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Longhorn is a
living symbol of
the Old West

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Crossword/Sudoku

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Vineyard Home Health

In the Kitchen With
Devin Bruton



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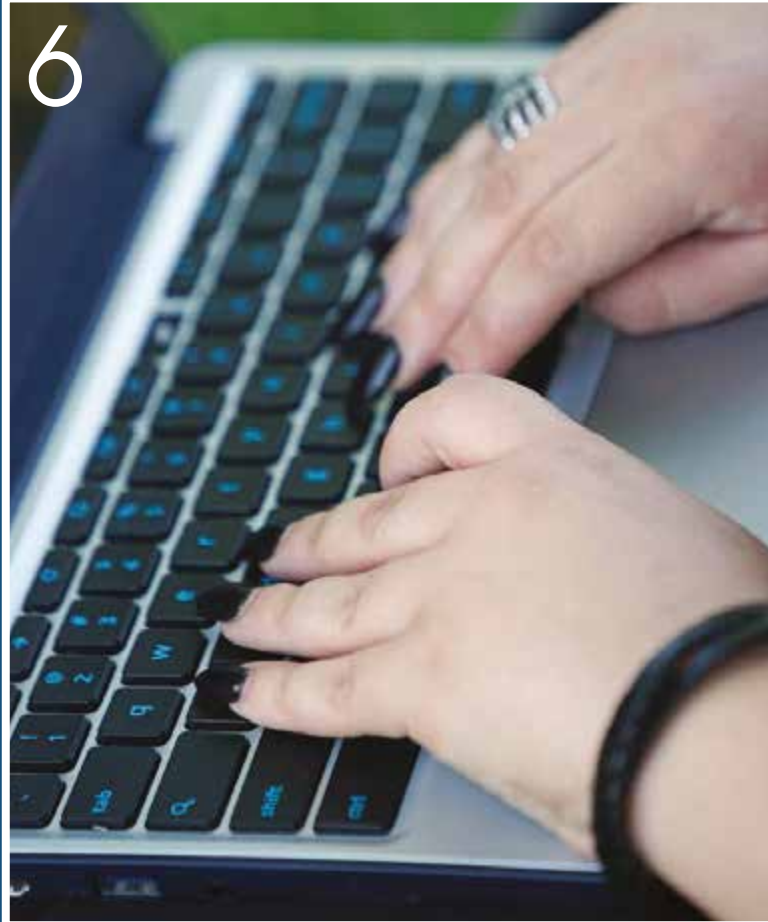
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ON THE COVER

*The result of this local author's
ambition was worth the wait.*

Photo by
Shane Kirkpatrick.

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OCT 9 @ COPPERAS COVE

OCT 23 @ MANSFIELD LEGACY

OCT 30 vs RICHLAND

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NOV 13 @ MIDLOTHIAN

NOV 20 vs MANSFIELD SUMMIT

NOV 27 @ BIRDVILLE

DEC 4 vs BURLESON CENTENNIAL

Fall Dates

Sep. 28-Oct. 2 – Homecoming Week

Oct. 2 – Parent-Teacher Conference Day (No School)

Oct. 2 – Homecoming Drive-Thru Pep Rally

Oct. 5 – District Closed

Oct. 19 – ROISD School Board Meeting

Oct. 26 – Staff Development Day (No School)

Nov. 9 – ROISD School Board Meeting

Nov. 20 – Staff Development Day (No School)

Nov. 23-27 – Thanksgiving Break

Details at RedOakISD.org

EDITOR'S NOTE



Rachel

Rachel Rich
North Ellis Co.NOW Editor
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Pumpkin spice changed my life!

I've only recently taken up the obnoxious "pumpkin spice and everything nice" expression. Two years ago, I ordered my first pumpkin spice Frappuccino. It tasted of everything fall and made me want to wrap up in a warm blanket beside a fireplace overlooking a mountain range or sit in a nice library nook on a rainy day engrossed in a good book. Before I knew it, I was surfing Pinterest for all the new autumn vibes. In a coffee shop line, I decided to take a chance on something out of my normal and loved it.

My husband, Ty, thinks I'm nuts for liking pumpkin spice, but he sure loves fall. His favorite place in the world is adventuring in the Tennessee mountains when the autumn leaves change color. He carries on about the sea of red, orange and yellow along the hilly terrain and the crisp, clean air that makes you feel like you're floating quietly on a cloud.

The world hushes as autumn sweeps in, and a fresh hope settles like a blanket over it. The seasons are perfect examples of how change and letting go can be for the better. Try it yourself. Change a routine or an attitude. Change your perspective. Take a risk. Do something new. When life tests you, let go of frustration, anger or bitterness. You might just become a better version of yourself, and you will likely love it!

Who knows? Maybe one day, Ty will like pumpkin spice, too.

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DREAM CATC

Few people achieve a dream they've held onto since they were 10 years old, but Kelsi McCraw, a published author at only 26, is molding her young life into a writer's dream. "I wrote a poem in fourth grade and read it to my mom," she remembered. "I made her cry because it was so vivid. That's when I knew I wanted to be a writer."

Today, she can see and touch her finished book and say she did it. "It feels so surreal," she acknowledged. "To be done, to see my name on a shelf, is just incredible. But all in all, this feels like the beginning — the first dip in the ocean of possibilities!"

Her young-adult romantic fantasy epic, *Damaged Goods: The Shadows of Wrath*, is part one of a soon-to-be trilogy. With a whole new world to explore, filled with gods and goddesses, demons, elves and various mystic creatures, two girls take an unexpected journey in a new world, called the Omne, alongside two powerful beings, experiencing romance and discovering themselves. It was through this great story idea that Kelsi discovered something of her own — a new friendship.

Kelsi began the plotline to the newly published epic on a story-driven role playing website, where imaginative writers create endless worlds, characters and storylines. There Kelsi sought help to bring her plot to life. "Stéphanie Gagné was the first to respond to my storyline," Kelsi admitted.

"I've been writing my whole life," Stéphanie revealed. "It's just something I've always enjoyed. I wrote a book in full by hand in high school — that will not be published," she laughed. "I'll never forget, though, (when I finished the

"KEEP PURSUING THE DREAM. IT MAY FEEL LIKE IT'S TAKING FOREVER, BUT THE END GOAL WILL BE SO WORTH THE JOURNEY."

HERS

— By Rachel Rich



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book) shouting, 'I did it!' in the middle of a lecture, and my teacher got mad at me." Although Stéphanie is from Calgary, Alberta, Canada, and Kelsi is a local to Ellis County and an Ovilla resident, working together to create a masterpiece was not too difficult in today's technological age.

