WaxahachieNOW

JULY 2022

MAGAZINE

Making Life Beautiful

Martha Padron works to change her world

Days Gone By

Loyd Uglow keeps the gast alive

Also inside:

Scavenger Hunt

Crossword/Sudoku

Featured Business:
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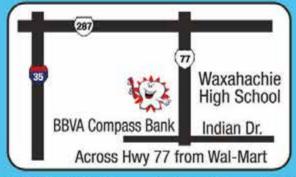
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ON THE COVER



Martha Padron makes the most of her second chance.

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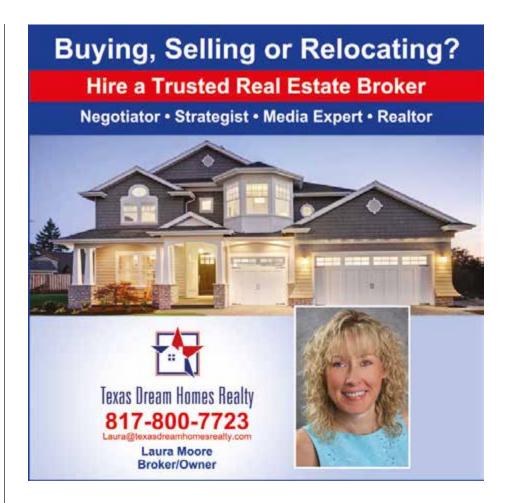
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EDITOR'S NOTE

Heat's a-coming!

July is a hot month in Texas. I remember the summer of 1980. That summer went on and on, and we got to 113 in Dallas. I was very young, and the heat didn't bother me. I couldn't understand why Mom had to spoil all our fun by making us come inside during the heat of the day. I wanted to sit on the curb and poke the bubbles forming in the tar patches on the road with my big toe. That didn't amuse Mom either — tracking tar into the house.

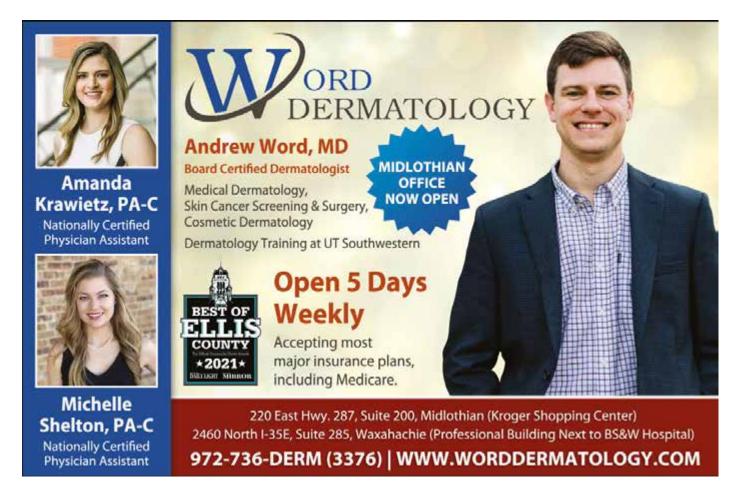
But we were lucky enough to live about two blocks from a snow cone stand. I remember standing on tiptoes, looking in the window and letting the sweet-scented, cold air flow over me while I ordered exotic flavors like Zorro, Popeye and Beatles. Often, though, I'd get a rainbow with three fruit flavors. Those fluffy mounds of syrupy ice were a survival tool that year.

I've never stopped loving snow cones. In Taiwan they have something similar, called *chhoah-peng*. It's a bowl of shaved ice topped with condensed milk, sugar syrup and your choice of fruits, boba and other treats. I ate a lot of those on hot days, while I was living there.

I'm still discovering new flavor treats at new snow cone stands. My most recent happy choice was a tamarind and horchata cone at a stand I'd never tried before. That was so good! Not every flavor experiment is a total success, but that one rocked!

As you celebrate Independence Day, which is sure to be hot, you might want to cool off with a snow cone and think back to your own childhood. You can always make it red, white and blue as a patriotic touch!

Stay cool!





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Martha Padron is building her dreams. She came here as a 5-year-old child. "My parents are from a small village in Mexico where they never got to go to school, so I was a first-generation student. When we first got here, we lived in one little room — my parents, me and my three brothers. I went to ESL classes until third grade, and after that, I excelled. I graduated top of my class of 17 at Avalon High School. I played volleyball and went to Region 2 in track. I was vice president of my senior class."

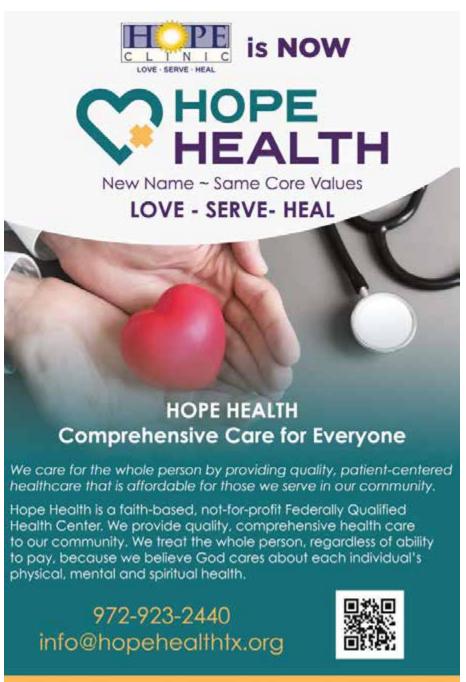
Life was treating Martha pretty well. She'd immigrated, learned English, excelled in high school athletically and academically. She'd gotten a scholarship and started her studies at Navarro College. Then tragedy struck. One night on a narrow country road, she had a car crash that almost ended her life. "I was so lucky, when the 9-1-1 call went out, an ambulance was only two minutes away. They got me to Methodist Hospital so fast. At first, they thought they would have to do spinal surgery at C6, which is a very dangerous spot. And they thought I might lose my left arm. I had severe depression, and I was really angry at God for allowing me to have that wreck and then letting me live. The CareFlite alone was \$20,000. I was going to be in debt for the rest of my life, and without my arm, I wouldn't even be able to flip burgers at McDonalds!"

