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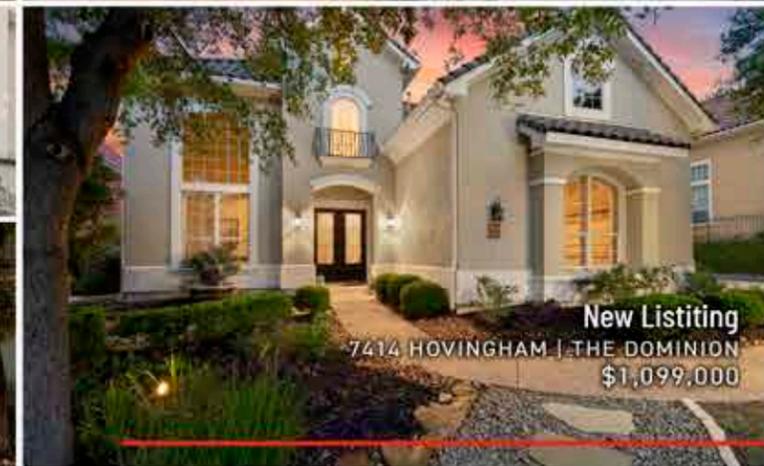
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THE RESIDENTS OF THE DOMINION!

We are always looking for residents to feature in the magazine, find great stories and send us ideas. Let's celebrate the great things happening in our community! No contribution is too small. Please email jason.smith@n2pub.com with your pictures, suggestions, or requests.

Life @ The DOMINION

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Publisher's Note

Every month, your mailbox fills with a variety of publications. Some you toss aside without a second glance, others might catch your attention briefly. But Stroll Dominion isn't just another magazine—it's your magazine. It's personal. It's exclusive. And while it may seem similar to others at first glance, trust me—similar doesn't mean same.

For residents of The Dominion, this publication is a curated reflection of the community you've chosen to call home. It tells your stories, features your neighbors, and celebrates the unique spirit of this extraordinary place. There may be other publications that show up, but none are created with and for you the way this one is.

And for the businesses we partner with—yes, there are many magazines, digital ads, and social media platforms vying for your marketing dollars. But

Stroll Dominion is something entirely different. We're not a media buy. We're a relationship. We're an introduction. We're a trusted connection.

Advertising is a vital part of any business strategy. And let's be honest—if we were the only company who thought a neighborhood magazine was a good idea, it probably wouldn't be a good idea. But just because others have entered the space doesn't mean they offer what we do. Again, similar doesn't mean same.

WHAT MAKES STROLL DOMINION UNIQUELY DIFFERENT?

We are deeply connected.

We've spent 11 years building relationships inside The Dominion. We don't just know this community—we are a part of it. We've earned trust, built friendships, and created a network that

is second to none. No other magazine can say that.

We are precise in our distribution. We don't blanket zip codes or target demographics with a wide net. Every issue of Stroll Dominion is hand-delivered to the front doors of the highest concentration of wealth in San Antonio. It's not about how many; it's about who many.

We are personal in our content. This isn't a generic "lifestyle magazine"—whatever that even means anymore. Our content is customized, relevant, and personal to this community. It's the story of your neighbors, your events, your achievements. It's not about lifestyle in the abstract; it's about your life, right here.

We are intentional in our connections.

From our private networking events to one-on-one introductions, we create real, meaningful connections between residents and the businesses that support them. This isn't passive exposure—it's active relationship-building.

We are social.

We don't just publish stories—we create moments. Our events bring residents and business partners together in person. From intimate gatherings to high-end socials, we go beyond pages and pixels to foster real community.

In a world full of noise, sameness, and short-term thinking, Stroll Dominion stands apart. We're built on long-term trust, local connection, and the belief that real relationships still matter. To the residents who open these pages each month—thank you for allowing us to be part of your story. And to the businesses who partner with us—thank you for seeing the value in connection over clicks, in quality over quantity, in credibility over impressions. Because when it comes to community, advertising, and impact—similar doesn't mean same.

Jason Smith
Publisher, Stroll Dominion



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THE TAFT FAMILY

dreams come true

It was two weeks into 2009 and the night before Nancy's second semester of her Masters of Psychology program at Our Lady of the Lake University. Wanting to let off some steam before diving back into her studies, she joined a group of friends for a night on the town. As it so happened, Andrew, who held a double major in Business and Computer Science from A&M, shared these mutual friends and was also invited to join them. "We met on the dance floor," Nancy says, her eyes sparkling at the memory as she smiles from ear to ear, "and there was something undeniable about our connection, like a warm familiarity. I could swear I knew him before." A few days after they danced that night away, they met for breakfast, which turned into dinner, and they haven't stopped hanging out since.