Kelsi and Stéphanie share similar interests, like playing various games, coloring or painting and fantasy, which helped define their way of writing, as they broke the mold. Their method for creating a solid foundation for the book lied within the characters they created. "The plot was already started on the website, but we developed our own characters for which we each were responsible and built the Omne around them," Kelsi stated. "While I was writing with Stéphanie, I was doing psychology courses in school, which helped me get a better understanding of the characters and why they do what they do."

As each of them had their hands in the pot, their patience and respect for one another was a key to their successful collaboration. Kelsi admitted, "We've had to work through how we each understand a concept in the book and conclude what makes the most sense for the world we created. We always give each other a chance to explain their perspective."

With a three-year-long project under her belt, Kelsi provided some golden advice for aspiring writers: Don't rush an idea. Focus on quality over quantity, and let things flow naturally. "When something stumps you, sleep on it and shoot ideas back and forth with someone you trust. It won't be organic or natural on the page if you rush it. And no matter how long it takes, don't let up. Keep pursuing the dream. It may feel like it's taking forever, but the end

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Early voting Oct. 13-17, 19-30 General Election Nov. 3

goal will be so worth the journey. There were some writers who spent their entire lives to make something great."

The best advice Stéphanie, who oversaw the publication process, shared was investing in an editor. "It truly made a difference for us in taking that step closer to publication. Overall, three rounds of editing went into this book. Then, we submitted our manuscript for copyright in both Canada and the U.S., which took a few months. For the cover, Kelsi and I had a general idea of what we were looking for. So, I ordered a cloak from Amazon, and my fiancé took my picture. That's me on the cover of our book! Then, I photoshopped it to our liking. That was fun."



While the first book focuses on romance, the second and third books of the trilogy will scale in on more action and magic. "We are expecting to finish the second book within a year," Kelsi said.

Kelsi and Stéphanie's journey in the making of *Damaged Goods: The Shadows of Wrath* has been unapologetically exciting, and they have many people to thank — first and foremost, everyone who has purchased and read the epic. Both co-authors' friends and families helped them keep their dream alive. Stéphanie shared, "A biggest thank you to my fiancé and co-author, Kelsi, my biggest supporters." And to all past, present and soon-to-be readers, Kelsi concluded: "Thank you for staying with us in the Omne!" **NOW**

Editor's Note: For more information, visit theomne.ca.

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TALES OF TEXAS

HOOFING — THROUGH — HISTORY

— By Angel Morris

From the Lone Star flag to bluebonnets in the spring, many symbols are synonymous with Texas. As the second largest state, it is not uncommon to find that things are bigger in Texas, too. Perhaps that's what makes the Longhorn steer so suitable as the state's official "large mammal," a title it was given in 1995.

Recognized for their remarkable horns, which can measure anywhere from 50 to 80 inches tip to tip, Texas Longhorns are a unique breed of cattle. Their roots can be traced to around 1493, when Christopher Columbus brought Spanish cattle to the New World. For the next 200 years, the drought-tolerant steer were used in Mexico and were part of the gradual migration northward toward the area that would become Texas in the 17th century.

At this point, it is said that the steer were turned loose on the open range, where they would fend for themselves for two centuries developing hardy characteristics and managing to multiply in number despite little help from mankind. The Texas State Historical Association suggests Texas Longhorns were a result of the mixing of Spanish and English stock "that Anglo-American frontiersmen brought to Texas from Southern and Midwestern states in the 1820s and 1830s.



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“Spanish and Anglo cattle mixed on a small scale in the 1830s and after, but by the Civil War, the half-wild Texas Longhorns emerged as a recognizable type,” TSHA reports. “Over the next 20 years, contractors drove 5 to 10 million cattle out of Texas, commerce that helped revive the state’s economy. Longhorns, with their long legs and hard hoofs, were ideal trail cattle; they even gained weight on the way to market.”

As frontiers became more densely populated, however, modern ranchers found breeds with an ability to gain weight quickly more desirable than Longhorns and their lean beef. By the 1920s, only a few small Longhorn herds remained.

Decline of Longhorn population led to near extinction, but the breed began to come back in vogue when adopted as the mascot of The University of Texas in 1917. The year prior, a nervous 1,200-pound steer had been introduced on the football field when Texas defeated Texas A&M on Thanksgiving Day 1916. The Longhorn would come to be named Bevo — with a variety of lore attached to his name — and remains one of the most recognizable university mascots to this day.

In 1927, the federal government and the United States Forest Service focused their attention on rebreeding the Longhorn from a small herd. In the early 1930s, more breeders helped Texas form its own herd, keeping the cattle in state parks. Again, the steers’ natural ability to survive led to its revival as beef stock.





The Texas Longhorn Breeders Association of America was formed in 1964 by Charles Schreiner III, who had created a herd on his own ranch in the late 1950s in honor of his grandfather's ranching legacy. Charles helped stage cattle drives — complete with cowboys battling “attacks” on the herd — as publicity efforts to bring attention back to the beloved steer.

More than a quarter-million Texas Longhorns were listed within the TLBAA registry by the end of the 1900s. Today, all 50 states, Canada, Mexico and other countries are home to Longhorn breeders, with the steer used for beef stock, as well as kept by local ranchers purely for their ties to Texas history.

Longhorns have also gained popularity in recreational use, in sports such as team cutting, penning and roping. The animals' size, demeanor and trademark horns lend them to use in these activities, plus they maintain resale value beyond their time in recreational sports, making their value two-fold.

Owners of Texas Longhorns who could trace a steer's elite bloodline have reportedly earned \$40,000 or more at 21st century cattle auctions. In fact, the record for Longhorn sales peaked at \$380,000 for a cow and heifer calf during a 2017 auction at the Fort Worth Stockyards — a fitting marker for a city whose nickname is “Cow Town.”

With TLBAA's maintenance of a registry for perpetuating the Longhorn breed in a pure state, coupled with the increase in number of cross-bred steer, Texas' official large mammal seems well protected. **NOW**

Sources:

<http://Longhornfacts.weebly.com/>
www.rightsidesd.com/
www.sciencedaily.com
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— By Rachel Rich

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A business born at the beginning of the roughest trial this country has seen this year has been like a flower rising from ashes for Ellis County. Owner Jake Hibbard-Vineyard had a vision for elderly care in late 2019 and saw his plans become a reality at the same time COVID-19 hit the nation. However, he hasn't let that stop him from making a broader impact in the world of nursing.



