BurlesonNOW

July 2021

Heart of Competitive Sports

The role of referee keeps Becky Ramirez active in sports

Starting Over, Being Happy

Nataliia Hays' roots in the Ukraine transplanted beautifully to Texas REF

In the Kitchen With Kayla Pruitt

Also inside:

Scavenger Hunt

Crossword/Sudoku

Featured Business: Elk Creek Assisted Living

GIATROPA E U GIATROPA E U KT EAJJAG OGACA TIMPER

....ECBM28 EDDW....



Dr. Richard R. Knight, M.D.

Michaela L., Arlington, TX

In 2019 while I was pregnant with my son Remington, postpartum depression hit me hard while also trying to come to terms that I was going to be a single mom. After having my son, my PPD was just getting worse. While he was in the NICU, I found myself eating so many things that weren't healthy. Trying to juggle a newborn while also taking care of myself was impossible. I developed the worst eating habits. I was beyond over trying to hide the 30 pounds I gained while pregnant. Feeling beyond miserable trying to love my "new body", I tried so many diet plans, but nothing ever seemed to work. I found myself getting frustrated. I didn't want to hate the way I looked anymore, judge, or even point out everything I disliked about my body.

Finding Diet Solutions Center in 2021 was the best thing! Their affordable plans, how encouraging their staff is! They helped me shed the 30 pounds in just a few months! It's an amazing feeling going from who I was two years ago to loving who I am now! I can't thank Diet Solution Centers enough for helping me love who I am again!

BEFORE AFTER *Individual results

Michaela L. lost **26.5 lbs.** in 10 weeks.*

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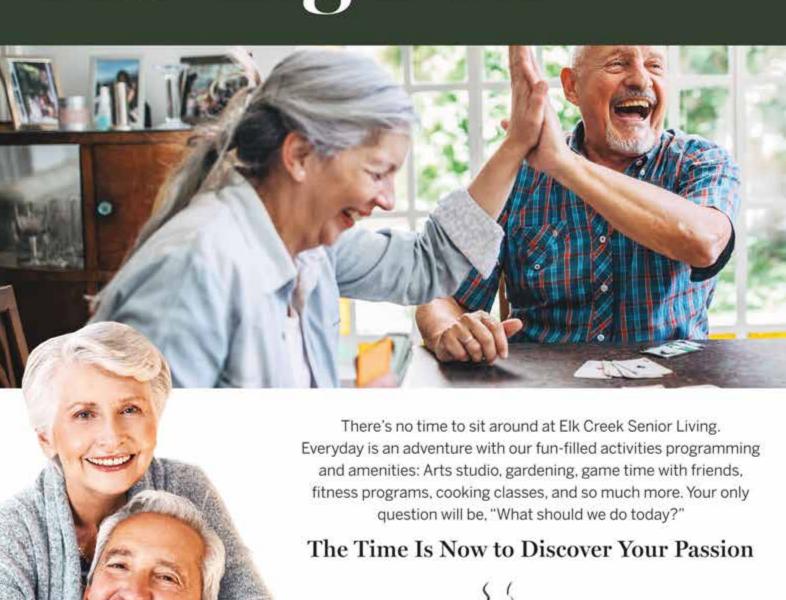
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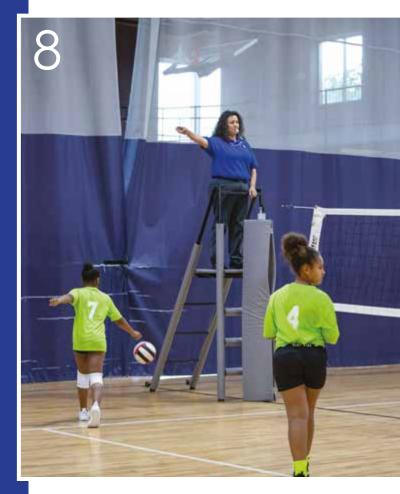


HEART OF COMPETITIVE SPORTS

Officiating gives Becky Ramirez an opportunity to affect student athletes.

14 STARTING OVER, BEING **HAPPY**

> It took moving to Texas for Nataliia Hays to find love and success.



16 Around TownNOW

20 BusinessNOW

22 CookingNOW

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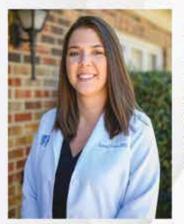
Becky Ramirez loves the kids as much as the sports.

Photo by SRC Photography.

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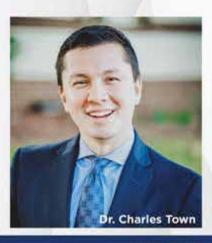
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WELCOME DR. KELSEY GREENE

Dr. Greene completed her undergraduate degree in Biochemistry with a minor in Biology at Roanoke College. Following this, she graduated from VCU School of Dentistry in 2018 and went on to do additional training in general dentistry at the Washington DC Veterans Affairs Hospital. Dr. Greene enjoys practicing all areas of restorative and cosmetic dentistry. She is focused on keeping up with the latest dental technology and practices and she continues to exceed the hours of continuing education each year. During her free time, Dr. Greene enjoys running, volunteering at dental service projects, trying new recipes, and spending time with family.



