

NorthEllisCo.NOW

M A G A Z I N E

SEPTEMBER 2023

Where
Is Kevin
Pruett?

Brighten Your
Evenings

Enhance the safety
and ambience
of your yard with
outdoor lighting

Also inside:

Scavenger Hunt

In the Kitchen With
Bryan Bell



We are an advanced dental office with a concierge-like feel. This private practice office offers three levels of sedation for patients dealing with dental anxiety: mild, moderate and deep.



Our advanced skills allow us to provide you with most dental procedures under one roof; if you feel like you have a laundry list of dental needs, we are the office for you. In addition, 95% of patients have minimal to no discomfort during our dental injections.

- Oral surgery
- Extractions
- Alveoloplasty
- Crowns
- Bridges
- Implants
- Braces
- Invisalign
- Anterior Root canals
- Removable partial dentures
- Dentures
- Implant dentures
- Nightguards
- Whitening
- Scaling and Root Planing
- Complimentary second opinions

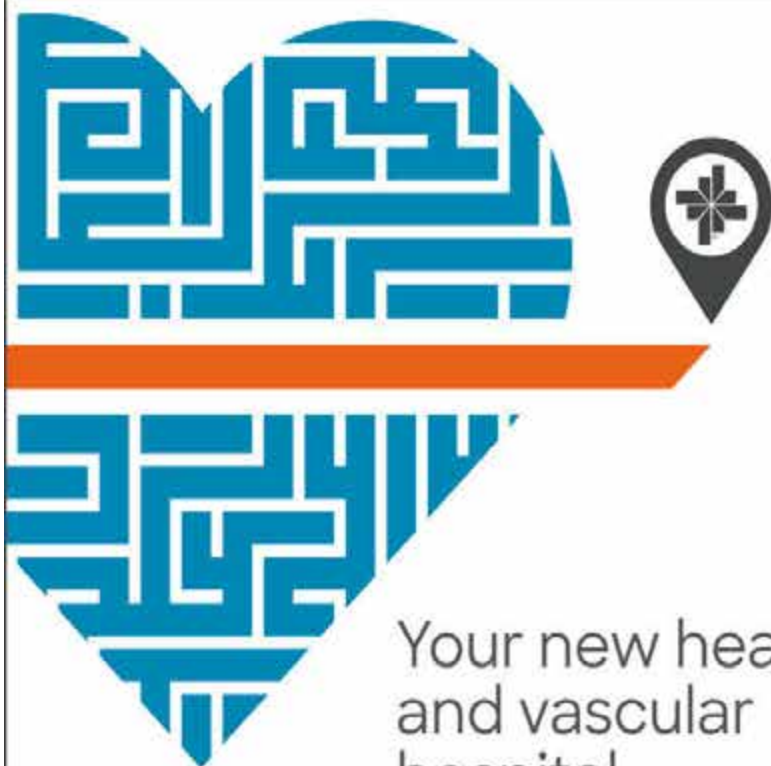


Call, text, or
schedule online:
flexbook.me/allala

Our in-house lab gives us the ability to make dentures, partials, bridges, and crowns in days-weeks. Versus the conventional time frame of weeks-months.

theserenitydentist.com | 972-634-1434
Dr. Cristina Allala
605 E Belt Line Rd, Suite 101, Cedar Hill





Your new heart and vascular hospital

Better heart health in our region begins now with the opening of the new Baylor Scott & White Heart and Vascular Hospital - Waxahachie.

We created this dedicated hospital with cardiac catheterization labs just for you. Your new hospital is soon to be the area's destination for coronary and vascular care including clinical cardiology, outpatient diagnostics, and interventional cardiology procedures. It joins the expanding Baylor Scott & White - Waxahachie campus for a continuum of cardiac care from the emergency department to cardiac rehabilitation. Now, quality and convenient heart and vascular health is closer than ever.



LEARN MORE

Baylor Scott & White | **HEART AND VASCULAR HOSPITAL
WAXAHACHIE**

Joint ownership with physicians.
Part of Baylor Scott & White Health and Vascular Hospital - Dallas.

Baylor Scott & White Heart and Vascular Hospital - Waxahachie is a department of Baylor Scott & White Heart and Vascular Hospital - Dallas, Texas. Regarding Physician Ownership: Baylor Scott & White Heart and Vascular Hospital - Dallas is a hospital in which physicians have an ownership or investment interest. The list of the physician owners or investors is available to you upon request. Physicians provide clinical services as members of the medical staff at one of Baylor Scott & White Health's subsidiary, community or affiliated medical centers and do not provide clinical services as employees or agents of those medical centers. ©2023 Baylor Scott & White Health. KCS-05970. 8/10.

Ask About Our Dental Savings Plan

- Cleanings & Exams
- Whitening
- Crowns & Bridges
- Dental Implants
- Root Canals
- Extractions
- Digital X-rays
- 3-D X-rays
- Veneers
- Fillings
- Night Guards
- Nitrous Oxide

General Dentistry

Accepting New Patients

Mark Morgan, DDS
Sarah Key, DMD MS



1618 W Hwy 287 Business
Waxahachie • 972-937-6654

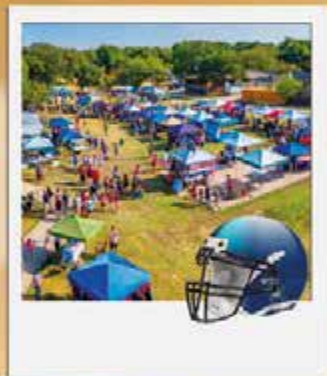
**Extended Hours
to Better Serve YOU!**



morgandentistry.co



50th
Birthday
Party



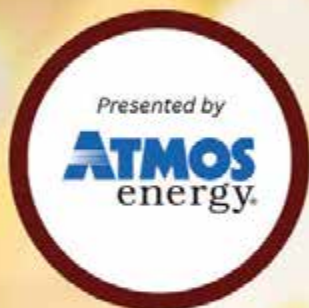
Saturday, Sept. 16

(9AM-2PM)

Watkins Park

101 S. Live Oak St Red Oak TX 75154

Register
here for
parade spot
or booth!



