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NOVEMBER 2018

The Right Stuff

A field trip inspired
Kayla Butler to
shoot for the stars

Counting Their Blessings

At Home With Kirk
and Wren Tidwell

2018 Holiday Shopping Guide

Kids' Fun Pages



pp. 42 & 44

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ON THE COVER

Mars awaits Kayla Butler's visit.

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EDITOR'S NOTE



Becky

Becky Walker
Managing Editor
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Thinking of Thanksgiving ...

An old photograph from the Thanksgiving I was in third grade shows me and my friend, Michael, sitting on a tree branch together. Gazing at that faded, pink-tinged photo, memories flood my mind. Michael and I were about the same age. We loved playing on that bouncy tree branch. Sometimes it was a bucking bronco — sometimes a see-saw. But on this day, we just sat there.

I think that's the day when Thanksgiving took on a deeper level of meaning for me. Michael's mom was in a terrible car crash only a day or two earlier. It was a miracle she survived. A gas leak at a neighbor's house caused them to leave their windows open when they went to bed that night. Because the windows were open, the dad of that family heard something and woke up. When he investigated, he saw flickering about a mile away. The families who lived closer didn't hear the crash, but he did, and he saved Michael's mom's life that night.

The neighborhood had planned a block-party style Thanksgiving meal under the trees on one family's property. The plan went forward, because Michael's mom wanted it to. The ladies prepared a plate for her, which they later took to her at the hospital. And me? I sat on a tree branch with my buddy, thankful that he still had his mom, and I had mine.

What was your most meaningful Thanksgiving?

P.S. Melissa Rawlins has been on vacation, but she will be back next month!



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THE RIGHT STUFF

— By Virginia Riddle

What's beyond the sun, moon and stars? Mankind has pondered that question throughout time. Exploration of that "final frontier" began in earnest in the 1950s with the space race between the United States and Russia. By 1959, the first seven, now famous, U.S. Mercury astronauts had been introduced to the world by NASA. In April 1961, Soviet cosmonaut, Yuri Gagarin, orbited Earth during the first manned space flight, followed closely the next month by America's first astronaut in space, Alan Shepard. That history, so well portrayed at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, sparked a curiosity in Kayla Butler while she was on a sixth-grade school field trip to the center. "I thought I could be one of the people to go to Mars," she recalled.

Now at age 14 and an eighth-grader at Mansfield ISD's Worley Middle School, Kayla spent a week last summer at Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama, earning the coveted Right Stuff Award for leadership during the Space Academy for ages 12-14. "I want a career in aerospace, so I looked for



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this kind of opportunity," she explained. "I've always been interested in science, and a week after my class went on that field trip, my family went to Florida for spring break. That's when we went to the Kennedy Space Center.

Plans were made, but monies had to be found for the trip and camp fee. "This was her birthday and Christmas from family members, including her grandparents, Johnny and Nancy Wright," Kristie Butler, Kayla's mom, explained. Kristie and Kayla's younger sister, Madison, accompanied her on the drive to Huntsville for the camp, staying in a hotel on the camp's campus, while Kayla stayed in a dorm with other camp trainees.

"There were six girls in one room," Kayla said. "It was a little hard to get ready in the morning. We were up bright and early and went through late evenings with packed daily schedules."

Building rockets, simulated missions to the moon and International Space Station and astronauts as guest lecturers were all part of those packed days. "I met Robert L. 'Hoot' Gibson, a retired astronaut who gave a presentation on the mission program," Kayla said. "He was at our graduation and handed out the certificates."

Her most memorable experience was their simulated mission to Mars, a dream almost coming true for Kayla. "I was the flight director," Kayla recalled. "Our team members all had different jobs. Some members were outside the capsule,





some inside the capsule and some at mission control. It was modeled after the real thing. The missions were hard and a great team-building experience. We had to work as a team at all times. Every trainee is on a team, and we came from everywhere. My other team members were from Georgia, Tennessee and Maine. There were five girls and 12 boys on my team. Us girls have formed a text group called G4 for Jupiter's biggest moon, so we can stay in touch."

Times for other activities and meals varied with each day's schedule. Another activity, the aviation challenge, was interesting. "We got to be in the lake," Kayla recalled. "We got to try all different kinds of simulators, too, such as weightlessness, a spin out on a shuttle to the moon and two g-force simulators that are available to the public. The food was interesting. Every meal was food from different countries." Dehydrated ice cream was also on the menu. "It was really good," Kayla added.

The Right Stuff Award came as a real surprise. "This was my first year at the camp," Kayla said. "I would love to go back, because it was a lot of fun. I learned a lot and made a lot of friends. I feel I demonstrated my leadership skills, but I really thought of our accomplishments as a team effort. I thank God and my family for the experience and the camp for the award. It means a lot for my future."

"When Kayla's award was announced, I was brought to tears," Kristie reflected. "I had seen her interest peak over the information she had from the field trip and our spring break trip. I grew up in the '80s and had wondered if the camp

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was for real. Some friends' nephews had attended and had praised it. We were very impressed. It was so wonderful to hear camp officials talk at graduation about the award recipients' integrity and humble hearts. Kayla's teachers had always said those things about her, and the camp officials saw that in her, too. I'm very proud of Kayla."

Kayla's a native of Mansfield. "This is a great and safe town. The teachers are wonderful, and there are so many opportunities," she said. She and Madison, who wants to become a veterinarian, love playing soccer. Kayla plays oboe in her school's band, is on the student council and enjoys church youth activities. She's creative in art with her drawings and counts math as being a close second to science as her favorite school subject. "My teachers are very encouraging," Kayla added.

The U.S. Space and Rocket Center, sponsor of the Space Camp, issued this press release about The Right Stuff Award: "...named in the spirit of the Tom Wolfe novel of the same name, [it] is given to an outstanding trainee each week in both the Space Camp and Aviation Challenge programs. The Right Stuff Award is given in honor of early space explorers and test pilots who were pioneers in the field of rocketry and jet propulsion. A trainee that earns the Right Stuff Award shows the same perseverance and drive as those brave pioneers in leading their fellow trainees to accomplish their goals and complete their mission." **NOW**



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At Home With Kirk and Wren Tidwell

COUNTING

Their Blessings

— By Melissa Rawlins

People these days have lots of things competing for their attention. Inside Kirk and Wren Tidwell's gates, endless options for fun have kept them and their sons healthfully engaged with each other. Whatever any one of them and their friends want to do, they can do it on the 5 acres — whether fishing, rebuilding engines, jumping on the trampoline, playing pool or basketball, swimming, gardening, petting horses or practicing archery.

