stay crazy busy, but Kamdyn had a few more things to do — like doing an internship at a chiropractor's office in Midlothian. "I'm there from 8:00-10:00 every morning to watch and learn. Athletes come from all over to get treatment there." He was also a member of the National Honor Society, vice president of the student council, the class historian for the seniors and a member of the superintendent's round table. He even attended a class on student leadership, that he wasn't actually enrolled in, just to learn more.

He had more than 100 community service hours, logged with a number of local nonprofits and important causes. "When the son of our head coach got cancer, we sold T-shirts to help with the costs. We did the same thing for the coach at Mansfield, and held a team prayer for him. We raised money for Pennies for Patients and did a toy drive for Hurricane Harvey relief. We also got

together with Lancaster, DeSoto and Duncanville highs to pick up trash in all four cities. I've gotten to work with so many different organizations, and I've seen how they help people."

Kamdyn's dad, in addition to coaching, runs a partnership program for special needs students. "You can only take the class as a senior, but I've been helping out since I was in seventh grade. You do all kinds of activities with partners, a special needs student and a partner. You really get to know each other. They're really great people."



Kamdyn is looking forward to college. It's a new page in his life. "I have mixed emotions. It's something new. I have to learn to be on my own. But I know people at the school I'm going to. We have three recent grads there. I'm starting a new chapter, but it's not too far away. I can get home if I really need to. It's only four hours. I'm looking forward to more football, but the classroom is where everything happens. Football won't get me a job. I need to excel in the classroom to succeed in life. I expect adversity, trying to juggle sports, a new environment, the classroom and life. But I'll become a better man and learn the skills I need for a job."

As focused as he is on success, he doesn't forget relationships. "People are important. Everything around involves people. As a coach, if you can't get along with the kids, their parents, your co-workers, they won't want you around. I'm going to miss the friends I made here, but we're friends for life. These people care about my well-being. We're like extended family. I feel like I'm prepared for college and starting the rest of my life." **NOW**

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Jane Moore makes it her mission to care about people. “I don’t like being a number, so I never want my customers to be a number. I want to make insurance not so scary. I don’t want

my customers walking out saying, ‘Well, I got insurance, but I don’t know what the heck it is!’”

Jane deals with home and auto, but also business and life insurance. She also does specialty insurance, including motorhome and motorcycle, which will surprise no one when you see the lime green slingshot parked in front of her office.

“I bought the slingshot because it is fun, but it’s also great marketing. People always notice it when I’m driving around or when I take it to events. I like unusual marketing,” Jane admitted.

Jane and her office staff dress up for holidays. “We’ve been shamrocks for St. Patrick’s Day, hearts for Valentine’s, Easter eggs for Easter, pumpkins and scarecrows at Thanksgiving. Any holiday we can think of a way to dress up for, we do,” she said. “We like to pass out candy, and we participate in the Fourth

of July and Christmas parades. We try to look as goofy as possible to get attention for the agency."

Jane has recently renovated her office, so it should be even more welcoming this Christmas when she and Mary Alanis have hot chocolate and cookies for everyone all month. "Mary is my customer service specialist. She helps keep things warm and friendly. I like for everyone who works for me to be really positive."

"I don't like being a number, so I never want my customers to be a number. I want to make insurance not so scary."

Jane has been at this location for three years since moving from a previous location, also here in Duncanville. "I was one of 12 children. I moved to Duncanville when I was 18, back in the '80s, and I've been involved here ever since. I've married and raised two kids here," Jane noted. "Now my grandkids visit me here."

Jane is involved with the Chamber of Commerce and volunteers in the community. She attends Holy Spirit Catholic Church. "You'll get to know me in about 5 minutes. Anyone in line with me at the grocery store knows me by the end!"

Jane calls herself honest to a fault. "I go out of my way to take care of people, because if you take care of people, the rest takes care of itself," she explained. "I had a client come in and buy insurance. That same evening, she called me with a flat tire, so I went! Another client called me when their house caught fire. I was there before the fire was out with a bottle of wine in hand. I want to be there for every customer who needs me."

