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A G A Z I N E

SEPTEMBER 2020

Cybersecurity Today and Tomorrow

Tom Figert has IT going on

A Dog Like Texas

The Blue Lacy
earned its place
as a state symbol

In the Kitchen With
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Scavenger Hunt

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DeSoto ISD to Focus on Virtual Learning Efforts During First Four Weeks of Instruction

Based on local health guidance and our monitoring of school district re-openings in other areas, DeSoto ISD has modified the district's September 8, 2020, Reopening Plan as follows:

On September 8, all DeSoto ISD students will begin the first four weeks of school via home-supervised learning through the Anytime, Anywhere Learning platform through October 2, 2020. During this period, the district will not offer the campus-supervised learning option as a result of recent trends related to COVID-19 cases in Dallas County.

Throughout this period, DeSoto ISD will continue to monitor Dallas County health guidance and make a determination in mid-September, with board approval, regarding whether to implement a continuation of home-supervised virtual learning for all students through October 30, 2020, or to reopen buildings in order to begin offering campus-supervised learning to the families who selected that option.

Please review the full-scale rendering of the DeSoto School ISD Safety Meter shown below online at www.DeSotoISD.org/Reconnect. This graphic aligns the district's reopening plans to Dallas County health guidance. This guide will be used to assess adjustments to the district's virtual learning operating procedures.

Upcoming Calendar

- Virtual Meet the Teacher Night Events:
 - September 1: Elementary Schools
 - September 2: Middle Schools
 - September 3: DeSoto High School
- First Day of Home-Supervised Virtual Instruction: September 8, 2020
- Board Meeting: September 14, 2020
- Board Meeting: September 28, 2020
- First Day of Campus-Based Virtual Instruction: October 5, 2020 (Tentative)



Find FAQ's, information, resources and more regarding back-to-school in DeSoto ISD at

www.DeSotoISD.org/RECONNECT

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ON THE COVER

*Tom Figert stands guard over
DeSoto's computer systems.*

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EDITOR'S NOTE



Adam

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&&& ...

That little symbol, &, shows up everywhere. Some people know it's called an ampersand. Others just know it as the "and sign." But it's an odd-looking thing that isn't really easy to write, since it starts on the opposite side from most of the characters we're used to. Maybe that's why September 8 is National Ampersand Day, which sounds about as made up as anything I can imagine.

The ampersand started off as a handwritten abbreviation for the Latin word *et* meaning "and." Back in England, long ago, this character appeared after Z in lists of the alphabet, and school children were taught to finish up their alphabet chants with "and per se and," meaning the name of the character was itself, *and*. Anything repeated often enough, by students who care little enough, gets blurred together, and "and per se and" blurred into *ampersand*. That's also why you sometimes see *et cetera* abbreviated as &c, instead of the more common etc. That & is the word *et*.

All the other squiggles we use to represent *and* in handwriting, and in printed text, also stem from the same Latin word, *et*. The backwards 3 with a stroke through it, the plus sign with a loop on top — they're all just *et*. In fact, the + sign, itself is just another shorthand abbreviation for that Latin word. So, 1 and 1 makes 2. Or 1+1=2, if you prefer.

Et tu, Brute? – Julius Caesar, Act III, Scene I

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Information Technology is a constantly changing field that impacts every part of our lives, and Tom Figert has seen a lot of developments in his time. "I am the proud head of a Navy family, which includes my son, Nicholas, and my daughter, Andrea, who followed me into that branch of service. When I joined the Navy in the '90s, I became an electrician's mate. I had an aptitude for math and physics, so I enjoyed it. Information technology was a budding discipline, just coming into its own." This position gave Tom knowledge of how everything electrical on a Navy vessel works and how to fix it when it doesn't.

When he left the Navy, he took a position at Brinks Home Security, installing alarm systems. "The sales department turned me down for a promotion, because I lacked a degree and the computer competency they were looking for. So, I got a degree in computer information systems and transferred to the IT department of Brinks. IT was in demand, and it fit me hand in glove. I'm comfortable behind the scenes, making others look good. Everything flowed."

IT is a different world today. "I started in a programming class with a 56K dial-up modem. Recently, the city upgraded to 1-gigabyte Internet connection. I've seen it go from dialing on a phone line to now! Everything used to be local applications. Now a lot of it is on the Internet, on the cloud. It's been a constant fluid shift. IT managers have to adjust every day."

One of the biggest recent adjustments is the sudden change from all the action being at

City Hall, to many people working from home, at various points, because of the pandemic.

"Now we're using video conferencing to hold city council meetings, broadcasting them on Facebook Live and holding Zoom meetings. All of that falls on Tom," DeSoto's public information officer, Matt Smith, explained.

