# Ennis Now Magazine

E

# Winding Up Kade Bragg

earns a spot on the Aggie roster

# In the Remembering

Pat Youngblood spent 52 years keeping pets looking their best



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2019 Bluebonnet Festival Shopping Guide

In the Kitchen With Nick and Judy Wensowitch

Also inside: Kids' Fun Pages Crossword/Sudoku Featured Business: Family Care Clinic

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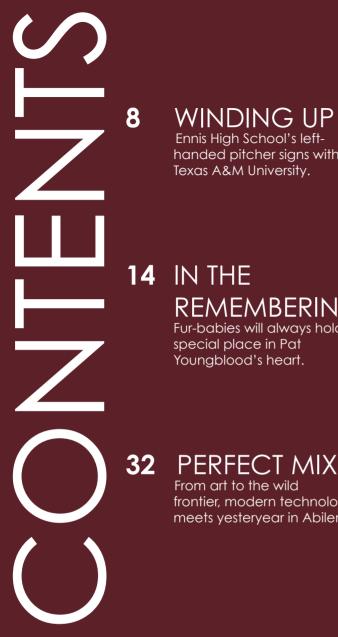
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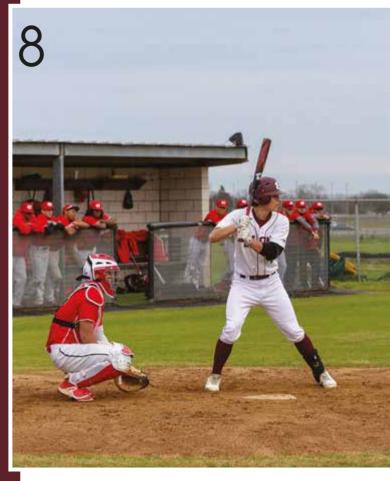
## WINDING UP

handed pitcher signs with Texas A&M University.

# REMEMBERING Fur-babies will always hold a

special place in Pat Youngblood's heart.

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**18** BusinessNOW **26** Around TownNOW 28 CookingNOW

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#### ON THE COVER

Kade Bragg is set to deliver a warm up pitch.

Photo by Bill Smith.

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# **EDITOR'S NOTE**

#### Spring is here!

Easter Sunday will arrive rather late this year — not until April 21. Sometimes, it comes as early as March. Although it is a Christian holiday, the date was originally related to the Jewish Passover. Today, the date is established each year as the first Sunday after a full moon follows the first of spring. The latest it has occurred is April 25.

As I write today, the weather is cold and rainy, with freezing temperatures forecast for the next couple of days. Though the pear trees have already blossomed, and some thoughts have turned to putting the spring garden in, we often speak of "one more cold snap" before Easter. I am hoping there is not another one following this one!

Easter is for me the most meaningful of Christian holidays, and as it approaches this month, I thought of the quintessential Easter song, "In Your Easter Bonnet." As we practiced that song in music class in the fifth grade, I recall our music teacher, Ms. Judie Goodwin, telling us that one of the words in the song, a "rotogravure," was a magazine section of the newspaper that featured photographs of the local citizenry at various events.

The "rotogravure" for *EnnisNOW Magazine* is our Around Town section. We hope that when one of our photographers catches you just being yourself, perhaps on Easter Sunday, you will look forward to the next issue of our magazine and want to share it with others!

Tennyson wrote, "In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love." I love the spring, and I love the thought of seeing your picture in *EnnisNOW Magazine*.

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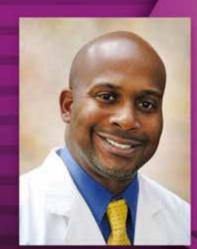
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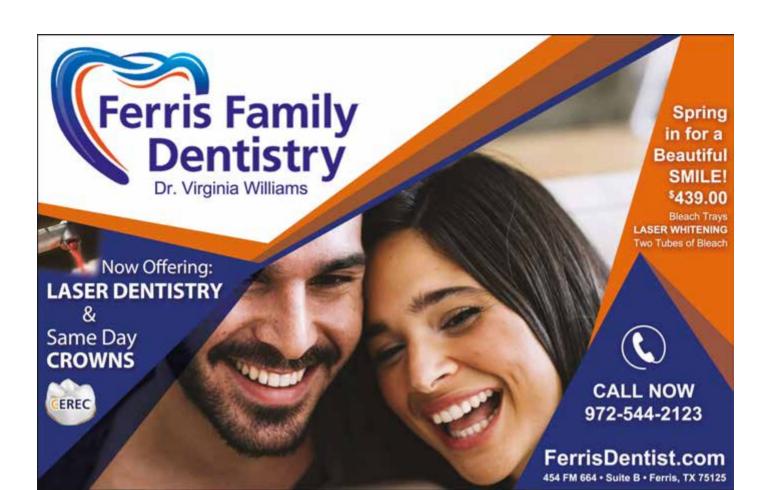