Events

9 AM: Parade along Red Oak Rd.

10AM-2PM: Founder's Day Event

Entertainment

Hosted by DJ WILD THANG

10:30 AM: Jade Flores

12:30 PM: Pocket Change

Call for more info (972) 617-0906 or visit redoakareachamber.org

Advanced cancer care closer to what you're fighting for

When you're facing cancer, you don't have to face it alone. At Methodist Charlton Medical Center, we'll be with you every step of your journey with innovative technology, advanced surgical procedures, and holistic, personalized care to treat your cancer and support your well-being. Providing the advanced cancer care that our friends and neighbors rely on. That's community and why so many people **Trust Methodist**.

Offering a wide
range of services, including:

- Family and patient resources
- Cancer support groups
- Genetic testing
- Cancer nurse navigators
- American Cancer Society (ACS) volunteers
- Palliative and supportive care



Find a doctor at

MethodistHealthSystem.org/Oncology

or call (469) 457-3471

Texas law prohibits hospitals from practicing medicine. The physicians on the Methodist Health System medical staff are independent practitioners who are not employees or agents of Methodist Charlton Medical Center, Methodist Health System, or any of its affiliated hospitals. Methodist Health System complies with applicable federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.



North Ellis Co. NOW Scavenger Hunt



Find 5 hidden
**Football
Helmets**

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 phone
number, by September 15th.
To ensure your Scavenger
Hunt answers go in the
drawing, you must use the

Scavenger Hunt Email

scavenger.nec@nowmagazines.com

One entry per person.

..... **WIN!**

\$50 Cash Prize

Courtesy of:

NOW Magazines

scavenger.nec@nowmagazines.com

Winner must pick up prize
within 30 days of drawing.

Pencil Sharpeners were
found on pages 1, 5, 6,
11, 15

August winner is:
Marci Laxson - \$50 Cash
from NOW Magazines

scavenger.nec@nowmagazines.com



DON'T MISS A NOTE!
Season Tickets Start at Just \$50

2023 - 2024 Season

SEPTEMBER 30 - WILD WEST RODEO
Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra

NOVEMBER 4 - CELLOBRATION
Texas Cellos

DECEMBER 1 - CHRISTMAS CONCERT
Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra

MARCH 2 - CLIBURN PIANIST
Daniel Hsu

APRIL 13 - MOZART & BEETHOVEN
Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra

MAY 11 - RAGTIME, JAZZ & SWING
The Singapore Slingers



Buy tickets now at WoxahachieSymphony.org!

ON THE COVER



North Ellis Co.NOW checks in with former ROHS football standout Kevin Pruett.

Photo by
Shane Kirkpatrick.

Publisher, Connie Poirier
General Manager, Rick Hensley

EDITORIAL
Managing Editor, Becky Walker
North Ellis County Editor, Angel Morris
Office Assistant, Kristin Bato
Writer, Bill Smith
Editors/Proofreaders, Rachel Rich
Virginia Riddle

GRAPHICS AND DESIGN
Creative Director, Chris McCalla
Artists, Kristin Bato . Martha Macias
Anthony Sarmienta . Jennifer Spence

PHOTOGRAPHY
Photography Director, Chris McCalla
Photographers, Shane Kirkpatrick

ADVERTISING
Advertising Representatives,
Jeremy Young . Cherise Burnett
Dustin Dauenhauer . Bryan Frye
Kelsea Locke . Linda Moffett
Lori O'Connell . Linda Roberson
Karen Schaefer

Billing Manager, Angela Mixon

North Ellis Co.NOW is a NOW Magazines, L.L.C. publication. Copyright © 2023. All rights reserved. North Ellis Co.NOW is published monthly and individually mailed free of charge to homes and businesses in the Red Oak, Ovilla, Bristol, Glenn Heights, Pecan Hill and Oak Leaf ZIP codes.

Subscriptions are available at the rate of \$35 per year or \$3.50 per issue. Subscriptions should be sent to: NOW Magazines, P.O. Box 1071, Waxahachie, TX 75168. For advertising rates or editorial correspondence, call (972) 937-8447 or visit www.nowmagazines.com.



April's Pet Grooming

A LABOR OF LOVE!

Call to schedule your pet's grooming today.
972.576.1777
600 Methodist, Ste. 2130, Red Oak
(Behind Sonic & Across from Fire/Police Station)

\$3 OFF De-shed Service
Expires 9/30/23



De-shed Service Available

SERVING RED OAK FOR OVER 10 YEARS

Like us on Facebook



Fuego CHURCH

FUEGO NEXT

COME CELEBRATE
OUR ANNIVERSARY!



SCAN THE QR CODE FOR
MORE INFO & TO REGISTER
FOR THIS FREE EVENT!

SEPTEMBER 8 • 7 PM • ONLINE ONLY
SEPTEMBER 10 • 11 AM • SAGU-SHEAFFER CENTER

BELONG, BELIEVE, BECOME AT FUEGO!

www.Fuego.Church

Sunday Services:

211 N. Main St. Red Oak, TX 75154
9:30 AM - English
11:00 AM & 12:30 PM - Bilingual

Sr Pastors Joshua & Lavan Rivera **Office: 319.321.0660**

Connect with us!

