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SEPTEMBER 2025

From One to Another

Shannon Reynolds
cultivates connections
through art, education
and service

In the Kitchen With
Erik Skov

Also inside:

Scavenger Hunt

Crossword/Sudoku

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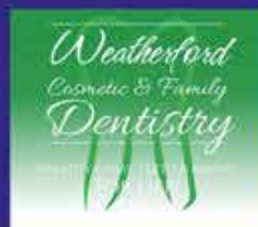


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Amber

Amber D. Browne
WeatherfordNOW Editor
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EDITOR'S NOTE

Happy September!

It has been two-and-a-half years since I took over as community editor for *WeatherfordNOW Magazine*, and what a fantastic time it has been! We have revealed dozens of local community members' personal stories, highlighted area businesses and shared countless recipes from cooks across Parker County. I am grateful to those who have allowed the magazine to tell their tales to our avid readers, who we cherish for their continued support. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

My greatest joy working for NOW Magazines has been to learn more about community members and share their experiences with others. For those in the local area who want to open up about their lives or share a few family favorites from the kitchen, please email me at amber@nowmagazines.com.

As we move into the busy holiday season, why not take time to get to know your neighbors? Cooler temperatures are on the way this autumn, providing the perfect time for an evening get-together. You could host a neighborhood block party or an intimate dinner around the fire pit to build relationships within the community. I will be forever grateful for the people I have met and the friends I have made living and working in Parker County.

Have a great month!

September 2025
Volume 15, Issue 9

ON THE COVER



A Parker County woman builds relationships through creativity and compassion.

Photo by
Zhanna Linscombe.

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From One to Another

— By Amber D. Browne

Called to connect, educate and serve, one local church youth director has a passion for bringing out the best in people and building meaningful relationships along the way. Shannon Reynolds' past encompasses many paths from school counselor and student council adviser to art teacher and volunteer. Through her experience, she has helped many over the years, and her heart for those she serves is ever growing.

Shannon is a born educator and artist. From early childhood, she competed in various art contests, honing her skills over the years. After graduating from Weatherford High School, she earned an art degree from the University of North Texas and a master's in counseling from Dallas Baptist University. Her career in education began as an art teacher in the Castleberry Independent School District, where she later moved into the role of counselor. Following her time there, Shannon worked as a counselor in the Weatherford ISD.

As a Willow Park resident with a child in the Aledo Independent School District, Shannon was drawn to a new school opening in her neighborhood in 2008 — McCall Elementary School — where she applied for the counselor position and became part of the team. "It was a God thing," she shared. Counseling was not her only calling at McCall. At the time, there was not an art program, so she began teaching after-school art classes at her home studio, so students could grow their creative spirits. She also advised fourth- and fifth-graders in student council, which served in the community. "We just did lots and lots. If we could find it and do it, we were a part of it. Lots of fun," she remembered.

During her time in education, Shannon built lifelong relationships with parents and students, many of whom she still interacts with often, meeting for coffee or catching up about their life journeys. "I just love doing that, and hopefully one day, some will come and be leaders in my church and help me go on mission trips," Shannon shared. "I want them to know they can call me at any time."

Shannon associates her ability and longing to build these lasting relationships to her life as an only child raised by a single mother. "I know how important that was for me, and so I wanted to be that for kids. I don't care how blessed and



wonderful things are, we're all human, and we struggle. We always say it takes a village. I believe Aledo, our school district together with all the churches, we are that village."

Shortly before retiring from education in May 2023, Shannon took on a part-time role as youth director at Aledo United Methodist Church, where she and her husband, Terry, and son, Hunter, have been members for more than two decades. Her time is now spent nurturing church youth in grades six-12. They meet Wednesday nights for Bible study and Sunday afternoon or evening for Sunday Funday. Monthly service projects at animal shelters and nursing homes instill a sense of serving in the youth, as well as helping to fill snack packs for McCall Elementary. During the holidays, Shannon oversees the youth as they assemble gift bags for nursing homes, participate in Operation Shoe Box and shop for two children through the Aledo

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During the summer months, Shannon accompanies the



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youth on mission trips and is involved in Vacation Bible School. “Once you start doing it, the reward and the feeling, it’s just who I am and what I love to do.”