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Lisa Bell BurlesonNOW Editor lisa.bell@nowmagazines.com (817) 269-9066

EDITOR'S NOTE

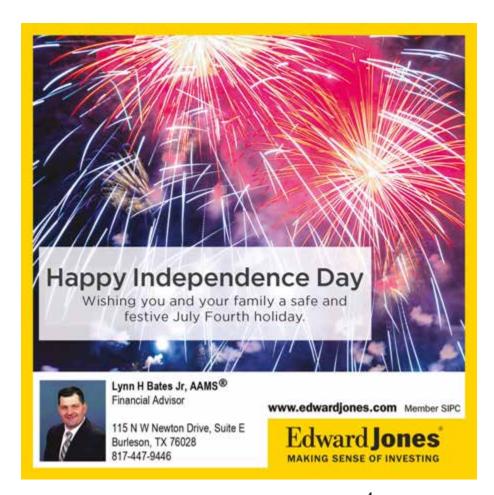
What is freedom?

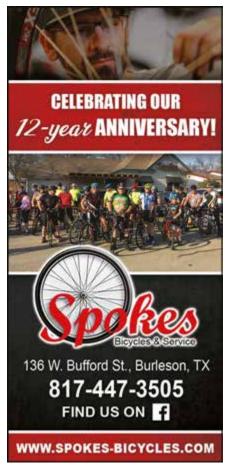
I could pull out a dictionary and give you a definition, but only word nerds do things like that. Instead, I pose that question as a challenge. We instinctively know the definition of freedom — not living enslaved or imprisoned. There you go. Now, let's get real. Freedom means so much more than that. Think of all the little freedoms we enjoy in this nation. I can get in my car and take off for a weekend — as long as I don't have small children or pets I abandon. I can choose where and what I eat, drink and do. Although, those things also have limitations. None of you want to see me running around in a bikini. I could, but I won't. You're welcome.

Isn't that the beauty of freedom, though? We have choices. The right to choose most everything in our lives. For me, the best liberty exists in my heart and mind. I am free to choose forgiveness or bitterness, dwelling on past pain or pushing beyond a myriad of wounds to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. I determine whether to proceed on my present path or take a road less traveled that challenges, but changes, the course of my life.

Which direction will I choose? Different ones every day. The exquisiteness of freedom means I wake up tomorrow, forget what lies behind and press forward to the sweet freedom of my future. What is freedom? Decide what it means for you, and walk in it.

Have a safe and happy Independence Day!







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Some 43.5 million US adults currently act as sole caregivers for aging parents or loved ones. Here are four signs that transitioning to a senior living community could result in superior care for your loved ones, and more peace of mind for caregivers and families.

INCREASED DEPENDENCE

Chronic or escalating health concerns call for specialized care which families may be unable to provide.

CAREGIVER STRESS

Consider the value of daily meals and assistance, housekeeping and laundry service, etc.

RISK OF INJURY OR FALL

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Source: Institute of Aging

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Assisted Living







"Without the ref, there is no competitive game," Becky Ramirez shared. At least, not one that anyone thinks about much. Neighborhood pickup games happen all the time, friends playing sports together. While those kids in fields or on basketball courts may look and feel competitive, they don't win championship games or have colleges looking at their skills, offering them scholarships. Fun moments kids may remember later in life, they don't necessarily present opportunities that change those young lives. Generally, organized sports provide more discipline, not only for the athletes but also for officials. More importantly, as a sports official, Becky has the chance to help students, whether they play or learn to officiate. She gets to make a difference, and that's why she loves what she does.

Becky grew up in a family with little money. Nevertheless, she enjoyed school and loved sports. "I played everything but football," she admitted. "Girls get hurt playing football." In college, she played flag football for fun, but had no desire for the rougher version. In high school, she ended up as band president and homecoming queen, despite living more or less alone most of her high school years. "Coach Center put me on that path," she said. "He gave me a whistle and said, 'Ref those little kids." Her school coach saw something in the young woman, and, like many coaches, took an authoritative role in her life.

