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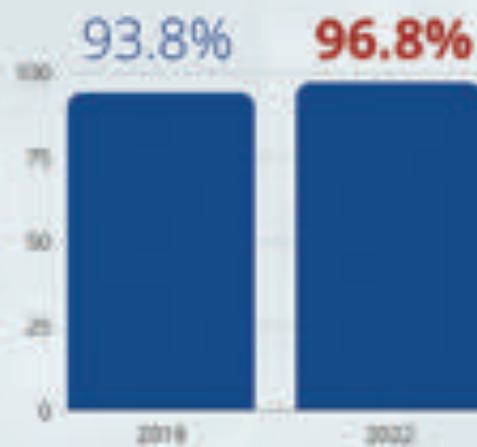
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ON THE COVER



Young job-seekers have a friend in Michael Thompson.

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EDITOR'S NOTE



Adam

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Did you know?

September 23, is the International Day of Sign Languages. Yes, that's a plural. There are hundreds of signed languages around the world. Ethnologue, the database maintained by SIL, lists 157 signed languages. The UN website, <https://www.un.org/en/observances/sign-languages-day>, gives the number at "more than 300." Whatever number you accept, it's large, and totally blows the idea of sign language being "universal" to smithereens.

Deaf sign languages are *not* codes for spoken languages. They are vibrant complicated languages in their own rights, with their own grammars and vocabularies that can be difficult to translate into a spoken language, or another signed language. Sometimes, it take twice as long to express the same idea in English as it does in American Sign Language, and sometimes the opposite is true.

The territories of sign languages do not match up one-to-one with spoken languages or with national borders. ASL is spoken all over the United States, and it and Canadian Sign Language are virtually identical, but Canada has a few other sign languages, one in Quebec, and a nearly dead one in the Maritime provinces, oh, and one used by the Inuit. The U.S. used to have a sign language that was spoken by nearly everyone, Deaf and hearing alike, on the island of Martha's Vineyard, though it died out long ago. Taiwan Sign Language is nothing like the sign language spoken in China, even though both countries speak Mandarin and other Chinese languages. Taiwan Sign Language is much more like Japanese Sign Language, because the Japanese opened the first schools for the Deaf in Taiwan and used their language to teach.