Since 2009, the Tidwells have lived in this sprawling one-story built around an indoor-outdoor pool 10 years earlier by the developer of their gated community. The home has been perfect for their two-boy, two-horse family. The whole family has ridden in playdays, pony express races, parades and trail rides. They display their collection of belt buckles in a glass-topped side table near the 12-place dining table. Wren continues to compete in barrel races and playdays.





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Although this year is quite a transition, since sons Troy and Tyler are now living at their respective colleges, the reunion at this year's Thanksgiving in the Tidwells' home will be beautiful. With both sides of the family in attendance, Kirk's mother prepares the dressing and the pies, Wren makes a carrot soufflé and Kirk roasts the turkey. As Wren sets subtle, yet festive decor in key places throughout the home, she maintains the meaning of the holiday with several little wooden signs about thankfulness.



The comfortable shades of Western brown set their home's tone for calm, warmth and growth. Its floors are either deep pile carpet or square ceramic tile — all of it tan. Sand-colored walls throughout, except the tanned leather effect of the accent walls in the guest bathroom and the dining room, provide the perfect neutral background for displaying family portraits and Western art. Twenty-foot ceilings, an exceptional architectural element in the home, give the simple space its only hint of grandeur while pointing to the sky-is-the-limit attitude Kirk and Wren have modeled for their boys.

Kirk, for example, is a project man. It's not for the sake of saving money that he tackles jobs like repainting his golf carts, repairing his engines, rebuilding travel trailers or renovating the irrigation system. "It's fun just to see if I can do it," Kirk said. Inside his gigantic, insulated man cave, he and his sons build things, store parts and supplies, watch movies and practice archery.

Outdoors, Wren treasures her shade garden and tends its unique microcosm

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of multi-level greenery surrounded by slate and mondo grass. She and Kirk both love their pond, where they enjoy sitting in the swing and throwing out handfuls of fish food, or taking a friend out to catch fish. They can observe a sand hill crane, frogs and turtles and almost 30 ducks. "In the winter when the pond freezes over, the area around the spot where the well feeds the pond is like a duck hot tub," Kirk said.

This lifestyle is supported by a family business that Kirk and Wren created together. These two computer programmers own and operate five websites offering recreational homes that are for sale and for rent, inspired in the late '90s when Kirk's grandfather's 456 acres was put on the market. It had a 23-acre lake, where Kirk had spent a lot of time fishing and hunting, and memories of his time on that lake prompted their business idea. "He'd always lamented losing that family property," Wren said, "but the silver lining is we have our livelihood now, and it has been a total blessing to allow us to work from home and give us more time to spend with our kids, attend all their sports events and enjoy life together."

Kirk believes in spending as much quality time as possible with family and friends. "And I like doing it while eating," he said with a grin. "Having a place for a barbecue pit is important. I like to cook and to cook for a lot of people, if I can, and enjoy seeing people visiting and getting in the middle of conversations."

It was while looking for such a convivial scene on the day after Christmas in 1988 that Kirk and a friend visited The Stockyards in Fort Worth. Very few people were in the





White Elephant, but Wren Stewart and the Special Edition Band was on stage. "My buddy said, 'Well man, it's dead.' I said, 'Well, wait a minute.' At one of Wren's breaks, I went and asked for her autograph before she became rich and famous," Kirk said.

"A good line," Wren said.

"The next night, my buddy asked what I wanted to do. I said, 'I don't know what you're doing, but I'm going back to Fort Worth.'"

Kirk and Wren dated two months, and then Kirk gave Wren a birthday gift of scuba diving lessons. After another year of dating, and another year of an engagement to solidify their commitment, they married in June 1991. "We were young and fancy free for about four or five years before we had children," Wren said. "We traveled and got our feet under us job wise. Then it was time to have kids."

The traveling continued, and the whole family scuba dives together. Wood sculptures from artists around the world, who live where the Tidwells have dived, grace the credenza near their home's front door. Wren rarely sings now, although some people might hear her sing solo at churches or with others in a Christmas program. She has recorded duets with two men who have each made tribute albums to Wren's father, Wynn Stewart, a country music singer best known for his hit "It's Such a Pretty World Today."

In her home office, Wren has hung souvenirs from his career. And in the long hallway to Troy's bedroom, Kirk has hung the White Elephant program from the very night he met Wren. Surrounded by family photos, it's a reminder that doing what they love led them to each other. And so, they continue doing what they love, with the people they love. **NOW**

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Mentoring Magic

— By Virginia Riddle

The sound of 60 small children per class learning basketball skills fills Martha Reid Leadership Academy's gym. For Coach Mary Costa and her assistant, Shera Thompson, help has arrived in the form of Mansfield High School's Student Athletic Leadership Council members in what Coach Costa, in her 26th year of teaching, terms "controlled chaos."

"The program was begun last year by MHS Girls Head Basketball Coach Kenni Patton as a project for her leadership class," Coach Costa said. "Once a week, the athletes chosen by their coaches come to our campus. The high school athletes miss a class, and they must be responsible getting here and back to their campus on their own."

"We have fun, and the kids think we're professionals and call us 'coach,'" said Ommar Jackson, a participating MHS senior, who plays varsity football and baseball.

Coach Costa works with Coach Ann Callis, MHS assistant basketball coach and Leadership Council coordinator, by sending her lesson plans so the high school athletes' skills match what is being taught to the younger students. "About 30 high school athletes participated last year," Coach Costa

stated. "They've been taught safety measures, to pay attention and always have their ID."

The athletes are paired with younger students. "We come in and instantly have little pools of kids around us," Ommar said. "I took Coach Patton's class specifically to become a mentor. I've always liked working with kids, and becoming a mentor has me thinking about becoming a teacher/coach."

One of his "regulars in the pool" has been Omar Roberson Jr., a second-grader. "We play games and work on skills," Omar said. "Coach Ommar's always nice and kind, and he has my name spelled with two M's. I liked bowling with him and practicing basketball shots in the gym, and I like standing next to him because he's so cool. He has self-control. He makes even the push-ups fun."

Omar's enthusiasm followed him home as he described his day at school to his parents, Omar Sr. and Christina Roberson. "I thought Coach Ommar was the school's coach, since Omar talked about him so much," Christina recalled.