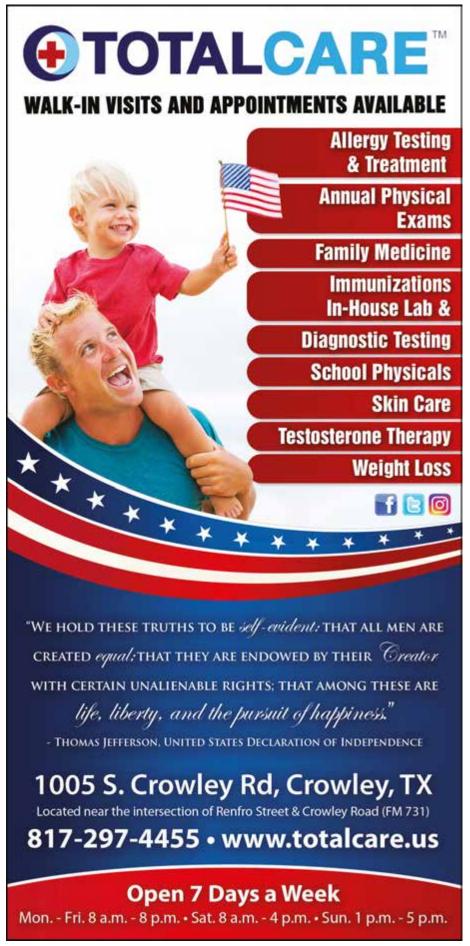
While Becky found the responsibility of officiating humbling, it provided a small amount of money, and also provided her with skills such as making quick decisions. Within a short time, it became a passion for her. In the position, she influenced young kids, many who later moved into a referee position. She enjoyed encouraging the athletes, too, telling them they did a good job, sometimes offering a touch of coaching. As she remained positive, her attitude influenced more than the kids, making an impression on other officials, coaches and parents.

"Referees are memorable," Becky stated. "We're here together to create a moment in time that will be celebrated later. You leave knowing you've done the best job possible." Sports referees seldom get a thank you, most often enduring badgering and, sometimes, abusive behavior. When calling any game, invariably some calls can go either way, but not all spectators understand that part of officiating. Few people continue long term in the profession because of harsh insults they receive. Becky, however, sets aside the negative and continues in the field because she loves working with the kids.





VE SPORTS





Earlier in life, she worked at the YMCA teaching archery. One day, she overheard the director on a call, desperately trying to get a location on officials he expected. He got a response of, "Not my problem. It's your problem." Becky stepped in and officiated for him that day. She realized then how frequently non-University of Interscholastic League groups had issues with getting referees. She connected with a few other refs, and they quickly went from serving with one YMCA to serving with 10.

That led to Becky creating a company three years ago, iRef, that arranges referees for non-UIL sports. Through her company, she also trains young people who need a job to become officials for all sports. In 2020, she received the honor of Hispanic business of the year with her fast-growing company. Knowing the trials of low income, Becky established a nonprofit, iREf2. The organization supplies a uniform, whistle and shoes to kids who can't afford to purchase them when they start officiating.

"You remember both great and challenging kids," she shared. "They're growing and need to learn how to communicate in contentious situations." Never having a process in her teen years, she created one to help as many students as possible. "I wasn't given a process," Becky added. "I was given an opportunity."

Becky personally referees at least six different sports and teaches basic skills of officiating all of them. Most all who come to her for training need to learn communication. She helps where needed after taking an application and completing the background check, critical because they spend so much time with children. After a time of





teaching, she likes to get them on the court, continue teaching, evaluate and give them feedback. She also uses a scenarios class to prepare each referee for possible situations. During the process, she watches, and when they are ready, Becky lets them officiate.

All these skills help youth grow and mature. They can take the skills to college and beyond, forging a positive future.

"Coach Center was the most influential person during my teen years, like a father to me," she said. Becky wants to have that same type of impact on kids, whether in a game or as a mentor. As she provides the same chance she received when most needed, Becky relishes seeing many of those students become successful. Their success later in life brings her the greatest joy. NOW



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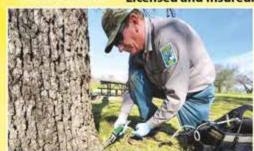
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Russian is her first language. Ukrainian her second. English is Nataliia Hays' third language, and with it, she moves people's hearts. Lifelines, the transformational psychological board game she developed since moving here to marry the love of her life, has helped people navigate problems for the past three years. Folks throughout the United States, Italy, Poland, Spain, Russia and the Ukraine have played Lifelines with Nataliia either in person or over the Internet. Nataliia's message is poignant in any language: "Anything can happen in your life, but you are the only one who can take yourself and put you back on track, start something over, be again happy."

STARTING OVER,

Eing

- By Melissa Rawlins

people behaved the way they did, Nataliia found a book by Louise Hay. "She saved my life," Nataliia said. "When I read her book, I saw that the story of her life was very close to mine. I realized I want to be strong and try my best with my life."

Nataliia became the first in her family to graduate from a university and develop a career. After earning her master's in business management, Nataliia became a regional manager for Russian Standard Bank in the Ukraine, opening that branch from scratch and managing 400 people.