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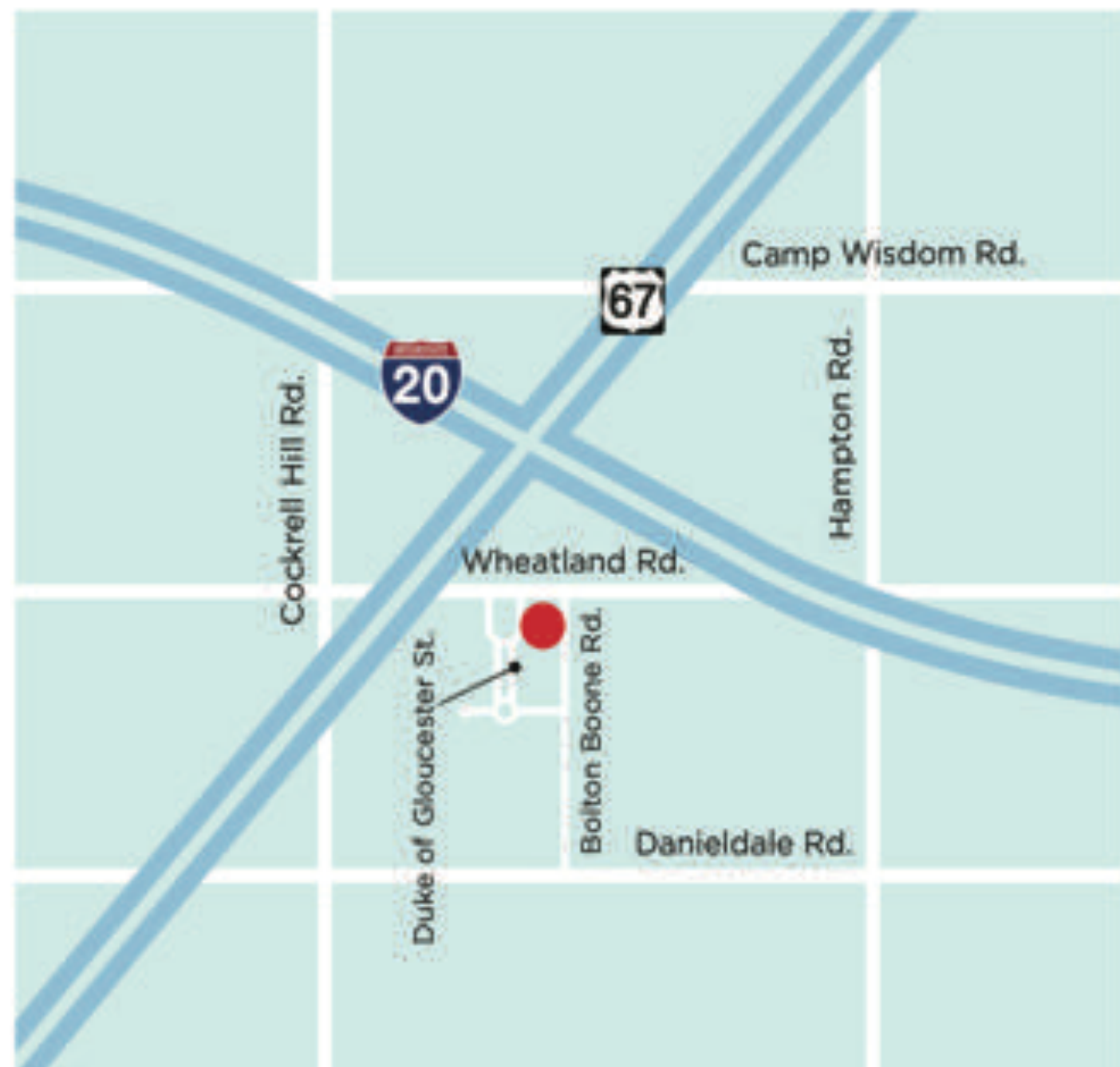


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JOBS FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW

— By Adam Walker

Landing your first real job can be daunting, even without extra challenges. “Sometimes, you need a person to help you get your foot in the door,” Michael Thompson expressed. “Sometimes, it really is who you know. I want to be that person.” Michael is the young adult business development leader for Workforce Solutions. He’s the only person at Workforce who specializes specifically in building partnerships with top employers and helping young people in the area gain employment at the kind of companies, in the kinds of positions, that can change their lives.

“I work with 16- to 24-year-olds. Some of them have extra barriers to finding good employment. Some of them have been incarcerated, have been pregnant or grew up in poverty environments. They may not have any mentors in their lives. They may not have any successful people in their lives, so they have a negative mindset about finding a good job. I want every person I have contact with to understand that there’s a new door just around the corner. Steady employment can change entire families. So many young people don’t understand how many job opportunities there are right now. Workforce Solutions is partnering with 113 different companies and organizations, like Parkland, FedEx, American Airlines, AT&T, Texas Instruments, Amazon, Dallas ISD, DeSoto ISD, Dallas College and Emmitt Smith’s Lancaster Innovation Center.

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“These companies are looking for young people to hire for executive assistants, recruiting agents, IT, human resources. And they like hiring young people, because they can train them to do things *their* way. Young people come with a clean slate. They hope that young hires will be with their companies for many years to come, that they’ll grow with their companies. Some of them, Like Parkland, Dallas College and the Lancaster Innovation Center, offer apprentice programs.”