Jane believes in Farmers Insurance. "Good insurance is not cheap, and cheap insurance is not good. Farmers may not be one of the cheapest, but it is one of the best." **NOW**

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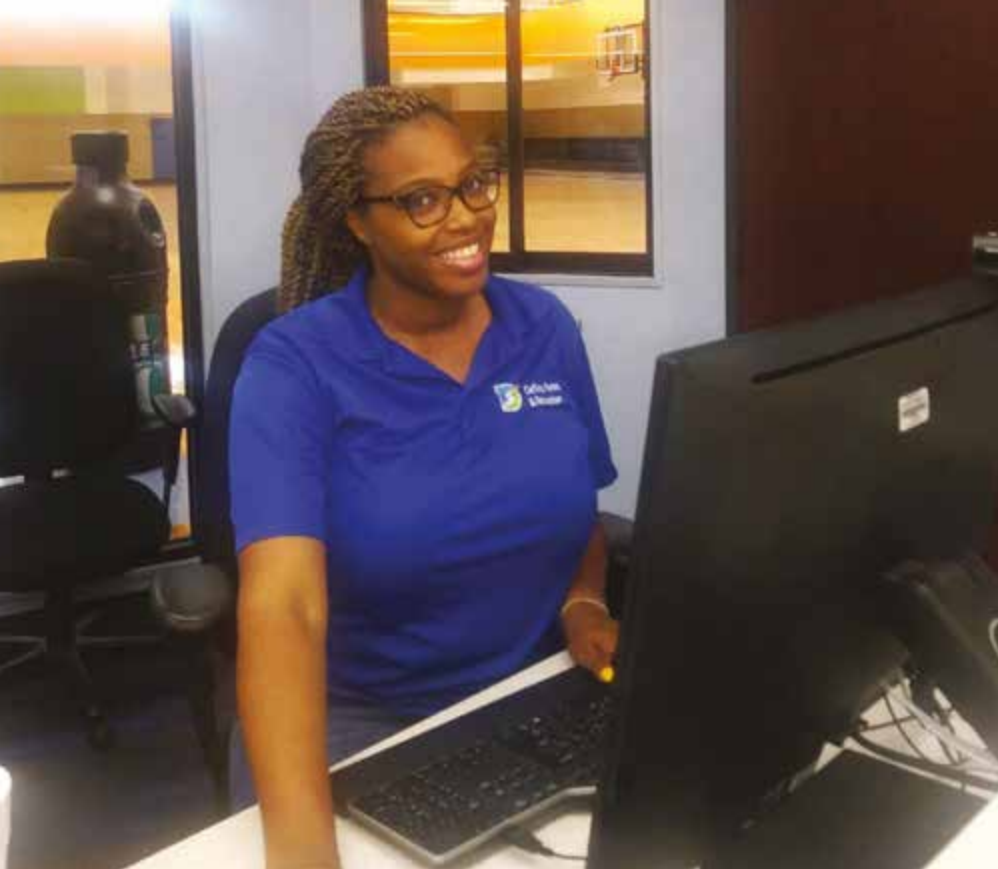
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Zoomed In: Sydney Elliott

By Adam Walker

Sydney Elliott has spent 10 years greeting visitors to DeSoto's rec center with a cheerful smile. "I'm the lead cashier assistant, meaning I get to ensure customers are happy when they leave! It's like a family here. We get to know the residents of DeSoto and develop lifelong relationships with them."

She is very enthusiastic about her work and her city. "We serve the residents and people who work in DeSoto. It gets busy in here during our rush hours before work and just after work when lots of people want to get in their workouts. We see everyone from moms and dads to groups of children from local day care centers to grandparents coming in here every day to have fun and exercise."



Cedar Hill Mayor Stephen Mason and Council Member Shirley Daniels present the Summer Reading Art Contest First Place Award to Trey Jenkins, in the Kindergarten through Fourth Grade Division.



Former DeSoto Councilman Dick North and new Superintendent Dr. Dandre Weaver attend the DeSoto Rotary Club meeting.



The Duncanville City Council recognizes the 2018-2019 State Championship basketball team.



Manuel Beckles works to get ready for the opening of Shona African Sculptures Gallery.



Brittany Walker and her daughter, Joyce, have fun splashing in the fountains at Hillside Village.



Kendra Turner takes care of hungry diners at Cracker Barrel.



Members of the Dallas base of U.S. Submarine Veterans participate in a blood drive.