"COVID-19 has changed our mission dramatically," Tom agreed. "But cybersecurity is always important to a city our size." Part of Tom's job is cycling out older equipment when the city upgrades to newer computers. "We get some new equipment at the beginning of every year. Part of our job is to recycle computers and destroy the hard drives, to maintain CJIS compliance, before they leave the department. But when the pandemic hit, those computers were repurposed and loaned to various departments, so more people could work from home. It's not optimal. Those machines are



CYBERSEC TODAY AND



"There are state standards for city and county governments as far as cybersecurity, but we exceed those standards."

SECURITY TOMORROW

— By Adam Walker

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four or five years old, but it satisfied a need. That's our philosophy in IT. We try to satisfy whatever needs come up. And that's fulfilling. Every day, you look for a victory. Maybe that's completing a big professional project. Maybe that's fixing a printer that has gone rogue. Maybe it's showing someone how to get their signature file to work right or updating an expired password so someone else can do their job."

Cybersecurity is an important part of what Tom does for DeSoto. In this day of phishing scams, hacking and ransom attacks, denial-of-service attacks and malware, it goes way beyond someone being careless with their password.

"When I joined DeSoto's IT department, our most significant problem was a trust issue. Everyone trusted every email. We had to change that. I've tried to bake in a culture of suspicion. We hired a firm to send out random phishing emails to our employees. The email tries to trick the employee into thinking they need to change their password or something like that. If they question the email's validity, they pass the test. If not, they get an automatic 20-minute training class in cybersecurity before they can continue with what they were doing. There are state standards for city and county governments as far as cybersecurity, but we exceed those standards."

The work that Tom and his team of experts do for the city has not gone unnoticed. "We are most fortunate to have Tom Figert and the fantastic team he manages handling the city of DeSoto's IT operations," noted DeSoto Mayor Curtistene S. McCowan. "I've always felt they are among the best in the nation, and the fact that they have captured four straight Digital Cities Awards tells me that many of the top

people in the government tech industry share that opinion!" That Digital Cities Award places DeSoto among the 10 best cities under 75,000 in population, in the entire nation. The award looks at both issues of cybersecurity and the ways a city uses IT to make city government and resources more accessible to its citizens. Clearly, DeSoto is doing some things very right under Tom's guidance.



IT and cybersecurity are fields with huge growth potential over the next years, so students with strong STEM/STEAM backgrounds should keep an eye on career possibilities. "IT is a great career," Tom declared. "Focus on education. There's no shortcut. The only way is through education. Generally, we take in several interns from DeSoto High School each year and give them a taste of what IT is really like. That may be difficult this year. I'm on a board with DeSoto ISD that looks at the tech and engineering curriculum. Take those classes in high school. Go to college. Do internships. But it never ends. The training continues all through your career. I Got my CGCIO (Certified Government Chief Information Officers) certificate last year. Tech changes so fast and grows constantly. You have to keep learning to stay on top of things."

This pandemic has made IT and cybersecurity more visible, but Tom and other professionals like him have been the unseen backbone of local governments for years. Tomorrow will bring new challenges as criminals create new threats and new technologies come to the fore. But the IT guys and gals of today and tomorrow will keep working to keep everything running smoothly behind the scenes, so we can enjoy our modern lives. **NOW**

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TALES OF TEXAS

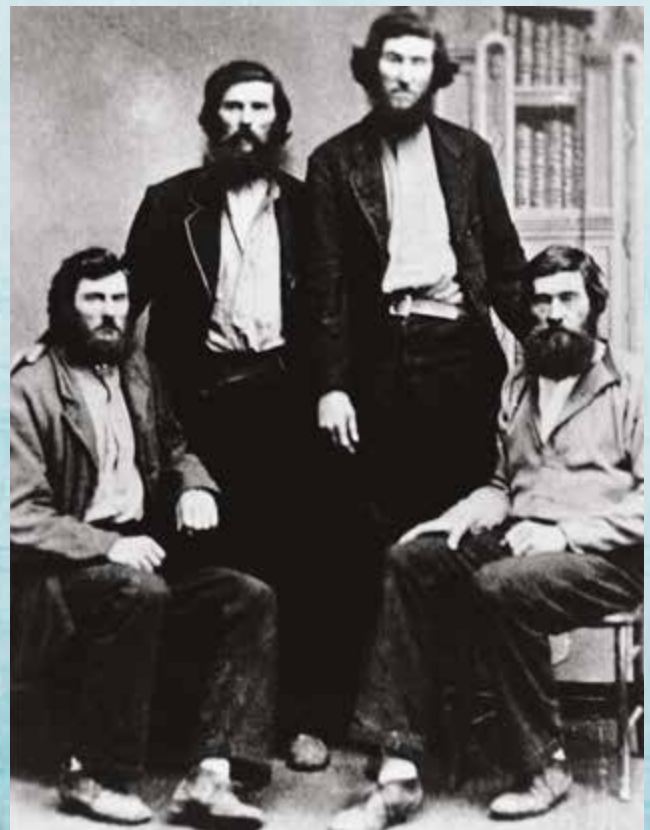
A DOG LIKE TEXAS

— By Adam Walker

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

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

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





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

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

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fur, thus the addition of the word *blue* in the modern name of the breed.