Incorporating her love of art into her mix of undertakings is easy. From painting and decorating the set at VBS to painting windows with her youth at area nursing homes, the craft is present in many of her projects, both professionally and personally. She leads art classes in her home studio each month, including ladies’ nights, holds summer art camps for children and hosts events for corporations and birthday parties. Art is a talent Shannon can share with others and enjoy during her alone time, when she can find it. “I hardly do anything for myself, but I come out here and just spend the entire day painting and listening to music,” she shared. “It’s just a very calming, relaxing activity. If it’s not the way you want it, then you cover it up, and you try again. There are no mistakes.”

Teaching artistic skills to the elderly is yet another avenue to share her love of the craft with others. Shannon and a group of her friends meet once a month at Bethesda Gardens Assisted Living and Memory Care in Benbrook to lead arts and crafts time with the residents. She encourages them

throughout the artistic process because everyone has the ability to be creative. “There’s no right or wrong. If yours is different, it’s OK,” she explained. “You can always make it your own.”

As her various work and serving obligations occupy most of her hours during part-time retirement, Shannon hopes to travel more with dreams of taking her camper on adventures across the country. “I need my husband to retire, so I can go more,” she laughed. “Being outside and hiking is just a blast to me.”

Soon, she will be preparing for Lord’s Acre at Aledo UMC, which is held each October. Shannon has big plans for the youth to build more projects to auction during the fall festival. “I can’t do things little. I don’t know how to just ‘kind of’ volunteer. I go overboard,” she admitted.

With Shannon’s support, educational and service programs across the area have flourished, as have relationships with those who interact with her on a personal or professional level. “It’s such an amazing community that is always there to help each other,” she said. “I am still thrilled to just be here.” **NOW**

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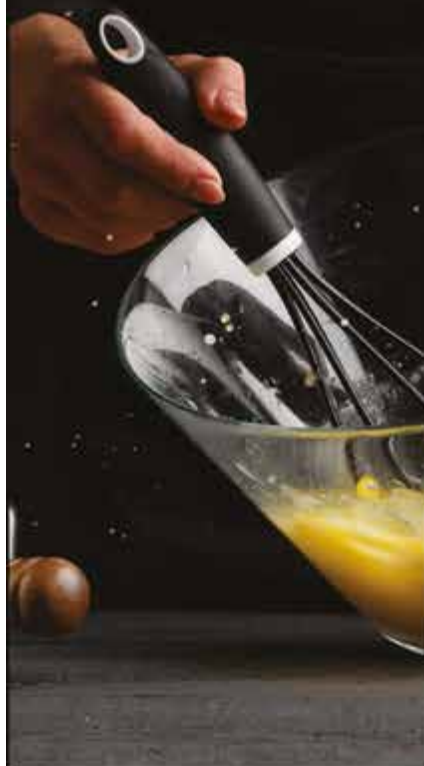
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Zoomed In: Melva Turner

By Amber D. Browne

An avid reader and frequent visitor of the Weatherford Public Library, Melva Turner chooses to give back by volunteering. Depending on the season, Melva reshelves various book genres one to two days each week. “They can’t read them if we don’t put them back on the shelf,” she laughed. “It never seems to slow down. There are books to be shelved all the time.”

Melva wanted to volunteer in the community following the death of her husband, Joe, several years ago, and the library was an ideal option. “Both of us read books like crazy,” she shared. “I’m helping them because they’ve helped me enjoy so many books over the years.”

The library has a large selection of reading materials. Melva offered, “You can probably find anything you want to read about.”



Francisco Blanco with Insane Dreams Arts helps Aledo senior, Ashlie Beto, paint her reserved parking spot.



Miguel Gallegos gets excited for sweets while shopping with Ana Olalde at Sasquatch’s Candy Den in Weatherford.



Community volunteers and Weatherford College students, faculty and staff travel to San Saba to help with flood relief efforts.



Residents at Martin Crest Assisted Living and Memory Care bring the tropics indoors for an afternoon of fun.



The Lemire family grabs lunch at Yesterdays Sandwich Shop in Weatherford.



Weatherford ISD's Lady Roo volleyball raises more than \$3,000 for Texas Hill Country flood relief.



Guests enjoy all things peachy at the Peaches in the Warehouse event at Tarrant Area Food Bank West.


