# Weatherford NOW

November 2021

## What If?

The desire of a few to help others results in something bigger

#### 2021 Holiday Shopping Guide



Postal Customer

## Shoeboxes Count

Operation Christmas Child changes lives all over the world

In the Kitchen With Mendy Samman

Also inside: Crossword/Sudoku Featured Business: Elder's Pure Water

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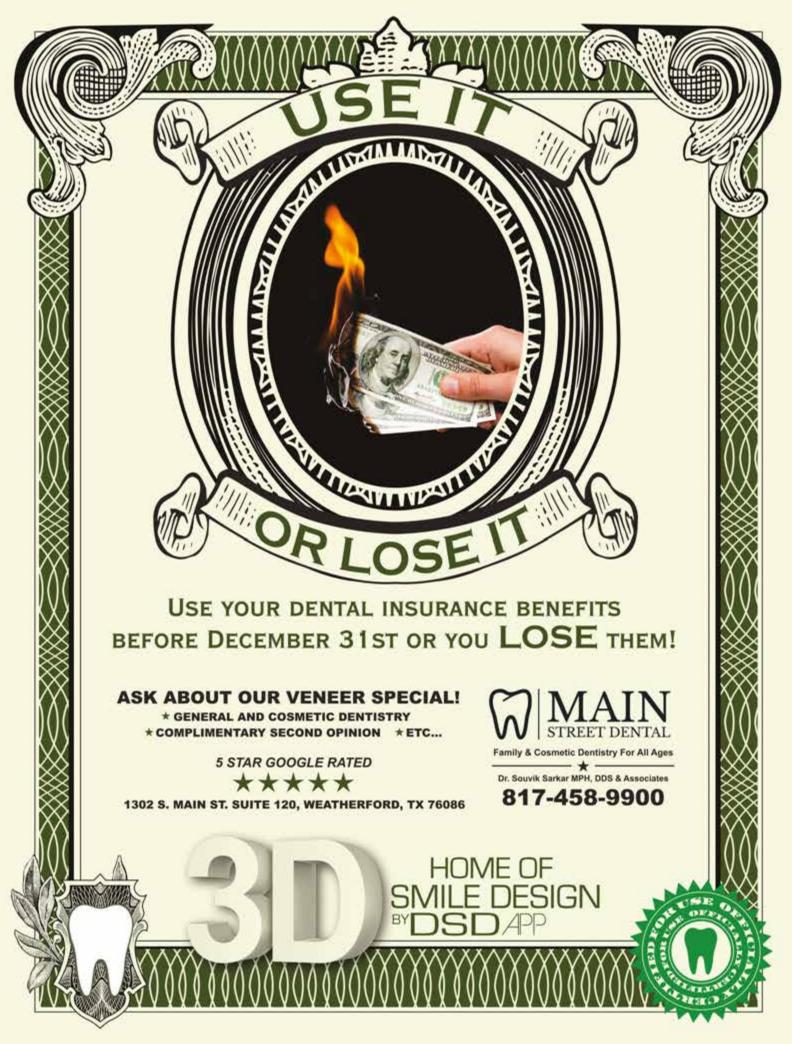


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## SHOEBOXES COUNT

8

Jennifer Eaton, Suzie Carroll and others fill boxes to show love practically.

## 28 WHAT IF?

Sharing baby and kid items transforms into a small community church.



14 BusinessNOW22 Around TownNOW24 CookingNOW

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#### ON THE COVER

Simple giving makes Suzie Carroll and Jennifer Eaton happy.

**Photo by** Constance O'Bryan.

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Lisa Bell WeatherfordNOW Editor lisa.bell@nowmagazines.com (817) 269-9066

## EDITOR'S NOTE

Gratitude improves overall health ...

At least many studies say so. For the last two years, I used a daily five-year gratitude journal. Not only can I reflect on the quotes the author included, but I also get to review what I wrote previously. Some days, I stretched to find an elusive reason to feel grateful. Fortunately, gratitude doesn't depend on emotions. If I find one reason each day, the practice transforms my mind into a place of general thankfulness. Amazing thing, our brains.

My niece recently lost her purse while on a road trip. She had a device in that purse, critical to make her hearing aids work, which was more important than the tiny amount of cash in the bag. Someone found the purse and left it with the business owner, who contacted my sister and shipped it to their next stop. The business owner confirmed it still contained all the cash. My sister told the owner to use it for shipping costs. They all thanked God an honest person found the handbag. When the package arrived, they discovered not only the cash inside, but a box filled with snacks and puzzle books. They decided to thank the sender via social media and then pay forward the businesswoman's kindness.