A local nurse-owned agency, Vineyard Home Health settled in the heart of downtown Waxahachie. "We are so blessed to be only a block away from the Ellis County Courthouse," Jake said. "As citizens of Ellis County, we wanted to be in a central location for our aging community."

Vineyard Home Health offers more than your everyday nursing services. With home health, sitter services, companionship, grocery pickup, prescription pickup and much more, they provide a one-stop shop opportunity for the elderly in need. "We personalize our services to meet the needs of our clients," he reiterated. They relate to their clients. "We go to the same churches, eat at the same restaurants and shop at the same grocery stores. We are part of our community."

Jake admitted that the day a guest can be discharged from his agency or is able to go home from the hospital is a great day. "It means the patient is better and is no longer in need of our services," he said. Every discharge story is a success story

for the Vineyard Home Health team. However, they prefer to work for their patients directly in their homes, as their goal is to help people safely age in place. "We believe people are happiest when they are at home," he said, noting their slogan, "Quality medical care in the comfort of home."

Jake, with a nursing background in geriatric care, and his team try their best to treat people with dignity and compassion instead of looking at them as dollar signs. "I remember one Sunday, sitting in church, I noticed the aging population in the congregation. My epiphany was that these people of Central Presbyterian would one day need my help. I wanted to make sure they got the best care available. The best way to do it was to open my own agency."

"We personalize our services to meet the needs of our clients."

Opening during the COVID-19 pandemic was no easy task, but Vineyard Home Health is remaining strong in their work of helping the aging population of Ellis County. "It's our hope and prayer that soon things will return to normal," Jake said. "When it does, we will be able to get out into the community and get to talk to folks. We want to let people know they have options for their loved ones or themselves."

Other ways Vineyard Home Health helps the community is by being a part of Love Your Neighbor. "We also have provided candy and hand sanitizer to nurses at a lot of the local nursing homes. We know that nursing homes have been hit the hardest, and we want to show our appreciation to their staff."

Vineyard Home Health strives to bring elders home or keep them safe in their homes. The time to start planning for your aging friends, family — or even yourself — is now. Jake and his team are ready with open arms. **NOW**

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Arts and crafts never stop Ian McChesney's creativity.



Benjamin Wallace signs a copy of one of his books for a Red Oak fan.

Zoomed In: Chris Faggins

By Rachel Rich

Red Oak Believers City Church Pastor Chris Faggins helps host prayer night events held at Watkins Park. Bringing people together through prayer and worship, his hope of redemption is contagious, and he is a testimony to his shirt's declaration, "I don't play when I pray." As he spearheaded the last prayer event, people came out to show support to their community. He shared a deep appreciation for the people who made the prayer event possible, including the Chamber president and city workers, among others.

Pastor Chris emphasized, "This is nothing without God and [His people]." With many people showing up to pray for the nation, they spread love and kindness to everyone at the park, and Pastor Chris concluded, "God bless you!"



Red Oak teachers get ready for the school year to start.



A.L. Vinyl holds a ribbon cutting and open house celebrating their new location.



Friends Londyn Ramirez and Ariana Sanchez pose for the camera in their cheer outfits.



Jamie Fincher Bear reminds her students to smile, as she shows gratitude to Lorikeet for putting a smile on her face.



Carolyn Rodriguez sports her new shirt as she and her group help women through their ups and downs.



Pastor Tomas Haggard hosts a COVID-19 friendly Bible study.



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CookingNOW

In the Kitchen With

DEVIN BRUTON

— By Rachel Rich

With various hobbies from singing at the Red Oak Opry to making jewelry, Devin Bruton adds cooking to that list. Diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis, she's learning a new way of cooking, since certain foods affect her pain. "Pinterest and Google are my 'best friends' as I navigate this new normal."

Given the enjoyment she gets from finding new recipes, her cooking experience has not always been all sugar and spice and everything nice. "My horror story was my first Thanksgiving turkey. I partially thawed it in the tub and figured the rest would thaw in the oven. It didn't work," she laughed. "It was absolutely raw in the middle, so I threw it away and made spaghetti. We had spaghetti for a few years on holidays after that until I figured it out." **NOW**

My Son's Favorite Fideo

2 lbs. diced pork, chicken or beef
1 onion, diced
2-3 cloves garlic, or to taste
2 5-oz. pkgs. Q & Q Fideo Vermicelli (the yellow box)
2 Tbsp. olive oil
2 10-oz. cans Ro-Tel Tomatoes
2 8-oz. cans tomato sauce

2-3 Tbsp. chili powder, or to taste
1-2 tsp. cumin, or to taste
Salt, to taste
Pepper, to taste

1. In a big skillet, brown the meat, onions and garlic together; drain.
2. In the same skillet, brown the vermicelli in the oil until dark, golden brown.
3. Return the meat to the skillet. Add the

Ro-Tel, tomato sauce and spices. Fill both Ro-Tel cans and both tomato sauce cans with water; add each can to the mixture.

4. Bring mixture to a good simmer; cover. Keep at a simmer until most of the liquid is absorbed. Serve warm.

The Jerry Francis Special

This was my mother's "in a hurry" meal.

1 lb. ground beef
1 medium onion, diced
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 can cream of mushroom soup
1 can water
1 tsp. Season-All
Rice, cooked, to taste

1. Brown the meat, onions and garlic in a medium skillet; drain.
2. Return the meat to the pan. Add the soup, water and seasoning.
3. Heat through; serve over cooked rice.

Roasted Veggies

The trick is making sure that all the veggies are the same size.

- 1/2 lb. fresh Brussels sprouts, trimmed and cleaned
- 4 large carrots, peeled and cut into 2-inch chunks
- 4 potatoes, peeled and cut into 2-inch chunks
- 2-3 Tbsp. olive oil
- 1-2 tsp. dried Italian herbs
- Salt, to taste
- Pepper, to taste

1. Mix all the ingredients together, making sure everything is covered in oil and seasonings.
2. Roast in a 400-F oven until tender and lightly browned.

Aunt Nina's Buttermilk Pie

Double this recipe for a deep-dish pie.

- 2 eggs
- 1 cup sugar (I cut it down to 3/4 cup.)
- 1 Tbsp. all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup buttermilk
- 2 Tbsp. unsalted butter
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 regular piecrust

1. Mix the first 6 ingredients in a bowl just until well incorporated; pour mixture into the piecrust.
2. Bake at 350 F for 35-40 minutes for a regular pie or 45-50 minutes for a deep-dish pie.
3. Allow to cool; serve at room temperature. Refrigerate leftovers for up to 3-4 days.