 [@fuego.church](https://www.youtube.com/fuegochurch)  [@fuego.church](https://www.instagram.com/fuegochurch)  [@fuegchurchag](https://www.facebook.com/fuegchurchag)  [@fuegchurch](https://www.twitter.com/fuegchurch)

EDITOR'S NOTE

To Second Summers ...

Although temperatures don't necessarily reflect it, autumn is upon us, officially beginning September 23 this year. The unseasonable heat we continue to experience is so common, it actually was given its own name — Indian Summer, which is no longer considered an appropriate term. Perhaps it was so named because it was first noted in areas inhabited by Native Americans, or because they introduced the concept to Europeans. The roots of the term are difficult to trace, but it originally may have referred to the warm, hazy hunting conditions of Native Americans rather than ongoing, excessive temperatures. It has also been used to metaphorically reference a time when one recaptures their youth — like reconnecting with a lost love — or rediscovers success — finding a second suitable career later in life.

This period of time has been known by other terms that would be considered inappropriate today, translating to "Old Wives' Summer," "Poor Man's Summer" and "Gypsy Summer" in various regions of the world. In some countries it has a more positive connotation and is named for saints, while Spain calls it "Quince Summer," recognizing the ripening of the quince fruit. In Sweden, the period of time when badgers have a last chance to replenish their stocks for winter, it is called "Badger Summer." Possibly its most unique recognition may be from Turkey, where it's called Pastırma Yazı, or "Pastrami Summer," as it falls during a time that's considered best for making that particular type of meat. Some Northeastern European countries simply refer to the extended season of heat as "Late Summer," and before we began calling it Indian Summer here, it was known as what it literally is ... Second Summer.

This time of year is referenced in everything from books to board games, music, paintings and poems. May you enjoy the last of these hotter days, whatever their name.

With warm regards!



Angel

Angel Morris
North Ellis Co. NOW Editor
angel.morris@nowmagazines.com
(972) 533-7216

Presenting Sponsor

ATMOS
energy

Fun For The Whole Family!

- Food
- Vendors
- Games
- Petting Zoo
- Bounce Houses
- And More!

Stage Sponsor

FIRST TEXAS HOMES

Community Sponsors

ACCESS SELF STORAGE AND TRUCK RENTAL

FREEDOM HEATING & AIR
SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION
RESIDENTIAL & LIGHT COMMERCIAL

Finchberger Grogan
Blair & Sampson, LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Ovilla

HERITAGE DAY 2023

Serving Those Who Serve Others

September 23 • 9am - 2pm

Behind Ovilla City Hall
Parade Begins at 9 A.M.

Diamond Sponsors

CARLISLE
CHEVROLET • BUICK • GMC • CADILLAC

Methodist
CHARLTON MEDICAL CENTER

Victron

Frost

MasterCraft Boatworks
Aaron & Erik Chovanetz

State Farm
Andres Wallon

AH
ANDERSON HOSCHKE
• OF • OVILLA •

CLYDE HARGROVE
• REAL ESTATE •

CREEKSIDE
JANISONE & GLENN
FURNITURE & HOME
972.617.9805

Platinum Sponsors

Ro
AND SON

EVOLVE
HEALTHY LIVING

Edward Jones
Karen McClary
& Robert Collins

ONCOR

CNB

Citizens
National Bank
OF DALLAS

CAMP BOW WOW

Cassaro

Compassion

*Because we've been
through it too*



You don't have to
march on alone.
Allow us to walk
with you during this
difficult time.

Jaynes
Memorial
Chapel



811 S. Cockrell Hill Road,
Duncanville, TX 75137
Phone: (972) 298-2334
jaynesmemorialchapel.com



HOME &
GARDEN
SHOW
— ELLIS COUNTY FALL —

— SAVE THE DATE —

One place. One weekend.
All your projects solved.

FREE
ADMISSION

SPONSORED BY:
SHOW
TECHNOLOGY
PRODUCTIONS

elliscountyhomeandgardenshow.com

NEW SHOW!

OCT 21-22 • Ellis County Expo Center

DO YOU SUFFER FROM ...



- Leg or Ankle Swelling
- Leg Pain, Aching or Cramping
- Restless Legs • Varicose or Spider Veins
- Leg Heaviness or Fatigue • Burning or Itching Skin • Skin Changes or Rashes

If you answered yes to any of the symptoms above, then you could have Venous Reflux Disease. If left untreated, Venous Reflux Disease may worsen over time and develop into a more serious form of Venous Disease called Chronic Venous Insufficiency.



TEXAS VEIN
EXPERTS

Call for your comprehensive evaluation and ultrasound.

(940) 808-0949

Office Locations:

Weatherford • West Fort Worth • Plano • Denton • Waxahachie
Hurst • Dallas • Frisco

Medicare and commercial insurances accepted.

CHECK OUT OUR

Favorite Recipes

NEW!
www.nowmagazines.com
 Searchable Recipes
 from the NOW Magazines Archives.

TRY IT TODAY!

NOW
 MAGAZINES





YOU CAN LIVE AGAIN
SEA MOSS STORE

324 E. Beltline Rd, #603 DeSoto, TX
214-622-5755
 (located @ the front, inside Grow DeSoto)
 Open Tues-Sat 11:30am -6pm, Sun 12pm -4pm



SEA MOSS FLAVORS ELDERBERRY, MANGO, PINEAPPLE, STRAWBERRY, PEACH COBBLER AND MORE!