Both Nancy and Andrew were raised in San Antonio. In fact, Nancy grew up in the Dominion where many of her fondest childhood memories took place. Their upbringings were similar in that their core values centered on faith and family. Nancy's family, both immediate and extended, always made it a priority to spend time with one another. Her parents instilled in her the value of always doing your best, even if it was in regards to something as simple as brushing your teeth in the morning. They also taught her to focus on the positive, whether times were good



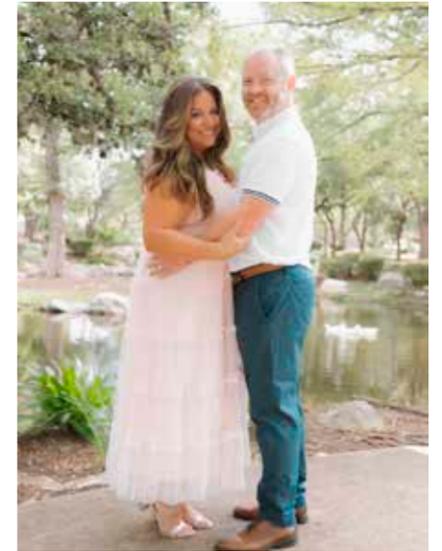
or tough, there was something valuable in them. For Andrew, the value of hard work and independence was instilled in him at an early age, as was the value of creating a loving home. Never one to shy away from rolling up his sleeves, he worked his way through college and never accrued a dollar of debt. On that fateful night they met on the dance floor, it's these shared values and qualities that they saw reflected in one another.

Though both were in the throes of higher education when they met, their love grew stronger by the day. In January 2011, almost two years to the day of their meeting, Andrew surprised Nancy by proposing to her on a hot air balloon as they overlooked California's Napa Valley. The couple then jumped into wedding planning, knowing that Nancy would soon begin working towards her doctorate, and in August of the same year they were married at the Chapel of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio, surrounded by their closest loved ones.

Together, Andrew and Nancy continued to work on their education and careers. In 2014, all Nancy had left was completing her internship and giving her dissertation for her to receive her doctorate, but then she achieved another lifelong dream- motherhood. She took a year off for her pregnancy and, on January 23, 2015, Andrew and her welcomed their firstborn, London, to the world. "Once I became a mom, nothing else could compare," Nancy says, "I stayed up thinking about going back. All my work, all my peers, all my professors. But after talking with Andrew and getting his support, I ultimately chose to exit the program and dedicate myself to our family."

With little London just 7 months old, the Taft family temporarily relocated to Colorado where Andrew joined an opportunistic program to learn the details of medical sales. For several months, he gave his all to his studies while simultaneously making sure to be present with his young family. Through a combination of education and experience, he built a successful career as a medical sales rep and hasn't looked back since.

Not long after they returned to San Antonio, they welcomed their second daughter, Sophia, to the fold



on December 2, 2016, completing their perfect family of four. When asked about her daughters, Nancy beams, "Oh my goodnesssss," she says with a sparkle, "Well, London takes after her dad and lives with her heart on her sleeve. It guides her and shines bright. Her favorite color is rainbow, because if she were to pick just one it would hurt the other's feelings. She's the kind of kid that new kids in class are thankful for." A mature and natural nurturer, London also has a knack for numbers, loves gymnastics, and is known to cartwheel anywhere at any time. "And this little girl," Nancy says of Sophia, "has music in her soul. She's been that way since the womb. Since she was 1 she could pick out tunes of songs and add to it. She can compare different musical styles and pinpoint differences. She just looks at things so differently." Insightful and self-assured, Sophia is the performer in the family and loves to act, sing, and write her own songs.

Since 2017, the Tafts have been living in the Dominion, just a street away from

Nancy's parents and house she grew up in. They enjoy spending time at the country club, attending community events and celebrating holidays. But while the whole family appreciates the community camaraderie and the abundance of friendships they've formed, for Nancy, there's an added lair. "I grew up here, and now I'm raising my kids here," she shares fondly, "Some of my old tennis coaches are now teaching my daughters. It's nostalgic and it means so much to me. This community is a big family." Apparently, Nancy's old tennis lessons have not been forgotten either, as both her and Andrew play on the club's competitive teams, The Dolls and The Diablos, and both have been ranked #1.

As a family, the Tafts are at their happiest anytime they're together. Whether they're cracking up on the couch with a movie or strolling the beach outside a 5-star resort, their joy emanates whenever they're with one another. As Nancy says with a glowing look of satisfaction, "My girls and my husband are my dream come true."