Patrons of Duncanville Community Theatre celebrate at a performance of Beehive - The 60s Musical.

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CookingNOW

In the Kitchen With SIZIWE NCUBE

— By Adam Walker



Siziwe Ncube celebrates her South African heritage in her cooking. Her mother began teaching her to cook at an early age. “I believe I was 7 years old when I started making tea for my dad in the morning,” she said.

Though her years of experience have led her to work as a professional baker, some of her early attempts were less successful. “I remember when I decided to cook for one of the holidays. I was excited that I was going to make a garlic stew that I had eaten at one of our Faith and Light gatherings. It turned out to be a complete disaster, because I did not know how much garlic I needed for two pounds of lamb meat. It was a *real* garlic stew!” **NOW**

Samosas

Crust:

1/4 cup water, plus small additional amount for paste
1 cup flour, plus small additional amount for paste
1/4 cup oil, plus additional amount for deep frying

Filling:

1 clove garlic
1 lb. ground lean beef or lamb

1/2 medium onion, thinly sliced
1 tsp. masala spice
1/2 tsp. curry powder
1/2 tsp. turmeric
Salt, to taste
2 carrots, small diced
1 cup peas

1. For crust: Mix water, flour and oil.
2. Knead into a dough; roll into a ball. Using a rolling pin, roll the dough into a very thin layer; cut into squares, approximately 4x4 inches. You can use

store-bought egg roll sheets if you don't want to make your own crust.

3. For filling: Combine garlic, meat, onion, masala spice, curry powder, turmeric, salt, carrots and peas; sauté in a heavy frying pan. Cook for 30-35 minutes, stirring to break the meat up so there are no clumps. Allow the meat to cool down.

4. Spoon the meat onto cut out dough squares.

5. Combine a small amount of flour and water to make a paste. Fold the dough squares around the meat into a triangle shape, sealing the corners with the flour paste.

6. In a pot, add sufficient oil for deep frying. Deep fry the samosas until golden brown. Serve as an appetizer or snack.

Pap

2 cups cornmeal (divided use)
1 cup water

1. Combine 3/4 cup cornmeal with water. Pour the mixture into a heavy pot. Turn your stove on medium-high. Stir until it thickens.

2. Let it simmer for 10 minutes before adding the remaining cornmeal. While on the stove, mix with a wooden spoon until smooth.
3. Turn the stove heat to low; let it cook for 8-10 minutes.

Beef Stew

- 2 Tbsp. oil of your choice
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 lb. beef, cut into cubes
- 1 clove garlic, chopped
- 1/2 tsp. black pepper
- 3 large tomatoes, sliced
- 2 medium potatoes, cubed
- 4 carrots, chopped
- 1 cup green peas
- 2 cayenne peppers (optional)
- 2 bay leaves, crushed
- Salt, to taste
- 1/2 cup water

1. In a skillet, heat oil on medium-high. Add onions; sauté until soft.
2. Add meat, garlic and black pepper. Cook on medium-high, until the meat is browned. Then cover and reduce heat to medium. Let the meat cook for half an hour.
3. Add tomatoes, potatoes, carrots, green peas, cayenne peppers, bay leaves and salt. Simmer until the meat and vegetables are tender. Pour in water. Serve with rice or pap.

Samp

- 4 cups samp (This is a crushed corn product, much coarser than cornmeal. Wal-Mart carries it.)
- 2 Tbsp. oil
- 3 cups water or broth
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 tomato, chopped
- 2 medium potatoes, chopped
- Salt, to taste
- Pepper, to taste

1. Rinse the samp. Add the oil; mix so it doesn't clump when cooked. Add water or broth and samp to a pan. Cook the samp until soft.
2. Sauté onion; add tomato and potatoes. Cook until the potatoes are tender. Add samp, salt and pepper. Keep stirring; cook until well mixed.
3. If serving this side with beef, use beef broth. If serving with chicken, use chicken broth, etc.

Pumpkin Leaves

- 1 bunch fresh pumpkin leaves
- 1/4 cup water
- 1/2 small onion (optional)



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Greens

- 2 Tbsp. butter or olive oil**
(I prefer butter.)
- 2 small tomatoes (regular tomatoes, not Romas)**
- 1/2 cup whipping cream**

1. Wash the pumpkin leaves thoroughly under cold running water. Peel off the rough outer layer of the pumpkin leaves. Slice the leaves thinly.