From his office at Redbird, Michael reaches out into the surrounding communities, including all the Best Southwest cities, with a street team of young adult mentors. “We go to schools, parks, community centers, basketball courts — anywhere you find young people. Our goal is to make a difference, not just for individuals, but for whole communities. The way to end the cycle of poverty, is connecting people with good jobs.”

Michael has big goals. “I pride myself on my work and true passion for impacting lives. I’m truly thankful to work with other leaders like my fraternity brother Dallas Mayor Eric Johnson, Workforce Czar Lynn McBee and many more. I would love to be mayor one day. But my goal is to impact our community by bringing all employers, nonprofits, Dallas professional sports teams, city leaders and church leaders together to bring our community upscale jobs.”

Relationships are at the center of what Michael does. “When a young person comes in, I sit down with them and get to know them,” he explained. “It’s important to build trust. Many of these people have had trauma in their





lives. I'm not here to judge. I'm here to help. I walk through the Work Experience Program with them. We show our partner companies that we believe in these young people by paying for their first 20 weeks of employment. That way, both the company and the young person see that we're really behind them.

"A lot of people think that if you want a new job, it will take forever to find that job, but no! Because of the relationships we have with employers, the young people who come to us don't have to wait a long time for employment. The average time is one to two weeks from first contact to first day of employment," Michael said.

"A lot of people just need an opportunity. The job market has really changed since the start of the pandemic. It's a new day. Right now, there is so much opportunity. Organizations like Workforce Solutions and Workforce Dallas are trying to improve lives," Michael declared. "We're focusing on the jobs of tomorrow. This is bigger than just a job. We're trying to improve lives. Workforce is developing the keys to helping people have the finances to help their families. Poverty comes from not having a consistent income.

"We have the ability to end systemic poverty," Michael said. "If we continue to stay focused, we can do it. There's a world of opportunities. Employment is changing poverty. I know someone who really needs help will read this. I want to make sure they have no problem contacting me. Here is my direct phone number, (469) 251-2394. Let's change lives today!" **NOW**



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TALES OF TEXAS

WHY DALLAS?

— By Sandra Walters



Did you know the State Fair of Texas didn't originate in Dallas? Actually, it started in Corpus Christi in 1852 as the Lone Star Fair. At that time, there were a few small businesses and roughly 700 people living in this town. The Lone Star Fair event is thought to have primarily occurred on Corpus Christi's beach. Although it is difficult to fathom, this is how and where the tradition began.

One of Corpus Christi's founders, Colonel Henry L. Kinney, desired to share this beautiful area because he thought not many Texans knew about this location. He believed a state fair held by the town would attract people, and once they saw the paradise, they would be sold. He became the fair's manager and convinced a number of well-known citizens to participate in the project.

The Lone Star Fair advertised extensively by distributing flyers throughout the world, promising a variety of entertainment, food and contests. Appealing awards were

offered to promote competitive displays and excellent agricultural entries at the fair. Many of the ranchers, farmers and inventors from across the state showed up to the festivities with a spirit of competition ready to perform or exhibit their creations.

After the fair, there were mixed reviews from the press and significant financial losses. Since the negative outweighed the positive, Corpus Christi didn't move forward with the fair the next year. Also, decades later, a story of a man being shot in the final hours of the Lone Star Fair was revealed, shedding light on the behaviors during the celebration.

The next Texas state fair was held in Dallas seven years later, in 1859. About 2,000 participants took part. The exhibits featured items from rural life, such as farming tools, basic clothing and fresh crops. However, it ended because of financial difficulties, just like the Lone Star Fair.

The following fair wasn't held for some time, but it finally happened in Houston on the Buffalo Bayou in 1870. As a result of the event's instant success, organizers moved to a larger location north of the city two years later and developed a grandstand and racetrack. In order to transport residents from downtown to the festival's entrance, Houston constructed a streetcar line. However, as fate would have it, an economic collapse and a yellow fever epidemic in the late 1870s resulted in the cancellation of the fair.