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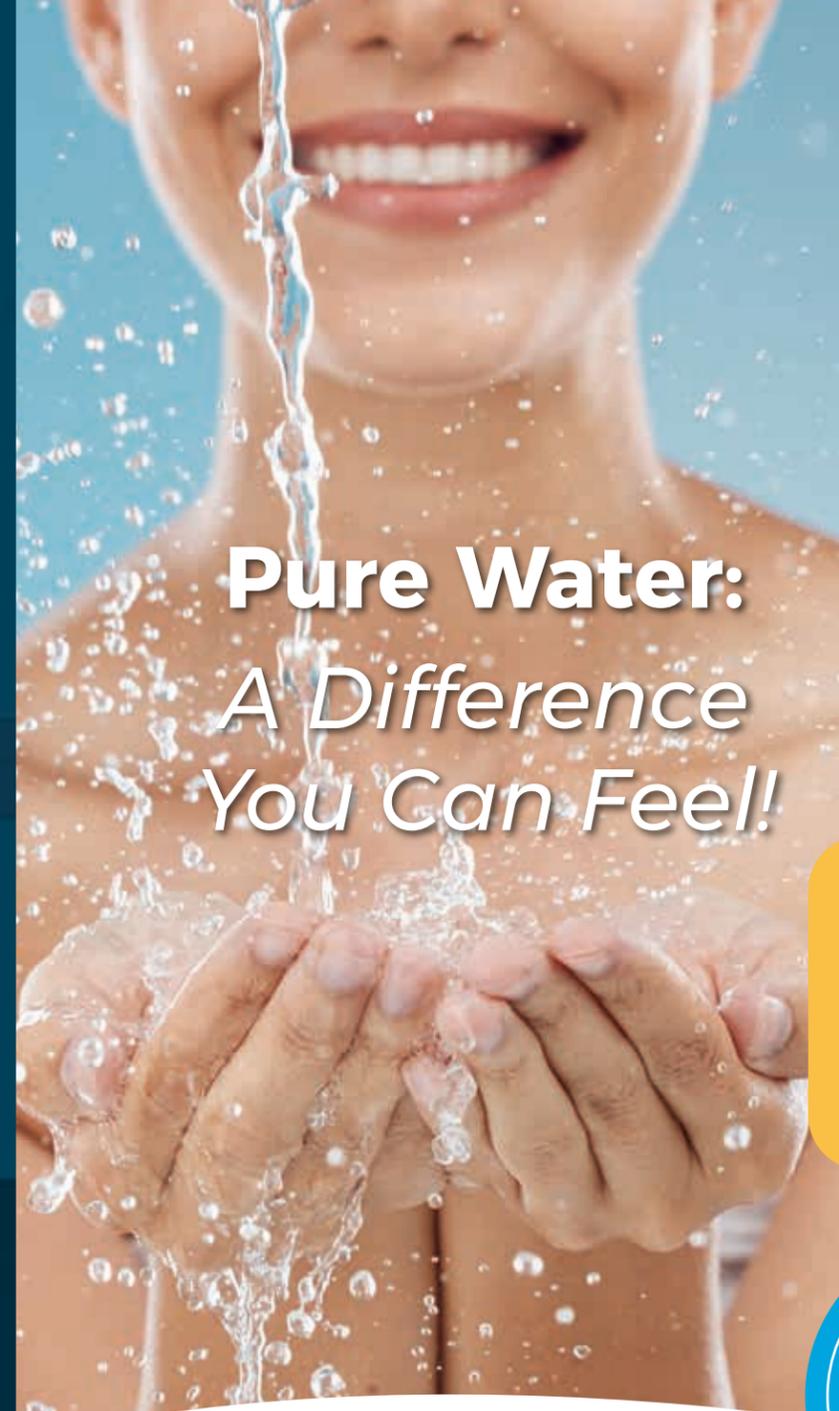
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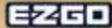