"Everything was great except my personal life," she recalled. "While I was big boss and successful business lady, so independent, I decided I could have a child on my own. So, I did. I had a nanny, but after three months I realized something was wrong. I did not feel right."

That's when her high school English teacher visited and met her baby. "She wanted to introduce me to a wonderful man who works with her husband in the United States, and she told me, 'You did enough. You need to concentrate on your happiness as a woman," Nataliia said. She agreed. "I had observed other examples of full families, with mom and dad and kids, and I wanted this for myself."

The second time she was told, "It's enough. You have enough education," was while studying health system management at Texas Woman's University. If she had not come to Texas to build her life with Chuck, Nataliia would not have

For the last 12 years, Nataliia has lived in Burleson, Texas, clearly shining joy through her flashing eyes and smile. Her prior journey made her into the woman Chuck Hays fell in love with in 2009. A counselor in the Fort Worth Independent School District, Chuck took a friend's advice and began communicating with Nataliia over the Internet. She likewise listened to a friend, and her openhearted connection proved itself solid within months. When Chuck visited her the first time, he flew to Kiev. Her hometown was five hours away, and he had to wait for Nataliia because the weather was so bad.

"The ice was like a mirror on the road. I'm driving as fast as I can," she said, remembering the romantic union, sealed after she moved to Texas to marry Chuck and build a family with her son, Syvatik, and Chuck's two children, Kelsey and Jake. "In 2009, December, I left my career, apartment, personal driver, everything, for my personal happiness to become [a] wife, mom and happy woman, finally."

Once she got her feet on the ground, her new husband and multiple English, business and psychology teachers poured encouragement into her. Only then was Nataliia finally able to act on a dream she carried in her heart for more than 10 years. The inspiration to create the game came while she was a teen in a home filled with turmoil, experiencing every confusion imaginable without emotional support.

Taking refuge in books, always seeking to understand why



had entrance into that classroom, where her professor activated her prior knowledge that the health system of people is not only about bodies. It's psychological and mental as well as physical.

That's when Nataliia had her a-ha moment. "I saw the complexity. I realized it was already 20 years after I was hoping to become a psychologist," she said with tears in her eyes. "I realized I lost my dream on this journey, so I started taking different courses and learned about games. That was my first step to the world I was dreaming before."

The second step was her husband's near fatal heart attack, which occurred while they were in a Ukrainian restaurant in 2017. "This night in hospital, there was a moment when his heart stopped beating, and I saw the one line on the screen. I realized how much I loved him, how easy and fragile life is and how I want to share with people some of my knowledge, experience and education," Nataliia said. His cardiogram inspired Nataliia's game board.

Her dreams took form once she found a designer, a woman also from the Ukraine. She unveiled her handwritten image on a big piece of paper, spoke to the designer about energy and harmony, explained that her logo had to have dark green, light green and blue. "We edited and collaborated and found that by using six-sided shapes, it looks good. You can see in the middle it's a heart, to represent the message of Lifelines: As long as our hearts beat and we draw breath, we can change things or even start over. Usually in the game, people realize how wonderful our life, how blessed we are, how much we know, how much we can do more."

Nataliia's Lifelines board can be rolled up and carried in its custom velvet bag with a deck of cards carrying questions, answers and hints for making people's journeys more productive. Nataliia carries her velvet bag everywhere she goes, available for every opportunity to share her heart. Although she doesn't have an online version, she uses virtual meetings to play with others. She's thankful for every day and every person who helped her along the way. Whether she's at Scarborough Faire for a fling with her blue-eyed husband, singing in a Ukrainian choir in downtown Dallas or simply sitting in her white leather chair in her home office, Nataliia will always do what she does because it makes her happy. Now



Zoomed In: Cesar Beltran

Winner of the KERRBY Award at REALM Secondary School, Cesar Beltran, beams with pride. One of six children in a blended family, Cesar falls right in the middle. "He just has that extra something," said stepfather Jason. "He's well-rounded athletically, intellectually and socially." Recommended for REALM by his fifth-grade teachers, Cesar moves to ninth grade in the 2021-22 school year. Inspired by an uncle, the promising student strives to give his best. "We lost him last year," Cesar said. "He would do everything for us. I want to do everything for my family and in memory of him." In addition to excelling in academics, Cesar plays soccer, both offense and defense in football and runs track.



The city of Burleson celebrates the first 2021 Hot Sounds of Summer concert.

Around Town



Sara Tynan and her daugther join others to benefit the Burleson Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association and the Burleson Police Officers Association.



Sweet boy, Asher Mote, hangs out with his family at the farmer's market.



Burleson residents, Lexi and Kase Whitehead, visit Dinosaur Valley RV Park.

By Lisa Bell



Stella Slay hangs with friends at Grumps.



Anne Haab shares about WWII's Women Air Force Service Pilots with the Burleson Lions Club.



Burleson Heritage Foundation celebrates the dedication of Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza.