2. Add pumpkin leaves and water to a pan; cook on the stove top until soft. Remove from the stove; let the leaves cool.

- 3.** Fry onions in olive oil or butter, if using them. Add tomatoes to the olive oil or butter.
- 4.** Add the pumpkin leaves into the cooking tomatoes. Add the whipping cream to the leaves.
- 5.** Serve with your favorite meat as a vegetable side.

Greens

- 1 bunch collard or turnip greens**
- 1 medium onion**

- 1/4 cup vegetable oil or olive oil**
(what I prefer)
- 1 large tomato, sliced**
- Salt, to taste**
- Pepper, to taste**

- 1.** Wash the greens thoroughly under running water; slice them into thin ribbons. Soak the greens in warm water for 2 minutes. (This is optional. Some people like their greens crunchy. Warm water makes them softer and helps them cook faster.)
- 2.** Slice or chop the onion. In a skillet, add the oil and heat. Sauté the onion. Add the sliced tomato and cook.
- 3.** Drain the greens; add them into the onion and tomato mixture. Add salt and pepper. Cook for 10 minutes, if soaked, or for 15 minutes, if unsoaked. Serve with your favorite meat.

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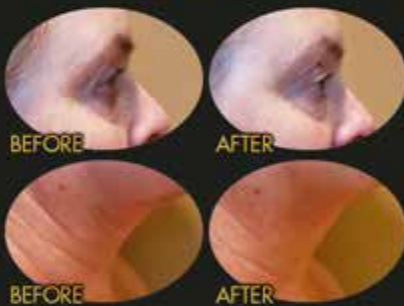


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— By Virginia Riddle

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Founded in 1706 by Don Francisco Cuervo y Valdés in honor of the Duke of Albuquerque Viceroy of New Spain, the first "r" was dropped in later spellings, leaving the city nicknamed the "Duke City." Old Town Historic District's plaza, anchored by the stately walls and quiet spirituality of San Felipe de Neri Church, built in 1793, is surrounded by *placitas* (small plazas), home to residents, shops, galleries and historic sites. iExplora!, the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science and the Albuquerque Museum are sure stops.

In Spanish style, roads fan out from the plaza in all four directions. East to west, enjoy time travel back to the 1920s-1960s when much of downtown and the Nob Hill-Highland District grew up around the historic Route 66, which, in town, becomes Central Avenue.

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Traveling westward from the plaza, the Albuquerque BioPark hosts an aquarium and botanical garden. Take the Rio Line narrow-gauge railroad to the zoo and Tingley Beach and hike or walk the 16-mile *Paseo del Bosque Trail*. Climb in the ancients' footsteps on extinct volcanos to view the petroglyphs carved between 1000 B.C. and 1600 A.D. at the Petroglyph National Monument.

Southward from the plaza, the Barales community hosts the National Hispanic Cultural Center of New Mexico with its art galleries, performing arts venues, library and archives. Historic Barales grew up around a Rio Grande River ford near the Camino Real, the Spanish road connecting Mexico City and Santa Fe.

Travel northward from the plaza on Rio Grande Boulevard a few miles to the North Valley where fertile, irrigated farms, ranches and vineyards thrive. Hike along the river at the Rio Grande Nature Center State Park and visit the Unser Racing Museum.

Enjoy driving to the historic Village of Corrales, the state's self-proclaimed horse capital. Return to Albuquerque by way of 4th Street, which bisects the Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque as a continuation of Route 66.