When we live in a spirt of daily gratitude, giving to others comes easy. Random acts of kindness flow from a grateful heart, and we learn to see something positive regardless of circumstances. As we enter a season set aside to give thanks, may God reveal abundant reasons for transparent and authentic gratitude.

Happy Thanksgiving!



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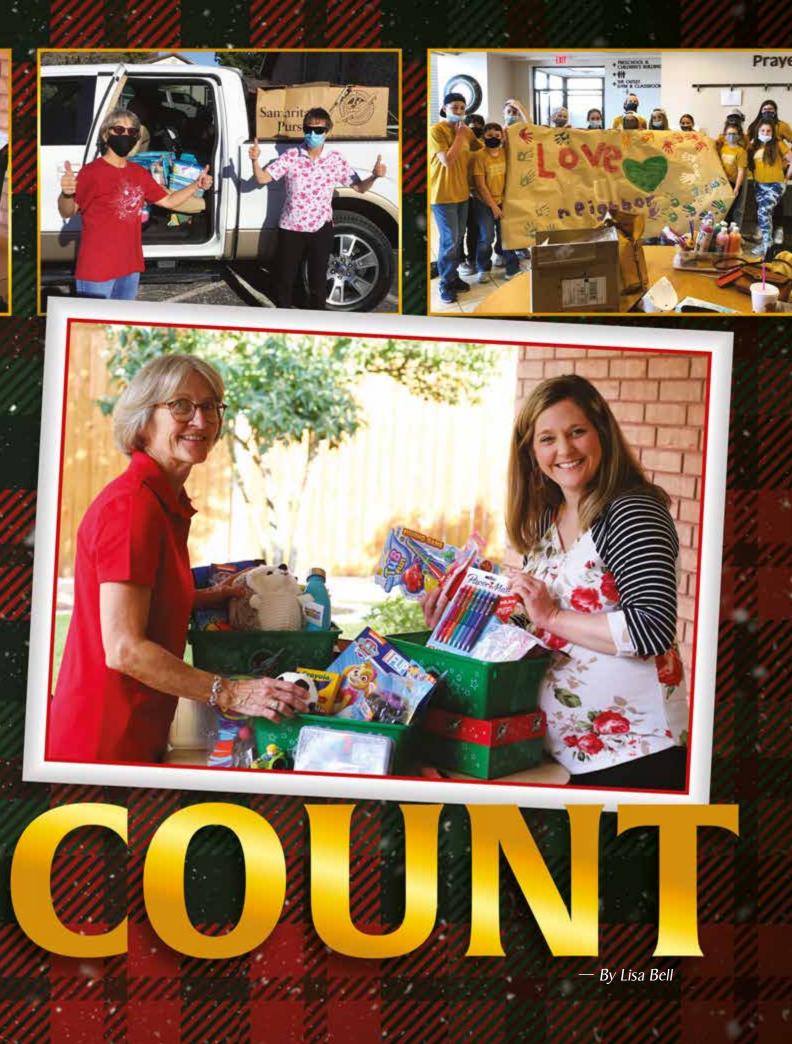
As stores everywhere ramp up for the holiday season, Jennifer Eaton and Suzie Carroll already lined up boxes to fill and send around the world. They aren't alone in this endeavor. Many people choose to give this way at Christmastime, through Operation Christmas Child, often filling multiple boxes. Some use boot boxes to fit more inside, and Suzie admitted, "We don't turn anything down."

Both women grew interested in the organization many years ago, but for different reasons. As a student, Jennifer first participated as a high school student through FCA. "It's a great way to share God's love in a practical way," she said.

Suzie, as a young mother, began filling shoeboxes with her children in 1993. "It's a fun way to involve kids and share the Gospel message with other children around the world," she said. "It's my passion."

Neither woman stopped after their first encounter with this annual event. As a member of Northside Baptist Church, Jennifer became part of their team about five years ago. As a volunteer and mother of two small children, she works with local media to get the word out about a







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program that fuels her passion. She looks forward to a time when her toddler and newborn can help fill the boxes.

"We've gone shopping with other couples for fun," she shared. "You can go to Dollar Tree or visit the dollar aisle at Target or other places to fill boxes without spending too much money. It'll be fun doing it with my kids."