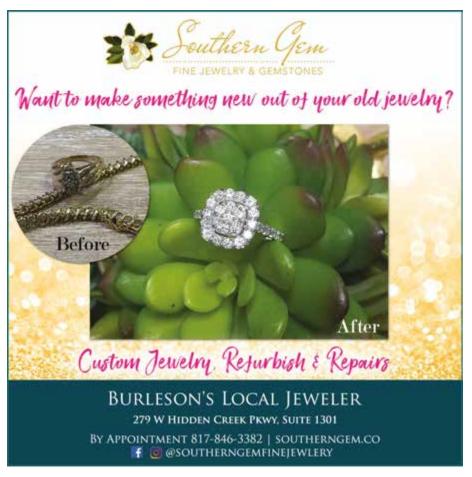
Congratulations to Old Town Station Phase 2 for being this quarter's recipient of the Ann Heberle Business Beautification Award.









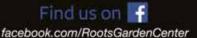




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BusinessNOW

Elk Creek Assisted Living

- By Lisa Bell

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Elk Creek Assisted Living, a senior living community, offers serene surroundings and personal touches that make a house a home. With Assisted-Living and Memory Care options, plus their signature Passion Program, they have the ideal place for getting the most in retirement's golden years.

The beautiful, fully appointed residences include services that assist and allow residents time to do things they truly love. Weekly housekeeping, trash disposal, dining on demand with chef-prepared meals, laundry, landscaping and a maintenancefree abode are only a few amenities enjoyed by residents in Elk Creek's community.

For those who need some support, the **Assisted Living** community offers a robust activities program, along with passionate care services. The Assisted-Living option empowers residents to enjoy every moment of life. Customized to the resident's care, everyone receives the precise balance between care and independence they want and need. Some services offered include a full-time nurse, medication management, housekeeping, laundry service, scheduled transportation service, on-site physical therapy — plus as-needed, personalized assistance with bathing, dressing, grooming, transferring and incontinence. Simply knowing the loving and dedicated staff are available 24/7 gives residents and their families peace of mind and freedom from worry. With a robust activities program, individuals thrive in a community where they can remain as active as desired.

Memory Care at Elk Creek Assisted Living is designed to provide the good life in increments of the present moment for Alzheimer's and dementia care residents — moments filled with happiness, kindness, purposefulness and laughter — the kind of small, pleasurable moments that make life worth living. Elk Creek engages its residents in a specialized method of teaching and learning in a no-judgment zone. Staff-to-resident ratios are high, so residents receive the warmest, most attentive and compassionate care possible in a home-like ambiance, which enables residents to feel like they matter and are important to their caring, closeknit community. A specifically designed program for the Memory Care Cottage is called My Legacy. This program addresses one of the greatest challenges facing those affected by memory loss - an increased lack of involvement in daily activities. This program promotes engagement, participation and connectivity in everyday living of Memory Care residents.

Elk Creek Assisted Living puts the living in senior living with its signature Passion Program. Passion drives residents to serve seniors with a higher level of care and the best quality of life possible. The My Wellness program ensures the residents and their families can access an Electronic Medication Administration Record at all times. The My Food program is about much more than nutrition. Residents experience food on many levels, from upscale, passion-filled meals to themed dinners, birthday meals, weekly chef features and community signature dishes. The My Activities program celebrates stories, memories and milestones, while exceeding daily care expectations for health and wellness needs through stimulating, engaging and entertaining activities.

Elk Creek Assisted Living, serene surroundings for senior living just south of Fort Worth, is open and accepting new move-ins now. If you find yourself or your loved one in need of daily life assistance, or if you have a loved one in need of memory care, call and schedule an in-person or virtual tour today to see how they can meet your needs. NOW







Leaving college and opening a consignment shop, Kayla Pruitt discovered cooking. "A girl and her dog had to eat," she chuckled. She watched shows like The Chew to learn. Her true relationship with food began with the BackPacks4Kids program at her church, which inspired her to provide food for neighbors on Lancaster Ave. in Fort Worth.

While battling cervical cancer, she heard about a young girl who wanted to be buried with her fork, indicating the best is yet to come. "Changed my view on life. A fork ignited my passion for cooking," she said.

Kayla prefers "better options" cooking without compromising flavor. "I still love bread," she admitted. "And you'll routinely find me in the kitchen whipping up a mean meatloaf or potato soup." NOW

Buffalo Chicken Cauliflower Casserole

3 chicken breasts Salt. to taste Pepper, to taste 1 12-oz. bottle Franks Red Hot Buffalo Wings Sauce 2 medium heads cauliflower Garlic salt, to taste

16 oz, cream cheese 4 cups cheddar cheese, shredded I bunch green onions, chopped

(divided use)

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F.

2. On a baking sheet, season the chicken breasts with salt and pepper; pour a little buffalo sauce over the tops to coat. Bake for 20-25 minutes.