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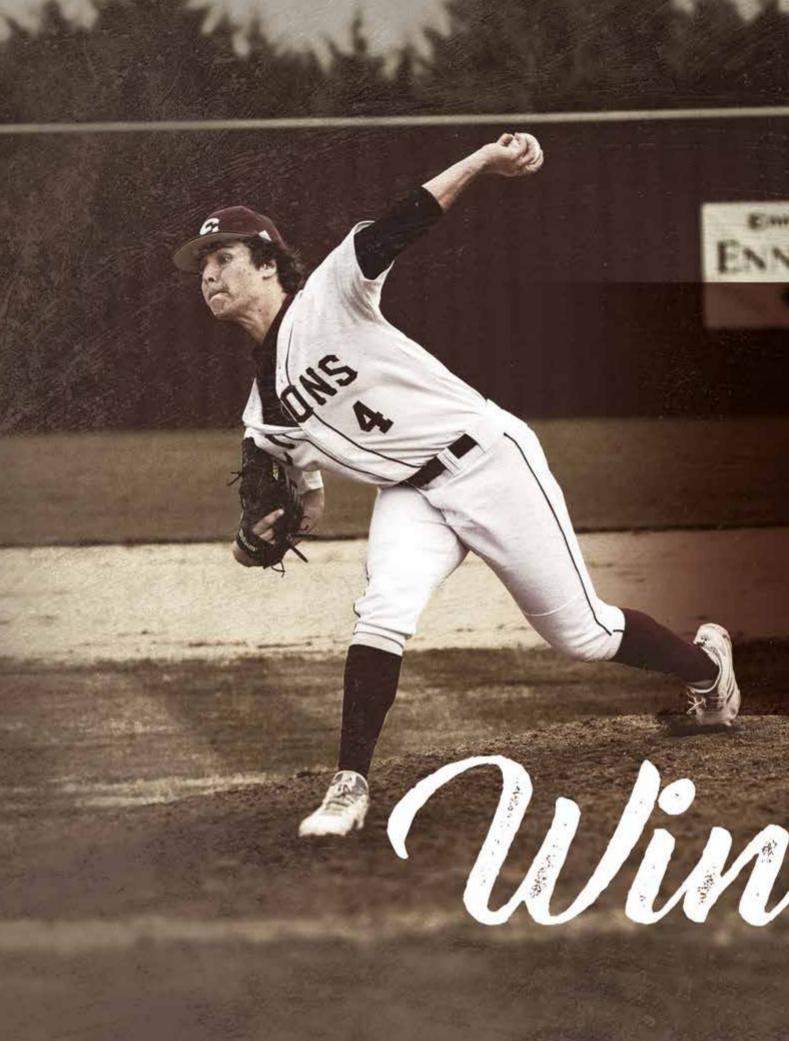
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Firm footing, flexibility and focus are valuable traits to have in any sport. For Ennis High School senior baseball pitcher, Kade Bragg, they are the bedrock of success. The left-handed pitcher recently signed a letter of intent to play for Texas A&M University, the culmination of many years of hard work and sacrifice by Kade, his family and a community of coaches and friends Kade is quick to acknowledge.

"Everybody has put in their time and effort to help me, starting with them [his parents]. I mean, they paid for everything to help me get better — lessons, teams, just putting me out there — and, of course, great coaches along the way," Kade said.

The first of Kade's "great coaches," his father, Kelly, who jokingly refers to himself as "first-team all-district chauffer," is simultaneously one of Kade's biggest fans (he shares that title with the rest of the Bragg family) and Kade's most severe critic. In games where Kade has not performed well, Kelly has been the first to tell him so. "It's not OK to do badly. You're not here to get a participation ribbon," Kelly said plainly, to which Kade nodded.

"He's hard on me, but I'd rather he do that than to sugarcoat it," Kade said.

Kade's mother, Laura, confirmed the family philosophy. "We would rather be honest with our children. We're not going to put him up on some pedestal," she said. "Some days he'll come home and say, 'Well, what did you think?' and we'll tell him, 'Hey, you just didn't have it today.""

That honesty has helped shape Kade into the well-grounded competitor he is. Kade credits his firm footing on and off the mound to "my family, for sure, and for sure my oldest brother, Kory. I know if I do anything wrong, my brother is going to be right there," Kade said.

Kory, who is 12 years Kade's senior, still attends all of Kade's games and never hesitates to call him out on his performance. "If he doesn't do something right, Kory will call him after the game and say, 'Hey, what were you thinking?" Laura said.

The youngest of five siblings in a family self-described as "very competitive," Kade literally can't remember a time in life without baseball. At just 3 weeks old, he attended his brother's state baseball tournament, and there are pictures of him at a mere 18

By Sally Fuller





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WWW.bristolhospice.com Follow us Facebook.com/Bristol-Hospice-Pathways months old running the bases barefoot. Many years later, Kade's passion for the game hasn't waned. "It's just something you can't get over, just the love of the game, the fact that you're out there with your friends, having fun," he said.

Kade's genuine love of playing baseball is what his sister, Kennedy, said makes watching his games so enjoyable. "Even though it's serious, he still knows how to have fun when he's out there. He's not in it for this or that. He's in it because he wants to play the game," Kennedy shared.

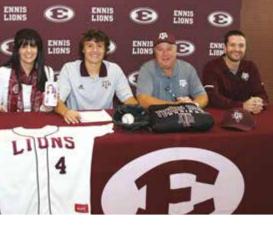
Kade has a great curve ball, and his fastball can hit 90 mph, but his greatest strength, according to his dad, is his adaptability. "You're not going to have every pitch at every game. You might get out there, and it's, 'I don't have my slider today. I'm going to have to adapt and use my changeup or fastball.' You have to know what you have and what you don't," Kelly said. "It's about maturity on the mound," he added. "Kade has that."

While some contend baseball is a slow-moving game, to those who know the game best, it is not. The mental discipline of the game is what keeps it interesting and where Laura said he excels. "Baseball is such a mental game. As the pitcher, you can't show your emotions. If it doesn't go your way and you wear your emotions on you, then the batter has an advantage against you," she said.