"Sometimes, Coach Ommar would give me a fist bump and tell me I did a good job," Omar recalled. "On the last day of school last year, I was so excited to see him. I was getting ready to do an obstacle course outside, and Coach Ommar said, 'Go!' I won the race."

Ommar, who admitted there are challenges, such as remembering all the names, has enjoyed coming back to the campus he once attended as a student. "I've liked coming back to this school, and I've liked growing up here," he said. He hopes to attend a Division I college on a baseball scholarship.

Omar loves PE, art, math and science classes. He aspires to be a basketball player or an engineer one day. "I really like Coach Costa!" he stated. "I like that she gives medals for doing a really good job and that she likes running, jogging and exercising with me."

**"We have fun,
and the kids
think we're
professionals and
call us 'coach.'"**

Coach Costa graduated from Upper Iowa University with a social work degree and earned a bachelor's degree in education from The University of Texas at Arlington. She's taught in MISD for 18 years and is a health/PE teacher. "Other schools, both in and out of our district, visited the campus last year to see this program, so, hopefully, it will be on other campuses soon."

Not only do the two schools' coaches have to cooperate to make this mentoring program work, it also takes administration approval and support. Jennifer Young is the MHS principal, while Rebecca Stephens leads the MRLA campus. Rebecca noted, "This program has had a positive impact on our young kids."

"I have to give a shout out to Coach Costa," Ommar said. "I was shy when I first came into this gym, but seeing her work and having so much fun has improved my shyness. Coach Costa brings something special out of all these students, no matter their age." **NOW**

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Bringing the best of the community home

A photograph of Lori Strittmatter, a woman with long brown hair, smiling in her kitchen. She is wearing a white t-shirt, a dark blue cardigan, and a red sash. The kitchen has wooden cabinets, a granite countertop, and a tiled backsplash. A red pot and a silver kettle are on the stove behind her.

CookingNOW

In the Kitchen With

LORI STRITTMATTER

— By Melissa Rawlins

With one grandmother from the Deep South, and one from Sweden, Lori Strittmatter's lessons in cooking extended from everyday meals to holiday feasts. These days, she and her husband, Richard, have growing boys who appreciate Lori's desserts. The foods she serves vary from Mexican to Southern cuisine — depending upon the weather, the family's schedule and even their moods.

Lori came to Mansfield in 2003 for work, and currently serves the city as animal control supervisor. "I love my job and my co-workers and wouldn't want to be anywhere else," she said. Her grown children and younger ones are glad her door is always open. "We eat together as a family every night, and food is always a great way to come together." **NOW**

Hatch Chili Potato Casserole

2 Hatch or Anaheim chilies
4 Tbsp. unsalted butter (divided use)
1 medium yellow onion, diced
2 cloves garlic, minced
2 lbs. russet potatoes, peeled and diced
1 tsp. ground cumin
2 tsp. kosher salt
1 tsp. black pepper
Pinch cayenne pepper
1 cup heavy cream

1. Turn on the broiler; place a rack 5 inches away from the heating element. Line a cast-

iron skillet or baking sheet with foil; place the Hatch chilies in the skillet. Cook under the broiler for 7 minutes; remove the skillet from the oven. Turn over the Hatch chilies; continue to broil them for 7 to 8 more minutes, or until nicely charred.

2. Remove skillet from the oven. Place the chilies in a paper sack or plastic food-storage bag. Close it tight; let the chilies steam for 20 minutes. After the chilies have steamed, remove from the bag; rub off the skin. Remove the stems and seeds from the chilies; dice.

3. Preheat oven to 350 F. In a large cast-iron skillet, set on medium-low heat, melt 2

Tbsp. butter; cook the onion until it starts to brown a bit, about 7 minutes. Add garlic; cook for 30 more seconds. Turn off the heat.

4. Add diced potatoes, chilies, cumin, salt, black pepper and cayenne pepper to the skillet. Mix well with the onions and garlic.

5. Pour the cream over the potatoes; cover the skillet with foil. Bake for 1 hour.

6. Remove the potatoes from the oven; turn on the broiler.

7. Cut the remaining 2 tablespoons of butter into small pieces; dot on top of the cooked potatoes. Place the skillet under the broiler for 2 minutes, or until the butter has melted and potatoes are starting to brown on top.

8. Let the casserole cool for 10 minutes before serving.

Grandma's Chocolate Pie

1 9-inch piecrust, unbaked

Custard:

4 Tbsp. cocoa or 1 1/2 squares baking chocolate

3/4 cups sugar

5 Tbsp. all-purpose flour

1/4 tsp. salt

2 egg yolks, lightly beaten

1 1/2 cups whole milk
1/2 tsp. vanilla
1 Tbsp. butter

Meringue:

2 egg whites
1/8 tsp. kosher salt
4 Tbsp. sugar

1. Preheat oven to 350 F. Poke holes in the piecrust with a fork; bake until it's brown, about 20 minutes.

2. For custard: While the crust bakes, in a saucepan, whisk together cocoa, sugar, flour, salt, yolks and milk. On medium heat, cook while stirring until it bubbles and thickens, about 5 to 10 minutes. If it becomes lumpy, just beat out the lumps. (It will not get any thicker in the oven, so cook until it's as thick as you want it.) Remove the chocolate filling from the heat; stir in vanilla and butter.

3. For meringue: Beat egg whites with salt; when they start to get fluffy, add sugar.

4. Pour the chocolate custard into the baked pie shell; top with meringue. Bake until the peaks on the meringue are lightly browned, about 10 minutes. Serve warm.

Hot Caramel Apple Cider

Serves 4.

4 cups apple cider
1 Tbsp. cinnamon
1/4 cup brown sugar
1 cup caramel vodka (optional)

1. Mix the first 2 ingredients in a large pot. Heat over medium-low heat, stirring occasionally until liquid just begins to steam. Don't overheat, or the alcohol will burn off.

2. While cider is warming up, moisten the rims of your mugs or glasses; dip the rims in brown sugar.

3. If using caramel vodka, add the vodka last to ensure the alcohol doesn't burn off before carefully pouring into prepared mugs.

Homestyle Green Beans

2 lbs. fresh greens beans, cut into 2-inch lengths
3 3/4 cups chicken broth
15 bacon strips, cooked and crumbled
2 Tbsp. and 1 1/2 tsp. seasoned salt

1. In a saucepan, combine beans and broth; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 10 minutes.

2. Add bacon and seasoned salt; simmer 10-15 minutes longer. Serve with a slotted spoon.

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Ken Christopherson holds one of his prized possessions. It's a piece of art — a silver steel circle with a wolf cut out in the middle, along with the inscription, 104th Infantry Timber Wolf Division. He looks at it as he probably has countless times since he got it, pride bursting from within him. "My grandson made this for me for my 95th birthday," he said.