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BusinessNOW

Mop Heads Cleaning Service, LLC

— By Amber D. Browne

Mop Heads Cleaning Service, LLC

Weatherford, TX

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Hours: Monday-Friday: 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

For the past 15 years, Mop Heads Cleaning Service, LLC in Weatherford has been creating cleaner environments for residential and commercial clients across Parker County and surrounding areas. Jennifer Madison first opened Mop Heads in 2010, but she gained experience for several years before



that cleaning for friends. The business has grown over the years and recently renovated their location to include more space. “That was the whole purpose — growth,” Jennifer said. “I’m most grateful for the recurring customers that I’ve had since the beginning.”

Mop Heads focuses on the company’s five core values of CLEAN: Customer satisfaction, Love of cleaning, Exceptional quality, Attitude and No exceptions. All team members undergo a background check before completing several weeks of hands-on training to master their signature cleaning techniques and cleaning standards. They must love the work they are doing and strive for excellent customer service and results. “We have a rating system that goes out to each customer every time we clean,” Jennifer said. “We strive to get all excellent ratings from our customers each cleaning.”

A positive attitude is a necessity while working with fellow staff members and clients. “We just want everyone to, as best as they can, remain positive,” said Ashlin Swaim, office manager. “We want everyone to keep those values at all times.”

Many of the staff and cleaning crew members are veterans of the business. "It's like family. That's what means the most to me — seeing people excel and do better in their lives," Jennifer said.

Mop Heads clients can range from businesses and new construction to residents, such as busy homeowners, stay-at-home moms and senior citizens in need of a little extra help. New clients can call for a quote or receive a cost estimate online. Mop Heads will provide an estimated time of completion and a price range in the quote. The quote is based on a variety of factors including square footage, the number of bedrooms and bathrooms, if the owner has pets, etc. "Our prices are lower than the national average," Jennifer said. Jennifer shared that Mop Heads does not promote gimmicks. "You know what you're getting. It's customized."

"We strive to get all excellent ratings from our customers each cleaning."

To keep track of client requests, Mop Heads uses a software program that can be accessed by the cleaning crew. During each cleaning, the team uses a top-to-bottom process beginning at the top of the home with ceiling fans and moves downward, cleaning all surfaces. A deep cleaning is another service offered to clients. "A lot of our customers consider what we do on a regular maintenance cleaning a deep cleaning," said Aerial Labeck, office manager. "A deep cleaning would be a more thorough cleaning."

Mop Heads provides recurring cleanings for clients, as well as move-in and move-out cleanings. The company is insured and bonded, and if the client is not satisfied, Mop Heads will return to fix the issue.

"We were established in this area, and we have been doing this for a long time," Ashlin said. As a small, local business, Mop Heads takes pride in their work and focuses on providing clients with top-notch service during each visit. "We enjoy seeing it grow, and we get to help people and do something good for others. We're always going to be there." **NOW**



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CookingNOW

IN THE KITCHEN WITH

ERIK SKOV

— By Amber D. Browne



Erik Skov’s passion for creating recipes began as a child delivering baked goods for a master baker in Denmark. His love for cooking grew with tips from his mother, a hunting buddy who owned a restaurant and his Pennsylvania friends, some of whom are Amish. Erik typically makes dishes his own by using substitutions he has on hand. “I have a bit of a gift for being able to mentally taste how different ingredients will complement each other,” Erik explained.

Before becoming a widower last year, Erik and his late wife, Linda, cooked for large groups including elaborate dinners for 25 members of their wine club. Erik now primarily cooks for one using small soufflé dishes. “But I get to bring my Texas family over for dinner as often as possible.” **NOW**

Cowboy Biscuit

- Pam cooking spray, to taste**
- 1 cup onion, diced**
- 1 cup green bell pepper, chopped**
- 1 cup ham, sausage or bacon, cooked and diced**
- 1 cup potato, peeled and diced**
- Salt, to taste**
- Pepper, to taste**
- 2 cups Bisquick**
- 1 cup milk**
- 2 large eggs**
- 1/2 cup Parmesan, grated (divided use)**

1. Preheat the oven to 400 F Spray a skillet with Pam. Add the onions; cook until browned. Add the onions, bell peppers and the next 4 ingredients to a gallon-size

baggie. Place the baggie in the microwave, and tuck the open end under the bag; cook for 6 minutes on high. Remove.

2. For the dough, add the Bisquick and milk to another gallon-size baggie. Break the eggs into the baggie. Hold the bag open at the top and mix the ingredients by squeezing the baggie. Squeeze out the air and tie a knot above the batter.