But tragedy turned into calling, "I got such good care from the nurses at Methodist. They really helped me through that time." Growing up, people had noted Martha's way of caring for people and had commented that she should be a nurse. "I had heard that many times, but I didn't really know what was involved. Then I got to see, up close, what nurses really do. At my ugliest moment, one nurse said to me, "Oh my God, you look so pretty! It made the difference in my day."

When Martha left the hospital, nursing was her life goal. She went back to Navarro, then finished her bachelor's at Texas Tech. Scholarships paid for that journey. She volunteered at the hospital that had made such a difference in her life, and then worked there for a time. "I graduated early from nursing school, at only 2I, and went to work in their cardiovascular ICU. Now I'm back







home in Waxahachie and working as an oncology nurse at Baylor Scott and White. In the ICU, it was acute care. Patients were in and out very quickly. In oncology, you really get to bond with the patients. When they don't have a good outcome, it really takes a toll emotionally. You have to take care of yourself, so you can be there for your patients, but working days is so much better."

Martha is still growing into her career. While not at work, she volunteers with the Red Cross, and she's studying at Texas Woman's University to become a nurse practitioner. "I'm paying for school by myself now. I should graduate in a year. I was so thankful for the scholarships that got me through my bachelor's degree that I started a small scholarship for single mothers studying nursing at Navarro. I'm working with someone on the college board to get it set up. My dad has contributed to it, but it's mostly money that I've put into it." When she is a nurse practitioner, she hopes to open a clinic serving people without insurance. "Being uninsured is a big problem, especially in the Hispanic community, so they never go for checkups. Some are fearful of going to a doctor. And health care is expensive. I think about my parents, growing up."

Recently, another opportunity sort of fell into Martha's lap. "A friend on TikTok told me about the Miss Latina pageant and said I should apply to represent Waxahachie. So I filled out the application and was selected as a candidate." Martha won and is going to the state competition in September as the first ever Miss Waxahachie Latina. "The state pageant is a three-day event over Labor Day weekend. They're focusing on mental health this year,



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which is important to me. I think I can represent Waxahachie well. This is a great town, and I can help get the word out about what Waxahachie has to offer. There's a lack of representation for Hispanic girls. It's nice to be an example. They message me asking for advice about going to nursing school."

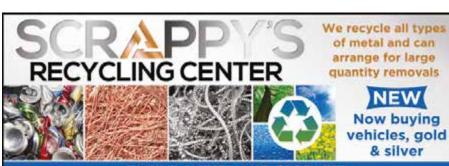
Martha claims she was really timid growing up. "The pageant was a step outside my comfort zone," she said. "It pushed me to do things I had always wanted to try. It gave me more confidence. Just the other day, I was out looking for sponsors, talking to businesses owners that I never would have met otherwise."

The Miss Latina pageant's focus on mental health fit in with things Martha was already thinking about. "I experienced depression after my wreck. So, I took the opportunity to do a photo shoot in support of mental health awareness, to show others that you can overcome, to focus on positivity and thanksgiving and being grateful for the little things. And I'm thinking about starting a podcast focused on mental health, but that may have to wait until after I graduate ... for my own mental health!"

Martha also volunteers with the Neocatechumenal Way classes at St. Joseph Catholic Church, for teens and young adults seeking to deepen their faith. "We're planning a trip to Israel, so it's a lot of extra work right now. But it's very meaningful."

She sums up her life so far very simply. "God made a pathway for me. I should not be here, but I am. I am thankful for this second chance." NOW

Editor's Note: Contributions to the Martha Padron Scholarship may be made by calling the Navarro College Foundation at (903) 875-7307.



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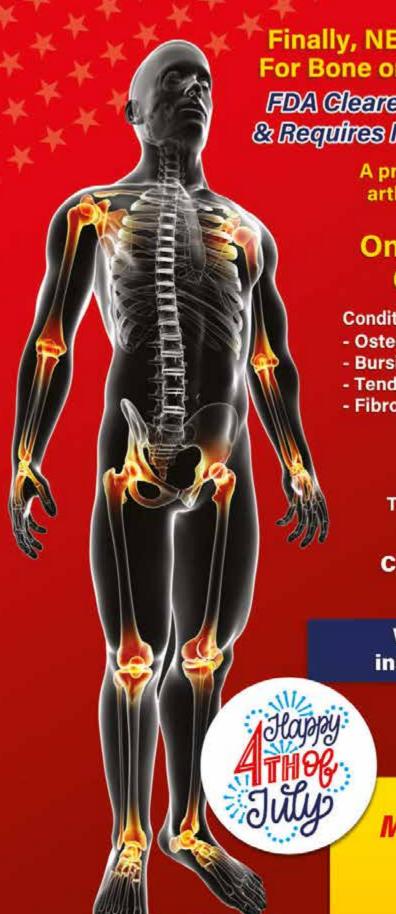
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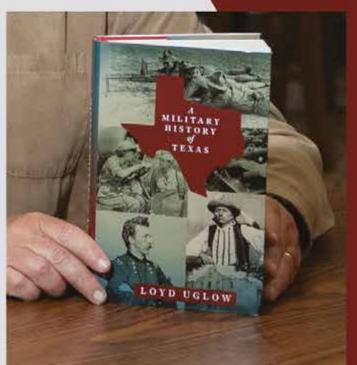


— By Adam Walker

Loyd Uglow was always interested in history. "Many kids don't like history. A lot of people only start being interested in their 30s, after they've lived a little more of their lives. But for me, the interest was always there. My parents were the World War II generation, so they, and all their friends, experienced that firsthand. I once asked my mother, 'You talk as if World War II was the defining event of your life. Was it really that?' And she replied, 'Yes, it was."