That was earlier this year. Ken remains very active, and he has no plans of slowing down. He's got a lot of memories to share, and he loves doing so. After graduating high school in 1941, Ken planned to enter the ministry. Then, World War II broke out, and he wanted to serve his country. "I told my brother I wanted to go into the Air Force, and he said I should go into medical to be safe," Ken said, adding with a laugh. "Then they put me in the infantry (Army). It was tough going, but it made a man out of a green kid."

While most of Ken's memories are good ones — like many young men barely old enough to drive or vote — the memories of battling someone bent on world domination remain challenging in some ways. But the pride is great knowing he was part of the military in Europe that ultimately helped defeat Adolf Hitler, the man many considered to be the evillest human-being in history. "Hitler made no bones about it. That's what he wanted to do — rule the world," Ken said. "The basic essence of his soul was the concentration camps, and we cleared one out. We had to look for survivors amidst all the dead bodies."

Ken served from 1942-45 as a medic. He remembers vividly where he was on the day Germany surrendered. He and his unit were on the banks of the Elde River in northern Germany. On the other side, was a group of Russian soldiers. That was a time when the United States and Russia were on the same side. "Our regiment was one of the first to make contact man-to-man with the Russians. We may have been the first," he said. "Actually, it was man-to-woman. One of our scouts met with a Russian woman soldier."



LIVES

— By Rick Mauch

"A lot has happened with our stance in the world since then. I think a World War now would be a world-ending war."

Ken's family has a long military history. He had two uncles who served in World War I, one in the Army, one in the Navy. His younger brother served in the Philippines. He's had cousins who served and two sons who served in the Air Force during Vietnam (though neither overseas). Recently, his granddaughter was deployed in the Air Force. And Ken and his wife, Trini's, youngest son, Dario, served in the Navy during the Gulf War. "We lost him to cancer a few years later after he had finished his education and entered the ministry in League City, Texas," Ken said.

His decision to become a medic would alter the course of Ken's entire life.

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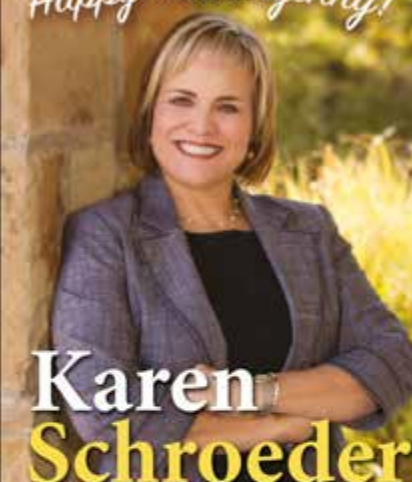
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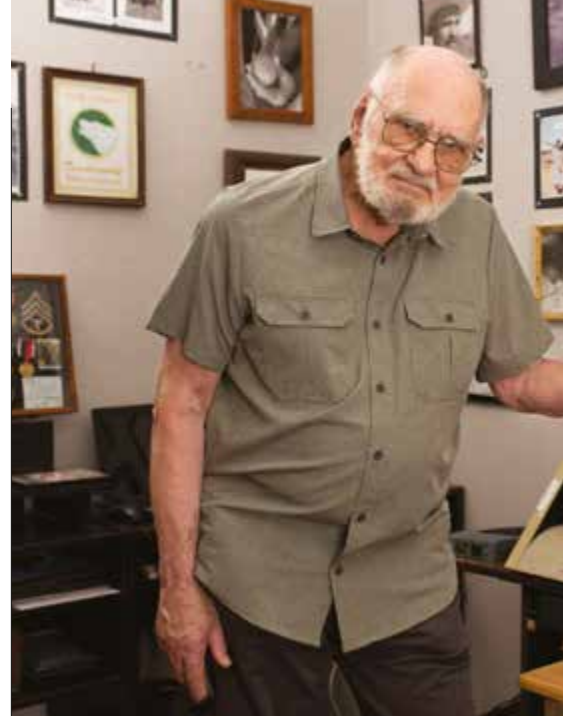
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From 1950-65, he worked in Mexico, using his medic skills. There, he met Trini, and they have been married for 53 years. "Before I went into the military, my goal was to do ministry somewhere in the world," he said. "After I got out, one day I got in my car, went to Mexico and did some exploring." Not long after, he moved to Mexico. "That's been the greatest time of my life, pioneering, building churches, helping people. I realized going into the infantry prepared me for the mission field. We built a medical practice back in the middle of nowhere."

Ken returned to the United States with Trini for just over three decades. His career here included being an





entrepreneur, a homebuilder and teaching at a vocational school in Houston for 20 years. When he retired in 1996, he and Trini returned to Mexico, where they lived and once again performed medical and missionary work for nearly two more decades. "It's home. I'm a Mexican citizen. Trini also has dual citizenship," Ken said.

"I've delivered 273 kids," said Trini, who is a registered nurse and obstetrician in Mexico. "It's so beautiful. We went back, and the first baby I delivered is now a grandparent. They call me Mama Trini."

Ken never got a medical license. He simply knows a lot about emergency medicine, thanks largely to his days in the military.

Ken and Trini moved back to the United States for good in 2015, at the request of their children. "Our kids were concerned with us being down there at our age, and our medical insurance is here in the U.S., so we were traveling a lot to see doctors," he said. "Plus, there's all the unrest in Mexico, and they were concerned about that."

They remain busy, however. For example, Ken makes custom wooden pens, and Trini creates beaded jewelry. "I've got four-and-a-half years to reach my goal of living to at least 100," Ken said. "My sister made it. When I renewed my passport a couple years ago, the guy asked me if I wanted six or 10 years. I looked at him and said, 'Ten, of course.'" **NOW**



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THE LOCAL TABLE

One cannot think well, love well, sleep well, if one has not dined well.

- Virginia Woolf



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Gift
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- Rice Dishes
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- Children's Menu

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THE LOCAL TABLE

One cannot think well, love well, sleep well, if one has not dined well.

- Virginia Wolff



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FRI: All-You-Can-EAT
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AutoDuco

— By Melissa Rawlins

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The sky is the limit for the staff of AutoDuco, a fully functioning mechanics shop just east of Mansfield. The phoenix, a mythological bird known for rising out of ashes, flies with power out of AutoDuco's logos.