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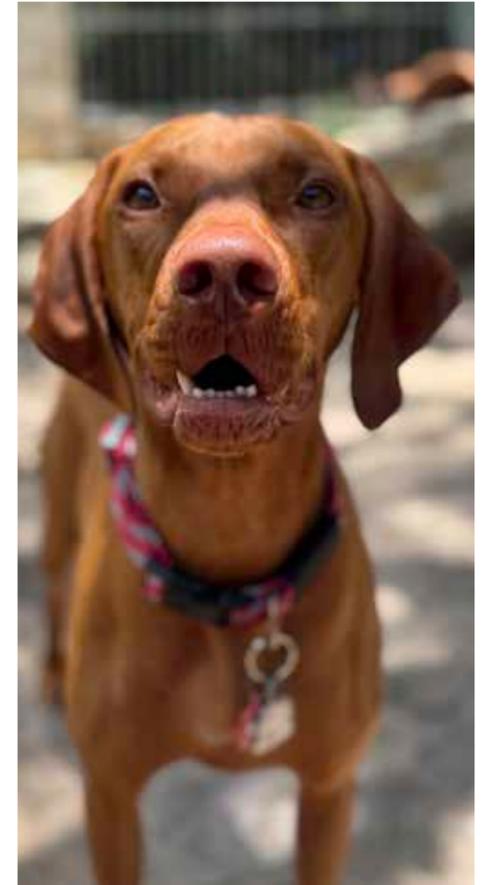
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How has your pet enriched your family?

The kids love them, Wanda often runs down the hallway early in the morning and jumps on my oldest son's door to get in bed with him before she comes outside. It has helped teach the kids responsibility.

Any funny stories?

Rosie will climb trees to try to hunt down a squirrel.



Meet Wanda & Rosie!

Pet's Age:

Wanda 2,
Rosie 1.5

Type of Animal/Breed:

Viszla

Male or Female:

Female

Where did you get your pet?

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Explain the story behind its name:

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Rosie - daughter came up with the name and we all liked it.

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Facing Unexpected Expenses? Borrowing May Be Smarter Than Liquidating Assets

CINDY SNYDER, VICE PRESIDENT FROST



Even individuals with significant wealth can encounter short-term cash flow challenges. When much of your net worth is tied up in illiquid assets like retirement accounts and real estate, accessing funds quickly for unexpected expenses can be difficult.

In these situations, a strategic approach to borrowing may offer a smart, tax-efficient way to bridge the gap without derailing your long-term financial goals.

THE TAXING TRUTH ABOUT ILLIQUIDITY

There are many scenarios that can create a need for more cash than you

have readily available – unexpected medical bills, a legal settlement, a tax bill from selling an asset, or even unforeseen dips in income or a time-sensitive investment opportunity.

While liquidating assets is one way to increase available cash, the trade-offs are often significant. Capital gains taxes – especially short-term gains – could

bump you into a higher income tax bracket or worse – liquidating high-performing assets could disrupt a well-balanced investment portfolio or your long-term financial plans.

A SMARTER SOURCE OF CASH

When facing a temporary liquidity shortfall, borrowing may offer several advantages over selling assets. It can provide faster access to funds, minimize tax consequences, and keep your long-term investment strategy intact. While there are various ways to borrow money, two lending solutions are especially well-suited for short-term needs:

- Home equity line of credit (HELOC): A HELOC allows you to borrow against the equity in your home through a revolving line of credit. You can draw funds as needed (up to a certain limit), and you only pay interest on what you use. While rates are typically variable, they are generally lower than those of credit cards.
 - Brokerage secured personal line of credit (Brokerage secured PLC): This tool is similar to a HELOC but uses a portion of your investment portfolio as collateral instead of your home. This option may be particularly appealing to those with a substantial portfolio and desire to avoid real estate-based lending.
- For single major expenses, a longer-term solution like a home equity loan may be preferable for its fixed interest rate and predictable payments.

CONSIDER THE FULL PICTURE

Strategic borrowing isn't just about solving a short-term problem – it's about preserving long-term value. Working alongside your CPA, our team of Frost bankers can help you evaluate whether borrowing fits into your broader financial strategy. In the right circumstances, leveraging credit can be a powerful tool to support both your short-term flexibility and your long-term financial health. Contact Cindy Snyder at 210.22.6845 or Cindy.Snyder@frostbank.com to learn more.

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THE UNWRITTEN RULES, PART II

There Are Things That Just Are

BY DAN JOHNSTON, DOMINION RESIDENT

For those of us who in our youth ever hit, threw, caught, or kicked a ball or a puck, or wrestled, or boxed, or competed in any sports activity at all, we learned over time that in addition to the formal rules that provided structure to the competition there were unwritten rules that provided a rich color and a certain character to our competition. It is entertaining to recall some of these unwritten rules, rules that exist in such great numbers as to require their summary over the pages of two of these articles. While many of these rules are recalled from personal experience, they are supplemented by rules presented in articles by the renown Sports Illustrated author Rick Reilly and a team effort by Mark Schofield, James Dator, Adam Ward, Joseph Acosta, and Jared Mueller.



This is the second of two articles on the unwritten rules of sports. For many of us, they evoke memories of our golden years and participating in the sports we love. Have a great Summer. See you at History Club in September, where history is fun.