They're all-around working dogs, used for droving, herding and for hunting. Blue Lacys, unlike many other herding dogs, are headers, not heelers. They control the cattle from the front, rather than from the back. According to Marlo, that means that they don't keep aggravating the cattle once the cattle are doing what they want them to do. This means they don't cause the cattle as much stress as some breeds of heelers do. Blue Lacys also make great hunting dogs, who are willing and able to take on game as large as the wild boars that are such a problem in some parts of Texas today. But they are also smart enough to hunt wily raccoons and just about anything else.



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

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

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If you're looking for yarn for your next big project, Chick Ashby, in historic downtown Cedar Hill, is the specialty yarn shop in this end of town. Owner and proprietor, Kari Homan Shannon, dyes much of her own yarn and stocks many high-end yarns for that really important project. "I've always been really creative and loved to learn new crafts. I started with nail polish, and, somehow, that led to coloring yarn. I loved it and just kept doing it."



Now, Chick Ashby offers a whole range of plant and animal yarns. Kari can supply you with anything from alpaca and yak to silk and linen, each in the whole range of weights: lace, fingering, double knit, sport, worsted, Aran and bulky. "I don't sell a lot of bulky in Texas. It's never cold enough here!" She uses acid dyes on her specialty yarns. "I looked at plant-based dyes, but they often turn out to be more toxic because of the mordants and fixatives they use. Acid dyes only need vinegar to set."

While the yarn you get at big-box stores is fine for a big project, like a blanket, Kari's yarns are what you may want for that special project. "It's all about the quality. When you're making a project for a newborn, a prayer shawl, a nice sweater or anything to say, 'I love you,' you need a really good yarn. And once you've used good yarn, it's hard to go back."

Chick Ashby is also the source for everything from knitting needles and crochet hooks to scissors, buttons and notions to gauge rulers and yarn scales. Sock blockers, blocking pins and enamel pins are other items they keep in stock.

If you're looking for a yarn butler, a notions bag or a drying rack, they have you covered.

Before COVID-19, Chick Ashby offered a range of in-person classes to improve your skills. "Now, our classes are available online. On Tuesdays, from 5:00-8:00 p.m., we have Knit Night, and crocheters are welcome. We have Problem Solving to help fix problems with your patterns, finger loop braiding, lace work, beginning crochet and stained-glass classes," Kari informed. "We also offer blocking and finishing services for weaving in all those loose ends, and we can do photo shoots of you and your finished projects."


"When you're making a project to say, 'I love you,' you need a really good yarn. And once you've used good yarn, it's hard to go back."

The shop is a kaleidoscope of yarn, with myriad yarns arranged by weight and in rainbow order, ensuring the displays spark ideas. Walls of yarn, in every color, stand ready to inspire more projects than you could complete in a lifetime! And, if you're the sort to overbuy or start a few more projects than you can complete, there is a blessing basket to donate yarn for charity projects. If you've ever been a victim of "second sock syndrome," your solo socks can be donated to amputees at the VA, which also earns you a \$5 coupon.

Chick Ashby will join 13 other Metroplex yarn shops in a yarn crawl from September 11-20. "You'll get a pin on your map for each store you visit," Kari explained. "If you visit them all, you're eligible for a prize drawing." Kari hopes you'll come be inspired. **NOW**

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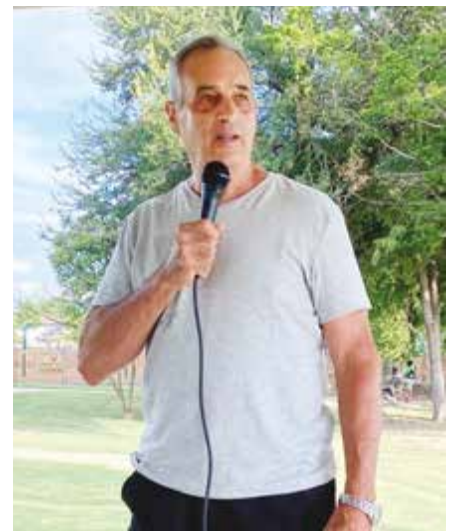
Laura Watson of Phat Girlz BBQ stays #CedarHillStrong.

Zoomed In: Britni Danielle

By Adam Walker

Britni Danielle took time between serving customers at Judy's Cafe in Duncanville to pose with the star-spangled holiday tree. "We had the tree up for Christmas, but we didn't want to take it down," she said. "So, one of my coworkers and I decided to leave it up and turn it into a holiday tree. She finds the decorations, and I get it done. So far, we've done Easter, St. Patrick's Day, summer, and the Fourth of July. We're getting ready to do Halloween, Thanksgiving and then back to Christmas."