Keeping his "pitcher face" on the mound takes the type of concentration most are unable to summon and is another reason Kade has risen to the







level of play that has earned him a place in the Southeastern Conference. "I just really go into a different state of mind where it's just the catcher and me. I don't hear anything when I'm pitching. It's just throwing the ball and hitting the glove," Kade said.

Kade learned that Texas A&M was interested in him when he was a sophomore. It was at that moment, in a car ride home from a tournament, that he made his decision that no matter who else "threw their hat in the ring" he would sign with A&M. "That's pretty much major league baseball but for the collegiate," Kade said of the opportunity to play in the SEC.

One of Kade's former coaches, Bob Macy, called Kade an "old-school leader." He said one thing that makes him a great ball player is that "Kade is extremely competitive — hates losing. He is the kind of person that hates losing more than he loves to win."

"His competitive drive is as high as anyone I have ever known," echoed Coach Chris Lewis, who coaches Kade at EHS and is also a longtime family friend. Chris remembered a younger Kade as someone whose "presence on the mound" made him stand out even more than the fact that he was lefthanded. "He knew exactly what pitch to throw. He knew how to get people out. He knew how to win," Chris said.

Even amid the excitement of playing at such a high level, Kade remains grounded. His focus stays true. "I'm going to go there [A&M] and do what I need to do. The first thing is getting my degree," he said. Kade plans to pursue a degree in wildlife management and later work on a game ranch after college "if baseball doesn't work out." Everyone who knows Kade, who has watched him play and witnessed his competitive spirit, believes some wildlife will probably have to manage without him. Root Canals · Cleaning & Prevention · Cosmetic Dentistry Dental Implants · Dentures & Partial Dentures · Fillings & Crowns · Oral Surgery





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# – By Sandra Strong REPUBLIC BERING

What can a person do with an ironing board, scissors and a pair of clippers? Pat Youngblood built a well-known business. "I remember my tools of the grooming trade well," Pat said. "I'd bathe them in my sink and dry them with a towel and a personal hair dryer."

This venture, that lasted 52 years, started out of necessity. The groomer Pat had for her fur-babies closed her doors, leaving Pat with a dilemma. "I could drive out of town to have my three babies groomed or groom them myself," she explained. She obviously chose the latter, and people all over the county are sure glad she did.

Ennis was a much smaller town back in 1966. Once word got around that Pat was grooming poodles, her small in-home business, Pat's Poodle Parlor, moved into the garage, giving her space — the space she needed to do what she quickly realized was her calling. "I was so excited," she remembered with a smile that lights the room. "I no longer had to vacuum on a nightly basis."

As the business continued to flourish, Pat had to make one last move to the building on West Ennis Avenue, the same building she worked in for 50 years, and also the same building where she retired this past December, just days after Christmas. "I rented the building for one year," she stated, "and then bought it from then Judge Adams in 1968."

Soon after she settled into her new location, Pat realized something else. She was no longer exclusively grooming poodles. "I was grooming just about every pet imaginable, from dogs and cats to rabbits and goats," she laughed. "I knew it was time for a name change because I wasn't able to turn anyone away." Pat's Pet Parlor was born, and like they say, the rest is now history.

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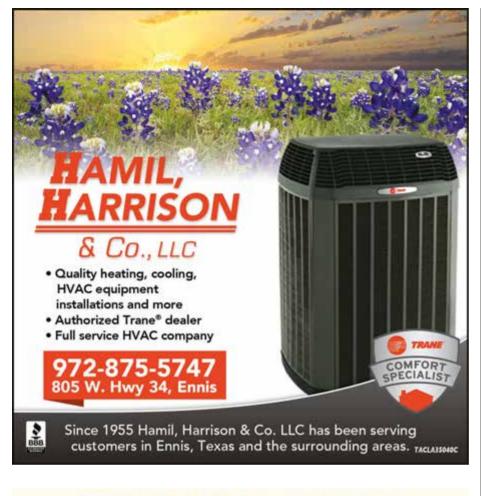




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This rich history allows Pat to reminisce about all the pets and people she met and grew to love along the way. There were so many, but she was able to name a few. Randy Owens would bring his dog, Crackers, to be groomed on a weekly basis. "She would go crazy, begging to get out of the crate," Pat confessed. "When Randy would come pick Crackers up, she would jump all over him, and he would wear white dog hair for the rest of the day." She also remembers Jerry and Martha Cook, longtime customers who would drop Charlie off every other week for his bath and clip. "Charlie would smile at them when they came to retrieve him," she added.

These pets that came on a regular basis were the easiest for Pat to work with. They soon became used to her, making the trip to the pet parlor a little less stressful for the pet. The most difficult part of the 52 years was Pat's fear of not pleasing her customers. "I kept an index card on every single dog and cat I'd ever had the pleasure of working on," she stated. "They were handwritten and personal." The index cards told her what she needed to do for each dog and cat. She never had to ask the pet owners, unless they wanted to make a change. And if a change was requested, Pat made it on the index card.

Pat also loved sending cards to her customers. She sent thank-you cards for all different reasons, including referrals and to longtime customers. But the card that most customers still cherish is the one she'd send when a pet passed. "When a customer lost a dog or cat, the staff and I always signed a sympathy card and mailed it to the customer. Then their pet's index card would be filed in the angel file." Pat took a personal touch with the pets she groomed, treating them the same, if not better, than she treated her own.