Buttery Dill Baked Salmon

- Nonstick cooking spray
- 2 Tbsp. butter
- 2 Tbsp. olive oil
- 2 bunches fresh dill, chopped
- Salt, to taste
- Pepper, to taste
- 2 lbs. salmon (I use Atlantic Wild Salmon.)
- 1 large lemon, sliced

1. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper or foil; spray with nonstick spray. Mix the butter, oil, dill, salt and pepper in a small bowl. Spread over the top of the salmon.
2. Put thin lemon slices on top of the salmon; bake in a 375-F oven for 16 minutes, or until flaky.
3. Serve with fresh lemon slices.

My Green Sauce

- 3-4 jalapeños, left whole
- 1/3 medium onion

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2-3 cloves garlic
Salt, to taste
1/2 cup canola oil

- 1.** Boil the peppers and onion until tender. Remove pepper stems and enough seeds to make your desired heat.
- 2.** Place the peppers and onion in a blender, along with the garlic and salt; pulse until well chopped. Turn the blender to medium speed; stream in the oil. Run the blender for about 5 minutes. (These 5 minutes are important.)
- 3.** Put the sauce in a jar; store in the fridge for a week or so. The sauce starts off spicy but mellows after it cools off. It's great with chips or on tacos

Slow Cooker Pork Chops and Gravy

4-6 bone-in pork chops (You can use boneless; I just prefer bone-in.)
1 10.5-oz. can cream of chicken soup
1 10.5-oz. can cream of mushroom soup
1 pkt. onion soup mix
1 cup chicken broth
Pepper, to taste

- 1.** Place pork chops in the slow cooker.
- 2.** In a medium bowl, mix remaining



Aunt Nina's
Buttermilk Pie

- ingredients; pour over the chops.
3. Cook mixture on high for 3-4 hours, or on low for 6-7 hours, until the chops are tender.
4. Serve with mashed potatoes. Note: This also works well for chicken, if you prefer.

Lemon Ice Box Pie

1 brick cream cheese, softened to room temperature
1 can Eagle Brand milk
1/4 cup lemon juice
1 graham cracker crust

- 1.** Mix the cream cheese, milk and lemon juice until smooth; pour into the crust.
- 2.** Refrigerate until set, about 4 hours.

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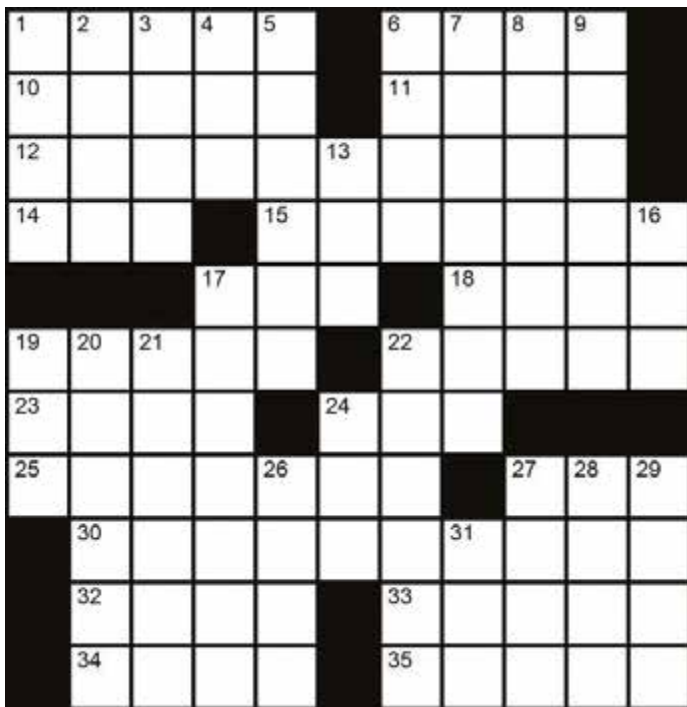
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Across

- 1 Pass through Congress
- 6 Shot on the ice
- 10 --- Lama
- 11 Switch off
- 12 Nonphysical
- 14 As well
- 15 Menu at the edge
- 17 Cyst
- 18 Trick
- 19 No later than
- 22 Outmoded
- 23 Sassy
- 24 --- Rio, Texas
- 25 Take a --- it (Go for it!)
- 27 Frequently
- 30 "On top of that ..."
- 32 Female first name Ms. Minnelli rejected
- 33 S American republic is cold by the sound of it
- 34 Ultimate
- 35 Irritably impatient

Down

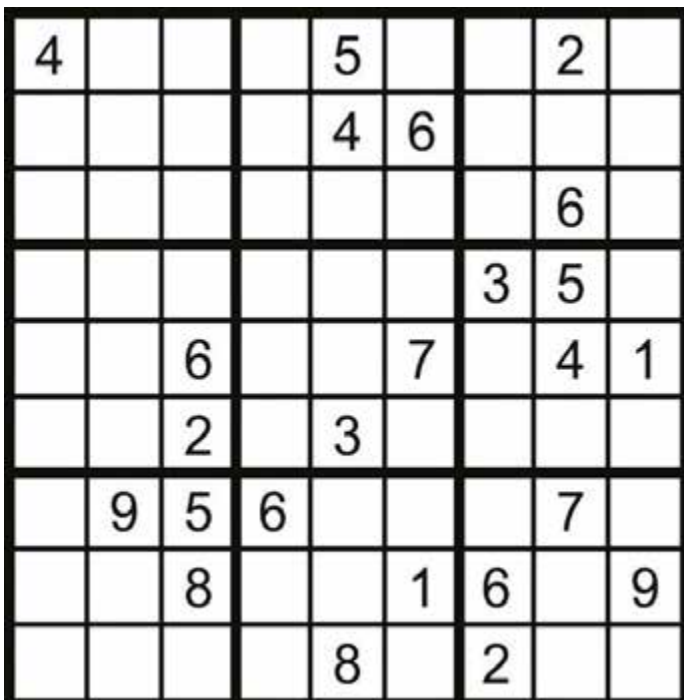
- 1 Prepare for publication
- 2 "Small" prefix
- 3 Voice below a soprano
- 4 He came between J A G and G C
- 5 Hollywood town?
- 6 Kind of row
- 7 Copious
- 8 Everyone except
- 9 Make happy
- 13 Cotton seed remover
- 16 Wine selection
- 17 See
- 19 Downs' partner
- 20 Mike ---, "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire" director
- 21 Inessentials
- 22 What shamuses do
- 24 Flatfish
- 26 Tiny biter
- 27 Elevating outfit?
- 28 Experienced
- 29 Small club, maybe
- 31 Much-used article