With that background, perhaps it is not surprising that Loyd chose military history as one of his specializations during his teaching career at Southwestern Assemblies of God University. "Those who had served were held in high esteem in my family. We grew up playing war and with toy soldiers. I guess that's not





so popular today, but it was then. War is very different in real life than it is in a John Wayne movie, but I guess all that caused me to gravitate to this field. War isn't pretty, but it's a crucial human activity." Loyd's other areas of expertise — the Civil War, the American South and the American West — all overlap rather strongly with his specialization in military history.

"The value of history is in the need to understand that people didn't always have the same outlook that we have today. There's a certain snobbery to the idea that everyone thinks like we do — that everyone has the same mindset and worldview. Studying history can help students tolerate other ways of seeing the world. I'm fascinated with difference. People think differently at different times, in different places. In America, we take land for granted because anyone can own it. But in Europe, historically, land was under the control of the nobles. Land was one of the main measures of nobility."

The intersection of several of Loyd's areas of interest recently led him to write a book on Texas military history. "I found that nobody had written a military history of the whole state before, so this is something I decided to do. A Military History of Texas covers every aspect of the military history of the state from pre-Columbian times to the present. It's very broad, but not very deep. I just really felt like I was supposed to do this, like it was something I needed to do. I had written about some aspects of this before, like Standing in the Gap, which was my doctoral dissertation. It's about the small Army posts along the frontier during the post-Civil War days. Not much had been written about the small posts between the big forts."

Loyd has also written children's biographies of Benjamin Franklin and Abraham Lincoln. "They're written for kids about age 10 and have really great illustrations. I learned interesting things about both men doing the research to write these children's books. You find so much researching — things that didn't make much difference in the long term, but they're unique and fascinating nonetheless!"

A couple of historical fiction novels are among Loyd's writings as well. "They're about military officers on the border with Mexico in the 1900-1910 era. They take real events ... and make them a little more exciting."

Loyd retired from on-campus teaching at the end of the last school year. "It's been really satisfying. Not that I've taught huge numbers. English classes enroll more students by 2 or 3 to 1. Being in a smaller field gives a feeling of family, which can have both a good side and a bad side. There's a feeling of being special, which I like. They've been small classes of upper-level history majors. But I get great satisfaction when a student from the past tells me they learned a lot, or they remember an activity from class." Those activities: trips to museums, battlefields and such have been a hallmark of his teaching. Getting up close and personal with history has made a deep impression on many of his students. "I'm still going to be teaching some online classes. And I plan to do more writing. I'm revising a third novel right now, with the same character. Oh, and I'm trying to learn Spanish."

Looking back over his career and forward to his plans, Loyd feels a sense of accomplishment. "It's been worth it. I wouldn't take anything for it. I feel like I've been where I needed to be during this time." NOW

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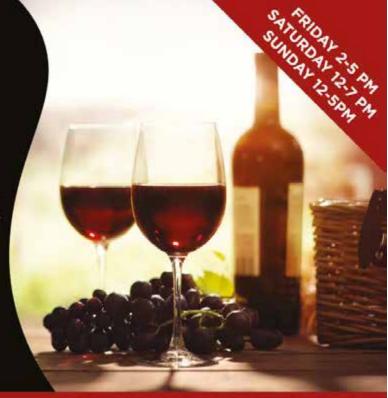


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Every year since 2005 the State Fair of Texas has had a contest known as the Big Tex Choice Awards. The concessionaires try new recipes to win the contest, and some of the recent entries have included fried beer, fried peaches and cream, deep fried seafood gumbo balls and lucky duck dumplin'. However, there are some great creations that are available in Texas that have been around for years.

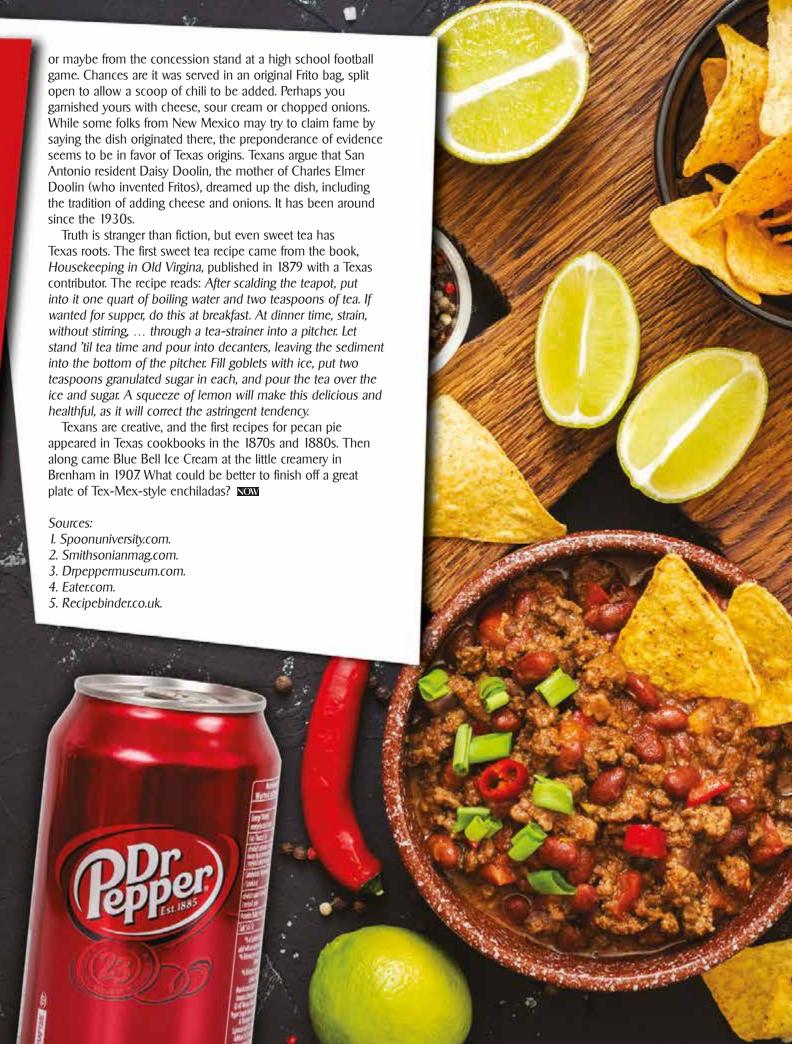
Who doesn't enjoy a bowl of chili on a cold day in Texas? Chili con carne is the official dish of the state of Texas. Chili stands started showing up in San Antonio during the 1880s, and there are chili contests every year in various parts of the state at which the participants share years of experience and "secret" ingredients, trying to win the blue ribbon. Surely the most famous cook-off is The Original Terlingua International Championship Chili Cookoff, made famous by Frank X. Tolbert. There is still a Tolbert's Chili Parlor in Grapevine that is owned by Frank's daughter.