In 52 years, Pat has been snapped at many times, but only bitten twice. The first bite came from a nervous dog. As Pat bent to give the dog a kiss, which she did with all the pets she groomed, the dog bit her on the lip. The second bite, from a different dog, was on her finger. Pat admits this second bite was much more painful than the first. "I loved them all, even the mean ones," she said. "The very best thing was when mommas would come pick their babies up. They would tell them how pretty or handsome they were and how much they loved them, even when I had to shave them because of matting."

She admits, many times the job of grooming and loving the community's pets saved her sanity. "When you love what you do, many times it saves you from tragedy," she explained, "or the grief from it." Pat's Pet Parlor was her saving grace when her husband, James Youngblood, passed away on August 6, 2012. She admits she's still learning to live without James, but her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren are sure to keep her mind occupied as she also gets used to retirement.

After so many long days at the shop, Pat is ready to spend some time in the home she'd depart from at 6:00 a.m. and return to most nights well after dark. Five days a week, this was her schedule. It was definitely rigorous, but it was what she loved to do — that was until the rheumatoid arthritis in her hands became too painful. "I had planned to retire after 50 years," she said with emotion in her voice, "but I just couldn't leave my fur-babies."

As Pat looks forward to relaxing with a cup of coffee or hot tea, she will think about her life and all she was able to accomplish. As she gets used to retirement, her memories of a job welldone will no doubt bring her comfort, while also putting a smile on her face.





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# BusinessNOW Family Care Clinic

- By Sandra Strong

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Hours: Monday: 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday: 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Friday: 8:00 a.m.-noon

Dr. Blayne Laws and his wife, Heather, have been faithfully opening the doors at Family Care Clinic for the past 15 years. They've enjoyed the same location, making it their home away from home. "We're here for the patients," Dr. Laws said. "Doctoring is my area of expertise, while Heather oversees the business side of the practice."



The "family feel" is recognized soon after patients check in. Books and magazines take up most of the table space, while games and toys are available for their youngest patients. Heather has decorated the waiting area and each room with her special touch, capturing the family feel that's important to them both. "There's no TV in the waiting area," Dr. Laws shared. "We've found it's more peaceful without it, and the patients don't seem to miss it."

As a family practice, Dr. Laws and his nurse practitioner, Michael Joyce, see patients of all ages for a list of things that include, but are not limited to, diabetes, high blood pressure, anxiety, depression, well visits, school physicals, dermatology issues, minor emergencies, asthma, flu and the common cold. But, one of Dr. Laws' greatest passions is helping those individuals with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

ADHD is a chronic condition that includes attention

difficulty, hyperactivity and impulsive behaviors. Dr. Laws knows firsthand what the disorder can cause because he's lived with it his whole life. "I know the stresses that come with ADHD," Dr. Laws admitted. "God allowed me to live with this disorder, so I could help others."

Dr. Laws was diagnosed in medical school after failing the first year. A lady in the college's learning center noticed the ADHD abnormalities he presented.

It wasn't until his third year that he began taking the medication that helps him focus on tasks at hand. "I'm able to explain to parents what's going on with their children," he noted. "The kids are happy because I'm able to confirm what they've been trying to say. It's a great relief that changes the dynamics of the parent/child relationship. They begin to work together. It's a really good thing."

Once diagnosed, several of his adult ADHD patients have returned to work to earn promotions and raises. One of his older ADHD patients is a 65-year-old lady who broke down and cried when Dr. Laws realized her problem. "She spent a lifetime of trips back and forth to Wal-Mart on grocery day," he stated. "She would go home only to return to the store again because she had forgotten yet another thing on her list. Once diagnosed and treated, she's able to go to the store one time."

There are so many other stories stories that in some cases began with uneducated, angry parents, but ended in a better understanding of ADHD and what it takes to live a successful life with the disorder.

Although all new patients must first undergo a complete exam, established patients are now able to do follow-up visits via the computer, thus making it convenient for the many college students who look to Dr. Laws for their medical treatment. "And it's proven to be quite useful for our patients who do a lot of traveling," he added.

Family Care Clinic will continue to offer medical care in a Christian atmosphere as they deal with all business in a timely, professional fashion. "We are here for our patients," Dr. Laws reiterated. "Patients are not here for us."

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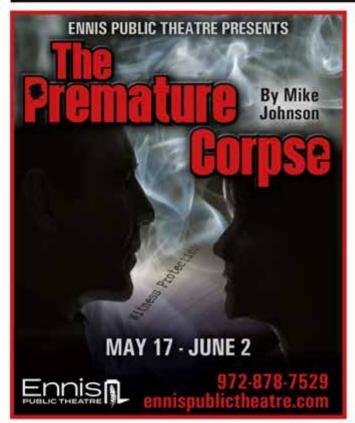




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## **Zoomed In:** Jenny Vidrine

By Bill Smith

Fat Tuesday is a big day at Jenny Vidrine's office, where she serves King Cake to customers like Jacob Zapata. Jenny met her husband, Joe, in Colorado, but she probably didn't really understand what being Cajun meant until after moving south. Joe's family hails from South Louisiana. "There is actually a town in Louisiana called Vidrine," Jenny said. Joe spent much of his life in the northern part of the state, around Ruston, and Jenny said he thought that might have caused him to lose some of his "Cajun" characteristics. Jenny disagrees.

Joe's parents both spoke French, a sure sign of Cajun influence. Every year, Mardi Gras is a big deal at the Vidrines' home. For years, on Fat Tuesdays, anyone visiting Jenny's office on Clay Street has been treated to the cake, and though the one at the office was almost gone, Jenny mentioned, "We have another cake at home that has only one slice cut. Joe couldn't wait."