For Britni and her coworkers, it's a way to brighten things up and have some fun. "The customers love the decorations," she reported. "They talk about it all the time. They say it's beautiful and unique."



Dr. Rob Carman speaks at The Return Prayer Rally at Virginia Weaver Park in Cedar Hill.



DeSoto student athletic trainers join with National Guardsmen to distribute food.



Volunteers build two garden beds at High Pointe Elementary.



Cedrick "Solo" Walton of Solo Bladze Hair Salon receives a small business grant presented by DeSoto Deputy City Manager Isom Cameron.



DeSoto secondary students participate in a Rice University summer STEM challenge.



Randall Chase helps Mama Bun celebrate her 95th birthday.



Mike Hooks, Mark Boyd, Trey Williamson and Clay Guest win the Duncanville Chamber of Commerce's 23rd annual Golf Classic.

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CookingNOW

In the Kitchen With

MACHANTA NEWSON

— By Adam Walker



Machanta Newson and her husband, Ken, are a team who love food. “Cooking for us is a labor of love. We are both from Mississippi, where I believe the best down-home Southern food is made!” Machanta explained. She watched her grandmother make biscuits and can preserves. He went to L’École Culinaire in Memphis.

“I can remember spending the night with my grandparents and oftentimes rabbit and squirrel would be on the menu, as well as poke sallet and other foods that a lot of our friends frown at! We cook recipes from our families and sometimes add a modern twist.” Machanta loves trying out new recipes and new flavors like nori furikake and coconut aminos. When not cooking, they enjoy fishing, bike riding and traveling. **NOW**

Machanta’s Spaghetti

1/2 Tbsp. salt, plus a pinch (divided use)
1 tsp. olive oil
1 lb. spaghetti noodles
1 lb. ground turkey or beef
1 pkg. Oscar Mayer Turkey Kielbasa,
cut in small circles
1/2 clove garlic, minced

1 tsp. pepper
1 Tbsp. Cavender’s Greek Seasoning
1/2 white or yellow onion, chopped
1/4 cup green bell pepper, chopped
1/4 cup yellow bell pepper, chopped
1/4 cup red bell pepper, chopped
8 baby portobello mushrooms, chopped
1 32-oz. jar Ragù Six Cheese Sauce
(divided use)

1/2 cup water
Cheese, grated (optional)

1. In a large stock pot of water, add a pinch of salt and olive oil; bring to a boil. Add spaghetti noodles; cook until done.
2. In a large stock pot, add ground meat, kielbasa, all spices, onion, bell peppers and mushrooms. Cook until the meat is done; drain.
3. Add 8 oz. of Ragù to the mixture; cook for 5 minutes on medium heat.
4. Drain the spaghetti; add to the meat mixture. Add remaining Ragù. Pour 1/2 cup water into the Ragù jar; swish to get remaining sauce. Add to the mixture; stir.
5. Cover; lower the heat to simmer for 20 minutes, stirring frequently to prevent sticking.
6. Let sit for 10 minutes. Top with cheese, if preferred. Enjoy!

Potato Casserole

Cooking spray
6 large russet potatoes

1/2 cup ranch dressing
Pinch salt
Pinch pepper
Pinch garlic salt
2 cups cheddar cheese, grated or Velveeta cubes
8 oz. turkey bacon, fried and finely chopped

1. Preheat the oven to 400 F. Grease a 2-qt. baking dish with cooking spray.
2. Peel the potatoes; cut them into 1-inch cubes. Boil in salted water until tender, about 20 minutes. Drain; place potatoes in the baking dish.
3. Add ranch dressing, salt, pepper and garlic salt, to the potatoes; combine gently.
4. Cover with cheese; garnish with chopped bacon. Bake in the oven until the cheese is melted and slightly brown. Let rest for 10 minutes; enjoy warm!

Guinness Beef Stew

2 lbs. rump roast, cubed
1 Tbsp. salt, plus a pinch (divided use)
1 tsp. pepper, plus a pinch (divided use)
1/2 cup all-purpose flour
1 Tbsp. vegetable oil
1/4 oz. unsalted butter
1/2 onion, chopped
1 bulb garlic, minced
1/2 Tbsp. thyme
16 oz. beef stock
6 carrots, chopped
5 large potatoes, cubed
1 16-oz. can Guinness Beer

1. Season the beef with a pinch of salt and pepper. Coat the beef in flour; add vegetable oil to a large sauté pan; heat over medium heat. Add beef; cook until the crust on the meat is brown.
2. In a large pot, melt the butter; add onion, garlic and thyme; cook until the onions are translucent. Add beef, beef stock, remaining salt, remaining pepper and pan drippings. Add carrots, potatoes and beer; let come to a boil.
3. Lower the heat. Cover; let simmer for 45 minutes, stirring frequently to prevent sticking.