- 3. While the chicken bakes, cut the heads of the cauliflower into small florets. Place in the bottom of a square casserole dish.
- **4.** Sprinkle garlic salt generously over the top of the cauliflower; set aside.
- 5. When the chicken is done, shred in a large bowl. Using a hand mixer, add the cream cheese and remaining buffalo sauce (adjusted to preferred heat level).
- 6. Increase the oven to 400 F. Place the chicken mixture over the cauliflower, spreading evenly. Top with cheese; lightly sprinkle with pepper and half of the green onions.
- **7.** Bake 15-20 minutes or until the cheese is brown and bubbly. Broil on high until the top has a light crisp. Top with remaining green onions.

Strawberry Banana Baked Oats

2 cups old-fashioned oats I tsp. baking powder 1 tsp. cinnamon 1/2 tsp. sea salt

2 cups almond milk (divided use)

- 2 ripe bananas (divided use)
- 1/4 cup maple syrup
- I large egg
- 2 Tbsp. coconut oil
- 2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 2 cups quarter-sliced fresh strawberries (divided use)
- 1/2 cup chocolate chips (divided use)
- **I.** Preheat the oven to 375 F. Prepare a square baking dish by spraying it with cooking spray.
- **2.** In a mixing bowl, stir together the oats, baking powder, cinnamon and sea salt. Mix well to avoid clumping of the baking powder.
- **3.** Pour in 1 1/2 cups almond milk. In another cup, mash 1 banana; mix in syrup, egg, coconut oil and vanilla. Mix well; add to the oatmeal mixture.
- **4.** Cut the remaining banana into slices; pour half of the banana slices, I cup of strawberries and 1/4 cup chocolate chips into the oatmeal mixture.
- **5.** Pour the oatmeal mixture into the baking pan; sprinkle remaining strawberries, bananas and 1/8 cup chocolate chips over the top.
- **6.** Bake for 60 minutes or until the top and edges are golden and the center is stiff. (The strawberries may cause slight wetness.)
- **7.** Let cool 10 minutes. Portion and top with remaining chocolate chips, a splash of almond milk, sprinkle of cinnamon and drizzle of maple syrup.

Jalapeño Pizza Poppers

- 8-10 large jalapeño peppers
- 1 lb. ground Italian sausage
- I small white onion, diced
- 1 tsp. garlic salt
- 1 tsp. black pepper
- 1 Tbsp. Italian seasoning
- 8 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 2 cups mozzarella cheese, shredded (divided use)
- 1 Tbsp. red pepper flakes
- 1 tsp. oregano
- 24-oz. garlic herb pasta sauce
- **1.** Cut the tops off the jalapeños; halve, remove the seeds and set aside.
- **2.** In a skillet, brown the sausage and onions until the onions are soft; add garlic salt, pepper and Italian seasoning. Drain the excess fat; place in a mixing bowl.
- **3.** Add the cream cheese, I cup mozzarella cheese, red pepper and oregano; mix well.
- **4.** Using a spoon, fill each jalapeño half with the mixture. Brush with pasta sauce; top with cheese. Place all halves in a shallow baking pan.
- **5.** Broil on high until the cheese is melted and crispy on top. Let sit until slightly cooled; serve with pasta sauce for dipping.





Parmesan Zucchini Boats

6 zucchini squashes 1 lb. ground beef Garlic salt, to taste Black pepper, to taste Italian seasoning, to taste

- 1 24-oz. can garlic herb pasta sauce
- 1 24-oz. can tomato basil pasta sauce
- 2 cups mozzarella cheese, shredded
- 1/2 cup Romano and Parmesan cheese blend, grated
- 1 6-oz. bag fancy Parmesan cheese



- 1. Preheat the oven to 400 F. Cut the ends off each zucchini; halve. Scoop out the centers, being careful not to get too close to the edges. Place the halves on a baking sheet, leaning to support each other; set aside.
- 2. In a skillet, cook the ground beef, seasoned with garlic salt and pepper. Drain any excess fat; add the Italian seasoning. Stir in both cans of pasta sauce. Lower the heat; let simmer.
- 3. Stir and add the mozzarella and Romano cheeses; mix well until the sauce thickens but isn't cheesy. Turn off the heat.
- 4. Fill each zucchini halfway with the meat sauce. Cover with Parmesan cheese; sprinkle additional Italian seasoning on top.
- **5.** Place in the oven; bake for 15-20 minutes, or until the cheese melts and is golden or crisp. Let sit for 10 minutes before serving.