# Around Town



Caleb and Gary Hawkins stand outside the tent erected for the revival meeting at First Baptist Church.



Jennifer Keathly and Brittany Thomas join Ellis County's October Alzheimer walk coordinators, Brittany Thomas and Haley Hanson, for a volunteer kick-off event at Cork & Keg.

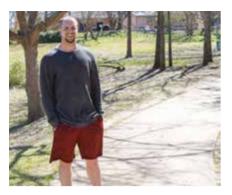


Dan Molinski trains in his kayak on City Lake for The Buffalo Bayou Canoe and Kayak Event in Houston.



Linda Brezavar selects a get well card for an ailing friend.

# NOW



Stephen Thompson takes a break from his training at Lions Park for a half marathon that he will run in Waco.



The Hoefer House in Ennis holds a successful open house and ribbon cutting.



Work continues on the new Ennis Visitors Center as a welder works on the second story of the entrance.



Ennis' own Gene Autry, related to the famous movie cowboy, rests while his wife shops at Wal-Mart.

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Nick and Judy Wensowitch grew up in Ennis and have enjoyed cooking together for family gatherings, as well as just for themselves while spending time at home. "Nick especially likes cooking the wild game we hunt, such as deer, ducks, hogs, doves, etc.," Judy shared. "My favorite is baking. We make a great team!"

They enjoy watching the cooking shows — *Martha Bakes, Martha Stewart's Cooking School* and *MasterChef Junior.* It's here they get ideas for creating different dishes in the kitchen. "I also search online for recipes," she admitted. "Our favorite restaurant is Bonnell's in Fort Worth. We have three of Jon Bonnell's cookbooks, and we like to try his wild game recipes." Both of the couple's youngest granddaughters, Ella and Hazel, like to help in the kitchen. Now

#### **Braised Southern Greens**

#### 4 strips bacon

- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/2 small onion, diced
- 2 lbs. greens (turnip, mustard, chard, collard, kale)
- $1 \frac{1}{2}$  tsp. kosher salt
- 1/2 tsp. black pepper 1/3 cup dry white wine
- 1/5 cup dry white white
- 1/4 cup cider vinegar

 Dice the bacon; heat in a soup pot until most of the fat has been rendered.
 Add the garlic and onion. Cook until the onion is softened.

**3.** Clean the greens in cold water, making sure to remove any heavy stems. Add the greens to the pot, along with the salt and pepper. Pour in the white wine.

**4.** Cover with a lid; cook on low heat for 15-20 minutes. Remove the lid; pour in the vinegar just prior to serving.

Venison Chili Serves 10-12.

- 3 lbs. venison meat
  1 /2 lbs. pork shoulder
  3 Tbsp. canola oil
  4 Tbsp. chili powder
  1 Tbsp. smoked hot paprika
  1 tsp. ground cumin
  1 tsp. ground coriander
  Pinch of ground cloves
  1 Tbsp. kosher salt
  1 tsp. cracked black pepper
  1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
  5-6 dashes hot sauce
  3 large sweet onions, diced
  7 cloves garlic, minced
  2 jalapeños, seeded and diced
- 5 Tbsp. crushed tortilla chips
- 1 6-oz. can tomato paste
- **3 bottles Shiner Bock Beer**

**I.** Clean the venison well, removing any fat or connective tissue. Cut the venison and pork shoulder into large chunks; grind together, using the large-holed plate of the grinder.

 Brown the meat in hot oil in a large Dutch oven-style pot. Once the meat is well browned, add all the spices and flavorings.
 Add onion, garlic, jalapeños and tortilla chips. Sauté together for 3-4 minutes.
 Add the tomato paste and beer. Bring to a light simmer; cover tightly with a lid. Continue to simmer on low for 2 hours.
 Remove the lid; stir to check the consistency. Once the chili has reached a thick texture, it's ready to serve. If it seems too thin, simmer without the lid until it thickens up.

#### **Toscana Soup**

Serves 5.

3/4 cup onions, diced
2-3 slices bacon, diced
1 medium-large clove garlic, minced
2 Tbsp. chicken base
4 cups water
2 medium baking potatoes, cut in half lengthwise
3 links sweet Italian sausage
2 cups escarole, chopped (or kale halved and then sliced)
1/2 cup whipping cream

**I.** Place onions and bacon in a large saucepan. Cook over medium heat until onions are tender. Add garlic; cook 1 minute longer.

**2.** Add chicken base, water and potatoes; simmer 15 minutes.

 While the potatoes are cooking, remove sausage from casings; brown in a skillet, breaking up sausage until cooked through.
 Add sausage, kale and cream to the potatoes. Simmer 4 minutes; serve.

#### **Devilish Pecan Pie**

1 1/2 cups pecans, coarsely chopped
6-oz. semi-sweet chocolate chips
1 9-inch unbaked pie shell
3 large eggs
1 cup honey
1/2 tsp. vanilla
1/4 cup butter, melted and cooled

 Sprinkle pecans and chocolate chips over the bottom of the pie shell.
 In a medium bowl, whisk together eggs, honey and vanilla. Blend in butter; pour mixture into the pie shell.
 Bake at 325 F for 50-60 minutes, or until firm. Serve slightly warm or at

or until firm. Serve slightly warm or a room temperature.

#### **Cucumber Pico**

I cucumber, peeled, seeded and diced



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Edward Jones

1/2 red onion, diced
7 green onions, thinly sliced
1/4 cup white wine vinegar
1/4 cup olive oil
2 Tbsp. sugar
Kosher salt, to taste
Freshly ground black pepper, to taste

Combine the first six ingredients in a large mixing bowl; blend well.
 Season with salt and pepper. Cover; chill for at least 3-4 hours before serving.