\$5.00 off Minimum purchase of \$35.00
 Cannot be combined with any other offer.
 Expires 10/15/2023



Real testimony- "I went from a size 28 to a size 18 in 3 months on your sea moss! I feel like I got my life back! Wow! Thank you!" - Frances



SEA MOSS helps with immunity, energy, weight loss, heart health and more!

 youcanliveagainseamoss.com
www.youcanliveagainseamossstore.com

HAPPY LABOR DAY



MIDLOTHIAN PLUMBING
- Your Midlothian Plumber -

SERVING ALL OF ELLIS COUNTY
YOUR FULL-SERVICE PROFESSIONAL PLUMBING COMPANY

We Offer Same Day Water Heater Replacement
 (SOME RESTRICTIONS MAY APPLY.)





SEPTEMBER SPECIAL!
SAVE \$37.50 ON ANY REPAIR WITH THIS AD

972-775-5751

WATER HEATERS - DRAIN CLEANINGS - LP CERTIFIED
 Sewer, Water & Gas Repairs - Sewer Video Inspections
 Faucet & Toilet Repair/Replacements - Remodels

WWW.MIDLOPLUMBING.COM

Proudly licensed by: TSBPE - PO BOX 4200 - Austin, TX 78765 • 512-936-5200
 RMP- J. Ewton, Jr • M21222




Direct Mail Advertising Works!

Let North Ellis CountyNOW Magazine present your advertising message to

over 17,100

Home & Business addresses in the Red Oak, Ferris, Glenn Heights, Ovilla & Oak Leaf ZIP codes



Jeremy Young

For more information, please call your local advertising representative.

972-937-8447

NOW
 MAGAZINES

BURLESON | CORSICANA | ENNIS | MANSFIELD | MIDLOTHIAN
 NORTH ELLIS COUNTY | SOUTHWEST | WAXAHACHE | WEATHERFORD



WHERE ARE THEY

NOW?

KEVIN PRUETT

— By Angel Morris

Sixteen years ago, Kevin Pruett was the star quarterback for the Red Oak High School varsity football team, helping lead them to a major playoff accomplishment for the first time since 1984. During Kevin's final season, the team ended with an overall record of 10-3 and a district record of 5-1.

"In the past, I don't think anyone on the team believed we could win," Kevin remarked in his 2008 interview. "After the first game of the season, we all started working together and became successful as a team."

This showed the players the importance of teamwork. "You could tell that once we believed and then did what we were supposed to, we became more confident. Then, when we started winning, the town really started believing in us," Kevin recalled.

Kevin began playing football when he was 4 years old (following in the footsteps of two older brothers who were Red Oak Hawks). He was a volunteer coach for peeewee and middle school teams, and fondly recalled a program

that allowed student athletes to read to elementary youth. "I encourage the kids to go for their dreams," he expressed in 2008. "I also tell them there will always be people behind them who will show their support every step of the way."

For Kevin, those supporters were a group of athletic friends who met in junior high. "We were a great, talented team through high school, but more than that, we were a group of guys who grew up with each other and trusted one another and are friends today," he noted.

Kevin studied at Tarleton State University, graduating in December 2012 with a bachelor's in marketing. "I had every intention of playing football in college as a reserved walk-on, but once I stepped foot on campus, it was nice just being a student," he recalled.

After graduation, Kevin entered a management program in the shipping industry, and after two years, he was a lead, managing 20 people. "I worked my way up, and after seven years of climbing the corporate ladder, I gave the entrepreneur desire a try," Kevin explained. "I started a gutter company — Gutter Up LLC — with zero experience and have since turned it into a company that is recognized as a top three company in Ellis County in our area of work. I also own Light Up Permanent Exterior Lighting."

His success can be credited, in part, to that 2007 football season that secured a sense of drive in Kevin, while putting Red Oak football “on the map,” he said. “For 24 years, we had not made the playoffs, and for as long as I could remember, we had not had a winning season. Our first two years of high school, we saw the varsity teams go 0-10 both years. Even during the preseason of our year, we were projected to get last in our district. But we ended in second. I think it made people realize we were a team to be treated seriously.”

Today, Kevin lives with his wife, Stephanie Cantu, and their children, Sophia, Kayne and Savannah, in Midlothian. “I lived in Dallas as a single guy for a couple of years until I met my wife. Once we married and conversations about kids started, I knew we would settle back into an area that was close to home,” Kevin said. “Midlothian had the growth I like, at the same time keeping the values of a small community. The city events of blocking off the streets for the Main Street Dance, Christmas parade, the wine festival, it’s just an overall great community to raise a family.”

Sports remain important to Kevin. “I’m a believer in allowing people to go their own route in life, to being the person they were meant to be. But having my kids play sports at a young age is necessary to teaching the fundamentals of life and having experiences with people that could grow to be lifelong friends of theirs, as it did for me,” he said.

“I continue my competitiveness in playing things such as cornhole, golf or even a friendly game of pickup basketball in town,” Kevin noted. “The cornhole community has proven to be so much fun, and I have found friends and business allies through the sport.”

Kevin also enjoys travel, supporting Texas athletic franchises and coaching his daughter’s 4U soccer team. “My goal is to continue to become more involved, supporting those who help my community and surrounding areas to thrive,” Kevin, who recently became a member of the Midlothian Utilities Department board and is a Chamber business member, said. “It’s a desire that started way back on that winning team at Red Oak High School.” **NOW**

Quality Never Goes Out of Style

TILE | WOOD | CARPET

BACK-TO-SCHOOL
SPECIAL STARTING AT
\$4.59sf*
100% WATERPROOF
RIGIDCORE FLOORS
W/ INSTALLATION
*with 500/sf minimum



MOHAWK

Carpet Outlets of Texas Inc.
274 Ovilla Road • Red Oak • 75154
Hours: Mon-Fri 10-6, Sat 10-3

972-617-7847 | WWW.CARPETOUTLET.NET



LORENZO BROWN & ASSOCIATES
— ATTORNEYS AT LAW —
DIVORCE • PROBATE

**1700 N. Hampton Road,
Suite 104
DeSoto, TX 75115**
972.224.7555 - office
214.621.0036 - cell
214.237.6067 - fax
lorenzobrownlaw@gmail.com



Enjoy Clutter Free Living. You Deserve it!
You Work Hard — Now is the Time
to Chill Hard!