Into their name, the owners designed *duco*, the Latin word for lead. Chad McCarty, James Nevels and Rogelio Ornelas — all three former educators and administrators in Fort Worth ISD — have embarked on a mission to give hope and a future to young people, while fulfilling a wide variety of customers' needs for reliable transportation.

AutoDuco's licensed dealers, technicians and financiers buy, fix and sell vehicles. The company's mission is providing automotive apprenticeships to today's youth for America's future. The student-employees at AutoDuco learn from licensed mechanics and technicians to maintain, as well as rebuild, vehicles of every style.

Right now, they're working with Lead Fabricator Bill Cook to put together a 1976 C-10 Chevrolet pickup truck. "AutoDuco is able to provide the highest quality frame-up restoration and custom builds," Chad said, explaining the classic car division's logo contains the phoenix rising from a mountain with the motto: Our Focus Is On You. "The phoenix is telling you that you can recreate yourself!"

Parents whose kids want help getting certifications for stable employment in the automotive industry have been able to research AutoDuco's action plan on the company website. There it is explained, for instance, that AutoDuco partners with a registered nonprofit to provide students working in AutoDuco with uniforms and study materials.

"You have to complete your Penn Foster homeschooling in order to continue working here. And we don't pay you for the hours you invest in your schooling," Roger said.

"We've cut out the middleman, so you can get your education here, your work experience and your certification," James explained. "We created a system for young kids to have a career and skills they can teach their kids and pass it on. We're trying to get back to the basics of having something tangible you can physically do and give back to your family."

"AUTODUCO IS ABLE TO PROVIDE THE HIGHEST QUALITY FRAME-UP RESTORATION AND CUSTOM BUILDS."

And customers receive solid technical maintenance and restoration of their cars, trucks or motorcycles. Customer service is high priority at AutoDuco, where apprentices learn soft skills vital to success in business.

Chad designed AutoDuco's website for customers, knowing they would benefit from being able to set appointments online, as well as search for the car of their dreams. AutoDuco specializes in buying quality vehicles at auction, then restoring them to high-quality status before selling them with warranties to people throughout the Metroplex. "When we take apprentices to the auction," Roger explained, "they get to see how we get a better quality of vehicle to sell to our customers."

Back at the shop, James teaches them how AutoDuco helps people who can't qualify for a car loan by making the payments low enough to keep them in the vehicle. "Having time during each day to sit around and talk with the employees and apprentices is key in this company," Chad said.

Operating according to traditional family values, AutoDuco is achieving its goal of being the kind of mechanical shop from which large corporations recruit top-notch technicians. So, the next time you need to either fix or purchase a vehicle, call AutoDuco. **NOW**



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www.AutoDucoShop.com     AutoDucoShop

10% OFF Get 10% discount on any needed service, repair or maintenance under \$500.

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James, Roger and Chad - AutoDuco's Owners

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Photo by Mark P. Starrett.



Photo by Mark P. Starrett.



Photo by Mark P. Starrett.

TravelNOW

Fabulous Greek Holiday

— By Mark P. Starrett

Combined, the words “Athens” and “Greece” conjure up visions of ancient ruins and wall-to-wall tourists — all of them frantically trying to take selfie pictures in front of temples of the gods. Scores more scour the Plaka, a neighborhood that sits in the shadow of the Acropolis, looking for bargains and trinkets for friends and relatives at home. A relaxed vacation it is not.

If you really want to soak up true Greek sun, sand and life, then look no further than Voula, Greece, a southern suburb only 10 miles from Athens’ center city, but a million miles away from the frantic pace. You can reach Voula easily by hailing a taxi or using the Beats App from Athens International Airport. The 20- to 30-minute ride is enjoyable.

The picturesque town’s charm will engulf you soon after arriving. Voula is separated by Parko Ethnikis Antistaseos, a green space with a playground for children to run and plenty of shady trees to help fight the sun’s rays. The park runs southwest from Iridos Street to the Saronic Gulf.

Close to the park is the town center, a place where Greek gentlemen and women sit in the early morning, drinking coffee, enjoying a smoke and having fun conversation with their friends. Small children run around, playing hide-and-seek, riding skateboards or playfully kicking a soccer ball around.

The town center has many wonderful restaurants. They all

serve authentic Greek food, such as gyros, moussaka, and kebab. Away from the trappings of Athens, the cost of the meal is very reasonable.

The Greek people are very gregarious and friendly. It is common for a Greek to see a child and call out “*ὄμορφο παιδί*” — beautiful child. The older Greeks love to ask if they can kiss your child on the head and hold their hands.

Voula resides on the coast and looks out over the Saronic Gulf. The views of the water are relaxing and refreshing as you stroll along the seawall. Any day, you can catch Greeks sunning themselves or enjoying the cool water at the many secluded beaches dotting the shoreline.

Kavouri Beach is a top location for family members due to the safe water and the open space of the beach. There are plenty of parking spaces around the coast, but it can get overcrowded on the weekends. Kavouri Beach is easily accessible via public buses, a car or a nice, moderate walk. The beach is an excellent choice for swimming, sunbathing or playing beach games, such as volleyball. It has nice facilities and plenty of cafés located right by the sea.

In the evening, locals and tourists alike head for Notos Café, an elegant, airy seaside restaurant serving modern and classic entrees. Enjoy cocktails from the bar as you sit and gaze out over the open water and reminisce on your fabulous Greek holiday. **NOW**