To cool the taste buds as the chili is consumed, it would be hard to find a better offering than a cold, frozen margarita. The margarita may have been around for a long time, but turning it into a slushy drink started in 1971. Mariano Martinez is well known as the inventor of the frozen concoction. The first frozen margarita was delivered from a repurposed soft-serve ice cream machine and was made with tequila and pale green sherbet. The recipe has since been refined to the frozen drink served in a salt-lined glass with a slice of lime that is commonly drawn from margarita machines in restaurants across the country. Martinez's original machine now rests in the Smithsonian National Museum of American History.

Another drink that originated in Texas is Dr Pepper. Visit the Dr Pepper Museum in Waco to get the whole story, but the short version is Dr Pepper is the oldest major manufactured soft drink in the United States, manufactured and sold beginning in 1885 in Morrison's Old Corner Drug Store. A pharmacist named Charles Alderton mixed medicines, but in his spare time, he liked to experiment with flavors at the soda fountain. Eventually, he came up with the combination of fruit syrups that he liked, and Dr Pepper was born. Though there are a number of theories, the origin of the name of the beverage is still a mystery.

Baby boomers in Texas will recall the first time they ever ate a Frito Pie. It may have been from the local Dairy Queen,

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Around Town

Johnny Edward Campbell, III receives his yellow belt in karate at the YMCA in Waxahachie.

Zoomed In:By Adam Walker

Suzanne and David Walker

Suzanne and David Walker spent a hot Saturday manning the booth for the Ellis County Museum at the Gingerbread Trail Antiques and Boutiques Market in Singleton Plaza, one of several events benefiting the museum's remodel. "I've been on the museum board for a long time," Suzanne admitted.

"It's been at least three decades," David added.

"Don't say that!" Suzanne returned.

They both enthused about the new elevator making the three-story, downtown museum more accessible, and the revamp of all the displays telling the history of our county. Meanwhile, they helped customers buying county history books — and T-shirts about all the movies filmed here.

"Come by the museum and see our progress. We have a lot more to do, but it's already looking great!" Suzanne exclaimed.



The Gingerbread Trail and Home Tour draws architecture fans.



Ft. Worth Symphony Orchestra Conductor Alex Amsel poses with the Waxahachie Symphony Association Belles & Beaus at the WISD Performing Arts Center.



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Liset Torres and Sandi Vera close up the library for the evening.





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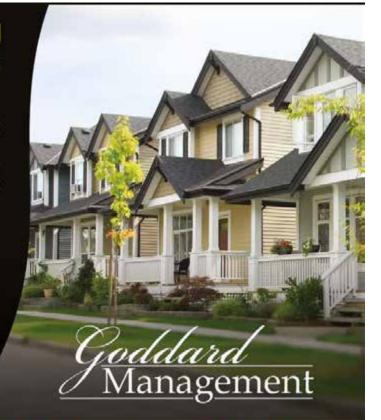
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Darrell Babbitt, owner and operator of Superstar Collision, grew up in a family-owned paint and body shop in Dallas. His career began in the collision business in 1972. Since graduating high school, Darrell has been employed full time in the automotive/collision repair industry.

After working in management since 1987 at other high profile collision repair companies in the Dallas/Ft. Worth Metroplex, Darrell and his wife, Karen, made the decision to start Superstar Collision Center in 2006. "Superstar Collision is a true family-owned and -operated business including my wife, two sons, daughter-in-law and nephew. All are involved in the business in some capacity or another," Darrell said.

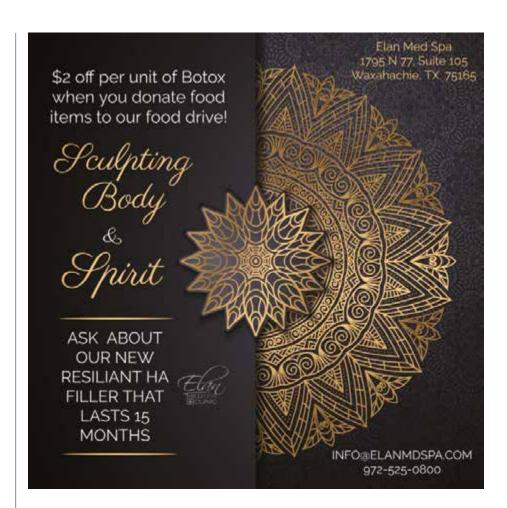
The average tenure of all management is 13 years. The relationship between Darrell and most of the management dates to the early '90s. One of the most significant differences between Superstar, or any family-operated business, and a corporation is that you are dealing with people who truly have a vested interest in doing things correctly and retaining the customer. A family-owned business will always be able to make a decision without having to consult with someone who is usually in another state or city, unaware of all the facts needed to determine how to best handle any given situation,

from warranty/service issues to local sponsorships and/or purchases.

Superstar Collision offers a wide variety of automotive services for all makes and models, not limited to collision repair. They are aluminum certified, and offer theft and/ or vandalism repair, flood damage repair, towing arrangements, rental car arrangement assistance and shuttle service within the local area. Superstar Collision Center has been recognized by I-Car as a Gold Class Facility, meaning that Superstar Collision Center is committed to keeping up with the tools and training necessary to repair vehicles with ever-changing materials and manufacturing processes used in the vehicles being produced today. As a consumer, the most important fact to remember is that, as the vehicle owner, you have the lawful right to choose where your vehicle is repaired. Therefore, you should be comfortable with the repair facility.