#### Chocolate Pecan Candy

## 3 cups pecans3 Tbsp. butter, melted6 squares chocolate bark coating

 Mix pecans and butter. Bake at 300 F for 30 minutes. Melt chocolate in the microwave for 1-2 minutes, or until melted.
 Mix chocolate and pecans. Spoon onto foil. Allow to cool and set prior to serving.

#### **Mexican Candy (Pralines)**

- 1 1/2 cups white sugar
   1/2 cup brown sugar
   1/2 cup cream
   3 Tbsp. Light Karo Corn Syrup
   4 large marshmallows
   2 Tbsp. butter
   2 cups pecans
- 1 tsp. vanilla



**I.** Cook sugars, cream and Karo until it forms a soft ball in water or reaches 235 F on a candy thermometer.

**2.** Remove from heat; add marshmallows and butter. Stir until marshmallows have melted. Add pecans and vanilla. Drop onto waxed paper. Allow to cool and set before serving.

#### Pork and Bean Chalupas

- 1 2-lb. pork roast
- I lb. dried pinto beans
- 7 cups water
- 1/2 to 1 cup onion, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 Tbsp. salt
- I Tbsp. cumin
- 1 4.5-oz. can chopped green chilies
- 1 2-oz. jar pimentos

**I.** Combine all ingredients in a Crock-Pot; cook for 5 hours. Shred cooked roast; place back into the beans.

**2.** Simmer another 45-60 minutes. Serve over chips with onions, tomatoes, lettuce, sour cream, picante sauce and cheese.



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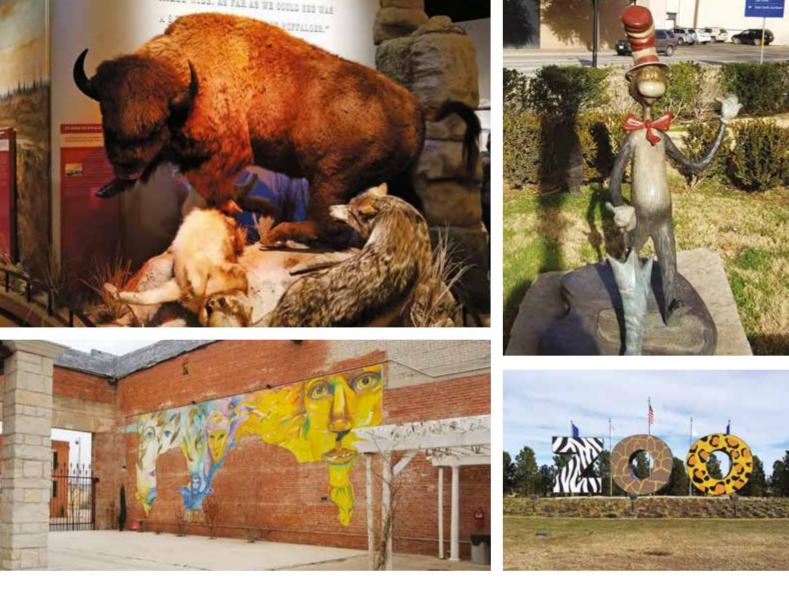
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## TravelNOW Perfect Mix

— By Lisa Bell

What began in 1881 as a T&P Railroad stop, Abilene, Texas, became so much more. Two to three hours from the Metroplex, Abilene is home to Dyess Air Force Base, three major universities/colleges, and one place where families can find adventure, history and art all rolled into one city.

Designated as a state cultural art district, throughout the year opportunities abound for visitors. A favorite time to visit is early June when the Children's Art & Literacy Festival runs for three days. Special events and activities allow children of all ages to enjoy favorite literature and try their hands at art. From the Storybook Parade to children's artists, costume contests and much more, this weekend brings books to life.

But any time of the year, Abilene features multiple places children adore. In fact, on October 17, 2018, Abilene received the distinguished title of Storybook Capital of America. With 24 sculptures around town and new ones added annually, kids get to pose beside favorite characters cast in bronze. With an audio storybook tour and adventure guide, families have fun in the downtown area finding Dr. Seuss favorites as well as figures from other books, including the infamous *No, David*. In the Adamson-Spalding Storybook Garden, kittens, dinosaurs, Stuart Little, Marcel and Wilfred, Charlotte and Wilbur, plus others wait for visitors of all ages. These statues evoke memories of favorite nursery rhymes and beloved tales.

In addition to the sculptures, don't miss the National Center for Children's Illustrated Literature. The museum celebrates the artistic achievements of children's book authors. During exhibits, they also offer free art activities for kids and their parents.

The Grace Museum and Center for Contemporary Arts are wonderful places where families enjoy a variety of art. At the

Grace, one floor also houses historic scenes depicting life over decades. And a children's area allows the entire family to enjoy this culturally rich environment. While the artist displays vary, the children's area remains static. With an oversized Operation game and a musical wall, everyone can have fun interacting together.

Live theater is also big in Abilene, some of it designed around the tastes of younger audiences. The perfect way to introduce children to ballet, live performances and old movie hits can be found in the city while adults can also appreciate events offered for them.

The historic Paramount Theatre is only one venue in Abilene. The fully restored 1930's theater still has a ceiling decorated with stars. During the early years, the stage and curtains allowed live performances, and the giant screens welcomed in movies. For a time, the theater changed to the hotspot for new movie releases. Today, they provide space for live theater, speakers and performances, as well as showing family films and classic movies. The building alone is an adventure that takes you back to a simpler time in history.