Then perhaps catch a hot air balloon ride at the Anderson-Abruzzo International Balloon Museum, or delight in viewing skies dotted with colorful hot air balloons during dawns and sunsets while breakfasting or supping New Mexico-style Mexican food, featuring the state's largest crop, green chili peppers, on a restaurant's patio. With mariachis performing, it's the perfect way to relax. **NOW**

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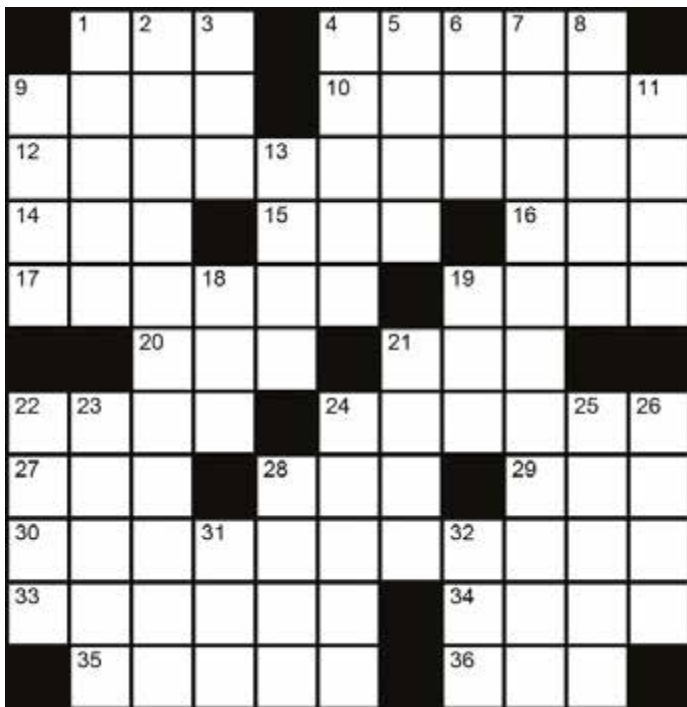
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Crossword Puzzle



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Across

- 1 Illustrative craft
- 4 Knitted wrap
- 9 — Falco of "Nurse Jackie"
- 10 Hawaiian Punch fruit
- 12 Lawsuit
- 14 Exclamation of contempt
- 15 Writing fluid
- 16 Blaster's material
- 17 Wedding vow sites
- 19 Sunday rite
- 20 Pro bono promo, briefly
- 21 Female sibling
- 22 Encourage in wrongdoing
- 24 Most pleasant
- 27 High rock
- 28 Rollaway
- 29 Dove sound
- 30 Impish
- 33 Skiers' haunts
- 34 Taverns
- 35 Gin
- 36 Append

Down

- 1 Words after make or close
- 2 Just the one
- 3 Long Island iced cocktail
- 4 Crosses
- 5 Writer for hire
- 6 Disposed
- 7 "Hey, that's not right!"
- 8 Film critic Jeffrey ---
- 9 Able was I ere I saw ---
- 11 Pangolin food
- 13 Old Italian money
- 18 Nova Scotia hours
- 19 It may be open at a bar
- 21 Location
- 22 Cash caches, perhaps
- 23 Prepares eggs
- 24 Din
- 25 Narrow sea channel
- 26 Throw
- 28 Singer who's got you, Babe!
- 31 IRS forms expert
- 32 By way of

Solutions on page 44

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Sudoku Puzzle

Easy

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

Medium

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

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Solutions on page 44

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AMERICAN OR TEXAS FLAG

Requires 4 days and good ventilation.

- * 1 pallet
- * Sandpaper
- * Paintbrush
- * Chalk paint in navy blue, apple red and pure white
- * High gloss clear lacquer

Define the exact placement of the small rectangle, the order of the stripes and the positioning of the stars before you get started. You'll want the bottom, middle and top slats painted red and the intervening boards white. If you're painting the Texas flag, don't forget the white box is positioned above the red one.

Start painting the white color portions first. Make all the stars a little bigger, even messier, than the end result. While the white paint dries, wash your paintbrush thoroughly and prop it up to dry. When you're ready, paint the darker colors. Where they meet the white, allow a 1/4-inch overlap.

For a folk-art feeling, only use one coat. For a Warhol-ish effect, paint three coats. This wall- or yard-art can be hung or propped against a vertical object, like a tree or a garage wall. A more functional method to enjoy your patriotic pop art is to place it flag-up atop a stack of 5 to 7 other pallets and use it as a table.

HERB GARDEN

Requires 2 hours and no sanding.

- * 1 pallet

- * 25 seedling herbs
- * 1 48x40-inch plot of land
- * 1 shovel
- * 1 hoe
- * 1 trowel
- * 1 hose

Using shovel and hoe, prepare a 48x40-inch plot of ground by digging deep, turning the soil at least five times before hoeing the ground level. Place the pallet on the flat, prepared ground. Dig five holes between each slat with your trowel.