- Unless a championship is on the line for your beer league softball team, no sliding
- Lose the eye black and just learn how to use your glove to block the sun. Also, while you are at it, also lose the wristbands.
- Lining up your putts should not be like a land survey. Unless there is a bet with a comma involved, keep it moving.
- When someone in your group is looking for their lost golf ball, hit your shot first and then help them if you can.
- Know what golf ball you are playing with, as well as what balls your partners are playing with.
- Just because the new carts play music does not mean you should turn it on; not everyone on the course wants to hear it.
- Do not sit down to eat on the turn.
- Are you playing on Centre Court at Wimbledon? You can grunt. Otherwise... do not grunt.
- If there's even a 1% chance you need to ask if you can pull off a speedo, you cannot.
- At the gym, always be willing to spot someone.
- Unless you are at a dedicated pool hall, do not bring your own cue.
- Do not try to start a wave. It is not going to happen.
- The host of the place where you are watching the game controls the remote.
- If you bring drinks to watch the game and there are some left, they are surrendered to the house as tribute.

HERE THEN ARE SOME MORE OF THE THINGS IN SPORTS THAT JUST ARE:

- Rookies shag balls, whether they are millionaires or not.
- Never shoot high on the goalie during warmups.
- Pickup basketball is always make it, take it
- On the playground, offense calls the fouls.
- Never write down the score of a bowler who is on a run of strikes.
- No overhead smashes at women in mixed doubles.
- The caddie of the last player to putt plants the flag.
- NBA refs will take some trash from head coaches but not a word from an assistant.
- The person who brings the ball ALWAYS plays, as long as he wants.
- Never steal a base with a five-run lead after the seventh inning.
- When a receiver drops a pass, go back to him on the next play.
- Scrubs stand during basketball timeouts.
- Winners buy.



Colonel Dan Johnston was a career Army officer of 25 years service and a combat veteran of the Vietnam War. Following retirement from the service, he taught World History to high school sophomores for 15 years. He and his wife of over 50 years, Pam, are blessed with four children and ten grandchildren.

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POET'S PEN

Bigotry

The world is confused, with bigotry and sin,
So this is a story, where should I begin?

It's painful and tainted, and to the untrained eye,
Has vision unfocused, and wince grows the lie.

The oldest of sin, goes back to the start,
When man commenced, setting himself apart.
We are all guilty, how can we not be?
The foundation of wicked, was birthed by the tree.

Still no excuse, if we follow the lead,
If we do what He did, He said, "sow the seed."
With question submitted, can we do anything less,
Than love our brother, and wish him be blessed.

The word that was used, when instructions were given,
Was 'responsible' which means, we must rise above sin.
To rise to the heights, for us a lofty goal,
But rise we must, for this is our role.



Somewhere in heaven, a tear is shed,
With each disrespect, each time someone has bled.
Each tear represents, a life gone wrong,
Where 'love one another,' is long, long gone.

The image we're given, doesn't come from earth,
Our Heavenly Father gives us this at birth.
He bypassed the universe, so that we may hear,
That each are cherished, each we should revere.



By Jacks Blue, a well-known, well-liked, and talented Dominion Resident who writes under this pseudonym




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Rescue Pet of the Month Meet Rudy!