Solutions on page 28

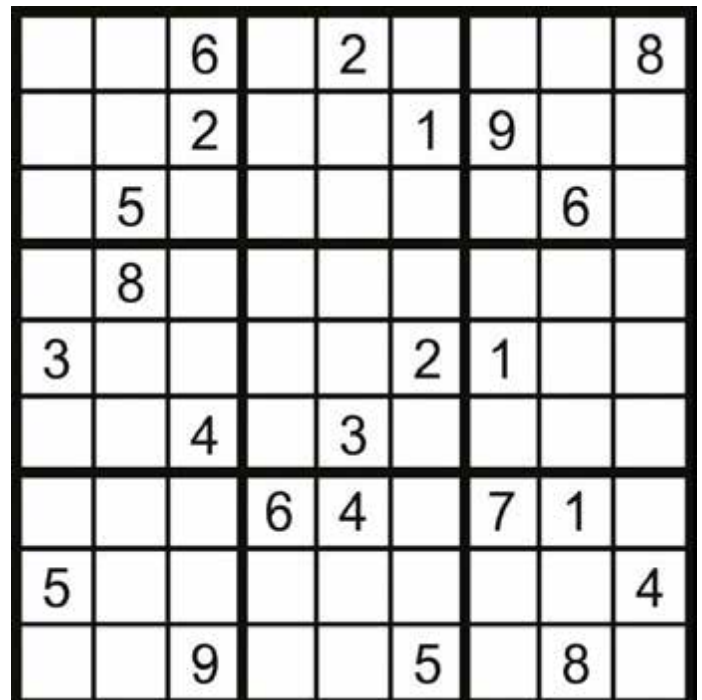
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Sudoku Puzzle

Easy



Medium



Solutions on page 28

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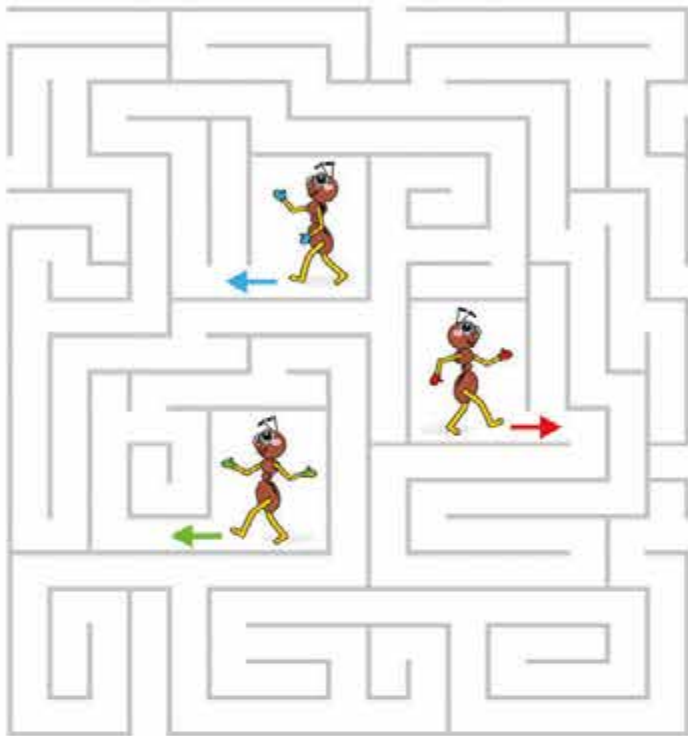
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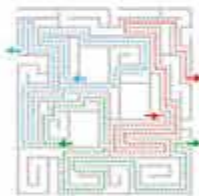
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-			-	
=			=	
9	-	3	=	

3	+		=	
+			+	
5			2	
=			=	
	-	1	=	

	+	7	=	
+			+	
5				
=			=	
	+	7	=	14

1	+		=	9
+			-	
4				
=			=	
	-	2	=	

	+	5	=	8
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			8	
=			=	
11	+		=	

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-			-	
9			9	
=			=	
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TravelNOW Beyond Trade Days

— By *Lisa Bell*

Best recognized for the world-renowned original First Monday Trade Days, Canton, Texas, draws massive crowds for the monthly event. But the town doesn't fold up and disappear during the rest of the month. While everyone probably should experience the famous trade days at least once, Canton offers far more than the biggest outdoor shopping extravaganza in the United States.

When visiting Canton, don't miss the Van Zandt County Memorial Plaza, an extraordinary veterans' memorial site worth visiting. Despite the location at a major intersection, the plaza provides a quiet place for reflection and appeals

to all ages. What child, of any age, doesn't want to walk beneath a suspended plane and helicopter? A U.S. Army tank and U.S. Coast Guard boat add to the flanks surrounding a statue posted mid-plaza, honoring veterans from all military branches. A covered gazebo and benches give visitors time to consider history and men and women who served and remain in active duty. Nearby, the Van Zandt County Gift Shop and Museum recently reopened, featuring fresh exhibits and recorded interviews with local heroes. The website, www.vzcm.org, also contains stories and historical information.

Since 2000, Yesterland Farm hosts families who want a

taste of nature but with more fun than imaginable. With a variety of rides, activities and food, plan on spending the day. For the first time, Yesterland Farm remained open during the summer of 2020, featuring all things peach. During the spring, visitors also enjoy Bunny Palooza. But come fall, a pumpkin patch and corn maze bring Texas-style fall to life. In the evenings, the corn maze becomes frightening, but during the day, it's simply fun. At Christmas, Santa's workshop takes over the grounds, creating a memorable experience for the entire family.

Head downtown for food and shopping. Stop in the old theater, which houses the Canton Chamber of Commerce and the Canton Museum. Marvel at the hundreds of bells lining one wall, the Kennedy Native American collection or the old fire truck. While there, gather information on all the exciting places to visit.

And, of course, come for the Original First Monday Trade Days. The tradition began in 1850 and remains a living history. When the circuit judge came to town the first Monday of each month, the locals brought in goods to trade. What started with horses eventually changed to dogs, other animals, produce and more. Bartering abounded back then. By 1965, the event outgrew the courthouse square, so the city bought 6 acres to expand trading. Over the years, they added the weekend. Today, regardless of weather, the event occurs Thursday through Sunday prior to the first Monday and covers 450 acres. The Mountain area maintains the Old West style, capturing a bit of history. Some say if you can't find it at Canton, no one's making it.