4 cups cheddar cheese, shredded Sour cream, to taste

- **1.** Place the chicken in a 4-qt. or larger Crock-Pot. Drain and wash the black beans: pour over the chicken.
- 2. Pour in the undrained corn and Ro-Tel. Sprinkle the ranch dressing mix, chili and onion powders and cumin on top.
- 3. Half fill the corn can with water; add to the Crock-Pot; mix well. Slice the cream cheese into cubes; place on top of the mixture. Cook on low for 6-8 hours.
- 4. When done, stir well; add cheddar cheese. Let sit for 10 minutes until the cheese melts. Serve with a dollop of sour cream and a sprinkle of chili powder.

Chicken Chili

3 chicken breasts

- 1 15.5-oz. can black beans
- 1 15.25-oz. can whole kernel corn
- 1 10-oz. can Ro-Tel tomatoes (original)
- I pkg. ranch dressing mix
- 1 Tbsp. chili powder
- I tsp. onion powder
- 1 tsp. cumin
- 8 oz. cream cheese

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TravelNOW

Nearby Adventure

— By Susan Simmons

It's that time of year when we are all getting a little antsy for a vacation. Tyler, Texas, and its surrounding area is an ideal choice for a weekend trip, or longer, where families or couples can create delightful memories without a long car ride or plane trip. Tyler is only a couple-hour drive from the Metroplex and offers a plethora of fun and interesting things to see and do in an area filled with history, art, music, food, recreational opportunities and botanical wonders.

Camp Ford is located just 3 miles outside Tyler and easily captures the imagination of Civil War buffs and children alike. It was the largest Confederate POW camp west of the Mississippi. There is a short walking path with signs explaining about the camp and a cabin reconstruction that depicts life in the camp, which held captive more than 5,000 American Union soldiers.

The park is open every day from dawn to dusk, and admission is free. If you enjoy picnicking, there is also a lovely, little shady picnic area in the park.

For those interested in learning about endangered wildlife, one of the best big cat sanctuaries in the U.S. is located just outside Tyler's city limits. The 150-acre preserve, Tiger Creek Wildlife Refuge, has been caring for and rehabilitating neglected and abandoned tigers for more than 25 years. Recently, the refuge expanded its reach to include other wild cats such as lions, cougars and servals, as well as large birds and other formerly homeless wild animals. Guided tours are given daily for those who want to learn more about saving these magnificent creatures.

No trip to Tyler would be complete without taking time to

see the iconic Tyler Rose Gardens. At 14 acres, it is the largest rose garden in the United States. Walk along the paths, and enjoy row after row of beautiful roses, labeled to help visitors find a favorite variety to grow themselves. Spend time at the reflecting pools and peaceful water fountains, and learn about native plants and perennials in the beautifully landscaped, cottage-style Idea Garden.



For those adventurous souls, about 10 miles outside of Tyler is the opportunity to zipline! The company, New York, Texas ZipLine Adventures, has been in business for 10 years and offers zipline escapades for everyone over the age of 5. They offer a 1 1/2-hour or a 2-hour course, all set in the peaceful, scenic landscape of East Texas. Find out everything about them at goziptexas. com, or check them out on Facebook.

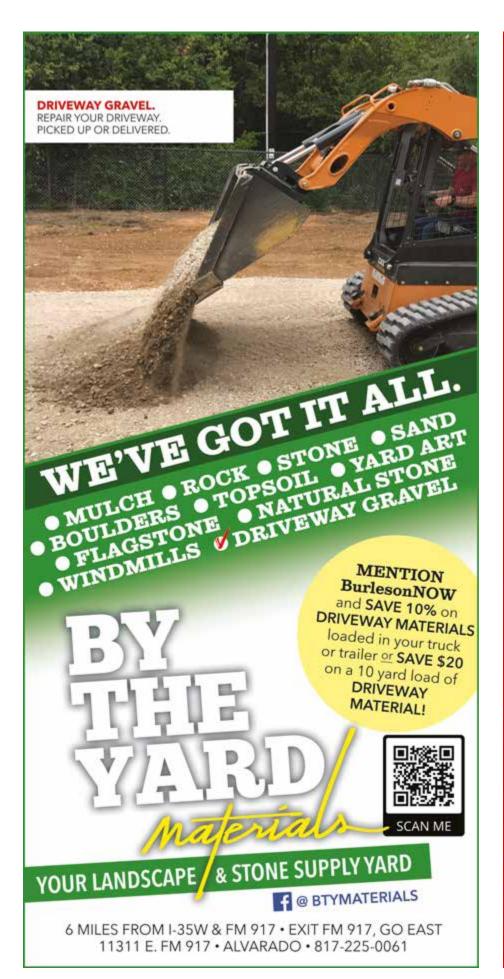
The choices for staying overnight in the Tyler area are endless. They have multitudes of hotels, bed-and-breakfasts, cottages, cabins and RV parks. The Tyler State Park is a true gem. It offers not only 83 campsites, but also five cabins and 28 screened shelters for rent. The park has something to do for every kind of nature lover. Bird blinds, mountain-bike trails, fishing piers, hiking trails, watercraft rentals and wildlife viewing are just some treasures found in this awesome state park.