*A Gentle Giant Looking for His
Forever Home*

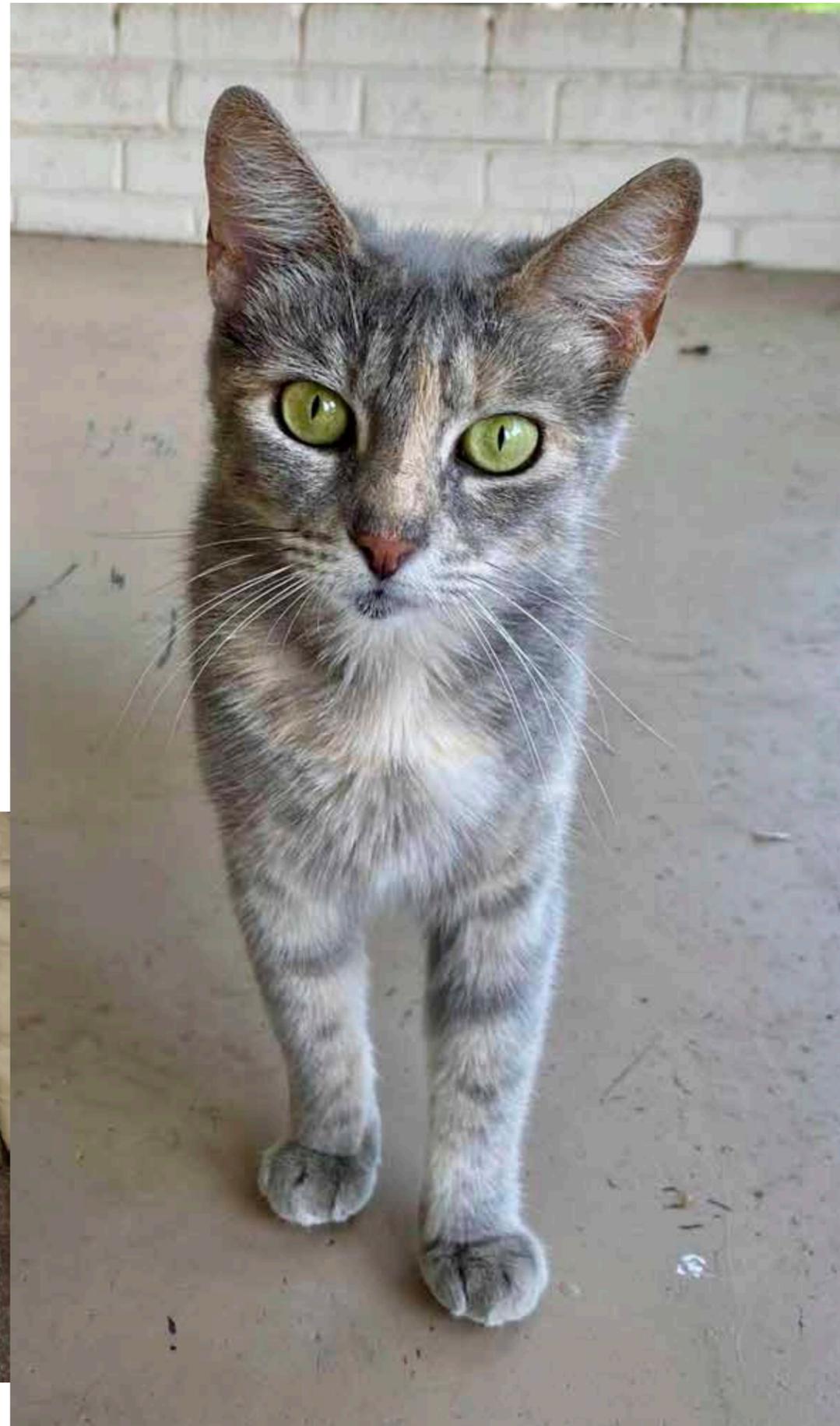
Rudy's foster family says he's the sweetest boy they've ever met. For the past six months, he's been recovering in a loving medical foster home after suffering a serious injury—likely from an attack by a larger animal. DAAG stepped in to rescue him after he was found trying to eat at a feral cat colony, clearly in need of help.

While Rudy continues to heal, he wears a little shirt to keep himself from scratching. Despite everything he's been through, Rudy remains affectionate, gentle, and full of love. He enjoys spending time with his people but is also perfectly content relaxing on his own. After surviving life on the streets, he now treasures regular meals, cozy naps, and the safety of indoor life—he never wants to go back outside.

Rudy adores being petted and loves to lounge next to you while you relax or watch TV. He gets along well with adults, older children, and other cats. At 14 pounds, he's a true gentle giant.

Rudy is two years old, neutered, fully vaccinated, and has tested negative for FIV, FeLV, and heartworm.

If you're interested in giving Rudy the safe, loving home he deserves, please contact daagadoptions@gmail.com.



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Sadly, her elderly caretakers can no longer provide the care she needs, so Silver is looking for a loving new home—or a foster family to help her on her journey.

She's friendly and loves attention and treats. Silver comes running to Greet her people and happily twirls around their legs for affection. A foster home would help her transition to being a house kitty but she should do well in an adoptive home if given a little time and patience.

Silver is spayed and up to date on her vaccinations. She just needs a safe, loving place to land.

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Dominion Design

WHAT NEIGHBORHOOD DO YOU LIVE IN?

Kara: I live in the Golf Course Estates

Ginger: I live in The Adagio

COMPANY NAME

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POSITION

Co-owners

HOW LONG IN BUSINESS

Dominion Design started in 2025 and has been re-branded from Ginger's company, Gatherings and Creations, which started in 2018. Kara worked alongside Ginger for the 2024 holiday season to help her decorate various homes and businesses. We had bonded years earlier, working on events together and shared a deep and abiding love for all things glittery! We also discovered we work well together and our strengths (and weaknesses) balance each other out well.