The state fair moved from Houston to Dallas in 1886 because of the foresight of Dallas business leaders. One of them bought 80 acres in East Dallas for the fair, but other organizers preferred a location farther north. Arguments soon ensued between the businessmen, and they were unable to come to terms. On October 26, 1886, the site of the current Fair Park became the new location of William H. Gaston's Dallas State Fair. The previous day, in what is now Uptown, the competing Texas State Fair and Exposition occurred. Despite both fairs boasting good attendance, the competition resulted in neither of them being able to cover costs, so the next year, the two groups amalgamated to form the State Fair of Texas.

Today, the State Fair of Texas consistently attracts over 2 million attendees yearly. Such enthusiasm from the public has served as motivation to grow the fair's activities over the years. The fair offers opportunities to take part in football games, pig races, pee wee stampedes, pumpkin painting, walking through the livestock barns, visits to the green house, backyard circus, little hands on the farm, children's barnyard, illumination sensation, starlight parade, riding the Ferris wheel, auto shows, taking a picture with Big Tex and more. Another appealing aspect of the fair is the food. Over the years, the corn dog, smoked turkey leg and funnel cake have become the classics, whereas new creative food vendors make unique fried items each year — like fried peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, fried Coke, fried cookie dough, fried beer and fried bubblegum. This intrigues many attendees. These things keep the people attending because they desire to taste or encounter the next big thing or keep the tradition going for the next generation. **NOW**

Sources:

1. bigtex.com
2. texasmonthly.com
3. dmagazine.com
4. texasproud.com



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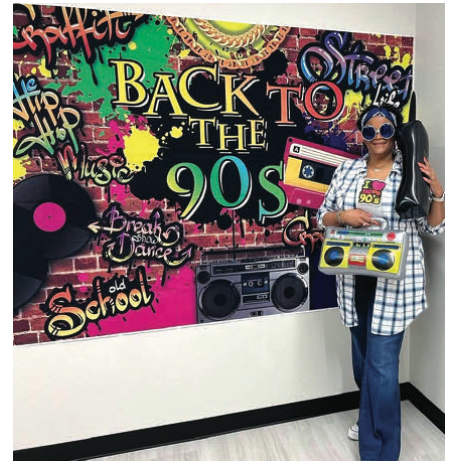


Zoomed In: Miranda Myers

By Adam Walker

Miranda Myers got some kisses from Pecan at Tri-City Animal Shelter. She's been working there for five years, and Pecan has been a guest looking for a forever home for about three weeks. "Pecan's about a year old, and she's a Boxer-Pit mix. She's just as sweet as can be," she said.

"The best thing about working here is seeing the pets find new homes. Unfortunately, the cute ones go faster. I just want to see them all in loving families. I love animals. It's kind of a calling to be here. I feel really passionate working in this place. And I also really enjoy the family environment among the employees." Pecan snuggled her head against Miranda. She knows how to say, "Thanks," in doggie.



Carolyn Kelley from DeSoto Water Utilities is fresh as can be for '90s Days.



Zachariah Aaron celebrates his 4th birthday with his GrandC at the University of Dreams.



Jeff Smith, owner of the McDonald's on I-20, donated \$5,000 to the B.O.S.S. Camp.



The Cedar Hill High School Cheer Team achieves greatness at the UCA Camp.



Dr. Jaime Kovar, Cathye Smith and Dr. Silvia Martinez take up leadership roles at DeSoto ISD.



Rasheed Khaleel and family have fun at the groundbreaking and block party for Cedar Hill's new library.



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— By Adam Walker

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Key Pharmacy is a full-service pharmacy, offering specialty compounding in the heart of Cedar Hill. “We have our own clean room facility for sterile compounding, right here in the store,” Owner and Pharmacist Christopher Lloyd reported. “We offer sterile compounding for medications like eye drops and inhalation treatments, and non-sterile compounding for lotions and creams.” In addition to prescription medications, they offer skin care products to treat all kinds of conditions from acne to rosacea and skin lightning.