Canton offers festivals throughout the year, music on the square most weekends, the Buffalo Creek Motorsports Complex, multiple parks, Splash Kingdom and more. With area resorts, any time of the month can be a fun family getaway. Time your trip for trade days, but plan on staying longer and enjoy the unexpected. **NOW**

Photos by Lisa Bell.

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GUTTER GROOMING

— By Angel Morris

Gutter is a word commonly used regarding street drainage or bad bowling, until you become a homeowner. Then gutters gain new meaning when you learn that cleaning and maintaining them is a must to avoid damage to the soffit and fascia of your home's eaves.

Rain and snow result in water that flows from rooftops to the ground. Gutters allow this to happen while protecting your home from water damage and leaks. Therefore, keeping gutters unclogged by leaves and debris is essential. Here are some basic tips for cleaning and maintaining your home's gutters.

Downloading the Debris

Just like going to the dentist, experts suggest twice-yearly maintenance of gutters and downspouts, preferably at the end of spring and fall. Of course, this requires a tall enough ladder to see atop your gutters, and a receptacle into which you will place debris, such as a large bucket. Once all debris is removed, it is also a good idea to flush gutters with a water hose.

While hosing out gutters, homeowners can look for leaks and places where water is pooling. If water is pooling, it could be a sign of a blockage somewhere along your gutters. If leaking, there may be holes or improperly sealed gutter connections.

When water pools atop a downspout, there could be a clog down the tube, which will need to be broken up with a drain snake or auger, both of which are available at local hardware stores with explanations on proper use. Once snaked, you should again hose out the gutter to remove debris and confirm any blockages are cleared.

Locating the Leaks

With gutters draining freely, it is now important to locate leaks within gutters and downspouts and repair the holes causing them. Roofing cement or silicon caulk is a quick and easy solution for repairing small holes after you have removed any rust with a wire brush. Smooth roofing cement with a putty knife to avoid creating areas where debris might catch.

Larger holes may require metal flashing for repair. You will want to clean several inches around these holes with a stiff wire brush, giving your roofing cement ample clean, smooth area to which it can adhere.

Using flashing made of the same material as your gutters, cut enough of the flashing to cover and extend a couple of inches beyond the hole. Working inside, not outside the gutter, put roofing cement beneath the patch and hold it in place several seconds. Then run cement along each top seam

of your patch, smoothing the cement as you go with a putty knife.

To enable water and debris to flow smoothly over any patches, you should also create a ramp with the roofing cement that is flush with the gutter on one end, running over the patch and flush down the opposite side.

Large holes in elbow connections or downspouts are probably best repaired with replacement parts rather than patches. Additionally, an array of gutter covers is available to limit the chance of leaves and debris working their way into gutters and causing damage.

The Final Fixes

In addition, gutter maintenance involves ensuring water exiting downspouts is diverted away from the house with either an extension to the downspout, an irrigation pipe or splash blocks.

Lastly, loose or drooping gutters may require replacement of worn gutter spikes with gutter screws, which hold better than standard spikes. A cordless drill will be required for this task. [Now](#)

Sources:

www.modernize.com

www.todayshomeowner.com





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2020 General and Special Election:

Early Voting October 13th-17th, 19th-30th

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Please wash and disinfect hands upon entering and exiting the voting area.



Maintain 6 feet of physical distance between any others where possible.



6 FEET APART

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It is recommended to use the cotton swab provided at the polling station to make your ballot selections without touching the voting device.



If you are 65 or older, consider submitting an application for a mail-in ballot



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VOTAR



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November 3, 2020 *03 de noviembre de 2020*

Early Voting Vote Centers *Centros de votación adelantada*

The below listed Early Voting Vote Centers will be established for any qualified voter with an effective date of registration on or before November 3, 2020. A voter may vote at ANY of the Early Voting Vote Centers for the General and Special Elections.

Las ubicaciones para centros de votación anticipada que se enumeran a continuación se establecerán para cualquier votante calificado con una fecha efectiva de registro en o antes del 03 de noviembre de 2020. Un votante puede votar en cualquiera de los lugares de votación anticipada para las Elecciones General y Especial.

Early Voting Location Dates and Times:

Ubicación, fechas, y horarios de la votación anticipada:

1. Main Early Voting Site - First United Methodist Church

(Fidelis Hall) 505 W Marvin Ave

Waxahachie, TX 75165

2. Ellis County Sub-Courthouse (Foyer) 207 S Sonoma Trail

Ennis, TX 75119

3. Midlothian Conf. Ctr (Ballroom/Foyer) 1 Community Circle Dr. Midlothian, TX 76065

4. Palmer ISD Annex Bldg (Portable Bldg) 303 Bulldog Way

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5. Grace Covenant Church (Dining Hall) 212 N Main Street

Red Oak, TX 75154

6. Harvest of Praise (House of Manna Rm) 2603 S Hampton Rd

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Tuesday, October 13, 2020 <i>martes, 13 de octubre de 2020</i>	through <i>hasta</i>	Friday, October 16, 2020 <i>viernes, 16 de octubre de 2020</i>	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM <i>8:00 AM - 5:00 PM</i>
Saturday, October 17, 2020 <i>sábado, 17 de octubre de 2020</i>			8:00 AM - 4:00 PM <i>8:00 AM - 4:00 PM</i>
Monday, October 19, 2020 <i>lunes, 19 de octubre de 2020</i>	through <i>hasta</i>	Friday, October 23, 2020 <i>viernes, 23 de octubre de 2020</i>	8:00 AM - 6:00 PM <i>8:00 AM - 6:00 PM</i>
Saturday, October 24, 2020 <i>sábado, 24 de octubre de 2020</i>			7:00 AM - 7:00 PM <i>7:00 AM - 7:00 PM</i>
Sunday, October 25, 2020 <i>domingo, 25 de octubre de 2020</i>			1:00 PM - 6:00 PM <i>1:00 PM - 6:00 PM</i>
Monday, October 26, 2020 <i>lunes, 26 de octubre de 2020</i>	through <i>hasta</i>	Friday, October 30, 2020 <i>viernes, 30 de octubre de 2020</i>	7:00 AM - 7:00 PM <i>7:00 AM - 7:00 PM</i>

Last day to register to vote for the General and Special Elections is: Monday, October 05, 2020.

Último día para registrarse para votar en la Elecciones General y Especial es: lunes, 05 de octubre de 2020.

Last day for the Election's Office to receive a Regular or FPCA Ballot by Mail Application (October 16th is the last day the voter can walk-in and hand deliver an application) : Friday, October 23, 2020.