WHAT PROMPTED YOU TO START THIS BUSINESS?

You mean besides the GLITTER?! The answer is simple—we love transforming spaces. There's something gratifying about stepping into a client's home and turning it into something magical, especially during the holidays. Decorating has always been a passion of both of us.

Kara enjoys working with fabrics, textures, and colors to create something beautiful for a client. Ginger loves the feeling of seeing her



clients genuinely enjoy what has been created. That we get to add to a client's home is truly a blessing. Whether it's a cozy corner or a grand entryway, we love finding ways to make a space feel special, warm, and inviting.

HOW DID YOU DECIDE ON THIS INDUSTRY?

Kara: I feel like, in many ways, the industry chose me. I'm an artist, so creating beauty in spaces feels like a natural extension of my work. Two years ago, my oldest daughter worked with Ginger during the holidays. Last year, my daughter left to visit friends in Greece in November, and I stepped in to help Ginger out. I was surprised by how much I loved it. It combined my creativity with a sense of joy and transformation that resonated with me.

Ginger: All my life I have been artsy-crafty, although my first career was in the medical field. After retiring in 2018, a friend asked for their office to be decorated for the holidays and shortly after, my company Gatherings and Creations was established. Since then

residential and commercial clients have given me the privilege of transforming their spaces for holidays and events.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR FAMILY

Kara: I am married to Roy Ritthaler who is a tech executive for Flexera, a software company based out of Chicago. Together we have 5 kids ranging in ages from 28-13. We raised the first 4 in Austin before moving here in 2019 to be closer to my parents. Sophie, our youngest, goes to Rawlinson Middle School and is in the 8th grade.

Ginger: I have an 18 year old daughter who is heading off to Schreiner University in the fall. My home is shared with 2 dogs, Tank and Maverick. I enjoy spending time with my parents who also live in the neighborhood just 1 street away.

WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES AND INTERESTS

Kara: I enjoy art, my small fluffy dog Oreo, reading, home decorating, music and friends. And obviously: holiday decorating!

Ginger: Spending my free time, I most often find myself listening to audiobooks, volunteering, and looking for architectural salvage pieces that are unique.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT LIVING IN THE DOMINION?

Kara: I love living in such a beautiful area—everywhere you look, there's charm and character. But even more than the lovely homes, it's the people who make this place feel like home. They're some of my dearest friends, and I feel so lucky to have them in my life.

Ginger: The feeling of home that starts when I pull on Dominion Drive with the beautiful landscaping. The neighbors on my street really bonded during Covid and we had some unforgettable times - including surprise birthday parties and announcements. The friendships that have been cultivated in The Dominion are truly priceless to me.

BUSINESS CONTACT INFO AND SOCIAL MEDIA

You can find us at: www.dominion-design.com and on Facebook and Instagram under Dominion Design.





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Kevin Browning
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Family Immunity for the Season Ahead

Good health starts with small, steady choices that strengthen the body's natural defenses.

BY SHAUNA OSBORNE, NATIONAL EDITOR

AS SUMMER WINDS DOWN and schedules ramp up, it's a smart time to give our immune systems a little boost. The shift into back-to-school season, with packed calendars and increased exposure to germs, can put added stress on the body. Luckily, simple daily habits offer gentle but powerful ways to naturally strengthen your family's health and resilience.

FILL YOUR PLATE WITH COLOR.

Bright fruits and vegetables aren't just beautiful; they're packed with nutrients that keep the immune system strong. Aim for five or more servings per day in a rainbow of colors to ensure a variety of vitamins and antioxidants. Citrus is rich in vitamin C, berries bring antioxidants, and garlic and onions contain allicin, a compound with natural antibacterial properties.

MOVE A LITTLE, OFTEN.

Regular physical activity helps reduce inflammation and improves the circulation of immune cells, strengthening the body's natural defenses. It doesn't have to be rigorous; dog walks, bike rides or outdoor playtime all count.

Making movement a shared part of your daily routine, whether a stroll after dinner or quick stretch breaks between homework and chores, builds healthy habits together.

DON'T SKIMP ON SLEEP.

Sleep helps the body repair, regulate inflammation and keep immune cells active. Most adults need 7 to 9 hours per night, while school-aged children typically require 9 to 12 hours, depending on age and activity level. Younger children often need even more. Consistent bedtimes and screen-free wind-down routines go a long way toward restful sleep, especially when electronics are kept out of bedrooms.

STRESS LESS, TOGETHER.