Happy **LABOR** Day

ACCESS
SELF STORAGE
AND TRUCK RENTAL
PREMIER STORAGE FACILITIES

New State-of-the-Art Self-Storage

- Truck Rentals • Moving Supplies • Access Gates
- Free Work Room Use • On-site Managers
- Drive-up & Climate Controlled Units

Labor Day Special
10x10 units
25% OFF
for 3 months
Call for details. Exp. 9.30.23



Red Oak • 972-515-8600
561 E. Ovilla Rd. & TX 342

Midlothian • 469-283-0929
1630 Hwy. 67

DeSoto • 469-283-0123
SE Corner Hampton Rd. & Danieldale

Lancaster • 972-224-4545
1040 Cedar Valley Dr.

Oak Cliff • 214-372-3880
3427 Marvin D. Love Frwy.



www.accessstoragedallas.com



Even I need
a pavilion
in this heat!



It's still
Hot
in Texas!

- New Concrete Patio Slabs
 - Screened in Porches with Fans
 - Patios/Pergolas • Firepits for the winter.
- Call Kevin at (254) 978-0076
for a free quote.**

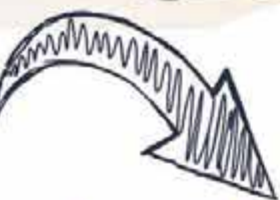
PERGOLAS, PATIOS, ROOFS AND MORE! STRAIGHTLINE CAN PROVIDE ALL SERVICES FOR YOUR HOME.

→ www.SLConsulting-HomeRemodeling.com ←

254-978-0076 • Kevin_swain@hotmail.com • Facebook.com/StraightLineConsulting-LLC
1329 Meadow Ln, Midlothian, TX 76065



GUTTER-UP LLC



**Free cleaning within (12) months of
any full gutter wrap installation.**

Exp. 10/31/23



(469) 570-1447

GutterUpLLC.com

- All gutter services including installation, cleaning, and repair
- Servicing all of the DFW area
- (3+) years of service
- Voted top 3 gutter installation company in Ellis County by homeowners

LIGHT UP
PERMANENT EXTERIOR LIGHTING

- Permanent light installations, residential and commercial; home, landscape, and outdoor living area light installations, as well as security lighting.
- Permanent holiday lights, as well as seasonal holiday light installation, take down, and storage.
- Just celebrated our 1 year anniversary for Light Up.

**\$300 OFF ANY PERMANENT LIGHT
INSTALLATION USING CODE LIGHTSNOW**

Exp. 10/31/23



(469) 570-1447

Lightupdfwoffice@gmail.com



Owner Kevin is a proud Red Oak High School Graduate
Both businesses are family owned and operated, with Kevin's father Don Pruett part owner of both companies. Brother Bryan Pruett is the project manager of Light Up, LLC.



BRIGHTEN YOUR EVENINGS

— By Bill Smith

On the patio, around the pool, enjoying a barbecue or just watching the kids play, Texas days are extended further into the evening with the addition of any of the many outdoor lighting options. There are a lot of choices to consider, from 120-volt, hardwired flood lights, to low voltage wired systems and finally, solar powered lights.

For years, we have used wired flood lights, mounted to the corner eaves of our homes to provide light just for walking through our yards, and also for security. A well-illuminated yard may deter would-be burglars, as well as discourage destructive nocturnal pests. These lights are generally 120-volt systems and may include both sensors to only come on after natural light fades and motion sensors. On some models, the motion sensor will turn the light on from complete darkness, but often today, the lights will have a low-power mode, and the lights will come on to their

fullness when a motion sensor is activated. These lights may also be set with timers. While 120-volt systems have been the norm for many years, the advent of LED lights and small solar panels may be a more cost-effective option. Small solar panels may be attached to the light with a small wire, enabling the light to be under the eave and the solar panel on the roof.

Path lighting is an option for a safe way to navigate around the yard with a minimal amount of soft to moderately bright safety and landscape light. The low-voltage systems require a wired installation with a transformer to change your 120-volt house current to a 12- to 15-volt system. About the only drawback to this system is the wiring. Wiring needs to be buried between the lights — and, of course, consideration has to be given to avoid damaging the wires when working flower beds or doing other yard work. The solar option comes into play again with path lights. The investment into quality solar-powered path lights has become very economically attractive, and the lights are available for purchase either individually or in sets. Typical installation may only require driving a metal or plastic stake into the ground and attaching the light to the stake. The solar panels are built

into the top of the individual lights and power rechargeable batteries. While there are some path lights that include motion sensors, most only include the optical sensor that turns them on at dusk and off at dawn.

A popular option for patio lighting is string lights. These are typically low-voltage lights that emit a warm color that will add to the ambience of outdoor meals around the grill or firepit. The lights may be strung just about anywhere and may hang permanently from the eaves of the home around the patio, or loosely over the tables and chairs from the corner posts of an outdoor pavilion or gazebo. Again, if you are not interested in a permanently wired system, the portable, solar-powered option appeals to many and allows the string lights to be placed in different areas as your outdoor events may require. These lights are often seen illuminating personal campsites for both RV and tent campers.