3. Spray four 4.5x2-inch soufflé dishes with Pam. Cut the bottom of the plastic baggie of dough and pipe it to cover the bottoms of the dishes. Add the onion and meat filling from the other baggie on top of the dough in each dish; spread evenly.

4. Using 1/4 cup of Parmesan, sprinkle on top of the filling in each dish. Top with the remaining dough; sprinkle with remaining Parmesan. Spray the tops with Pam to

moisten the Parmesan. Bake for 20 minutes or until an inserted skewer comes out clean.

Migas Girasol

- Pam cooking spray, to taste**
- 4 large corn tortillas**
- 8 large eggs**
- 2 tsp. white wheat flour**
- Chipotle sauce, to taste**
- 4 Tbsp. bacon, cooked and crumbled**
- 4 Tbsp. green bell pepper, chopped**
- 4 Tbsp. red bell pepper, chopped**
- Salt, to taste**
- Pepper, to taste**

- 1.** Preheat the oven to 350 F Spray four 4.5x2-inch soufflé dishes with Pam.
- 2.** Turn the soufflé dish upside down; place on the center of the tortilla. Using scissors, make 8-10 cuts from the outside of the tortilla to the edge of the dish. Place a tortilla into each dish; press down, so the tortilla tabs cover the exterior of the dish.
- 3.** In a large bowl, add the eggs and flour; whip. Add 2-3 dashes of chipotle sauce, bacon and remaining ingredients; mix well. Pour the egg mixture into the dishes. Push the tortilla tabs toward the center of the mixture to cover it. Bake for about 40 minutes until the eggs are cooked.

Pomme Anna

- Pam cooking spray, to taste**
- 1 stick butter**
- 6-8 small Yukon Gold or red potatoes, sliced to 1/16-inch thickness**
- Salt, to taste**
- Pepper, to taste**

- 1.** Preheat the oven to 450 F Spray four 4.5x2-inch soufflé dishes with Pam.
- 2.** Melt the butter in a large bowl; add the potatoes and coat well. Place one potato slice in the center of each dish. Continue to add potato slices to the sides and center of the dish, so they overlap. Sprinkle each layer with salt and pepper. Repeat until all dishes are filled.
- 3.** Bake for 45 minutes. Remove from the oven; loosen the potatoes and flip the dish onto a dinner plate. Serve as a side.



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— By Amber D. Browne

COLORFUL CRAFT TIME



Now that summer fun has wound down, and youngsters have skipped off to school, why not add a do-it-yourself craft to family entertainment this month? Adding a little color can brighten anyone's day, and one DIY idea families can try at home is a tin can unicorn. Children can bring this unicorn to life with just a few supplies and a little rainbow magic.

Supplies

For this craft, you will need the following:

- A tin can (a vegetable can or small coffee can will do).
- Several colors of yarn skeins for the unicorn's mane (preferably the colors of the rainbow).
- A paint brush or paint sponge and your favorite color acrylic craft paint.

- Felt for the muzzle, ears and eyelashes (preferably white, black, pink or the color of your paint selection).
- A piece of yellow construction paper for the unicorn's horn.
- Scissors.
- Glue.
- A pencil.
- A ruler.

DIY CONSTRUCTION

Remove any paper or glue from the tin can, then wash and dry it thoroughly. Use the paint brush or paint sponge to cover the entire can's exterior with paint. While it dries, cut the yarn into pieces. Beginning with purple, cut 2 1/2 feet of yarn. Cut the blue yarn at 3 1/2 feet, the green at 4 1/2 feet, yellow at 5 1/2 feet, and so on.

You or your child can wrap the yarn around four fingers on one hand, starting with the purple yarn. Continue wrapping

each color of yarn in order of the colors of the rainbow, spreading the fingers to make the loop larger for each consecutive color. End with red, which will have the longest loop. Cut a smaller piece of yarn for each color to tie the corresponding-colored loops near the top, leaving the longer loop at the bottom.

Cut a half circle from the white felt sheet, large enough to make the unicorn's muzzle. Glue it to the bottom of one side of the can, flat side down. At the top of the can to the left of the muzzle, glue the tied section of the red yarn. Glue the orange yarn to the right of the red, and so on. Allow time to dry.