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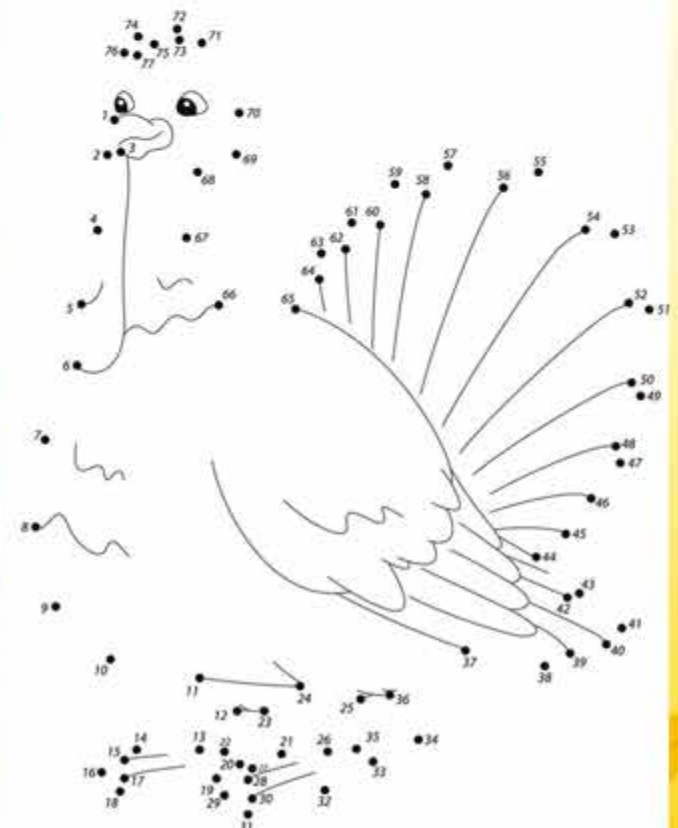
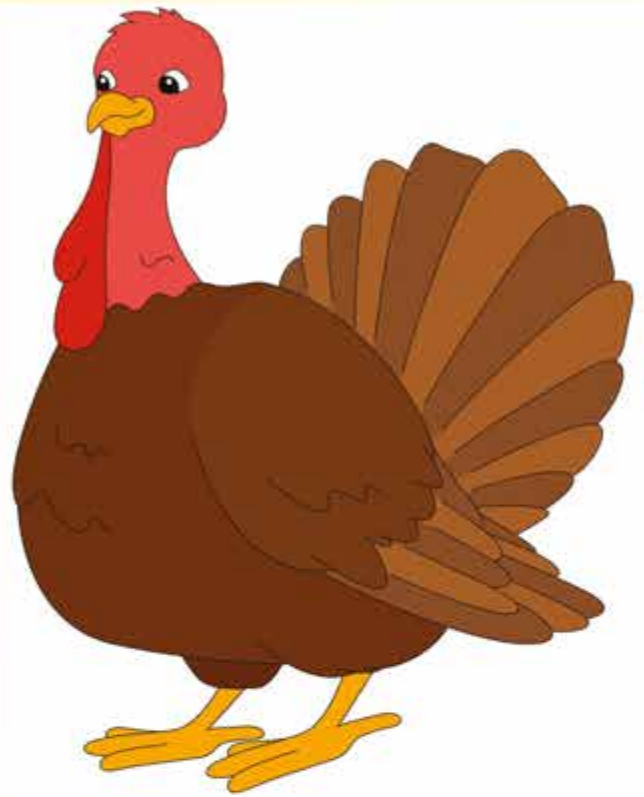
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Kids' Fun Pages

Word Search of Fruits

QPMOUUEPEARRRHA
CYURPNAOEGRAPED
UBBATONOHYOCPAD
EOANOLLECOPLUMC
RCNGLEEVYTMAAOJ
PVAEEMMLLMENUGA
RANAMPOTOMATOCO
EAAGOMNICYMANGOE
LANPPAETADLTOAQ
PSTRAWBERRYEREL
PRACYBCHERRYMAA
AUMAATAUQMUKOIT
AETANARGEMOPRLE
AVAUGSTUNOCOCER
AKEJVHSUWYFNGWI



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Friday 8 AM to 3 PM • Saturday 9 AM to 12 PM

Kids' Fun Pages

Farm Animals



MYSTERIOUS WORD: _____

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

AMERICAN
APPLES
AUTUMN
BIRD
BREAD
CORN
DINNER
FOOD
GRAPE
HAPPY
HARVEST
HOLIDAY
LEAF
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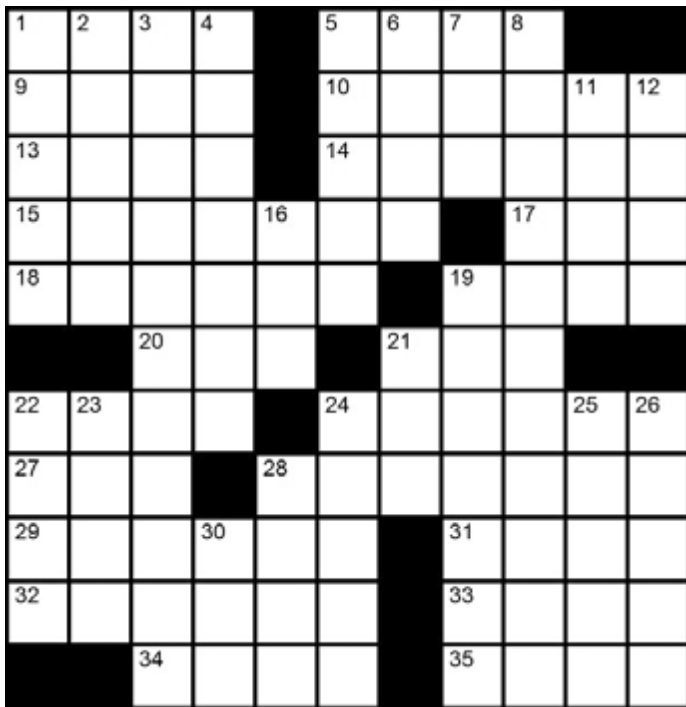
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Crossword Puzzle



Crosswordsite.com Ltd

Across

- 1 Finn's conveyance
- 5 Rush job letters
- 9 It replaced the franc
- 10 Make over
- 13 Image of a deity
- 14 Kind of recording
- 15 Maidenhair trees
- 17 Confucians' path
- 18 Fanciful idea
- 19 Plug
- 20 Wager
- 21 Photo, briefly
- 22 Astound
- 24 Operated by hand
- 27 Boston Bruins great
- 28 Graceful antelope
- 29 Official count
- 31 Narrative of heroic exploits
- 32 Stick to
- 33 Ollie's mate
- 34 Some butters
- 35 Long fish

Down

- 1 Prevail
- 2 Pertaining to sound reproduction
- 3 Prime cooking spot
- 4 "The Hobbit" author
- 5 Burning of another's property
- 6 Hardens
- 7 Angelus prayer
- 8 Tiny piece of atmospheric pollutant
- 11 Coarsely ground foodstuff
- 12 Table-top game
- 16 Obtained
- 19 Smoothness
- 21 La --- (South American capital)
- 22 Short stocking
- 23 Woody plant
- 24 Sail poles
- 25 Like pond scum
- 26 Tilts or slants
- 28 Southernmost Mariana island
- 30 Mineral spring