And Abilene has lots of history. The former T&P Train Depot now houses the Abilene Convention and Visitors Bureau. Part of the Texas fort trails, you can visit old Fort Phantom and Buffalo Gap Historic Village. For an extra treat, take in Frontier Texas where modern technology meets yesteryear and holographic figures help make history real. Learn about Texas in a unique way not soon forgotten.

On the wild side, the Abilene Zoo has 16 acres housing more than 1,000 animals, representing 250 species. Located at Nelson Park, there is also a splash area for warmer months and a park resembling a historic fort for fun beyond the zoo.

When in Abilene, local eateries and venues offer a great place to host events. The Mill and Soda District are two of many that welcome visitors. But the people of Abilene enjoy sharing the history and modern mix of art, culture and community. Some say the prettiest women live in Abilene. True or not, it's definitely a nearby destination you don't want to miss.

Photos by Lisa Bell.

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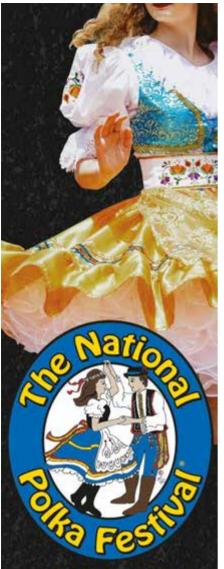
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## **Crossword Puzzle**

|          |              | 8        | 7        | 6        | 5        |          | 4        | 3  | 2        | 1  |
|----------|--------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----|----------|----|
| 12       | 11           | ┢        |          | ┢        | 10       |          | +        |    |          | 9  |
| +        | ┢            | ┢        | $\vdash$ | $\vdash$ | 14       |          | $\vdash$ | +  | $\vdash$ | 13 |
| 1        | +            | 17       |          | $\vdash$ |          | 16       |          | 1  | 1        | 15 |
| $\vdash$ | $\uparrow$   |          | 20       | $\vdash$ | $\vdash$ |          | 19       | 18 |          |    |
|          | $\mathbf{T}$ | $\vdash$ | $\vdash$ | 22       |          | $\vdash$ | $\vdash$ |    | 21       |    |
|          |              | $\vdash$ | $\vdash$ |          | 24       | $\vdash$ | +        | 1  |          | 23 |
| 29       | 28           | 27       |          | $\vdash$ |          | 26       |          | 1  |          | 25 |
|          | 1            |          | 32       |          | 1        |          | 31       | +  | 1        | 30 |
| +        | +            | -        | 34       |          | $\vdash$ | +        | +        | +  | 1        | 33 |
|          | +            |          | 36       |          | $\vdash$ | +        | +        | 35 |          |    |

#### Across

- 1 Mountains
- 5 Set one back
- 9 Inamorato
- 10 Discord
- 13 Barely cooked
- 14 Westernmost Oregon cape
- 15 Alias
- 16 Speak
- 17 At the present time
- 18 Liberal magazine
- 21 Idle Monty Python comic
- 22 Swift
- 23 They'll make a play for you
- 25 Fifth Beatle?
- 26 Rank
- 27 Slugger's stat.
- 30 Muscular
- 32 Mattress feature
- 33 Sewer
- 34 Balladeer --- Seeger
- 35 Flatfish
- 36 Took advantage of

#### Down

- 1 Siren in "East of Eden"
- 2 Escaping fluid
- 3 Jumpy guy?
- 4 Johnny Cash's boy
- 5 Type of cigar or sandwich
- 6 Not many
- 7 Mexican Mrs.
- 8 Wear for those who serve
- 11 "Vamoose!"
- 12 Itty-bitty city
- 16 Firmly
- 19 Took cover
- 20 Sailor
- 21 Sgt. Bilko
- 23 Blue matter
- 24 Ciphers
- 28 Religious practice
- 29 Snow vehicle
- 31 Smartphone forerunner
- 32 Chip

Solutions on page 44



## Sudoku Puzzle



#### Medium

| Lajy      |            |     |   |   |   |   |   |   | <br>viculo |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|-----------|------------|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5         |            |     |   | 4 | 9 | 3 |   |   | 7          |   | 4 |   |   |   |   |   |
|           |            | 3   | 1 |   | 8 | 9 |   |   |            | 1 |   |   |   |   | 5 |   |
| 8         |            |     |   |   | 7 |   |   |   | 8          |   | 5 |   |   | 7 |   | 3 |
|           |            | 1   | 5 |   |   |   |   |   |            |   |   | 2 |   |   |   |   |
| 9         |            |     |   |   | 3 |   | 4 |   | 4          |   |   | 5 |   | 9 |   |   |
|           | 3          | 6   |   |   |   | 1 |   |   |            | 3 |   |   |   |   |   | 6 |
|           |            | 9   |   |   |   |   |   |   | 3          |   |   |   | 9 | 5 | 4 | 2 |
| 6         | 8          |     |   |   |   |   | 3 | 7 | 1          | 2 |   |   |   |   | 6 |   |
|           |            | 5   |   |   |   | 8 | 9 |   |            |   |   | 1 |   |   | 3 | 8 |
| Crossword | site.com l | Ltd |   |   |   |   |   |   |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |

Solutions on page 44



# HELLO Joring. APRIL

#### All Month

Ennis Bluebonnet Trails: Celebrating 67 Years of Ennis Bluebonnet Trails. Ennis showcases more than 40 miles of mapped driving Bluebonnet Trails sponsored by the Ennis Garden Club. www.visitennis.org.