Suzie eventually became more involved while living in Uvalde. Visiting a local restaurant, she discovered the hostess volunteered as the area coordinator. Volunteering, Suzie became the prayer coordinator for that area. For the last five years, she served as a year-round volunteer with Samaritan's Purse, the parent organization for Operation Christmas Child. After moving to Weatherford in spring 2020, she quickly found and plugged into the team at Northside.

With many surrounding area drop-off locations, anyone can take part. The date for collection week never changes from the third week in November. Some sites provide boxes, although any shoebox-sized container works. During the week of November 15-22, 2021, these sites morph into bustling centers, preparing boxes for delivery to the nearest processing center in Coppell. Volunteers as passionate as Suzie and Jennifer offer time and money, alongside donating filled boxes.

Each year, volunteers at the processing center make sure the boxes don't contain liquid or other unallowed items. They distribute any unallowed items to nursing homes or other organizations, so nothing goes to waste. If a box contains extra space, they have available items to add, ensuring a full box. From there, the small boxes make their journey throughout the world, some staying in the U.S., never going to the same child more than once.

The boxes contain a wow gift, small toys, soap, a toothbrush, washcloth, shoes, clothes — whatever the giver can fit inside. Some people get very creative with using space in the small containers, and most include a personal letter. By choosing specific age ranges from 2 to 14 and a boy or girl, each box goes to someone who appreciates the gifts. Sometimes, the child writes back and may begin long-term friendships despite the distance. "It's a very humbling experience," Suzie admitted. "Some of these children never received a gift of any kind. They are so appreciative. With each box the child receives a booklet with pictures sharing the Gospel story in their own language. It literally changes lives by teaching these kids they are worth so much more than they can imagine."

Simple items like school supplies may make the difference in whether a child can attend school. Paper, pencils, crayons and erasers become treasures. Suzie shared a story of meeting a young man who received a box and later visited the United States as a full-circle speaker. He used everything inside and kept the container, which he still uses today.

In 2020, 9.1 million children received a precious gift. The U.S. sent 78 million of those, with the rest coming from many other countries. Operation Christmas Child began with a man from England who called Franklin Graham and asked if he'd fill shoeboxes for children in war-torn Bosnia. That year, through a few churches and additional gifts from Canada, they delivered 28,000 boxes. Since then, over 188 million children received gifts through Samaritan's Purse Ministries-OCC.

While Suzie and Jennifer love giving to this annual program, they can't do all of it alone and encourage individuals and families to take part in what can become an annual tradition as it has for the two of them. Anyone who wants to volunteer on a larger scale can find the perfect spot. Operation Christmas Child gives Suzie a perfect way to share God's love with someone when she can't travel to another country or speak their language.

In the current environment, Operation Christmas Child also provides a way for people to pack a box online. With a small shipping donation and online registration, individuals also get to track their gift to the ultimate destination. Jennifer said, "It's such a simple thing to do, but it can have an enormous impact on a child."

Editor's Note: To learn more, visit www. samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/ operation-christmas-child/, contact Northside Baptist Church in Weatherford, or follow NSBC-Operation Christmas Child on Facebook.



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## BusinessNOW Elder's Pure Water

— By Lisa Bell

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Doing what he knows best, John Elder opened Elder's Pure Water in September 2016. Since that time, he continued improving water quality for residents within 75 miles of his Aledo base. About a year-and-a-half ago, they added air quality improvement to their offerings, creating opportunities for an overall cleaner home.

Elder's Pure Water sells, installs and services water filters, water softeners, reverse osmosis systems and more. They



remove sulfur and iron smells. "We pretty much do it all," John said. "Ozone systems, pumps, tanks — anything to do with drinking water."

By adding air purification systems, they built a concept of clean water, clean air throughout the home. They also service all makes and models of systems, regardless of whether they installed it.

With a wife who teaches in Aledo, two kids and one on the way, John strives to have a company people trust. His fatherin-law now works for him in accounting, so John can focus on consultations and managing installation teams. But his passion for the business comes from helping people and fixing things. "I enjoy meeting new people and getting to talk to different types," he shared. "I like fixing water problems. It's all I've known for over a decade."

As he continued working in the industry, John grew more passionate about what he does. He performs research on

new products and technology, with continuing education as a chief priority. Best known for their customer service, John takes pride in over 160 five-star reviews Elder's Pure Water has received. "We're a small company, but we have an adequate staff," he said. "We are normally only a day or two out from installing your system, and we can get someone out usually on the same day for leaks."

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#### "I like fixing water problems. It's all I've known for over a decade."