German Chocolate Cupcakes

Cupcakes:

2 eggs
3/4 tsp. vanilla extract
1 cup whole milk
1/3 cup sour cream
1 1/3 cups all-purpose flour
1/4 tsp. baking soda
2 tsp. baking powder
3/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
1/8 tsp. salt



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Fast and Easy Peach
Cobbler Bites

1 1/2 cups white sugar
3 Tbsp. butter, softened

Filling:

1/2 cup semi-sweet chocolate
3/4 cup heavy cream
1/3 cup bourbon

Icing:

3 egg yolks
1 12-oz. can evaporated milk
1 1/2 sticks unsalted butter, cut in small pieces, room temperature
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1 1/4 cups light brown sugar, packed
2 2/3 cups sweetened coconut flakes

1 1/2 cups pecans, toasted and coarsely chopped

1. For cupcakes: Preheat the oven to 350 F. Line a muffin tin with cupcake liners.

2. Combine first four ingredients; beat on medium speed until incorporated, about 2 minutes.

3. In a separate bowl, mix dry ingredients and butter. Slowly add to the wet mixture; mix until just incorporated. Do not overmix.

4. Add an ice cream scoop full of mixture to each liner. Bake 14-16 minutes.

5. For filling: Add all filling ingredients to a saucepan on low heat. Stir until the chocolate melts.

6. Cut a slit in each cupcake to add filling.

7. For icing: Mix wet ingredients. Add dry ingredients; combine well.

8. Top each cupcake before serving.

Fast and Easy Peach Cobbler Bites

4 oz. butter, melted
3/4 cup brown sugar
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
1 pkg. crescent rolls
2 peaches, sliced
Cooking spray or butter
1/2 cup Sprite
Vanilla ice cream, to taste

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F. In a bowl, mix butter, brown sugar, vanilla extract and cinnamon until the sugar is dissolved.

2. Roll out the crescent roll; separate by the perforations. Brush mixture onto the crescent roll, covering the dough. Add 2 peach slices to each roll. Roll them up; place in an 8x8-inch baking dish, greased with cooking spray or butter. Brush some of the remaining mixture on top; pour the rest over the bites. Pour Sprite over the bites.

3. Bake for 35-40 minutes. Let cool for 10 minutes. Enjoy with vanilla ice cream.

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Keeping yourself healthy and safe is your first priority, but maintaining your financial health during the COVID-19 outbreak is also vital to ensure you stay prepared for whatever happens in the coming weeks. What can you do to protect your finances now and emerge from the pandemic ready to move forward?

- **Expect the unexpected.** With so many unanswered questions about the disease and the economy, financial experts caution to be more careful than usual with your household finances. Look for ways to cut expenses, even if only temporarily.
- **Manage stress appropriately.** Resist the temptation to deal with the

anxiety or boredom by indulging in online retail therapy or a big splurge, such as a new car.

- **Boost your emergency fund.** If you're still working, consider boosting your emergency fund. If you're not working, use your emergency fund as you need it, and thank yourself for having the discipline to save for a time like this.
- **Seek help when you need it.** If the pandemic has affected your income, many lenders, utility companies, landlords and others are willing to help you through this unusual time. Best approach: Proactively reach out for help before you miss payments and damage your credit score.
- **Stay calm.** If you are an investor, the current volatile stock market may have you on edge, but investment decisions made out of negative emotions, such as fear and confusion, can actually hurt you financially. Take a deep breath, think about your goals and talk to your financial or wealth advisor for guidance.
- **Take care of yourself emotionally.** Purposely look for ways, even if they are small, to put some "normal" back in your life. **NOW**

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When asked about opening an office in Waxahachie, Dr. Carlton said, "I grew up in Dallas. North Texas is my home and I feel privileged to raise my family here. I am proud to have an office in Waxahachie, and I love it's 'small town' feel. I am excited about connecting with the community and serving the great folks here and in Mansfield, Red Oak, Midlothian, Ennis, Corsicana, DeSoto, Duncanville, Cedar Hill and the surrounding areas".