Wearing gloves to protect against splinters, place each seedling into the holes, and tamp loose dirt around its root base with your fingers. Use your hose for five minutes each morning, and another five each evening, to gently spray your garden. Moisture in the wood will prevent the baby herbs from drying out, while the slats will be a weed-barrier.

TEA PARTY PANTRY

Requires 48 hours.

- * 1 pallet
- * Sandpaper (optional)
- * 25 large, attractive screw hooks
- * 1 paintbrush
- * High gloss clear lacquer
- * 1 heavy-duty picture-hanging kit
- * 1 screwdriver
- * 2 tea towels
- * 20 hot beverage mugs with handles
- * 3 attractive drawstring bags
- * 3 boxes of your 3 favorite teas

al

RTR

— By Melissa Rawlins



Sand rough edges off the pallet, if a polished look is desired. Using just your hands, patiently screw into your slats all the hooks, making sure all are facing the same direction and none are closer than 7 inches from each other.

Paint slats cross-grain with a thin layer of lacquer, covering each hook where it connects to the wood. After that dries, paint another layer of lacquer with the grain. Once fully dry, use the picture-hanging kit to position your Tea Party Pantry for immediate hospitality. Arrange mugs and tea towels attractively on the hooks. Fill each drawstring bag with a special type of tea and hang one each on the three remaining hooks.

FRONT YARD SWING

Requires 4 hours and access to electricity.

- * 2 pallets
- * 1 piece of plywood
- * 1 handheld drill with a 2-inch drill bit
- * 1 100-foot length of strong rope
- * 2 strong boys or girls

Place the plywood on the ground. Position the two pallets side-by-side atop the plywood. Drill 2-inch holes through the plywood, 4 inches from the perimeter, between every slat in the pallet.

Sew the rope through the holes, looping it over and under each slat. You want to have rope handles extending up from each end of the swing. Knot the rope ends securely. Send each rope handle up the tree with 2 strong, tree-climbing children. Once they position the rope over



the appropriate branches, they can shimmy back down and take a nap on their swing.

Once your unique project is completed, the possibilities for sharing are endless. Posting photos to social media sites is the simplest way to inspire a large number of people. For maximum fun, invite a few friends over to christen your creation. **NOW**



7/3

Space Safari:

Ventriloquist Nancy Worcester performing. 10:15 a.m., Duncanville Public Library, 201 James Collins Blvd., Duncanville.

7/4

Lions Club Fourth of July Parade:

Come enjoy the fun on Freeman, Wheatland and Main streets. Free. 9:00 a.m., Duncanville.

Red, White and Pool:

Dress in red, white and blue to enjoy family fun and games, music and prizes. \$2. 1:00-5:45 p.m., Crawford Pool, 401 Strauss Rd., Cedar Hill.

Fourth of July Celebration:

Live music, food, bounce houses and more. Under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Wristband from the Rec Center required for entry; limit 5 per person. 6:00 p.m.; fireworks at 9:30 p.m. Armstrong Park, 100 James Collins Blvd., Duncanville.

7/5

Zathura:

Enjoy a family-friendly movie at the library. Popcorn provided. 1:00 p.m., Zula B. Wylie Public Library, 225 Cedar St., Cedar Hill.

All Funk Radio:

Enjoy an outdoor concert benefiting Warrior Spirit Project. Free, but donations of money or yoga equipment accepted. 7:00-9:00 p.m., 305 W. FM 1382, Cedar Hill.

7/8-7/12

Tween Space Camp With the Fort Worth Museum of Science:

Explore space with experts from the museum. 1:00 p.m. Call (972) 291-7323, ext. 1305 to register.

7/10

Three Little Pigs:

Sandy Shrout performs puppets. 10:15 a.m., Duncanville Public Library, 201 James Collins Blvd., Duncanville.

Painting With a Twix:

Learn to paint and eat candy. Free. 2:00-4:00 p.m., DeSoto Public Library, 211 E. Pleasant Run Rd., Ste. C, DeSoto.

7/12

Spider-man:

Into the Spider-verse:

All ages welcome to enjoy the film. 2:00 p.m., Duncanville Public Library, 201 James Collins Blvd., Duncanville.