John is an active member of his church and donates to The Hope Chest. As part of both East Parker County Chamber of Commerce and Weatherford Chamber of Commerce, they stay involved in the community. He also takes part in Business Network International groups.

Although well water may not smell great, the ground works as an excellent filter. In most cases, well water isn't harmful, though. Still, they can correct the smell when desired. He recommends drinking water systems for point of use. Multi-stage reverse osmosis is a great way to have bottled-water quality.

When requesting a quote for a whole-house system, the cost depends on installation requirements. For newhome builders, John suggests asking for a filtration loop or including the installation during the building process. Both can save hundreds of dollars. "We offer free water consultations, and you can ask about our new, free air-quality test," he said. In November, ask about special pricing on an under-the-sink reverse osmosis system.

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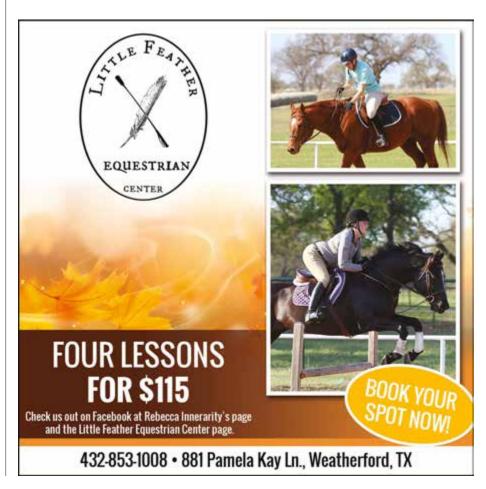
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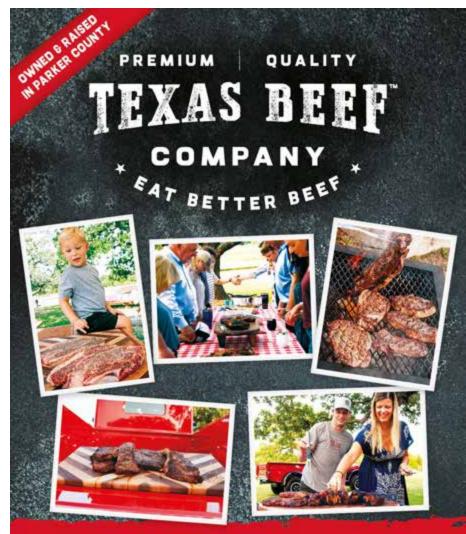
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## 2021 Holiday, Shopping Guide

A quick look at the gift items and discounts available locally.



A special advertising section

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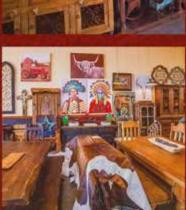
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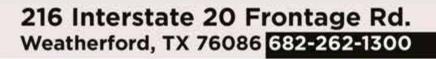
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Around Town



George Stephens, son of the owner, works at the new Casa Decor in downtown Weatherford.

By Lisa Bell

### **Zoomed In:** Damaris Gibson

Mother of five boys, Damaris Gibson, faced a challenge less than halfway through the pregnancy of her youngest son, Pete. "We went for the checkup expecting to learn the baby's sex," she said. "We discovered our new son had clubfoot." She admitted confusion and overwhelming shock at first. "As family and friends prayed for us, peace overtook other feelings."

In response to the unexpected news, Damaris wrote a book titled *Pete's Neat Feet*. "It grew mostly from wanting to help my other sons understand everything happening with their new brother. But it can also encourage other parents during initial shock. One in 1,000 babies in the U.S. are born with clubfoot." After successful treatment, Pete has perfect feet, climbing everywhere and wearing his Ponseti boots only at night.



Sarah Smart and Holley Hamilton welcome fall.



Weatherford College's mascot, Champ, visits the WC Board of Trustees during their board meeting.



City of Weatherford and Weatherford College celebrate a one-of-a-kind partnership at the Parker County Animal Shelter.

## NOW



Volunteers set up the annual pumpkin patch at Central Christian Church to benefit youth programs.



Katherine Lincoln cuddles with Scamp, a kitten she may adopt from Weatherford Whiskers.



Jeff and Jean Poirot dress the part for an evening of fun at Oktoberfest at The Shops at Willow Park.



Amanda Wagner welcomes her aunt, Debra Duffey, from Britain.