El Último día para que la Oficina de Elecciones reciba una solicitud regular o una solicitud de tarjeta postal federal para votar por correo (FPCA-por sus siglas en inglés) es (El 16 de Octubre es el último día en que el votante puede venir en persona y entregar personalmente una solicitud): viernes, 23 de octubre de 2020.

Notice is hereby given of state law for acceptable credentials for voting in person. A voter will be required to show one of the seven approved forms of photo identification. Voters who do not possess and cannot reasonably obtain one of the seven forms of approved photo ID will be able to execute a Reasonable Impediment Declaration and provide a supporting form of identification. <https://www.votetexas.gov>

Aviso-por este medio se da aviso de la ley del Estado para las credenciales aceptables para votar en persona. Un votante tendrá que mostrar una de las siete formas aprobadas de identificación con foto a los votantes que no poseen y que razonablemente no pueden obtener una de las siete formas de identificación con fotografía aprobada podrán ejecutar una Declaración de Impedimento Razonable y proporcionar un formulario de respaldo de identificación. <https://www.votetexas.gov>

**For More Information: Website at www.co.ellis.tx.us/Elections OR [Facebook.com/EllisCountyElections](https://www.facebook.com/EllisCountyElections)
OR Contact us at Elections Office 204 E Jefferson Waxahachie, TX 75165 972-825-5195**



Ellis County, Texas *Condado de Ellis, Texas*
General and Special Elections *Elecciones General y Especial*
November 3, 2020 *03 de noviembre de 2020*

Election Day Vote Centers *Centros de votación el día de las elecciones*

Polls open from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm

Horario de votación estarán abiertos de 7:00 am a 7:00 pm

The below listed Election Day Vote Centers will be established for any qualified voter with an effective date of registration on or before November 3, 2020. A voter may vote at ANY of the Election Day Vote Centers for the General and Special Elections.

Las ubicaciones para centros de voto de días de votación se establecerán para cualquier votante calificado con una fecha efectiva de registro en o antes del 03 de noviembre de 2020. Un votante puede votar en cualquiera de los centros de votación de día de las elecciones para las Elecciones General y Especial.

1	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH-AVALON (Annex) 206 GILES STREET	AVALON, TX 76623
2	FIRST UNITED METHODIST-BARDWELL (Church Annex) 104 PECAN ST	BARDWELL, TX 75119
3	BRISTOL UNITED METHODIST (Fellowship Hall) 104 CHURCH ST	BRISTOL, TX 75119
4	ALMA COMMUNITY CENTER (Foyer) 104 INTERURBAN RD	ENNIS, TX 75119
5	ELLIS COUNTY SUB-COURTHOUSE (Conference Rm) 207 S SONOMA TRAIL	ENNIS, TX 75119
6	ENNIS PUBLIC LIBRARY (Learning Center) 501 W. ENNIS AVE	ENNIS, TX 75119
7	FAITH ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH (Fellowship Hall) 1810 W BALDRIDGE ST.	ENNIS, TX 75119
8	NEW FOUNDERS MISS. BAPTIST (Fellowship Hall) 1903 LAFAYETTE ST.	ENNIS, TX 75119
9	FERRIS PUBLIC LIBRARY (Aubrey Trussell Rm) 301 E 10TH STREET	FERRIS, TX 75125
10	FORRESTON BAPTIST CHURCH (Fellowship Hall) 211 SEVENTH ST.	FORRESTON, TX 76041
11	HARVEST OF PRAISE (House of Manna Rm) 2603 S HAMPTON RD	GLENN HEIGHTS, TX 75154
12	MT GILEAD BAPTIST CHURCH (Fellowship Hall) 106 HARRIS ST.	ITALY, TX 76651
13	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH-MAYPEARL (Fellowship Hall) 5744 FM 66	MAYPEARL, TX 76064
14	MIDLOTHIAN CHURCH OF CHRIST (Fellowship Hall) 1627 N HWY 67	MIDLOTHIAN, TX 76065
15	MIDLOTHIAN CONFERENCE CTR (Foyer) 1 COMMUNITY CIRCLE DR	MIDLOTHIAN, TX 76065
16	MOUNTAIN PEAK COMMUNITY CHURCH (Sanctuary) 751 W. FM 875	MIDLOTHIAN, TX 76065
17	SARDIS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (Fellowship Hall) 640 SARDIS RD	MIDLOTHIAN, TX 76065
18	STONEGATE CHURCH (Rams Rm) 4025 E US 287	MIDLOTHIAN, TX 76065
19	THE SHEPHERD'S HOUSE (Sanctuary) 3221 MOCKINGBIRD LN	MIDLOTHIAN, TX 76065
20	MILFORD SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER (Main Rm) 109 S MAIN ST	MILFORD, TX 76670
21	GRACE CHURCH OF OVILLA (Flex Rm Bldg B) 519 WESTMORELAND RD	OVILLA, TX 75154
22	OVILLA CITY HALL (Council Chambers) 105 S COCKRELL HILL RD	OVILLA, TX 75154
23	PALMER ISD ANNEX BUILDING (Portable Bldg) 303 BULLDOG WAY	PALMER, TX 75152
24	EASTRIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH (Family Activity Ctr) 732 E OVILLA RD	RED OAK, TX 75154
25	LIFEPOINT COMMUNITY CHURCH (Fellowship Hall) 201 LOUISE RITTER RD	RED OAK, TX 75154
26	RED OAK MUNICIPAL CENTER (Pitts Room) 200 LAKEVIEW PKWY	RED OAK, TX 75154
27	GRACE COVENANT CHURCH (Dining Hall) 212 N MAIN ST	RED OAK, TX 75154
28	BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH (Fellowship Hall) 1400 FM 1446	WAXAHACHIE, TX 75167
29	ELLIS COUNTY WOMANS BUILDING (Main Room) 407 W JEFFERSON ST.	WAXAHACHIE, TX 75165
30	FARLEY STREET BAPTIST CHURCH (Foyer) 1116 BROWN ST.	WAXAHACHIE, TX 75165
31	FIRST UNITED METHODIST-WAXAHACHIE (Fidelis Hall) 505 W MARVIN AVE	WAXAHACHIE, TX 75165
32	PARK MEADOWS BAPTIST CHURCH (Foyer) 3350 N HWY 77	WAXAHACHIE, TX 75165
33	SALVATION ARMY OF ELLIS CO. (Fellowship Hall in rear) 620 FARLEY ST.	WAXAHACHIE, TX 75165
34	SOUTHLAKE BAPTIST CHURCH (Sanctuary) 2378 S HWY 77	WAXAHACHIE, TX 75165
35	THE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH (Venue Rm) 1761 N HWY 77	WAXAHACHIE, TX 75165
36	WAXAHACHIE CIVIC CENTER (MTG RM C) 2000 CIVIC CENTER LANE	WAXAHACHIE, TX 75165

Happy Fall

OCTOBER

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

10/2-10/4

Vintage Market Days:

A three-day event where vendors provide unique items, all in one location, for the best vintage shopping experience. **Friday:**

10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.;

Saturday: 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; **Sunday:** 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Ellis County Expo Center, 2300 W. Hwy. 287 Bypass, Waxahachie.