Deck lights are small, often recessed lights that are installed around the perimeter of the deck surface, as well as between the individual steps of stairs and along the side railing. Deck lights provide safety against trip and fall hazards, as well as providing accent light for garden plants that surround the deck. A low-voltage system is usually a good option, and the lights are typically wired together rather than operating from a single powered source, whether it be solar or a transformer from the 120-volt system.

While all of the lights discussed up to this point have been of the flood-light variety, spotlights may also play an important role in outdoor lighting for accenting pool and garden areas. These lights are also known as “up-lighting” and shine narrower beams to highlight plants, statuary, garden ornaments and water features. These lights may typically be chosen and installed when a major landscape project is being constructed, such as a pool or new patio. However, LED lights that stand alone and may be solar powered are becoming more popular and are economical, widely available and easy for the do-it-yourself homeowner. **NOW**

Sources:

1. www.bobvila.com.
2. www.familyhandyman.com.

HOTWORX
24 HOUR INFRARED FITNESS STUDIO

FIRST
INFRARED
WORKOUT
FREE



FALL10
OFFER
Call or claim
on online.

300 N. Sharaf Rd., Suite 104, Red Oak, TX 75154
469-663-5065
www.hotworx.net/studio/redoak-ovillaand35  

N | NAVARRO
COLLEGE



CALL TODAY

FAST TRACK
OPTIONS IN HEALTHCARE

INNOVATION > BUILT ON > TRADITION
NAVARROCOLLEGE.EDU  **1.800.NAVARRO**



Scott and Judy Frazier vacation in Colorado while visiting their daughter, who moved there this year.

Zoomed In:
Anay Landeros Morales

By Angel Morris

Anay Landeros Morales was recently presented with the Mayoral Initiative Scholarship from Glenn Heights Mayor Sonja A. Brown, as well as the Best Southwest Partnership Scholarship for a total of \$2,000 toward her educational goals. Anay was an outreach volunteer with St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church and for DeSoto Teen Council. In school, she was a member of National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society and Math Honor Society. “As a first-generation student and the daughter of immigrants, attending college was always at the forefront of my mind to help me create the future I wanted,” Anay noted.

Anay will study environmental engineering at Southern Methodist University. She plans to pursue a law degree after college graduation.



John Powell poses with his grandchildren, Belle, Jack and Aubrey Shackelford, after serving as guest speaker at First Red Oak church.



Jewel Homes holds a groundbreaking for the new Red Oak Gardens development.



Fallon Fields shows off her library goodie bag, which was a reward for having spent much of her summer reading.



Natalia Meltabarger, Denise Butler and Meisa Mason donate 642 rolls of toilet paper collected by First United Methodist Church Red Oak members for North Ellis County Outreach.



Choreographer Mikeala Phillips, Director Stacey Yee and Music Director Crystal Sanchez celebrate Ellis County Children's Theatre's production of 101 Dalmatians.

Enjoy Your Retirement Now!



FREE PRIVATE IN-HOME CONSULTATION
GET CASH - RETIRE DEBT - CREATE INCOME STREAM

As an Oak Cliff native, now residing in Ovilla, and as a senior myself, I know firsthand the struggles seniors face. With a Reverse Mortgage you do have choices, unfortunately those choices can sometimes be confusing. Whether your need be Cash for Special Needs, Debt Relief or Income, I may be able to help you.

As your local Reverse Mortgage Specialist, I provide straight, honest answers to your concerns, all in the comfort of your home. No sales pitch. No pressure, no hassle. Just the facts. Please call me.



BOB CAWTHON

214-213-9320

www.PreferredReverse.com

Bob.Cawthon@gmail.com

Serving Southern Dallas, Ellis and Navarro Counties

Preferred Reverse, LLC. NMLS 1517893 & 2101743
6136 FRISCO Sq. Suite 400, Frisco, TX 75034

**SCAVENGER
HUNT
WINNER!**



Our winner, Terry said, "Great local magazine that I enjoy reading for the coupons and being informed of what is going on in the neighborhood." Thank you for your service, Terry!

CAMPUZANO
mexican food



\$5 OFF

\$25 PURCHASE
Expires 9/30/23 NEC

CAMPUZANO
mexican food

• Waxahachie
• Cedar Hill
Dallas (Oak Lawn)



CampuzanoMexicanFood.com

\$75 OFF

For first
time repairs.

Plus tax. Offer Expires 9/30/23

We are here to address your irrigation needs
or enhance your sprinkler system by:

- Sprinkler System Inspection & Analysis
 - Pool & Patio Re-Routes
- Installing Additional Zones to Existing System
- Upgrading Existing Systems to Water More Efficiently
 - All Types of Sprinkler System Repairs
- Backflow Assembly Repair, Replacement, or Testing

Call us at your earliest convenience
for any of these services.



ARC IRRIGATION

Irrigator Lic #LI0012920

BPAT Lic #BP0019018

ARC IRRIGATION

Licensed & Insured • Antonio "Tony" Cruz

www.arcirrigation.net

214-683-4091 • 972-639-3446

FREE EVENT!

LatinFest

Passport to Culture & Fun
CEDAR HILL, TX



ENTERTAINMENT BY TRIBUTE BANDS OF
SHAKIRA, JENNIFER LOPEZ & PITBULL!