#### 4/1-4/2

Friends of the Ennis Public Library Spring Book Sale: Most books will be sold \$2.00 per bag. Classics and antiques will be priced as marked. Friday: 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.; Saturday: 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

#### 4/1-4/7

Noises Off: This play presents a manic menagerie of itinerant actors rehearsing a flop called *Nothing's On.* Adults: \$15; students/seniors/military: \$12. Show times are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., with one Sunday performance at 2:30 p.m. and one Thursday performance at 7:30 p.m. during the show's run. Ennis Public Theatre, 4009, 113 N. Dallas St. https://ennispublictheatre.com.

#### 4/6-4/24

Sugar Ridge Winery Live Music:

**4**/6 Gigi Miller & Wine play country, pop, old rock, a little of everything. **4**/**13** Wine and Music with Darren Rozzell. 4/14 Join Dock Ballard and Friends as they sing all our favorite tunes. 4/20 Music and Wine with Josh Jaccard.

Bring your friends for a good time with fine, friends and music. 4/24 Wine and Music with Darren Rozzell. Check out our website at SugarRidgeWinery.com for times and location.



#### 4/12-4/14

#### Ennis Bluebonnet Trails Festival:

Enjoy the bluebonnets, and then come downtown to enjoy the festival: wine wander, arts & crafts, kids' activities, food and live music. Free admission. www.bluebonnettrail.org.

#### 4/13

#### 4th Annual Bluebonnet Gospel Concert:

This is a free concert event on the Bluebonnet Trails. Open to the public with continuous gospel music artists all day. 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Historic Bristol Schoolhouse. www.facebook.com/ bluebonnetgospelconcert/.

#### O'Reilly Outlaw Racing Series:

There will be six events for our 2019 racing season. This race will include 5.0, 5.80, 70 and 8.0 index classes. Top Sportsman and Top Dragster will be added to a fast-paced and action-packed evening. Gates open: 5:00 p.m.; two hours of open time trials: 6:00 p.m.; Round 1 of eliminations begin: 8:00 p.m., Texas Motorplex, 7500 US-287. For details, (972) 878-2641, (800) MOTORPLEX or www.texasmotorplex.com.

#### Ellis County Children's Advocacy Center Starry Night Gala: 6:30 p.m. Midlothian

6:30 p.m. Midlothian Conference Center, I Community Drive, Midlothian. Sponsorships and tickets available at ECCACgala@ elliscountycac.org.

#### 4/20

Don't Mess With Texas Trash Off: Hosted by Keep Ennis Beautiful. 9:00 a.m.-noon, The Way, The Truth and Life, 1700 N. Kaufman St.

#### 4/26 & 4/28

Lionettes' Spring Show: The 31st Line of the Ennis Lionettes dance troupe will present their annual Spring Show "Once Upon a Time." Tickets: \$7 per person. Friday: 7:00 p.m.; **Sunday**: 3:00 p.m., Ennis High School Auditorium. Paw.Power@yahoo.com.

#### 4/27

Impact Communities "Take it to the Box": On the DEA's Take it Back Day, find out where to safely dispose of your old medications. 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. For details, visit www.therxdropbox.com.

Relay for Life: 4:00 p.m.-midnight, Veteran's Memorial Park. For information, visit relayforlife.org/ennistx.

#### Mondays

Sign Language Class: Classes are free and available for all ages. No sign up required. 4:00-5:30 p.m., Ennis Public Library, 501 W. Ennis Ave.

#### Thursdays

Chess: Elementary age and above. No sign up required. 5:30-7:30 p.m., Ennis Public Library, 501 W. Ennis Ave.

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



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## Crossword -Sudoku Solutions

| A               | <sup>2</sup> L | P               | <sup>4</sup> S  |                 | °C              | <sup>6</sup> 0 | 's              | <sup>8</sup> T |                 |         |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|---------|
| <sup>9</sup> B  | Е              | A               | U               |                 | <sup>10</sup> U | Ν              | R               | E              | <sup>11</sup> S | 12<br>T |
| <sup>13</sup> R | A              | R               | Е               |                 | <sup>14</sup> B | L              | A               | N              | С               | 0       |
| 15<br>A         | к              | A               |                 | <sup>16</sup> S | A               | Y              |                 | 17<br>N        | 0               | W       |
|                 |                | <sup>18</sup> T | <sup>19</sup> H | E               | N               | A              | <sup>20</sup> T | 1              | 0               | N       |
|                 | 21<br>E        | R               | 1               | С               |                 | 22<br>F        | A               | S              | Т               |         |
| 23<br>P         | R              | 0               | D               | U               | 24<br>C         | Е              | R               | s              |                 |         |
| 25              | Ν              | 0               |                 | <sup>26</sup> R | 0               | W              |                 | 27<br>H        | 28<br>R         | 29<br>S |
| 30<br>R         | 1              | Ρ               | P               | Е               | D               |                | 32<br>C         | 0              | 1               | L       |
| <sup>33</sup> N | E              | Е               | D               | L               | E               |                | <sup>34</sup> P | E              | T               | E       |
|                 |                | R               | A               | Y               | S               |                | <sup>36</sup> U | s              | E               | D       |

#### Easy

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

#### Medium

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

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# **DO YOU EXPERIENCE...**

- Pain in the buttocks or leg that is worse when sitting or standing
- Burning or tingling down the leg
- Weakness, numbness or difficulty moving the leg or foot
- Constant pain on one side of the buttocks
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