Solutions on page 49

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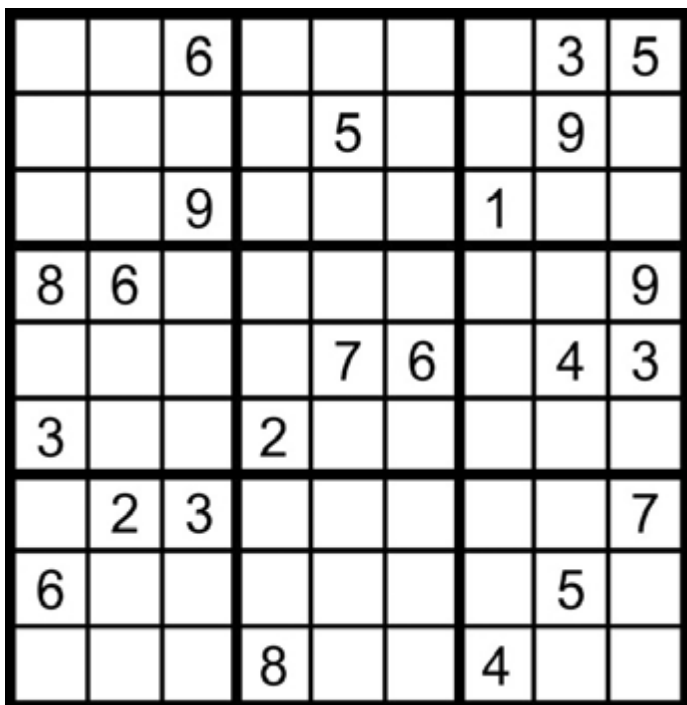
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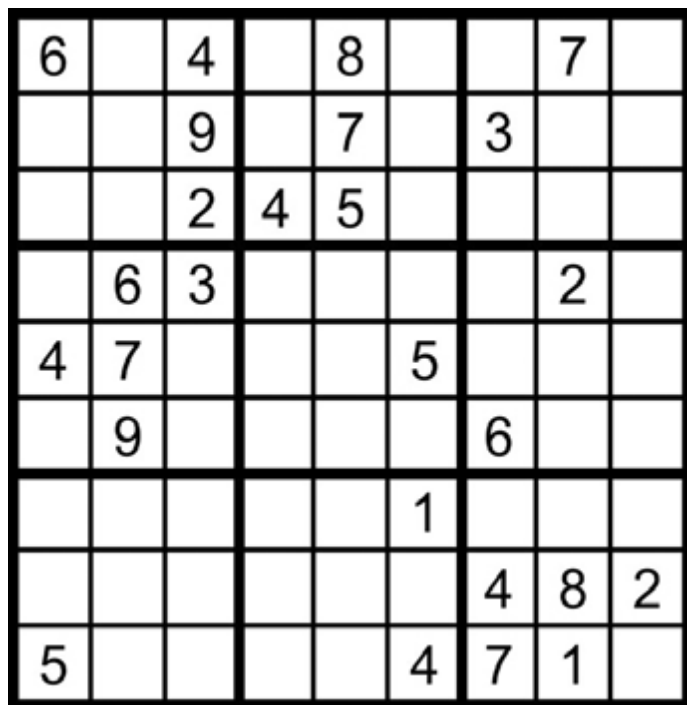
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Sudoku Puzzle

Easy




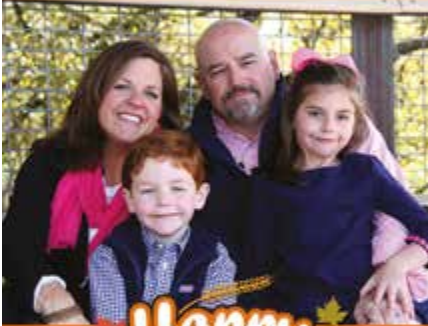
Medium




CrosswordSite.com Ltd

Solutions on page 49


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Zoomed In: Shelley Myers and Melisa Perez

By Melissa Rawlins

Gratitude ruled the end of an exciting luncheon celebrating the opening of the StarCenter in Mansfield. Dallas Stars Hockey Club Programs Manager Shelley Myers pitched in to help dismantle the fruit tower created by Melisa Perez, owner of MaryLou's, and expressed her appreciation for the feast.

"Thank you," Melisa said. "It's always great for us to be able to do business with a company that looks to the small business first."

"We've gotten nothing but compliments for the food, and for staying local," Shelley said, as she carefully removed fresh strawberries, grapes and pineapple to a Tupperware container. "I manage all youth hockey for all StarCenters. It was important to us to serve fruits and veggies, due to the fact that we are an athletic center."



To celebrate Joe Adam's successful run, his wife, Jordan Adams, brings their son, Sam, and puppy, Maya, out to meet him at the finish line.



Kayla, Gus and Angela know that yoga at Sunshine Yoga Shack is not only great for your physical and mental health, but it also improves your balance, strength and coordination.



Lexi Greer and Madison Roberts each receive a game ball while watching the Texas Rangers.



MansfieldNOW ad rep Keri Roberson gives Meagan Sutton her family pack of the State Fair of Texas tickets she won.

Crossword - Sudoku Solutions

1	R	2	A	3	F	4	T	5	A	6	S	7	A	8	P
9	E	U	R	O				10	R	E	V	A	M	P	
13	I	D	O	L				14	S	T	E	R	E	O	
15	G	I	N	K	16	G	O	S				17	T	A	O
18	N	O	T	I	O	N			19	F	I	L	L		
			20	B	E	T			21	P	I	C			
22	S	T	U	N				24	M	A	N	U	A	L	
27	O	R	R			28	G	A	Z	E	L	L	E		
29	C	E	N	S	U	S					31	S	A	G	A
32	K	E	E	P	A	T					33	S	T	A	N
			34	R	A	M	S				35	E	E	L	S

Easy

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

Medium

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

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Calendar

November

2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Kiwanis Club of Mansfield meeting: 6:45-8:00 a.m., Mansfield Methodist Hospital Conference Rooms A&B, First Floor. Contact Sharon Baker, (817) 994-2497.

3

Church Sound Tech Seminar: 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Living Church, 2271 Matlock Rd. Free. AV Genius teaches how to make your sound system work right.



5, 12, 19, 26

Sunrise Toastmasters Club: 7:00 -8:00 a.m., Methodist Mansfield Hospital, Canedy Community Room, 2700 E. Broad St. Become the speaker and leader you want to be. kevinorsak@mhd.com.