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 | 3PM - 10PM
VALLEY RIDGE PARK | 2850 PARK RIDGE DR, CEDAR HILL

LIVE PERFORMANCES | BUSINESS EXPO | FOOD VENDORS & TRUCKS

With Carlos Mangu Interview

KIDZONE WITH INFLATABLE GAMES AND SAND PIT

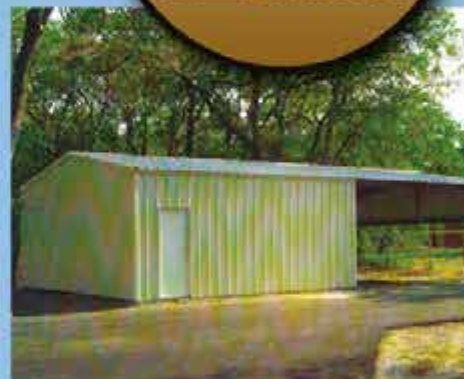
SCAN HERE
FOR FREE TICKETS
& MORE
EVENT INFO!





- Commercial Roofing • Residential Roofing
- Carports • Steel Buildings
- Farm and Ranch Structures

**24-hour
lead time
for most
trim orders.**



McMetal Mart

Employee Owned - Service Driven

www.metalmarks.com

972-576-0606 • 800-677-2503

metalmart03@McElroymetal.com

7200 North IH-35 E. • Waxahachie

**Energy Efficient
Products**

**Heavy Duty Metal is
Hail & Fire Resistant**

**Do It Yourself
Packages Available
(No Welding Required)**



CookingNOW *In the Kitchen With* BRYAN BELL

— By Angel Morris

Bryan Bell first began cooking in Boy Scouts, but his interest was reignited when his roommate at The University of Texas at Austin was attending chef school. “We ate like kings!” Bryan recalled.

Currently, the Outdoor Education teacher at Red Oak Middle School, Bryan uses cooking to reach students. “I love that you can get kids — who don’t necessarily excel in a normal classroom — outside cooking, and they become a leader almost instantly. Cooking class is their time to shine,” he noted.

A fan of fishing, camping, hiking and coaching his sons’ sports teams, Bryan also makes his own sausage from scratch and is a fan of Texas barbecue. “The challenge of it is exciting,” he admitted. “It takes research, preparation and patience, and in the end, it’s always worth the effort.” **NOW**

Simple Dutch Oven Peach Cobbler *This goes well with vanilla ice cream.*

1 29-oz. can sliced peaches
1 box yellow cake mix
1 gal. Ziploc bag
3 Tbsp. cinnamon (divided use)
1/4 cup sugar
1/4 stick butter, sliced

1. Open the can of peaches. Dump the yellow cake mix and the juice from the peaches into the Ziploc bag. Mix together thoroughly until the cake mix is Play-Doh like. (You may need to add a tablespoon or two of water.)

2. Dump the peaches into a Dutch oven; sprinkle 2 Tbsp. cinnamon and the sugar over them. Cut a corner off the Ziploc bag; pipe the cake mix to cover the peaches.
3. Add slices of butter over the cake batter; sprinkle on the remaining cinnamon.
4. Cook 15-20 minutes over hot coals (about 350 F), or until the cake mix is browned on top and hardened enough to eat.

Simple Dutch Oven Southwest Soup *This goes well with Dutch oven biscuits.*

2 14.5-oz. cans whole kernel southwest roasted corn, drained

2 14.5-oz. cans pinto beans
2 14.5-oz. cans red kidney beans
2 14.5-oz. cans black beans, drained
1 14.5-oz. can chili, no beans
2 14.5-oz. cans tomatoes with green chilies
1 pkt. taco seasoning
1/4 block Velveeta cheese, cubed
1/2 lb. ground beef, cooked (optional)

1. Mix all the canned ingredients and the taco seasoning in a Dutch oven. Place the Dutch oven over full coals (350 F) for 12-15 minutes. *Note: There should be a bed of coals underneath the Dutch oven, as well as a spread of coals covering the entire top of the lid.*
2. Add the Velveeta. Stir constantly for another 5-7 minutes, until melted. Once the cheese is melted, mix in the cooked ground beef. Let cool; serve in a bowl.

Smoked Tomahawk Steaks

2-4 tomahawk steaks
Truffle oil, to taste
Smoked sea salt, to taste
Baker’s string
Steak seasoning (your favorite brand or make your own), to taste

1. Rub the steaks lightly with the truffle oil and

smoked salt. Tie string around the bone and outside edge of the steak, making a loop to hold it all together. Refrigerate overnight.

2. About 3 hours before mealtime, pull out the steaks; let them come to room temperature. Heat the smoker to 250 F (Oak or hickory chips are best here.)

3. Season the steaks, making sure to get a good bark on all sides. Smoke the steaks until an internal temperature of 125 F is reached, keeping the fire temperature between 225-250 F (about 1 1/2 hours). Remove the steaks; allow to rest for 10 minutes while bringing the fire up to 400 F. Put the steaks back on the direct heat; char about 30 seconds on each side. Let them rest 5 minutes; slice and serve.

Blue Ribbon Sticky BBQ Ribs
These will fall off the bone.

- 2 racks pork spareribs or baby back ribs**
- 1 6-oz. bottle yellow mustard**
- 2 cups homemade or store-bought rib rub**
- 2 cups sugar in the raw**
- 1/2 cup raw honey**
- 2 Tbsp. cayenne pepper**
- 1/2 cup apple juice (divided use)**

1. Pull the ribs from the refrigerator; allow them to come to room temperature, while heating a smoker to 250 F (Apple or cherry wood is best.)
2. Remove the membrane from the ribs; trim the fatty areas. Place the ribs in a large foil pan. Rub the ribs liberally with yellow mustard.
3. Combine the rib rub and sugar in the raw in a bowl; mix well. Rub down the ribs with the mixture until you have a good coating all around. Place the ribs on the smoker, fatty side down; smoke for 2 hours.
4. Remove the ribs; make 2 boats using a layer of pink butcher paper for each. Add a good covering of honey and cayenne on each rack. Add 1/4 cup of the apple juice to each pack. Wrap the ribs in the butcher paper, making sure the apple juice stays inside. Double wrap if needed.
5. Continue to smoke the ribs at 250-275 F for another 2 hours, or until they reach an internal temperature of 130-135 F. Pull the rib packs from the smoker; let rest for 30 minutes in a cooler or the oven. Open, cut and serve.