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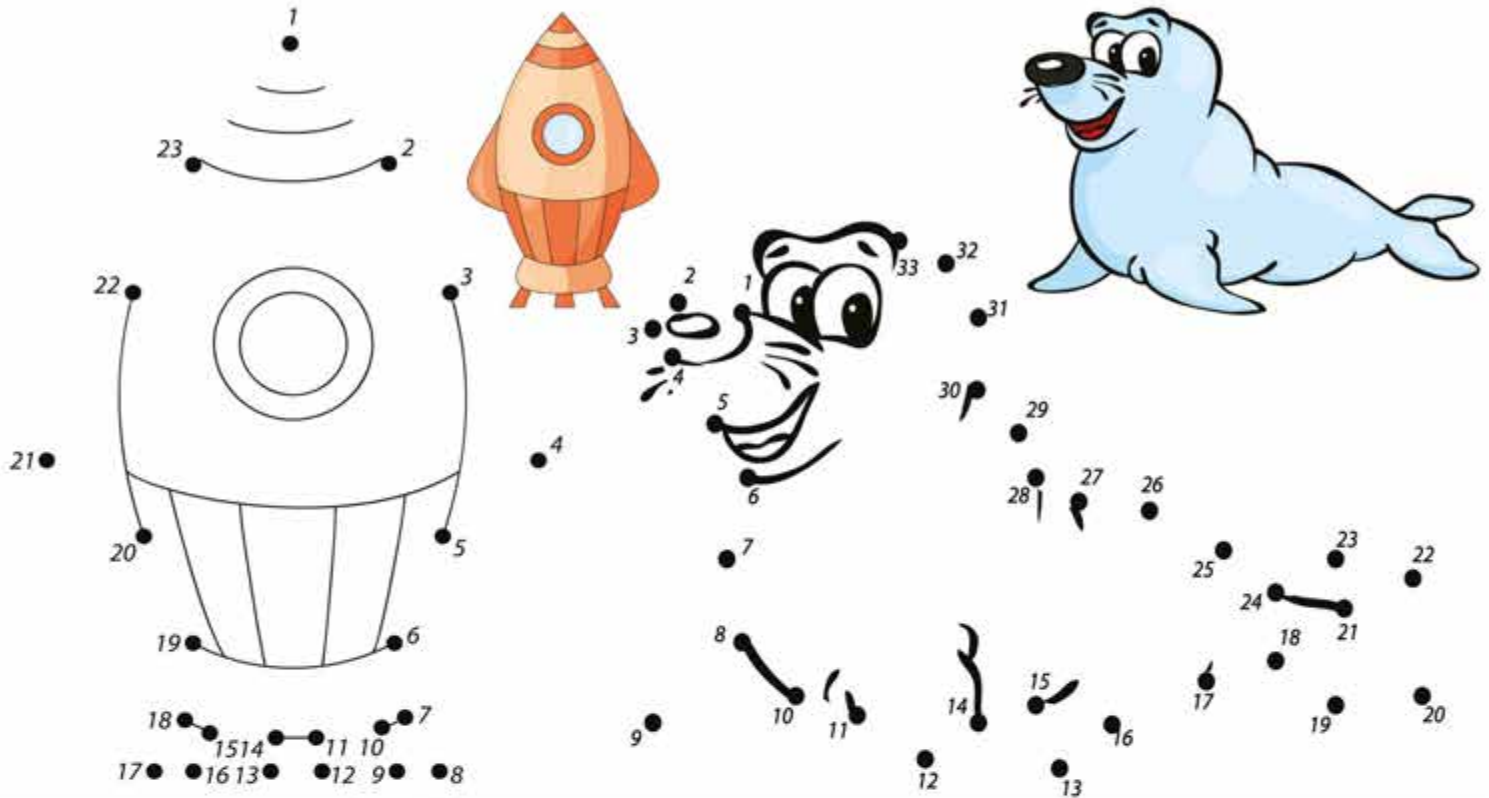

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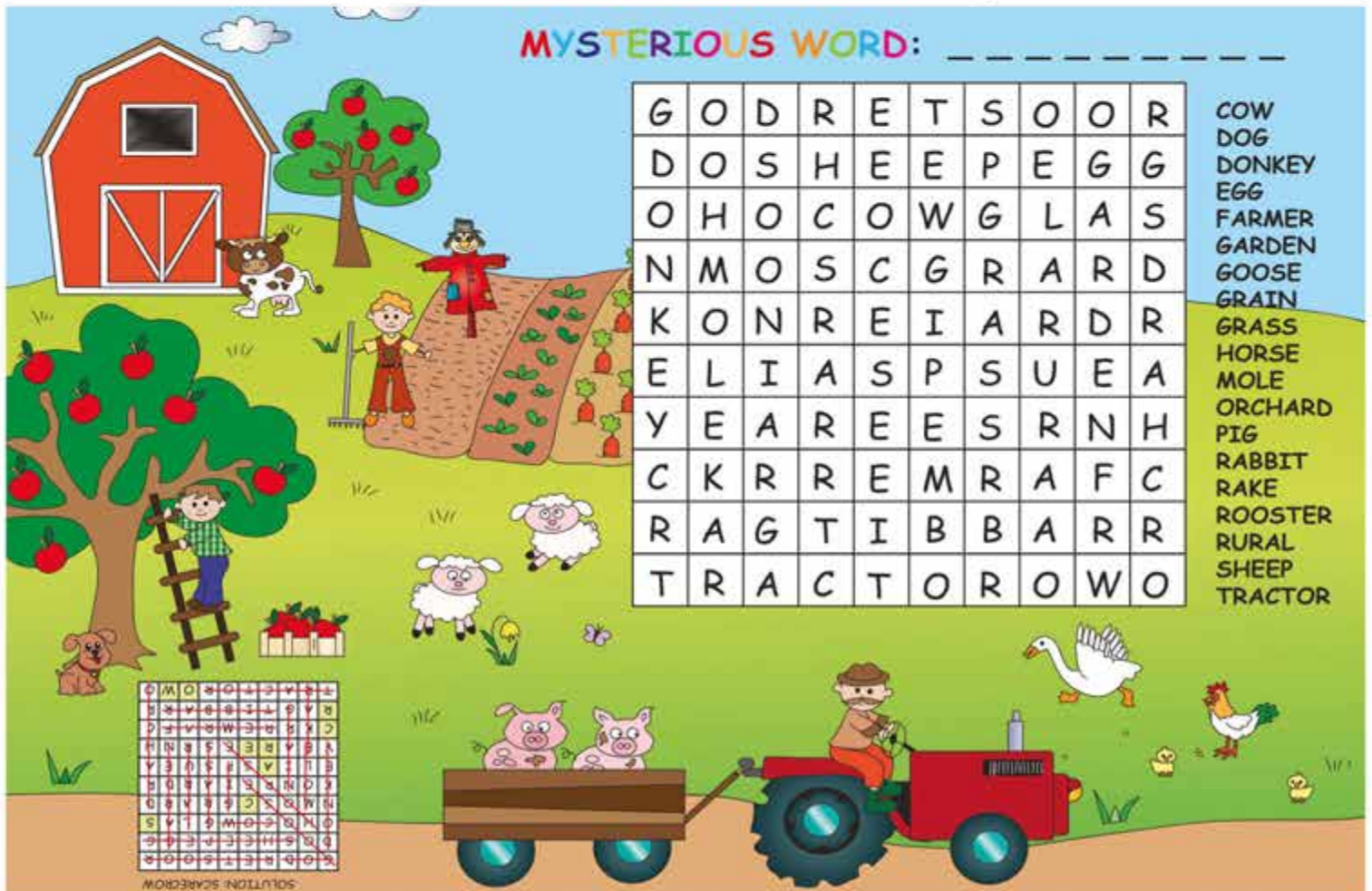
MYSTERIOUS WORD:

G	O	D	R	E	T	S	O	O	R
D	O	S	H	E	E	P	E	G	G
O	H	O	C	O	W	G	L	A	S
N	M	O	S	C	G	R	A	R	D
K	O	N	R	E	I	A	R	D	R
E	L	I	A	S	P	S	U	E	A
Y	E	A	R	E	E	S	R	N	H
C	K	R	R	E	M	R	A	F	C
R	A	G	T	I	B	B	A	R	R
T	R	A	C	T	O	R	O	W	O

COW
DOG
DONKEY
EGG
FARMER
GARDEN
GOOSE
GRAIN
GRASS
HORSE
MOLE
ORCHARD
PIG
RABBIT
RAKE
ROOSTER
RURAL
SHEEP
TRACTOR

SOLUTION: SCARECROW

O	M	O	S	H	E	E	P	E	G	G
D	O	S	H	E	E	P	E	G	G	
O	H	O	C	O	W	G	L	A	S	
N	M	O	S	C	G	R	A	R	D	
K	O	N	R	E	I	A	R	D	R	
E	L	I	A	S	P	S	U	E	A	
Y	E	A	R	E	E	S	R	N	H	
C	K	R	R	E	M	R	A	F	C	
R	A	G	T	I	B	B	A	R	R	
T	R	A	C	T	O	R	O	W	O	





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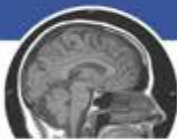
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- Jimmy and Lisa Tran

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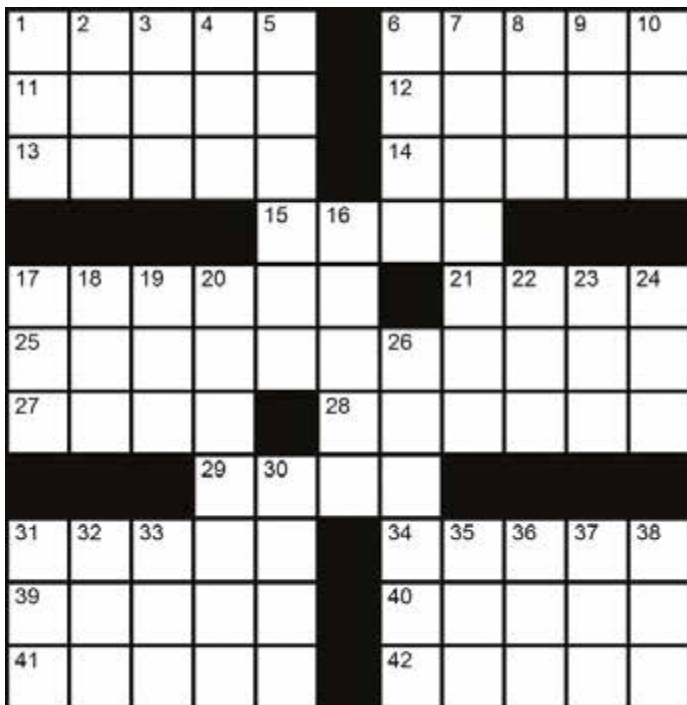
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Crossword Puzzle