7, 21

Mansfield Lions Club meeting: Noon-1:00 p.m., Mansfield Methodist Hospital, 2nd Floor Conference Room, 2700 E. Broad St. Service-minded citizens wishing to learn more about the Mansfield Lions Club mission are welcome to contact Nicole Simmons, (817) 453-1170.

8

Business Unplugged: 5:00-7:00 p.m., Dirty Job Brewing, 117 N. Main St. Ozuna Fine Jewelry sponsors this mixer is designed for sophisticated individuals with like minds who will all unplug from their Social Networks to get some Face to Face Networking done. There

will be food, drinks and music. RSVP to Mansfield Area Chamber of Commerce, (817) 473-0507.

Taste of Mansfield: 5:00-8:00 p.m., 901 Broad St. \$35. Come out and sample local restaurants, food trucks and gourmet markets.

8 — 10

Household Hazardous Waste Collection: **Thursday** and **Friday**, 3:00-7:00 p.m.; **Saturday**, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Mansfield Environmental Collection Center, 616 S. Wisteria. Bring your paint, aerosol cans, electronics and recyclables along with proof of Mansfield residency. A list of accepted items is at www.mansfieldtx.gov/ecc. Contact David Macias, (817) 276-4239.

10

Mansfield Veterans Day Parade: 10:00 a.m., Mansfield City Hall, 1200 E Broad St. Parade ends at R.L. Anderson Stadium. Contact (817) 276-4200.



LyondellBasell's Employees Cook to Honor Veterans: 6:00 p.m., American Legion Post 624, 2951 FM 917. Come out for pork ribs, sausage, chicken and all the sides and deserts.

A Night of Stand-Up: 7:30 p.m., Farr Best Theater, 109. N. Main St. Comedians will have you rolling in the aisles. Concessions available for purchase. Tickets and information www.farrbesttheater.com or (817) 804-5768.

12

Veteran's Day concert: 7:00 pm., Mansfield ISD Center for the Performing Arts. Free and open to the public. For information, contact Reginal Wright, Mansfield High School Choir Director reginalwright@misdmail.org.

13

Come Grow with Us: 6:00-8:00 p.m., Chris Burkett Service Center, 620 Wisteria St. Mansfield Garden Club provides refreshments and program. For information, contact Tammie Pavese at (817) 453-5289.



15

Quilling Cards: Noon-1:30 p.m., Mansfield Public Library. Anyone over 18 wondering how to create beautiful designs with paper is welcome to register for this free class at www.morelibrary.org or contact Faria Matin, Adult Services Librarian, at faria.matin@mansfield-tx.gov or (817) 728-3690.

30

Hometown Holidays: 5:00-9:00 p.m., Mansfield City Hall, 1200 E. Broad St. Fireworks. Tree lighting. Santa Claus. Free. (817) 726-4200.



December

1

Hometown Holidays Parade: 1:00 p.m., Historic Downtown Mansfield. Free, live theater performance by Music Place Mansfield prior to the parade. (817) 728-3680.

Crowder Special Performance: 8:00-11:00 p.m., Mansfield Performing Arts Center, 1110 W. Debbie Ln. Mansfield ISD Choir performing. Call for tickets.



2

Holiday Home Tour: 1:00-5:00 p.m., Mansfield. Five or six various homes in and around Mansfield, as the final day of the City of Mansfield's Home for the Holidays events. Karen Payton (817) 453-2111 or karen.payton@charter.net



Ongoing:

Mondays — Fridays
Mission Market: By Appointment, 777 N. Walnut Creek Dr. To meet dietary

needs, families may choose their own grocery & toiletry items. Call to make an appointment to shop: (817) 473-6650.

Mondays

WPT Poker Tournament: 6:30 and 9:00 p.m., Fat Daddy's Sports and Spirits Café, 781 W. Debbie Ln. Come out and enjoy happy hour specials and a few rounds of poker during one of two sessions. For more information, follow Fat Daddy's on Twitter at @fatdaddyslive or visit www.fatdaddyslive.com.

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays
The Fit Club: 9:30-11:00 a.m., Walnut Ridge Baptist Church. Relieve stress and maintain balance with senior adults, ages 55+, focusing on cardiovascular endurance, strength, balance and flexibility (yoga). Call Kelly Myers, (512) 963-3440.

Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your event details to melissa.rawlins@nowmagazines.com.



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Is my portfolio “Risky?”

Sometimes investors hear the word “risk” and might think, *I can lose my money*. The word can sound negative. Every investment has some inherent risk. When we look at different types of risk in terms of investing, risk begins to be a little more manageable. Investors need to understand the different types of risk. Remember, strategic investing doesn’t mean “taking chances” so much as “making decisions.” Time, asset allocation and diversification may be some of the most effective strategies you can use to help manage investment risk. However, there are no guarantees against investment loss.

Inflation Risk — Inflation can impact future purchasing power. If your savings and investments are failing to outpace inflation, you might consider investing in growth-oriented alternatives such as stocks, stock mutual funds, variable annuities or other vehicles.

Interest Rate Risk — Bonds and other fixed-income investments tend to be sensitive to changes in interest rates. When interest rates rise, the value of these investments falls. A bond paying 2 percent is less valuable than a bond paying 4 percent. Of course, the opposite is also true. When interest rates fall, existing bonds increase in value.

Economic Risk — A downturn in the economy may affect the earnings of firms and individuals. As the economy slows, sometimes equity values can lose value. While some industries and companies adjust to downturns in the economy very well, others — particularly large industrial firms — may take longer to react.

Market Risk — Market downturns tend to negatively impact most securities. As the market recovers, affected securities will recover at rates more closely related to their fundamental strength. Market risk affects almost all types of investments, including stocks, bonds, real estate and others. Historically, long-term investing has been a way to help minimize the effects of market risk.

Specific Risk — Events may occur that only affect a specific company or industry. If a company executive resigns, the value of the company stock may be impacted. Trying to evaluate and predict specific risk is almost impossible. Diversification in your portfolio may help manage the effects of specific risks. **NOW**

There is no guarantee that a diversified portfolio will enhance overall returns or outperform a non-diversified portfolio. Diversification does not protect against market risk. Please consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. The prospectus, which contains this and other information about the investment company, can be obtained from your financial professional. Be sure to read the prospectus carefully before deciding whether to invest.

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Wrinkle-Free Wednesday

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