To search for more great recipes from any of the **9 NOW Magazines** publications, visit www.nowmagazines.com

You have options; we have solutions.

469-820-9288
www.optionsplumbing.com
Options Plumbing

Get 10% off your total bill when you mention this ad
Exp. 9/30/23

OPTIONS PLUMBING

Family owned and operated

Now Offering

Pre-Print Insert Services

Call Your Rep Today!

NOW 972-937-8447
MAGAZINES www.nowmagazines.com

Funerals (from \$2995)*
Cremation (from \$795)
Memorial • Burial • Pre-Planning Services

BETHESDA MEMORIAL
FUNERAL DIRECTORS & CREMATORY SERVICES, LLC

We Guarantee Lowest Prices & Quality Services

106 Terrace Drive - DeSoto
Dr. C. W. Burruss, LFDIC

214-628-5350 | WWW.BETHESDAMEMORIALFH.COM

*Funerals Include: Local Pick up, Preparation, Casket with Spray, Programs, Thank-you Cards, Guest Book, Death Certificates, Chapel Service. Please inquire for details. Other fees may apply.

IT'S GAME TIME!

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.

SEPTEMBER

9/16

Founders Day:

Celebrating Red Oak's 50th anniversary with a parade plus festival featuring music, family activities, food trucks, vendors and more. (Free parking for this event, water, shopping bag and fan available across the street at First United Methodist Church.) 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Watkins Park, 102 North Live Oak St.

Learn more at www.redoakchamber.org.

9/23

Ovilla Heritage Day:

Celebrating the small town with a big heart, this annual event features a parade, live music, games, arts, crafts, vendors and

food trucks behind City Hall, 105 S. Cockrell Hill Rd., Ovilla. Find the schedule and more details at www.cityofovilla.org.

9/30

Lord's Acre Celebration:

Silent auction: 9:00 a.m.; barbecue lunch: 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.; Dave Washburn & Three Quarter Fast Jazz Band: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.; live auction: 1:00 p.m., First United Methodist Church Red Oak, 600 Daubitz Dr.

First Mondays

Red Oak Lions Club Meeting:

Joining Lions Club is a way to network with other businesses,

community leaders and civic-minded people while helping your community.

6:30-7:30 p.m.,
207 W. Red Oak Rd.
To learn more, call
(469) 571-7265.

Third Mondays

Book Club:

New members always welcome. 6:30-8:00 p.m., Red Oak Library, 101 S. Live Oak St. For more information, email redoakbookclub@gmail.com.

Wednesdays and Thursdays

Senior Citizen Center of Red Oak:

Enjoy coffee, juice and donuts each morning, as well as a sponsored lunch on first-third Thursdays and a potluck on fourth Thursdays. Also, games, puzzles, bingo and informative guest speakers. 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., 207 W. Red Oak Rd. Call (469) 218-1217 for more information.

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



ALL EYE & OPTICAL CARE

We Accept Most Major Insurance New Patients Welcome

Seeing is Believing

Today's advances in cataract surgery offer opportunities for superior results, perfect for patients that aren't content to just let life pass them by.

800 N. Hwy. 77, Ste. 100, Waxahachie, TX (Next to HEB)
972-937-4433 • AllEyeCare.com • AllOpticalCare.com

Raj Rugwani, MD
Board-certified Ophthalmologist

NOW OPEN

AND TAKING NEW PATIENTS!

Bluebonnet Family Medicine Health and Wellness Clinic

206 S. Clay St. Ste. A, Ennis • 903-229-4292



Our staff has accompanied us to our new location. In addition to seeing old faces you'll be happy to see these new faces! We welcome Melissa F. Skinner MSN, APRN, FNP-C and Meagen Heronemus MSN, APRN, FNP-C to our practice.



John Arkusinski D.O. 7AM-4PM • Davey Perrin M.D. 8AM-4PM
Melissa Skinner MSN, APRN, FNP-C until 9:30PM
Monday - Thursday



Beat The Heat! Summer Sale

Included with purchase of a complete system :

- 10 Year Parts and Labor Warranty
- 2 Year Service Agreement
- Duct Sanitation
- WiFi Thermostat

Starting at **\$69** per month W.A.C.

Mechanical Comfort Systems Inc.
Heating - Air Conditioning - Plumbing
KeepingAmericaCool.com

Call Today! (214)-333-4410



TIME TO
UPDATE
YOUR KITCHEN?

MTM
Countertops

COME SEE OUR
IN-STOCK
QUARTZ SELECTIONS!

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:
MON-FRI: 8AM - 5PM

 daltile
ONE
QUARTZ SURFACES[®]

 CORIAN[®]
QUARTZ

American
Made

*Granite, marble & quartz fabricator for kitchen
& bathroom countertops.*

*Extensive color selection combines beauty,
function & elegance for any bathroom or kitchen!*

- FREE Estimates • Competitive Pricing
- Up to 15-year Warranty on Some Products

2460 Hwy. 287 N. • Mansfield

(Northbound service road – between Callendar Rd. & Turner-Warnell)

For more info call 817.477.8663

LIKE US



MasterCard



VISA



AMERICAN EXPRESS

DISCOVER