Many Faces, Many Voices:

Explore stories, food and music

from around the world. 6:30 p.m., Zula B. Wylie Public Library, 225 Cedar St., Cedar Hill.

Rob Holbert Band:

Enjoy high energy jazz and support Bridges Safehouse. Free, but donations of money or clothing for infants, toddlers and women accepted. 7:00-9:00 p.m., 305 W. FM 1382, Cedar Hill.

7/13

Shifting the Paradigm of Business:

Free business conference. 9:00 a.m., Trinity Church, 1231 E. Pleasant Run Rd., Cedar Hill. Register at (972) 291-7323, ext. 1313.

Taste of Cedar Hill and Business Expo:

Enjoy a car show, live music, food and meet local businesses. Free to attend; \$10 for food pass. 3:00-8:00 p.m., Historic Downtown Cedar Hill, 300 Houston St. (Parking at J.C. Penny 333 N. Hwy. 67 free shuttle), Cedar Hill.

7/16-7/17

Dallas Zoo:

Come meet the animals. **Tuesday:** 7:00 p.m.; **Wednesday:** 10:15 a.m., Duncanville Public Library, 201 James Collins Blvd., Duncanville.

7/17

Poetic Storyteller Oba William King:

Storytelling for the whole family. 10:30 a.m., Zula B. Wylie Public Library, 225 Cedar St., Cedar Hill.

7/18

Bernadette the Bubble Lady:

Learn to blow huge bubbles. 10:30 a.m., Zula B. Wylie Public Library, 225 Cedar St., Cedar Hill.

7/19

How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World:

A fun film for the whole family. 2:00 p.m., Duncanville Public Library, 201 James Collins Blvd., Duncanville.

Final Showdown:

Enjoy live Country and Western music and dancing. \$5. 7:00-9:30 p.m., Hopkins Senior Center, 206 James Collins Blvd., Duncanville.

Moving Colors:

Enjoy some of today's hits and support Gabby's Sanctuary Ark. Free, but donations of money, horse feed or fly spray accepted. 7:00-9:00 p.m., 305 W. FM 1382, Cedar Hill.



7/4

Old-fashioned Fourth of July Fireworks Celebration:

Bring a lawn chair or blanket. Free. 6:00-10:00 p.m., Grimes Park, 501 E. Wintergreen Rd. DeSoto.

7/20

Party in the Park:

Enjoy food, drinks and games with your neighbors and city officials at the dedication of the new gazebo. Free. 10:00 a.m.-noon., Bradford Park, 401 W. Wintergreen Rd., Cedar Hill.

7/22

Find Your Fortune:

Investment seminar. 7:00 p.m., Zula B. Wylie Public Library, 225 Cedar St., Cedar Hill. Sign up at (972) 291-7323, ext. 1300.

7/23

Aztec Dancers Ollimpaxqui Ballet Company:

Enjoy the color and pageantry. 7:00 p.m., Duncanville Public Library, 201 James Collins Blvd., Duncanville.

7/24

Space Magic Show:

Brett Roberts performing. 10:15 a.m., Duncanville Public Library, 201 James Collins Blvd., Duncanville.

7/25

Stunt Juggler Matt Tardy:

Juggling feats of strength and flexibility get the audience involved. 10:30 a.m., Zula B. Wylie Public Library, 225 Cedar St., Cedar Hill.

7/26

Cover Down Band:

Enjoy some dance tunes and support Soaring Eagle Center. Free, but donations of money, standard-size basketballs or art supplies accepted. 7:00-9:00 p.m., 305 W. FM 1382, Cedar Hill.

7/27

9th Texas Infantry Living History:

Learn about life during the Civil War with the divided Penn family. Meet at the farmhouse. Regular park admission. 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Cedar Hill State Park, 1570 W. FM 1382, Cedar Hill.

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

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Crossword - Sudoku Solutions

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9	E	D	I	E	10	P	A	P	A
12	L	E	G	A	13	L	A	C	T
14	B	A	H	15	I	N	K	16	T
17	A	L	T	18	A	R	S	19	M
20	P	S	A	21	S	I	S	22	A
23	B	E	T	24	N	I	C	25	E
27	T	O	R	28	C	O	T	29	C
30	M	I	S	31	C	H	I	32	V
33	S	L	O	P	E	S	34	I	N
35	S	N	A	R	E	36	A	D	D

Easy

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

Medium

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

Happy 4th of July!