Cut an elongated triangle from the yellow construction paper for a unicorn horn, about 4 inches tall. Glue it to the top interior side of the can in the middle of the mane. Cut two elongated triangles, about 2 inches tall, from the paint-colored felt for the ears. Cut two smaller elongated triangles from the light pink felt. Glue the smaller, light pink triangles onto the fronts of the other felt triangles. Once dry, glue the ears to the can's interior on either side of the unicorn horn. For each color of the unicorn's mane, cut the bottom loop. Trim as necessary in a diagonal line, leaving the red yarn as the longest side.

Using the remaining yellow construction paper, draw patterns for the eyelashes, interior oval muzzle and nostrils. Trace the eyelash and nostril pattern onto the black felt. The pencil line will be faint, but it will provide an outline for you or your child to cut. Correctly space the eyelashes and then glue them to the can.

Trace and cut the small oval for the interior muzzle from the light pink felt. Glue on top of the white muzzle, and then glue the black nostrils on top of the pink muzzle. Allow time to dry. Use the unicorn to plant seeds or colorful flowers, as a pencil or crayon holder or as a fun decorative piece. **NOW**



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Check with individual organizations or your city or Chamber websites to verify dates and times.

9/9 and 9/23

Food Park Lounge Night:

Enjoy live music and food. 6:00-9:00 p.m., Heritage Park Food Park, 317 Santa Fe Dr.
For more information, visit experienceweatherford.com.

9/12

Sanctified Hope 2025

Fashion Show & Brunch:

Attend this fundraiser for Sanctified Hope. Individual ticket: \$50.
10:00 a.m., Trinity Bible Church, 4936 E. I-20 Service Rd. South, Willow Park. sanctifiedhope.org or (817) 901-5446.

Movies in the Park:

Catch a free after-dark showing of Disney's *Lilo & Stitch*, plus enjoy food from vendors.
7:00-9:30 p.m., Heritage Park Amphitheater, 503 Santa Fe Dr. experienceweatherford.com or (817) 598-4124.

9/12-9/13

2025 Ranch Rodeo and Dance:

Hosted by Parker County Sheriff's Posse. Various times and events. Parker County Sheriff's Posse Grounds, 2251 Mineral Wells Hwy. Find out more at parkercountysheriffsposse.com/ranch-rodeo-schedule.

9/16

Sedici Strings - Live at Chandor Gardens!:

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9/20

Lord's Acre Harvest Festival & Car Show:

Attend for a day of fun featuring vendors, children's activities, auctions, barbecue lunch and more. 9:00 a.m., Silver Creek Methodist Church, 2200 Church Rd., Azle. silvercreekmc.org.

Junk Journal Workshop:

The Weatherford Art Association hosts artist Sarah Fino. \$60 per person. 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Weatherford Senior Center, 1225 Holland Lake Dr. weatherfordart.com.

9/27

A Taste for Education:

This fundraiser features samples from chef teams. \$20-\$40 per person. Kangaroo Stadium Concourse, 250 Eureka St. For more information, contact clagrone@weatherfordisd.com or (817) 598-2956.

9/28

Light the Path:

Enjoy food and music at this fundraiser benefiting Branch to Hope. \$100 per individual ticket. 7:00-9:00 p.m., Branch to Hope Community Center, 699 Susie Ln,

Aledo. Find ticket information at bthccaledo.org.

Fourth Mondays

Weatherford Art Association Meeting:

Join for an artist demonstration and more. 6:00-7:45 p.m., Senior Center, 1225 Holland Lake Dr. weatherfordart.com.

Tuesdays and Thursdays

Storytime at the Library:

Toddlers enjoy books and activities on Tuesdays and preschoolers on Thursdays. 10:30 a.m., Weatherford Public Library, 1014 Charles St. weatherfordtx.gov/142/library.

Wednesdays

VFW Post 4746:

Join to support local veterans. Burger night: Cost \$8. (Steak Night on 1st & 3rd Fridays: Cost \$20.) 6:00-8:00 p.m., 224 Zion Hill Rd. (817) 594-7356.

Second Thursdays

Gardeners' Club of Parker County Monthly Meeting:

Learn gardening tips. 9:30 a.m., St. Francis Church, 117 Ranch House Rd., Willow Park. (817) 919-6280.

Parker County Camera Club Meeting:

All photography levels are

invited. 6:00 p.m., Weatherford College Academic Building, Room 101, 225 College Park Dr. theparkercountycameraclub@gmail.com.