There are two pharmacists on staff at Key Pharmacy, as well as two technicians and a marketing expert. “Our customer service is really good, and our turnaround times are really quick,” Christopher stated. “There’s no waiting in line. Our experience is extensive. When compounding, you need to be proficient to make an elegant product that works. I’ve been compounding for nine years, and my wife has been doing it for 15 years. Our technicians have been doing this for seven to eight years. Compounding is making medications from scratch. It’s not counting pills. You have to have a good lab with good equipment, and you have to mix everything right. We compound lidocaine creams for several local spas. We have an ointment mill to make the creams really smooth, not gritty. It not only feels better that way, it makes the product work better.”

Christopher understands how important it is to take care of his customers. “A pharmacy has to build trust with their patients. We can’t just fill what’s on the prescription without thinking. We have to catch errors on those prescriptions to avoid wrong medication, wrong doses or drug interactions and

be sure patients are getting what they really need. When people get what they need, they tell their friends. Word of mouth is our best advertising. You can't sell people snake oil and expect them to come back."

Key Pharmacy focuses on saving their customers money. "We have lower prices on some retail medications than you can get through your insurance plan. And we make things here that you can't get at a regular corner drug store or big chain pharmacy, like bioidentical hormone replacement therapy. We also provide Semaglutide, a drug that has been in the news recently. It's a real game changer for weight loss. One guy taking it lost 40 pounds in eight weeks! You'll pay \$1,600 to \$1,800 through the manufacturer, but less than \$250 here."

**"WHEN COMPOUNDING,
YOU NEED TO BE
PROFICIENT TO MAKE
AN ELEGANT PRODUCT
THAT WORKS."**

Key Pharmacy offers home delivery through the postal service. "Some of our regular customers live as far away as Austin and El Paso. By delivering through the mail, we can send your medication anywhere," Christopher explained.

In addition to taking care of all their human patients, Key Pharmacy can also prepare the medications for your furry friends. Anyone who has tried to give a pill to a dog or cat knows what a challenge that can be. "We make all kinds of veterinary medications, and we can make them with flavors like chicken, liver and beef to help you get your pet to take the medication. We can even put cat medications in a gel that you put on their ears.

"If you are looking for a new pharmacy, Key Pharmacy would like to be that pharmacy," Christopher concluded. "We're here to serve you." **NOW**



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A photograph of Jackie Brown, a woman with dark hair and a red headband, smiling in her kitchen. She is wearing a black floral halter top and holding a large glass bowl filled with sliced yellow and orange bell peppers and cucumbers. In the background, a stainless steel oven and wooden kitchen cabinets are visible.

CookingNOW

In the Kitchen With

JACKIE BROWN

— By Adam Walker

Jackie Brown turned to cooking as part of her recovery after a stroke in 2019. “I had a stroke at the college where I worked. I was not able to return to work, so I spent a lot of days trying to figure out what to do with myself.” The stroke left her with aphasia, a condition that affects the ability to communicate, scrambling the words you say and understand. “I couldn’t write or speak clear sentences, and I couldn’t read. But I still loved to cook. It was difficult at first. I would forget ingredients or add too much. I’ve gotten a lot better, cooking my favorite recipes, and I took up gardening, which is very soothing. Using the vegetables I grow, makes me happy.” **NOW**

Ms. Jackie’s Pepper Salad

1 red bell pepper
1 orange bell pepper
1 yellow bell pepper
1/2 red onion
1/2 English cucumber
1 handful olives
3 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
Salt, to taste
Pepper, to taste

1. In a nice size bowl, slice each pepper into strips; then cut those strips in half. Slice the red onion thin, and then in halves. Slice the

English cucumber down the middle, and then slice small strips, keeping the skin on. Then half the cucumber strips.

2. Sprinkle with the olives; add the olive oil. Season with salt and pepper; toss. It’s better if you eat it the same day!