"Superstar Collision is a true family-owned and -operated business including my wife, two sons, daughter-in-law, niece and nephew. All are involved in the business in some capacity or another."

"At Superstar Collision," Darrell said, "we work with all insurance companies to ensure that your vehicle is repaired to pre-accident or pre-loss condition and provide you with a written limited lifetime warranty." NOW











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As a self-taught cook, Sandra Johnson has discovered inspiration for cooking through her husband, their children and grandchildren. She shared, "I've so enjoyed my grandsons as they 'help' in the kitchen."

Sandra considers her 10-year-old grandson, Easton, her greatest kitchen success. "He was my prized student for many years." One of her favorite memories is baking Easton's favorite chocolate cake — with his help, of course. Easton's hands and face were covered with chocolate icing. "In fact, this photo hangs on my refrigerator to remind me of a simpler time."

When she is not whipping up tasty meals or working full time as an office manager in construction, Sandra enjoys other activities. "I love building jigsaw puzzles and reading and growing T&S Ministries, the ministry we started at the height of the pandemic that feeds and clothes the homeless."

Chicken Pot Pie

- 1 32-oz. bag mixed vegetables
- 1 10.5-oz. can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 10.5-oz. can cream of chicken soup
- 2 9.75-oz. cans Swanson brand all white chicken meat, drained
- 1 2-ct. box Pillsbury Refrigerated Pie Crusts
- **1.** Preheat the oven to 350 F. In a large pot, cook the vegetables on the stovetop per bag

directions. Drain the water into a cup. Add both soups to the vegetables; combine. Add the chicken; stir well. Stir in the reserved vegetable water until it reaches the desired consistency.

2. Put the first piecrust in a pie pan; fill it with the mixture. Cover with the second piecrust. Bake for 30-35 minutes, or until the crust is golden brown.

Chunky Potato Salad

7-8 large russet potatoes, cut and boiled

- 8-10 hard-boiled eggs
- 1 16-oz. jar sweet pickles
- 3-4 Tbsp. Miracle Whip, or more depending potato size

Salt, to taste Pepper, to taste

Celery seed, to taste

- **1.** In a large mixing bowl, fold together the potatoes, eggs and 1/2 of the jar of pickles.
- **2.** In a separate bowl, mix together the Miracle Whip, salt, pepper and celery seed. (The mixture should be a tad thick.)
- **3.** Pour the mixture over the potatoes. Fold gently to mix evenly. Chill prior to serving.

Oreo Fudge Ice Cream Cake

- 1/2 cup fudge ice cream topping, warmed
- 1 8-oz. container Cool Whip, thawed (divided use)
- 1 3-oz. box Jell-O Chocolate Flavored Instant Pudding
- 1/4 cup milk (optional)
- 8 Oreo chocolate cookies, chopped into small pieces
- 12 vanilla ice cream sandwiches

1. In a medium bowl, add the warmed fudge topping. Stir in 1 cup Cool Whip; whisk until well-blended. Add the dry pudding mix; stir for 2 minutes, or until well-blended. If it is too thick to spread easily, stir in 1/4 cup milk. Add the cookie pieces; combine well. **2.** Arrange 4 ice cream sandwiches, sideby-side, on top of a 24x 12-inch piece of aluminum foil. Top with half of the pudding mixture. Repeat with a second layer of ice cream sandwiches and pudding mixture. Top with the final four ice cream sandwiches. **3.** Frost the top and all sides with the remaining Cool Whip. Double fold the top and ends of the foil to loosely seal the cake.

Apple Enchiladas

1 21-oz. can apple pie filling (can substitute other desired fruit filling)

Freeze at least 4 hours. Let stand outside of the freezer for several minutes before slicing

12 flour tortillas

and serving.

- 3/4 cup cinnamon
- 3/4 cup margarine
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup water
- **I.** Spoon the filling onto the tortillas. Sprinkle with cinnamon and roll. Place the tortilla enchiladas seam-side-down in a 9x 13-inch glass baking dish.
- **2.** In a saucepan on medium heat, mix together the margarine and the remaining ingredients. Heat until boiling, stirring constantly. Reduce heat; stir for 3 minutes.
- **3.** Preheat the oven to 350 F. Pour the mixture over the enchiladas. Let sit for 30 minutes for the enchiladas to absorb the mixture. Bake for 20 minutes.

Hamburger Stew

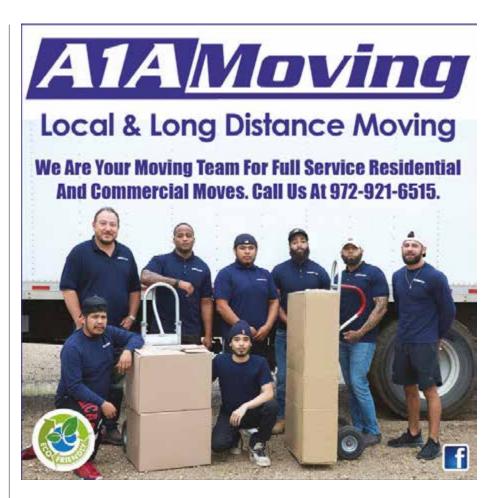
6-7 lbs. 90% lean/10% fat ground beef Onion, to taste

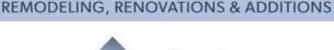
- 2 14.5-oz. cans green beans
- 1 14.5-oz. can carrots
- 2 14.5-oz. cans corn
- 2 14.5-oz. cans whole potatoes
- 3 14.5-oz. cans sliced potatoes
- 1 15-oz. can peas (optional)
- 1 10-oz. can RO-TEL Diced Tomatoes and Green Chilies

Salt, to taste Pepper, to taste

Squirt of ketchup

I. In a large skillet, brown the ground beef. Do not drain. Add the remaining ingredients, including the juice from the cans, which will







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Paul Penfold, owner



create a broth. Combine well; simmer on low all day on the stovetop or in a Crock-Pot.