Third Thursdays

Quilter's Guild of Parker County:

Socialize: 6:15 p.m.; meeting: 6:45 p.m., Lakeshore Drive Baptist Church, 200 S. Lakeshore Dr., Hudson Oaks. quiltersguildofparkercounty.org.

Fridays

American Legion Post 163 Dinner:

Enjoy dinner for a nominal fee to support local veterans. Post opens: 5:00 p.m.; dinner: 6:00 p.m., 200 Cartwright Park Rd. Email alpost163@gmail.com for information.

Second Fridays

Parker County Women's and Newcomers' Club:

Social hour: 9:30 a.m.; meeting: 10:30 a.m.; lunch: noon, Weatherford College Emerging Technologies and Workforce Solutions Building, 225 College Park Dr. pcwnc.org/monthly-meeting.

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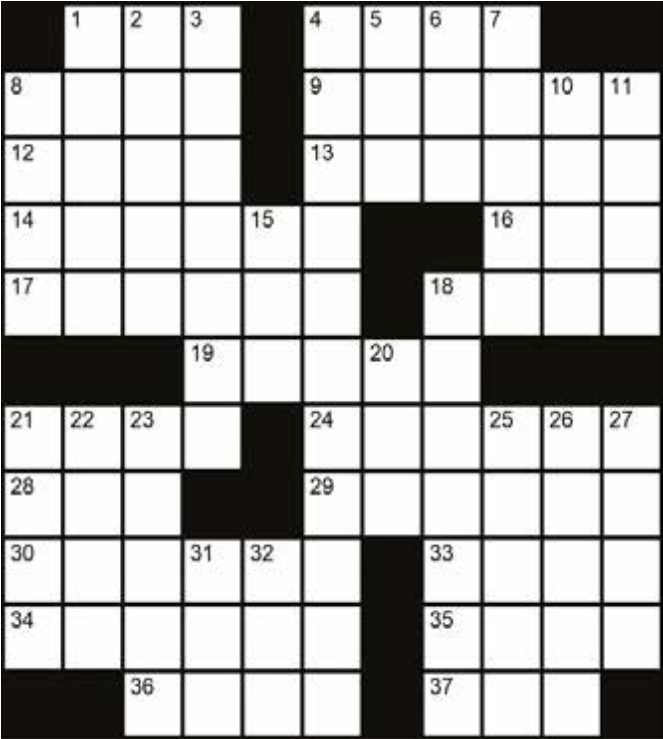
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Across

- 1 Part of formerly Portuguese India
- 4 "Boy, it's hot!"
- 8 Ireland's --- Fein
- 9 Funeral speech
- 12 "--- calling!"
- 13 Texas border town
- 14 Bucks back
- 16 Teetotal
- 17 Adventurous expedition
- 18 In Norway, it used to be Christiania
- 19 Pressure-washer maker
- 21 Ornerly guy
- 24 N Y C
- 28 Exclamation of disgust
- 29 End of existence
- 30 It's in the blood
- 33 Omar --- of "House"
- 34 Sweet
- 35 Imitates
- 36 Corny or pony, maybe
- 37 Old horror actor --- Chaney