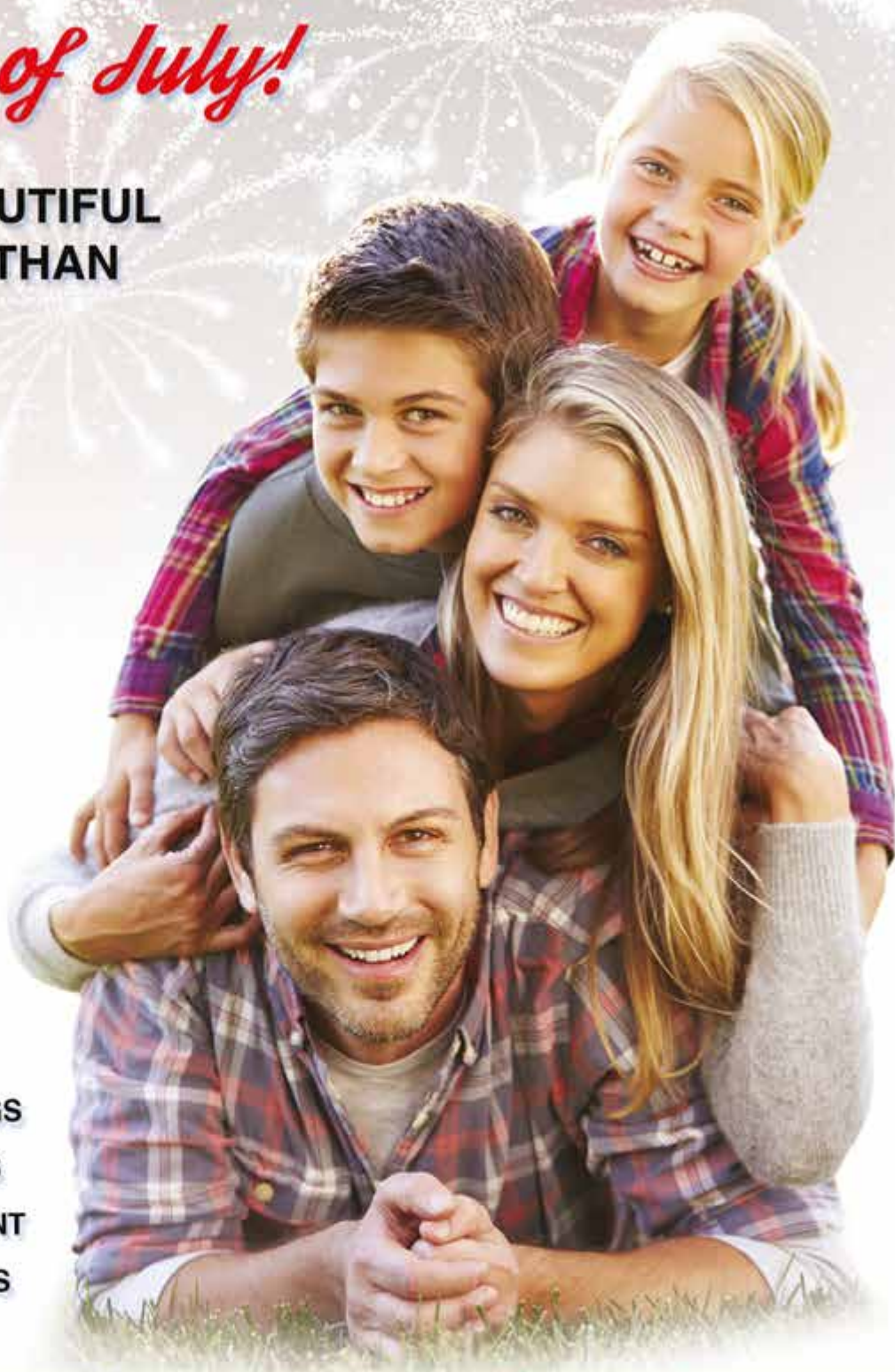
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