10/9

Live2Lead Virtual Event:

Learn from world-class leadership experts, like John C. Maxwell, Steve Harvey,

Kat Cole and Alan Mulally. Proceeds from ticket sales will be used to support Red Oak Area Chamber of Commerce. 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

To register, visit https://mailchi.mp/nwardjourney/live2lead_roacc.

10/16-10/17

Kings of Grudge Motorcycle Race:

Event begins

Friday: 8:00 a.m. and ends

Saturday: 11:30 p.m., Xtreme Raceway Park, 1800 S. I-45 Service Rd., Ferris. For more information, call (972) 544-3724.

10/22-10/24

Ellis County Livestock Show & Rodeo:

2000 Civic Center, Waxahachie. (469) 309-4045.

Tuesdays

Virtual Story Time:

Watch virtually through the Red Oak Library's Facebook page. 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. www.facebook.com/redoaktx.org.

Thursdays

Topical Thursday:

Watch virtually through the Facebook page. Director Logan

Ragsdale discusses various topics each week on Facebook Live. 2:00 p.m. www.facebook.com/redoaktx.org.

Fridays

Virtual Book Chat:

Watch virtually through the Facebook page. Director Logan Ragsdale will discuss his favorite reads in different genres, read from popular books and recommend sources for avid readers to stay informed on the latest books. 4:00-5:00 p.m. www.facebook.com/redoaktx.org.

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



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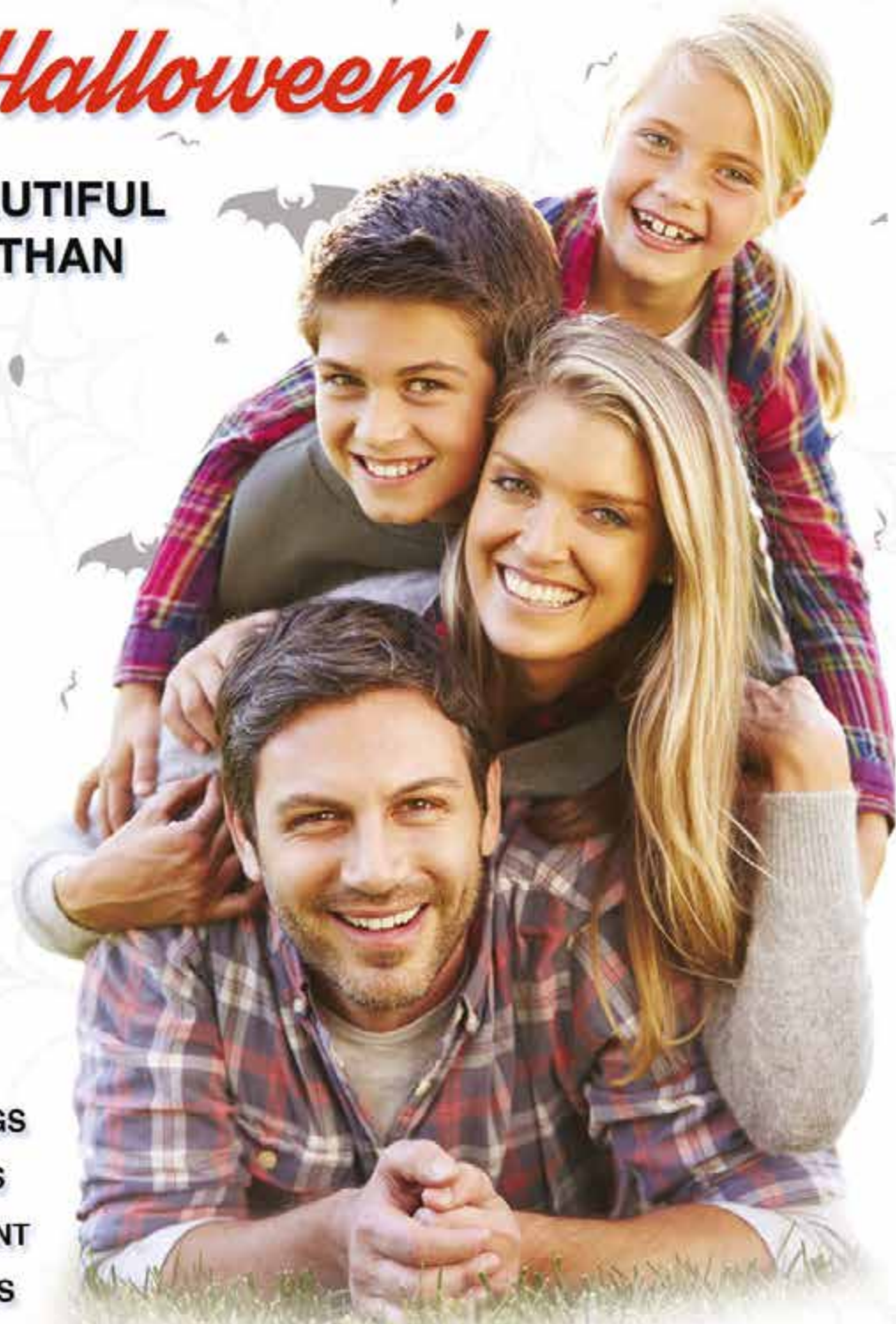
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more now that she is
a \$50 Scavenger
Hunt winner.

Crossword - Sudoku Solutions

1	E	N	A	C	T	6	S	L	A	P	
10	D	A	L	A	I	11	K	I	L	L	
12	I	N	T	A	N	13	G	I	B	L	E
14	T	O	O	15	S	I	D	E	B	A	R
17	W	E	N	18	R	U	S	E			
19	U	N	T	I	L	22	D	A	T	E	D
23	P	E	R	T	24	D	E	L			
25	S	W	I	N	G	A	T	27	O	F	T
30	E	V	E	N	B	E	T	T	E	R	
32	L	I	S	A	33	C	H	I	L	E	
34	L	A	S	T	35	T	E	S	T	Y	

Easy

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

Medium

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

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October 17, 2020

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