It is easy to see that finding something amazing to do is not difficult in the Tyler area. It's the perfect choice for those who want to get away but don't want to spend a lot of time driving. Have fun!

Photos by Susan Simmons. NOW











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Crossword Puzzle

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

Crosswordsite.com Ltd

Across

- 1 Honked
- 5 H's is 1, He's is 2, briefly
- 9 Linden tree
- 10 Aims pintos every which way
- 13 Amplify
- 15 Racket
- 16 Bon --- (witty remark)
- 17 Bovine bellow
- 18 Bald --- egg
- 20 Sonny, Cher's former partner
- 21 Betelguese is one, and Sirius, and Vega, and ...
- 23 Former Yankees' shortstop Jeter
- 24 Prominent personal comment article
- 25 90 degrees from rank
- 26 Basketball whistleblower
- 27 Graduation month for many
- 28 Needed by everyone, and anything in disrepair
- 31 Mundane
- 34 Shake awake
- 35 Guns won't fire without it
- 36 Military refectory
- 37 Obligation

Down

- 1 Ran off the margin
- 2 Julie Andrews film, "Darling --- "
- 3 Come out of
- 4 "Oh, what a tangled --- we weave" (Walter Scott)
- 5 Barbecue garment
- 6 Perfectly
- 7 Little louse
- 8 From the top
- 11 Odds ending, often
- 12 Derisive gesture
- 14 Five star General --- Bradley
- 19 Winter depression
- 20 Sound intensity unit
- 21 It comes from the heart
- 22 Third Reich architect
- 23 Impression
- 25 Overload blows them
- 27 Zooey's "New Girt" role
- 29 Innocent child
- 30 Congeal
- 32 Feel remorse
- 33 Admirably up to date

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Solutions on page 36



Sudoku Puzzle

6 8 3 6 1 9 6 5 4 3 6 3 6 5 5 9 8 6 6 5 3 8

Medium

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Easy

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Solutions on page 36









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7/3

Independence Day Parade:

17th annual event, organized by Burleson Lions Club. Funds raised through sponsorships fund community programs. Free to attend. 9:00-11:00 a.m., Burleson Collegiate High School staging area. www.burlesonlions.org.

7/4

Fireworks & Free Concert:

Featuring two bands. Bring blankets, chairs and picnic. **Gates open:** 4:00 p.m.; **Suzy and the Sissies:** 5:30-7:00 p.m.; **Dolan Band:** 7:30-9:00 p.m.; **Fireworks:** 9:20 p.m., Chisenhall

Fields, 500 Chisenhall Park Ln. For more information, visit www.burlesontx.com.

7/6-7/9

Kids Art Camp at the Farm:

Ages 7-13 have fun learning about and making art at this three-day camp. All materials included. 9:00 a.m.-noon each day, Russell Farms, 405 W. County Road 714, www.burlesontx.com/1215/ Russell-Farm.

7/7

Silly Sparkles Virtual Event:

Fun virtual event with Silly Sparkles as she presents story time in a unique way. Video uploaded to Facebook for families to enjoy at home. 10:00-10:30 a.m. For more information, visit www.burlesontx.com/72/Library.

7/10

Medicare – Turning 65:

Free seminar about applying for Medicare. 1:00-3:00 p.m., Burleson Public Library, 248 SW Johnson Ave. Registration: Register at (817) 995-2774.

7/14

Bird Feeder Craft:

Free and fun bird feeder craft. 9:00-10:00 a.m., Burleson

Public Library, 248 SW Johnson Ave. www.burlesontx.com/72/Library.

7/27

Painting With Paula:

Beginner Acrylics: Don't think you can paint? Never tried? Join Paula to learn basic acrylic painting. Space limited. Registration opens **July 13.** 6:00-7:00 p.m., Senior Activities Center, 216 SW Johnson Rd. www.burlesontx.com/1543/Summer-Reading-for-Adults.

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

















Crossword Sudoku Solutions

В	2 L	3 E	w		⁵ A	⁶ Т	N	80		
L	-1	М	Ε		10 P	0	1	N	"T	12 S
13 E	L	Α	В	140	R	Α	Т	Е	0	N
15 D	1	N		16 M	0	Т		17 M	0	0
		18 A	19 S	Α	N		²⁰ B	0	N	0
A A	²² S	Т	Α	R		23 D	Е	R	Ε	K
240	P	Е	D		²⁵ F	1	L	E		
²⁶ R	Е	F		27 J	U	N		28 _T	29 L	°C
31 T	Е	R	32 R	Е	S	T	33 R	1	Α	L
34 A	R	0	U	s	E		35 A	М	М	0
		36 M	Е	S	S		37 D	Е	В	Т

Easy

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

Medium

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



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