2. Serve with combread, crackers or sliced bread.

Greatest Queso Ever

- 1 lb. ground beef or sausage, or combination
- 1 32-oz. block Velveeta cheese, cubed
- 1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese



- 1 10-oz. can Ro-Tel Diced Tomatoes and Green Chilies
- 1 10.5-oz. can cream of mushroom soup
- **I.** In a pan over medium heat, brown the meat; set aside.
- **2.** In a Crock-Pot, add the Velveeta cheese and the remaining ingredients. Stir well. Place the Crock-Pot on the low setting for an hour, allowing the ingredients to meld together.
- **3.** After about 30 minutes, add the meat. Continue to simmer, stirring as needed, until warmed. Serve with your favorite chips or use as dip for French bread.

Quick and Easy Pecan Pralines

1 cup whipping cream
1 16-oz. box light or dark brown sugar
2 Tbsp. margarine or butter
1/2 cup chocolate chips (optional)
2 cups pecans, halved

- **I.** In a large, microwave-safe bowl, stir together the whipping cream and brown sugar. Microwave on high for 13 minutes. About halfway through the cooking time, stir well.
- **2.** After the cooking time is up, remove the bowl from the microwave. Add the butter and chocolate chips, if using; stir until melted.

Add the nuts. Stir for a couple minutes until the mixture begins to thicken.

- **3.** On a sheet of aluminum foil, quickly drop by the spoonful. Allow to cool completely. Once cooled, store in a covered container.
- **4.** Note: If the mixture is removed from the bowl too quickly (too hot and shiny), they will be too thin and may remain sticky. If the first one spreads out too much, return to the bowl and stir for 1-2 minutes. If the mixture gets too cool (dull in appearance) before it is spooned onto the foil, it may become too firm to make individual pralines. If this happens, it can be broken into chunks.







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CITY OF TH

— By Kay Martin Atchison





Named for the last great Comanche chief, Quanah Parker, the town bearing his name celebrates its legacy in various ways. Quanah, the county seat of Hardeman County, is a wonderful example of a community that began at the end of the rail line alongside cattle drives, mining expeditions and people seeking a new life. It transformed into a thriving small town, rich in history. If you're looking to discover the link between Native American lands and a community rich in farming and ranching, explore Quanah!

One of the best "finds" in Quanah is the Quanah, Acme & Pacific Railway Depot Museum, which is filled with a wide variety of artifacts and memorabilia preserved from both indigenous peoples and settlers who moved into the area in the 1880s. The building itself is recognized on the National Historical Register. In addition to contributions by Native Americans, exhibits include a Veterans' Room filled with uniforms worn by locals, a railroad exhibit and several rooms dedicated by local service organizations. Rodeo fans may enjoy viewing posters and belt buckles from Lane Frost, the famous bull rider. Space enthusiasts can see an actual space suit on loan from NASA, honoring a native son, Galen Givens — an Apollo astronaut tragically killed in an automobile accident before he went into space. In the waiting area of the depot, one can almost hear the train coming.

Another building in the museum area is the former Hardeman County Jail. Sitting behind the depot, it stands as a monument to county law enforcement until the 1970s. At one time, the local sheriff's family members lived above the jail, filling its history with all sorts of tales.

At the center of town, the Hardeman County Courthouse, designed by R.H. Stuckey, an architect from nearby Chillicothe, is also on the Texas Historical Register. The courthouse, completed in 1908, is of Neoclassical design with a domed cupola, stone columns flanking the entryways and a raised basement of Indiana limestone.

IE LEGEND

A couple blocks away on Main Street, the First Presbyterian Church, completed in 1910 and also designed by R.H. Stuckey, has a cupola like the courthouse. But its stucco exterior and stained-glass windows honor early members of that congregation. Still in use today, this structure is listed on the Texas Historical Register as well.

Many downtown buildings of Quanah have been transformed from their original intent to meet the challenge of changing lifestyles. A conversion of the former "Five & Dime" store into the 3 Rivers Foundation Ballroom, now facilitates concerts, parties, celebrations and reunions. The former First National Bank is a weekend gathering place called the Old Bank Saloon. Grocery stores and drug stores transformed into dental offices and new lodges and inns. Others are still undergoing restoration for new businesses.

The Quanah City Park, a few blocks from the downtown business district, features WPA work during the Depression. Its rock work and terrain create a space where concerts, picnics and local celebrations continue today. Recent work improved the playground and areas for other outdoor activities.

The Medicine Mound Depot Restaurant, at the east edge of town on Highway 287, combined two former rail depots, moved to that location from the nearby towns of Medicine Mound and Chillicothe. One cannot miss the five hills just east of Quanah called Medicine Mound. The descendants of the Comanches, Kiowas and other indigenous peoples, who once controlled this portion of the South Plains, claim these as a medicinal and burial place and a revered part of their history.

Visit and experience the legacy of the developing west in Quanah! History awaits you. NOW

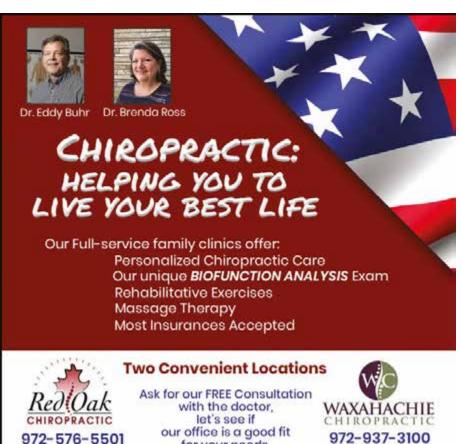
Photos courtesy of Shane Lance, editor of the Quanah Tribune.