Ongoing stress can weaken immunity over time, especially if unmanaged. Small moments of calm — like deep breathing or quiet, unplugged time — can make a meaningful difference. Adults who model healthy coping strategies help kids learn to do the same. These habits support emotional balance and better sleep, both essential for immune health.



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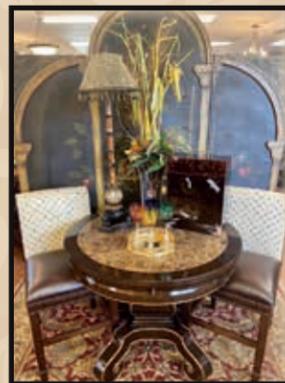


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Eat the Rainbow

BY CHEF ELAINE PERUSQUIA

When the weather heats up, a cool main course salad is just the thing. Think coleslaw meets Asian bistro, and you have one of my favorite summer treats. Refreshing and versatile, this is one you'll want to repeat in your summer recipe rotation. Dubbed "rainbow crunch salad" by my girls when they were little, this dish is both beautifully colorful and delicious. It checks all the boxes of a great salad: fresh ingredients, stellar homemade dressing, and interesting crunch. Best of all, it's easy; no cooking required.

Fresh produce in every color of the rainbow is the hallmark of this salad. I like to use napa and purple cabbages as a base, plus a little shredded kale or romaine lettuce for color. Julienned carrots, red bell pepper, sugar snap peas, scallions, and fresh cilantro round out the produce roster. This recipe makes a lot, so it's great when you need to feed a crowd. Portions can be tossed with dressing and your protein of choice right before serving.

The sesame ginger dressing follows the usual 1:3 ratio of acid to oil for any standard vinaigrette, and it comes together quickly using an immersion blender. Additions like toasted sesame oil, sriracha, and fresh ginger make it irresistible. You'll want to dress this salad lightly and toss to coat every bit. If you like it spicy, add a little more sriracha or a pinch of red pepper flakes. Leftover dressing will last several months in the fridge. If the dressing separates, no problem. Just let it sit at room temperature for a few minutes and give it a good shake.

Rainbow crunch salad is endlessly versatile. As a main course, it's perfect topped with grilled shrimp, salmon, steak, or even rotisserie chicken. For my vegetarian peeps, I love to add chickpeas, edamame, or crispy tofu. Fruits like mandarin oranges or mangoes make this salad even more delicious. Sans protein, rainbow crunch salad is great with teriyaki grilled chicken or atop spicy Korean fried chicken sandwiches.

Every salad, in my humble opinion, needs texture. This salad already contains loads of fresh produce, but the crunch factor goes next level by adding things like toasted cashews, almonds, pumpkin seeds, fried wontons, or crispy chow mein noodles. To keep those crunchy elements crunchy, add them just before tossing and serving.

Whether you're headed to a potluck picnic or you just want something cool and healthy on hand, summer salads are just the thing. I hope you'll give this beauty a try, and feel free to make it your own. Stay cool, and happy cooking everyone!

Rainbow Crunch Salad with Sesame Ginger Dressing

- ½ head napa cabbage, finely shredded
- ½ head purple cabbage, finely shredded
- ½ head romaine lettuce, finely shredded
- 2 cups julienned carrot
- 1 large red bell pepper, julienned
- 1 8 oz. package sugar snap peas, sliced diagonally
- 1 bunch scallions (green parts only), sliced
- 1 bunch cilantro
- Toasted pumpkin seeds, crispy chow mein noodles
- Protein of choice (if desired)
- For the dressing:
 - ½ cup white vinegar
 - 1 cup neutral oil (such as avocado oil or light olive oil)
 - 1 tablespoon fresh ginger, grated
 - 1 ½ tablespoons sugar
 - 1 tablespoon reduced sodium tamari (or soy sauce)
 - 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
 - 1 teaspoon sriracha
 - 1 tablespoon toasted sesame oil

To make the salad: in a large bowl, toss together all ingredients except cilantro, pumpkin seeds, and chow mein noodles. Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator until ready to serve.

For the dressing, combine all ingredients and blend using an immersion blender (or regular blender) until smooth and emulsified. Transfer to a bottle or jar and refrigerate until ready to use. Toss desired portions of salad with dressing and top with toasted pumpkin seeds, crispy chow mein noodles, and cilantro sprigs.



Chef Elaine Perusquia is the mother of two and a graduate of The Culinary Institute of America. A long-time food enthusiast, she is a private chef, food writer, and culinary expert for the Skillr app for iPhone. Follow her on Instagram at [chefelaine.culinarycrossroads](https://www.instagram.com/chefelaine.culinarycrossroads) to see what's cooking between issues.

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