Sea Scallops With Lemon and Basil

1 lb. colossal sea scallops
Salt, to taste
Pepper, to taste
Garlic powder, to taste
Onion powder, to taste

Paprika, to taste (or your favorite seasoning)

3 tsp. flour (divided use)

2 Tbsp. butter

2 lemons, sliced

2 cups basil, fresh

1. The scallops will usually fit in a big skillet or big saucepan. Rinse the scallops with cold water. Pat the scallops dry on both sides. Season one side with salt, pepper, garlic powder, onion powder and paprika. Coat with a dusting of flour. (You don’t want to cook them in flour. You just want a little crust, so it should be a very light dusting.)

2. Add butter to a heated pan; add the scallops, seasoned face down. Cook for 2 minutes or until the scallops are easy to flip.

3. While the scallops are cooking, season the other side with the spices; sprinkle with a little more flour.

4. Once the scallops are cooked on both sides, add the sliced lemons and a generous portion of basil; take off the heat. I like to cook this with rice or mashed potatoes. Enjoy!

Honey Garlic Shrimp Scampi

1 1/2 lbs. shrimp, deveined
 4 Tbsp. unsalted butter (divided use)
 Salt, to taste
 Pepper, to taste
 3 Tbsp. soy sauce
 4 Tbsp. honey
 4 cloves garlic
 1 lime, sliced

1. Peel and wash the shrimp; pat dry. Add 2 Tbsp. of butter to an iron skillet. Once the butter has melted, season the shrimp lightly with salt and pepper; add the shrimp to the pan. Cook on both sides.
2. Remove the shrimp from the pan. Add the soy sauce, honey, garlic and the remaining butter to the pan. Return the shrimp to the pan; coat them in the sauce.
3. Use the lime slices for garnish.

Smothered Chicken Wings

4 lbs. chicken wings
 Olive oil
 Salt, to taste
 Pepper, to taste
 Onion powder, to taste
 Paprika, to taste
 2 Tbsp. flour
 1/2 cup beef stock (or water)

1. Rinse and pat dry the chicken. Rub each wing with your favorite olive oil on both sides. Rub both sides of the chicken with the seasonings.
2. Place the seasoned chicken in an 8x11-inch baking dish.
3. For the gravy, add flour to the beef stock or water; stir to combine. Add the mixture to the bottom of the baking dish. Cover; cook on 400 F for 1 hour. Serve with mashed potatoes, corn or rice.

Rib-eyes With Mushrooms, Onions and Rosemary

2 thin rib-eye steaks
 Salt, to taste
 Pepper, to taste
 2 Tbsp. olive oil
 1 lb. mushrooms
 1 large onion, chopped
 3 cloves garlic, chopped
 2 cups beef stock
 4-5 sprigs rosemary

1. Rinse the steaks; pat them dry. Season on both sides with salt and pepper.
2. Add the olive oil to a hot skillet. Add the seasoned steaks to the pan; cook on both sides about 5 minutes each.



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Stef is excited to announce that On The Border in Cedar Hill is now officially open! He had a great time at their ribbon cutting that took place 08/18/2022.

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3. Add the mushrooms, onions and garlic. Add the beef stock; place in the oven at 375 F, covered, for 35 minutes. Halfway through the cooking time, add the rosemary and continue cooking. Enjoy!

Homemade Potato Salad

1 5-lb. bag potatoes
1 small onion

1 small bell pepper
2 eggs
2 cups mayonnaise
1 cup mustard
1 cup dill relish
Salt, to taste
Pepper, to taste

1. Peel the potatoes; cut them into small wedges.

2. Dice the onions and bell pepper. Add the potatoes, onions and bell pepper, along with the two eggs to a pot. Add enough water to cover. Bring to a boil; cook until the potatoes are tender.

3. Drain the potatoes, onions and bell pepper; remove the eggs.

4. It's better to allow the potatoes to cool off before adding the mayonnaise, mustard and dill relish. Lightly mash the potatoes and combine.