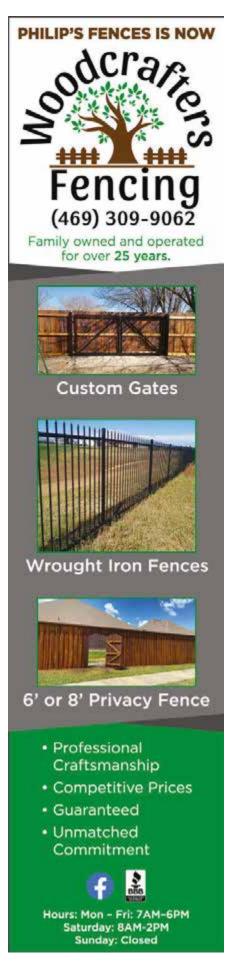






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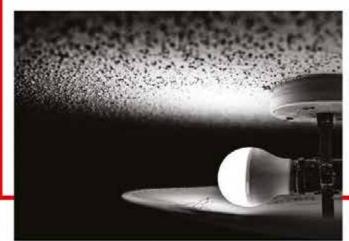
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FOPEORIO CEILING

- By Bill Smith

Popcorn ceilings were particularly popular in homes during the 1950s and 1960s, but like many styles, their popularity has waned over the years. While there were benefits to the heavily textured look, many homeowners have updated to a sleeker and more modern ceiling. One concern about removal of the texture is that ceilings textured as late as the 1980s could include asbestos fibers. Asbestos removal should be left to professionals, so it is best to have your ceiling tested for evidence of asbestos and hire a professional removal firm if it is present. This article will focus on removal of nonasbestos texture.

One other issue to think about when considering this as a do-it-yourself project is whether the heavily textured ceiling has been painted. If it has been

painted, the texture will be more difficult to remove and may best be left to the professionals as well.

You can test your ceiling to see if you want to proceed with the project by spraying a small area with some diluted liquid dishwashing soap and warm water. After a few minutes, if the water is not absorbed, the ceiling has been painted and will be difficult to remove. If the water is absorbed, the texture should come off relatively easily. You can also scrape a small amount of the texture off with a putty knife and seal it in a plastic bag to be sent for testing. A directory of asbestos testing facilities should be on the EPA website. According to Todayshomeowner.com, if the material is found to contain over I percent asbestos, then by law you cannot remove it yourself and will need to contact a professional asbestos removal company or leave the ceiling as is. Even if it doesn't contain asbestos, it's important to wear an appropriate dust mask or respirator when removing the ceiling.

To proceed with the popcorn ceiling removal, you will need:

- · A ladder
- · Tarps and/or plastic sheeting
- · Painters' tape
- · Safety gear to protect eyes, nose and mouth from dust and debris
- · A paint scraper and putty knife
- · Paint and finish materials to refinish the ceiling

First you will need to tape off the room. Controlling the dust and debris is a big part of the job, and the best practice is to remove all of the furniture and wall decorations from the room. Use tarps or plastic sheeting to protect walls and carpet and to prevent dust and debris from spreading to other rooms. However, care should be taken to provide adequate ventilation for the room.

Turn off the power to air conditioning systems, ceiling fans and light fixtures. Begin scraping the ceiling with your paint scraper. Work small areas at a time. Moistening the area with warm water from a sprayer with a few drops of dishwashing liquid may make the job easier. Moisten enough to loosen the material, but not so much that it damages the drywall underneath. Allow the water to be absorbed for 15-20 minutes. Make as many passes as necessary.

Use a small putty knife to scrape around the edges, moldings and light fixtures, being careful to avoid damaging the drywall and bedding tape. After the popcorn texture has been removed, sand the entire area lightly, again taking care to avoid damage to the drywall.

After all the material has been removed and the surface has been sanded, begin the steps to prepare the ceiling for a new finish, including covering nail or screw holes with joint compound and sanding down to a smooth surface. Note that popcorn ceilings were good at covering minor imperfections in the drywall, so a number of areas may need to be touched up.

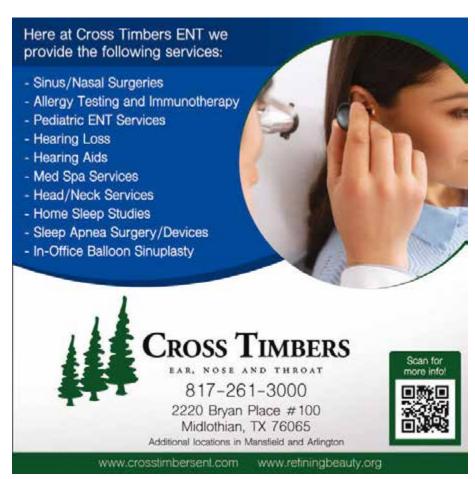
There are many possible options for your new ceiling, but whether you choose paint, fabric, ceiling tiles, wood or any other modern ceiling covering, you have improved your home with a more up-to-date appearance. In addition, you have probably enhanced your home's market value!



Sources:

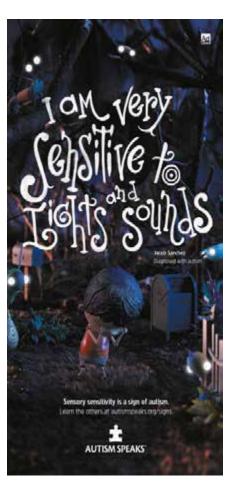
- I. havepaintbrush.com.
- 2. todayshomeowner.com.
- 3. homedepot.com

















FOURTH OF JULY

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

1 toilet paper roller,
blue poster paint,
1 small paint brush,
white star stickers,
white crepe paper,
red crepe paper,
1 glue stick, pair of scissors,
1 piece of string



Completely paint the toilet paper roller with blue poster paint.

Allow it to dry.



Glue the crepe paper strips inside one end of the toilet paper roller. Be sure to alternate red and white strips.



Hold the toilet paper roller with the streamers hanging down. Apply some glue just inside either side of the open end of the toilet paper roller.

Vind Sock



Attach white star stickers to the blue toilet paper roller. Use glue, if necessary, to make them stick.



Cut the red and white crepe paper into thin strips, about twice as long as the toilet paper roller.