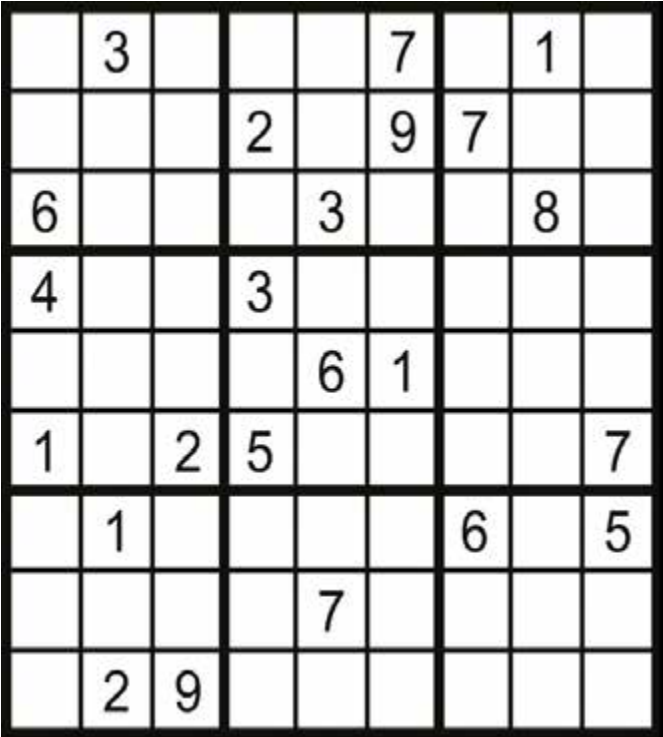
Down

- 1 "--- man a fish and you feed him for a day ..."
- 2 Kind of switch
- 3 Certain flowers
- 4 When single lives come to an end
- 5 Tint
- 6 90° bend
- 7 Bent sword leads to argument
- 8 COVID-19 predecessor
- 10 Peripatetic Ipanema resident?
- 11 Spool-like toy
- 15 F D R's short-lived Blue Eagle agency
- 18 Breakfast mush
- 20 She may be fawning
- 21 Stanley and Ryder
- 22 Ominous
- 23 Expert swindler
- 25 River horse
- 26 Trembling poplar
- 27 Military refectory
- 31 Not a good boy's name, according to Johnny Cash
- 32 Car economy statistic

Online versions and solutions available at www.nowmagazines.com. From our Homepage, click on the Features tab. Click on the Crossword-Sudoku tab. Click on a puzzle to view solutions.

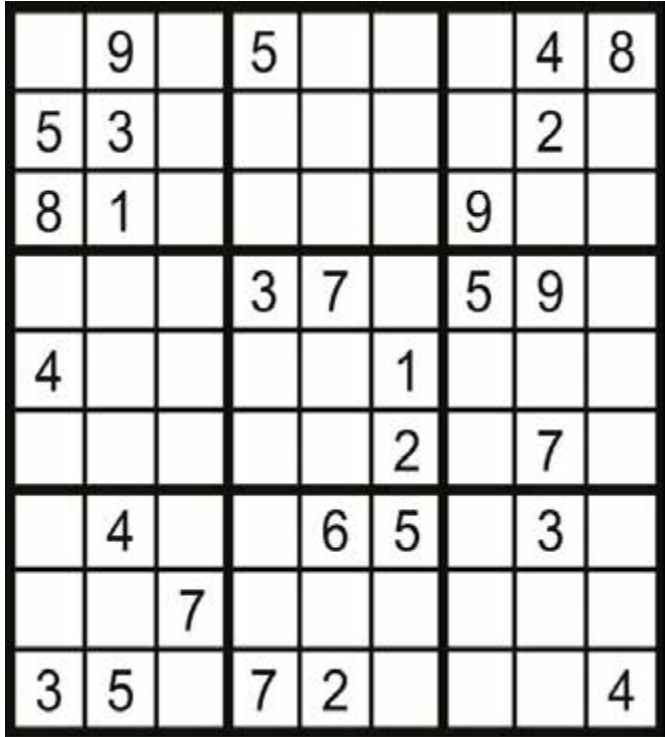
Sudoku Puzzle

Easy



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Medium



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** Figures based on a survey of vet clinics in Denton County.



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AMAZING. WE DEFINITELY HAD A
GREAT EXPERIENCE WITH THEM. THEY
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RECOMMEND THIS PLACE.

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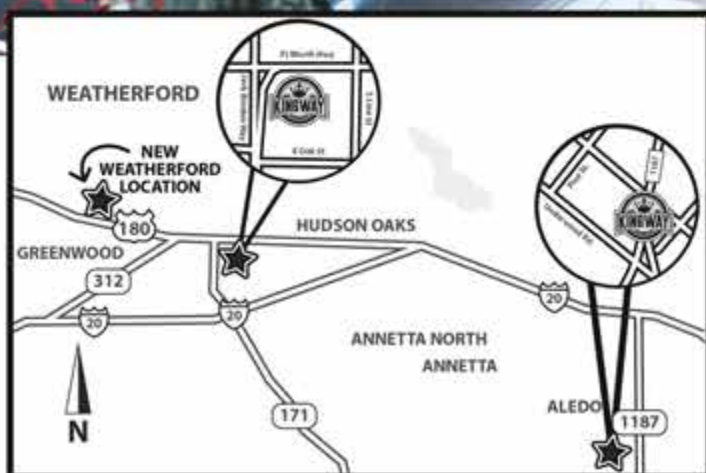
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