5. Peel and slice the eggs; add them and the salt and pepper to the potato mixture; stir to combine. Chill in refrigerator to desired temperature. Enjoy!



Ms. Jackie's Pepper Salad

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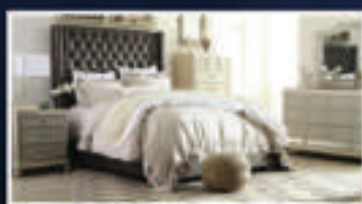
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Exit strategy: Succession Planning for Your Small Business

You've worked hard, made sacrifices and overcome obstacles to build the business you dreamed was possible. While you've been focusing your energy on your customers and bottom line, you may not have given as much thought to the time when you will no longer be part of your business because you retire, you become disabled or you die. But, say small business experts, neglecting to plan your own exit strategy could be a costly mistake.

Making the transition from running the business every day to handing it off to someone else takes thoughtful preparation. Succession planning — making critical decisions about how that transition happens — puts your intentions into a formal framework that takes into account legal, financial, operational, human resource and personal and family issues. Ideally, succession planning begins the day you establish your business. By creating a business structure that doesn't depend solely on you, its owner, you build a stronger, more resilient business that can continue to thrive when you hang up your hat. Beyond that first step, however, succession planning isn't an exact science. That's why you'll likely need help.

- **Assemble a team of professionals to guide you.** Planning

a successful exit is a large task with even larger implications for your employees; your business' assets, stability and potential; your own tax obligations; and your family. Involve your attorney, tax advisor, CPA, banker, wealth advisor, even a business evaluation expert. Each can help you explore the options open to you.

- **Think through your long-term business goals.** Do you want a family member, a business partner or an employee to continue the business in your place? If you have a successor in mind, is that person willing and ready to step into your shoes? Or do you need to sell the company to finance your retirement? What actions are necessary to get your business ready to sell? As you're considering your business' future, remember to include plans for your own life after work.

- **Develop and document your plan, then communicate it clearly.** Formalize your goals with the help of your team of professionals and put the resulting plan in writing. Then, make sure key employees and family members know about, understand and support your plan. **NOW**

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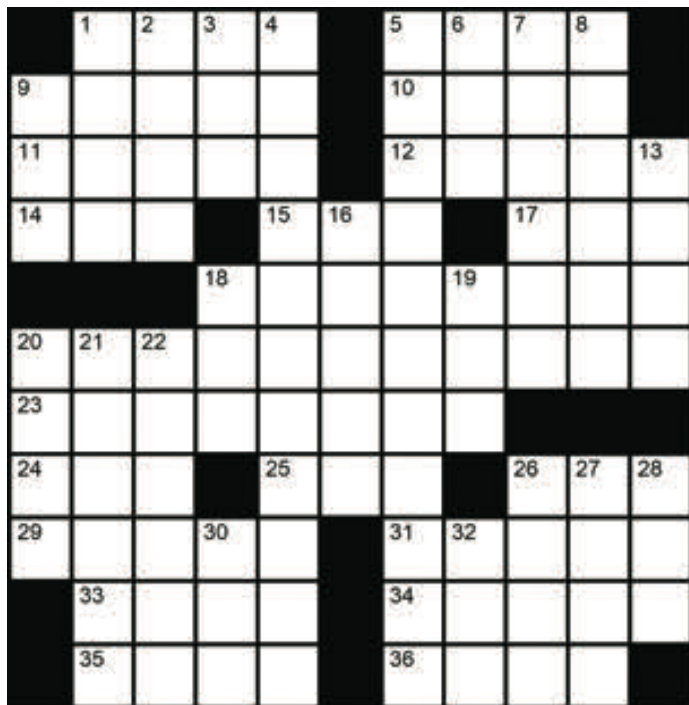