Attach the ends of a small piece of string where you applied the glue, as shown.



Allow the glue to dry before hanging up your festive Fourth of July wind sock for everyone to enjoy!



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Crossword Puzzle

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Across

- 1 "Let's get goin'!"
- 5 Barflies
- 10 Recently deceased
- 11 As a matter ---, ...
- 13 Pine
- 14 Graven image
- 15 Drops
- 17 Joshes
- 18 Omen
- 21 Devour
- 22 Ottawa chief
- 24 Malt beverage
- 26 Capricom
- 29 Ocho ---, Jamaican resort
- 31 Mecca man, for example
- 32 To an extent
- 35 Walked
- 36 California racetrack
- 37 Bring on board
- 38 Thin
- 39 Top guns

Down

- 1 Embrace
- 2 Rambo-like
- 3 Hell is ---, (Jean-Paul Sartre)
- 4 Must
- 5 "Mayday!"
- 6 Many times
- 7 At a distance
- 8 Has hosted TV shows on all the Big Three networks
- 9 Diving gear
- 12 Dry run
- 16 Mailed
- 19 Ultimate degree
- 20 Even scores
- 23 An aunt of Bertie Wooster
- 24 Desiccated
- 25 Challenge for a shortstop
- 27 Worship
- 28 Beach cleaners?
- 30 Identical
- 33 Wicked
- 34 Endeavor

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Sudoku Puzzle

Easy

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Medium

Across

- 1 "Let's get goin'!"
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- 14 Graver 15 Drops
- 17 Joshes
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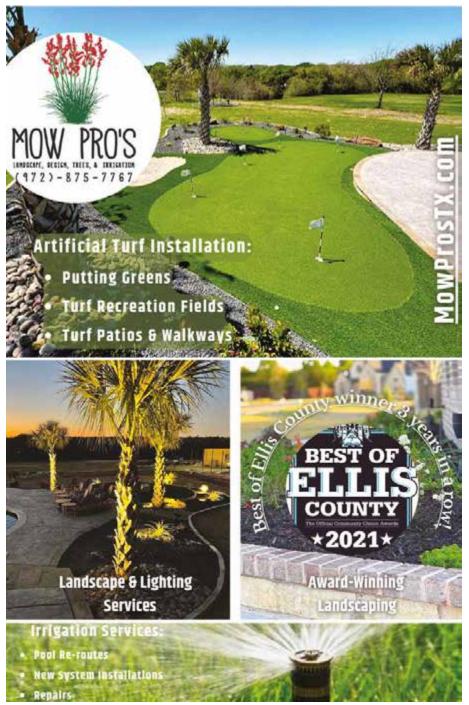


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7/3-7/4

Waxahachie Crape Myrtle Festival, Fireworks and Parade:

Sunday: Tailgate party, concert and fireworks display at the Waxahachie Sports Complex. Kid Zone will offer free activities for the children. 6:00 p.m. Monday: Veterans are invited to the Dan McClinton Veterans' Memorial Breakfast at the Chautaugua Auditorium: 8:30 a.m. Hometown parade: 10:00 a.m. For more information on the festival, or to register a veteran for the parade and breakfast, call the Waxahachie Convention & Visitors Bureau at (469) 309-4040 or visit www.VisitWaxahachie.com.

7/9

Downtown Jamboree:

A free concert featuring Gary Fox and Fox Country supporting the Moral Courage Foundation. Donations accepted. 6:30 p.m., Railyard Park, 455 S. College St.

7/15-7/16

Creative Quilters Guild of Ellis County Quilt Show:

Admission: \$8.00; men and children 12 and under are admitted free. 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Sokol Hall, 2622 Highway 3434, Ennis. www.elliscountyquilters.com.

7/16

Cars in the Park:

Come see classic cars up close. Free. 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Getzendaner Park, 400 S. Grand Ave.

7/17

From Broken to Beautiful:

The Use of Glass Mosaics in the Healing Process: Join the North Texas Art Therapy Association in learning about the history and making of your own mosaic. \$30. 2:00-4:30 p.m., Casa Colina Treatment Center, 1043 Rutherford Rd. Register on Eventbrite.

7/22-7/23

2nd Annual M.A.S. Indian Artifact Show:

There will be dozens of tables showing Indian artifacts including spear heads, arrow tips and other stone and bone tools, as well as fossils and gems, many for sale! Free.

Friday: 2:00-8:00 p.m.;

Saturday: 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.,

Waxahachie Civic Center,

2000 Civic Center Ln.,

West Entrance.

7/29-7/31

Junie B. Jones, The Musical:

If you love the books, see the play! \$15/preschool free with paid adult. **Friday** and **Saturday:**

7:30 p.m.; **Sunday:** 2:30 p.m., University Church, 221 Solon Rd. For tickets, visit www.waxahachiecommunitytheatre. com/.

Tuesdays-Fridays

Play Time:

Make friends at the library. Free. 10:00-noon., Sims Library, 515 W. Main St.

Wednesdays

LEGO Boost:

Build your dreams with everyone's favorite toy. 4:30-6:00 p.m., Sims Library, 515 W. Main St.

Second and Fourth Wednesdays

Write On!:

Improve your writing skills and get your message across. Free. 3:00-4:00 p.m., Sims Library, 515 W. Main St.

First Thursdays

Tween Crafty:

Register in advance to learn neat crafts. Free. 4:30 p.m., Sims Library, 515 W. Main St.

Second Thursdays

Canvas and Cocktails:

Come paint with your girlfriends. \$40. 6:00-8:00 p.m., Art on the Square, 113 W. Franklin St.

Last Fridays

Book Rapport:

Drop in and discuss this month's read. Free. 5:30 p.m., Sims Library, 515 W. Main St.

Saturdays

ESL:

Aprende inglés en esta clase gratis. Free. Noon-1:00 p.m., Sims Library, 515 W. Main St.

Third Saturdays

Adult Crafts:

Don't let the kids have all the fun! Free. 10:30-11:30 a.m., Sims Library, 515 W. Main St.

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







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