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Across

- 1 Taffylike
- 6 Nautical entrance
- 11 What the Jumbies went to sea in
- 12 O3
- 13 Belief of more than a billion
- 14 Promotable chessmen
- 15 Czech runner — Zátapek
- 17 Mountain plant
- 21 TV trophy
- 25 Country on the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf
- 27 Easterly projection of a church
- 28 Neutralize
- 29 Sends up
- 31 Solo employer of old
- 34 Mournful verse
- 39 What not to build a dam on
- 40 In Montreal, it's "voir"
- 41 Follows orders
- 42 Ahead

Down

- 1 Hit CBS forensic series
- 2 That man's
- 3 Fish which might shock you
- 4 Mountain state
- 5 Likely to be an adherent of 13 Across
- 6 Squash blossom tribe
- 7 Acid-loving shrubs
- 8 Unspun fibers
- 9 Wolf Blitzer's channel
- 10 Guys
- 16 Maryland fort
- 17 Hungry — bear
- 18 Lick
- 19 Sign of infection
- 20 In the best of all possible worlds
- 22 Bus. deg.
- 23 "Peace", which fell to earth in 2001
- 24 Sweet potato, in the South
- 26 — the occasion
- 30 Darlings
- 31 "The X-Files" topic
- 32 Arrest
- 33 Stimulus
- 35 Wolf Man — Chaney
- 36 Superlative ending
- 37 Former GM marque
- 38 Not nope

Solutions on page 44

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A Message from DeSoto's Veterans Affairs Committee:

DeSoto's monthly in-person Benefit Forums are currently suspended due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. But we will continue providing information to our Veterans **VIRTUALLY** so please watch for our Virtual Veterans Benefit Forums on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 10 am on the City of DeSoto Facebook Page @desototx, on the city's website at www.desototexas.gov and on Government Channel 16 for Spectrum Cable subscribers and 99 for AT&T Uverse subscribers. We also have access to knowledgeable professionals and would be happy to assist you in connecting with them for assistance. Just give us a call at 972.230.9648 and we will do our best to connect you to someone who can help.



SouthwestNOW Scavenger Hunt



Find 5 hidden
feathers

in 5 different ads in this issue
(not counting the one above).

Email the page numbers and
specific ads where they are found,
plus your contact information and
phone number, by September 15th.

To ensure your Scavenger Hunt
answers go in the drawing,
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within 30 days of drawing.

Apples were found on pages
5, 16, 22, 26, 33

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Sudoku Puzzle

Easy

Medium

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

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

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Solutions on page 44

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- ✓ Numbness
- ✓ Sciatica
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Due to COVID-19, some events may have been cancelled or rescheduled while we were at press. Check with individual organizations or your city or Chamber websites to verify dates and times.

9/12

Environmental Collection Day:

Get rid of household hazardous materials and electronics and shred paper all at one location. Free to Cedar Hill residents. 9:00 a.m.-noon, Cedar Hill High School parking lot, 1 Longhorn Blvd. Register at cedarhilltx.com/EDC.

Virtual Latin Heritage Festival:

See Havana NRG in concert. Check the DeSoto city calendar for details. Free. 6:00-10:00 p.m. ci.desoto.tx.us/Calendar.

9/25

Fourth Friday Virtual Concert:

See Kenya C. and O.T. and the Funk Connection. Free. 8:00-10:00 p.m. View at ArtsDeSoto.com.

First and Third Tuesdays

Toastmasters:

Learn the secrets to confident

public speaking. \$65 to join. 6:00 p.m. Sign up on the Zula B. Wylie Library website to receive the Zoom login.

First Thursdays

Medicare

Community Meetings:

Learn about what Medicare has to offer, whether you are newly eligible or have been participating for years. Free. 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., DeSoto Public Library, 211 E. Pleasant Run Rd., Ste. C.

Last Thursdays

Keller Williams Best Southwest Career Nights:

Learn to be a Realtor. Free. 6:30-8:00 p.m., 2010 N. Hampton Rd., Ste. 300, DeSoto.

Last Fridays

Poetry Night:

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1	C	H	E	W	Y	6	H	A	T	C	H
11	S	I	E	V	E	12	O	Z	O	N	E
13	I	S	L	A	M	14	P	A	W	N	S
						15	E	M	I	L	
17	A	L	P	I	N	E	21	E	M	M	Y
25	S	A	U	D	I	A	26	R	A	B	I
27	A	P	S	E			28	D	I	S	A
						29	A	P	E	S	
31	U	N	C	L	E		34	E	L	E	G
39	F	A	U	L	T		40	T	O	S	E
41	O	B	E	Y	S		42	O	N	T	O

Easy

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

Medium

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

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