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Across

- 1 It's good from a crow's nest
- 5 Young ceremonial attendant
- 9 Spiny desert features
- 10 Wickedness
- 11 Oscar winner Tatum ---
- 12 Celebrate noisily
- 14 Affirmative reply
- 15 You have one only when seated
- 17 Gabrielle Solis player Longoria
- 18 Called the shots
- 20 Concise explanations
- 23 --- to (concerning)
- 24 Not-for-profit TV spot
- 25 Edward Snowden's former employer
- 26 Bolt's partner
- 29 The Everlys woke her
- 31 Tantalize
- 33 Cabernets, for example
- 34 Versifier Nash
- 35 Times which include periods
- 36 Laugh loudly

Down

- 1 Arrow tailfeather
- 2 Cold confections
- 3 7th Greek letter
- 4 Biddability
- 5 Criminal
- 6 Madison or Lexington, in NYC
- 7 "But to --- you and to --- me, ..." (Cole Porter, "High Society")
- 8 Craps natural
- 9 Bashful
- 13 Young 'uns
- 16 Divas' solos
- 18 Croak
- 19 El --- (Charlton Heston role)
- 20 Pickpockets
- 21 Make certain
- 22 "The Mummy" star
- 26 Nothing
- 27 Employer
- 28 Maximum Scrabble tile value
- 30 First Lady McKinley
- 32 Self-esteem

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SEPTEMBER

9/1

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9/6

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9/17

LatinFest:

Join us for a celebration of Latin culture. Live entertainment, food, kids' activities and a business expo. 2:00-9:00 p.m., Valley Ridge Park, 2850 Park Ridge Dr., Cedar Hill. For more information, visit cedarhilltx.com/latinfest.

Latino Heritage Festival:

Bring your lawn chairs for a night of fun, food and live music.

Free. 6:00-9:00 p.m.,
DeSoto Amphitheater,
211 E. Pleasant Run Rd.

Doctor Strange and the Multiverse of Madness:

Free. 7:30 p.m., Armstrong Park amphitheater, 100 James Collins Blvd., Duncanville.

9/22

Local Author Spotlight:

C. Nichole is a children's author and founder of the international nonprofit Pan-African Think Tank. Free. 10:00 a.m.-noon,
DeSoto Public Library,
211 E. Pleasant Run Rd.

9/24

TexasLatino Musica:

Concert, dancing, food and Selina look-alike contest.

Free. 7:00 p.m.,
Armstrong Park amphitheater,
100 James Collins Blvd.,
Duncanville.

9/29, 10/1-10/2
and 10/6-10/8

Night Must Fall:

\$15. 8:00 p.m., except 10/2 at 3:00 p.m., Duncanville Community Theatre, 106 S. Main St., Duncanville.

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

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SouthwestNOW Scavenger Hunt



Find 5 hidden Cinnamon Rolls

in 5 different ads in this issue
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Email the page numbers and
specific ads where they are
found, plus your phone
number, by September 15th.
To ensure your Scavenger Hunt
answers go in the drawing,
you must use the

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scavenger.swn@nowmagazines.com

One entry per person.

WIN!

\$50 Cash Prize

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Winner must pick up prize
within 30 days of drawing.

Mushrooms were found
on pages 15, 17, 21, 35, 36

August winner is:
Tiffany Daniels Spivey - \$50
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NIGHT MUST FALL

by Emlyn Williams
directed by Kevin Paris

Sept. 29-Oct 1 & Oct 6-8 • 8 p.m.

Oct. 2 • 3 p.m.



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KEEP DESOTO BEAUTIFUL TRASH PICKUP DAY

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Want to help out? Simply sign up for a cleanup location and show up. It's that easy.

All supplies will be provided for all volunteers including gloves, bags, and pickers.

Earn Community Service Hours while helping our community.

For questions or further information, contact the Parks and Recreation offices at 19721 230-9653 or email youthsports@desototexas.gov.

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