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Growing up in Fort Worth, Tex-Mex endures as Mendy Samman's favorite recipes. However, with a husband whose family immigrated from Syria, she also enjoys Middle Eastern cuisine. "I've had a great time learning how to make Syrian food," she said. "Once, I tried to deconstruct a Middle Eastern dish. He couldn't believe I ruined his food." Mendy admitted, she insults him by "ruining" his food with additions or changes, but they fit her tastes.

Around Thanksgiving, Mendy and her twin girls enjoy a tradition of cooking together. They work as a team, talk and learn new cooking techniques for two days each year. A master black-belt and kickboxing instructor, plus personal fitness coach, Mendy owns Toe to Toe Fitness. She gets inspiration from finding healthier ways to prepare favorite dishes. Now

#### **Garlic Paste**

I large bag freshly peeled garlic (found at Sam's) Olive oil, to taste Salt, to taste (optional)

**I.** Boil or roast the garlic until tender. If boiling, drain the water. Place the garlic in a

blender; add 1/2 cup olive oil at a time.
2. Blend the mixture. Continue adding oil until it creates a smooth paste. Add salt, if desired.
3. To store your garlic, put it in a microwaveor freezer-proof container and store in the freezer. Use as needed by microwaving the dish for 1 or 2 minutes. Scrape out the amount of garlic needed and return the container to the freezer.

#### Pumpkin Bundt Cake

- 2 1/2 cups sugar
- 1 cup butter
- 2 tsp. vanilla
- 3 eggs
- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 3 tsp. McCormick pumpkin-pie spice
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 15-oz. can solid-pack pumpkin Confectioners' sugar for dusting

**I.** Preheat the oven to 350 F In a large bowl, combine the sugar, butter and vanilla until blended. Add the eggs, one at a time, beating after each addition.

**2.** In a separate bowl, combine the flour, baking soda, baking powder, pumpkin-pie spice and salt.

**3.** Add to the egg mixture, alternating with the pumpkin, beating well after each addition.**4.** Transfer to a greased 10-inch, fluted tube/

Bundt cake pan. Bake 60-65 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted near the center comes out clean.

**5.** Cool for 30 minutes before inverting onto a wire rack. Remove the pan; cool completely. Dust with confectioners' sugar.

#### Maple Balsamic Cinnamon Chicken

4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts

- 2 cups balsamic vinegar (Adjust amounts to thickness preference.)
- I cup real maple syrup (Adjust amounts to thickness preference.)
- I-2 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 1/2 tsp. garlic powder
- 2 tsp. onion powder
- I Tbsp. chicken base (not bouillon) Salt, to taste

Pepper, to taste

1-2 tsp. red pepper flakes (optional for spice with your sweet)

**I.** Add the chicken to a heated nonstick pan; lightly sear on both sides.

**2.** Add the remaining ingredients. Cover; simmer, watching closely and turning chicken over every few minutes.

**3.** After about 20 minutes of cooking, remove the lid; the sauce will start to thicken. After the sauce reduces to about half and the chicken is done, serve with green beans and sweet potatoes.

**4.** Note: If the sauce thickens too quickly, add more vinegar or water.

#### Mediterranean Chopped Salad With Salmon, Cucumber and Mint

2 cups romaine lettuce, roughly chopped
2 large tomatoes, chopped small
1 cucumber, chopped small
1 yellow bell pepper, chopped small
1/4 cup fresh parsley, chopped small
2 Tbsp. fresh mint, chopped small
1 Tbsp. lemon juice
2 tsp. lemon zest
4 6-oz. salmon fillets (Substitute chicken breast, if desired.)
1/2 tsp. kosher salt
1/4 tsp. ground black pepper

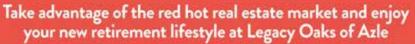
 Preheat the oven broiler to high heat. (If no broiler, preheat the oven to 500 F. For chicken, preheat to 350 F.)
 In a large bowl, combine the romaine, tomatoes, cucumber, bell pepper, parsley, mint, lemon juice and lemon zest.
 Spray baking sheet with nonstick cooking spray; place the salmon on the sheet;











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sprinkle with salt and pepper.
4. Bake for about 10 minutes or until lightly browned on top and cooked through. Check halfway through, and rotate the pan, if needed, for even browning. Note: For chicken, bake for 30 minutes.
5. Spoon the salad into serving bowls; place the salmon on top. Sprinkle with additional lemon zest.

#### **Black Bean Salsa**

- 2 15-oz. cans black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1-2 fresh jalapeños, diced (substitute fresh pepper of choice)
- I-2 Roma tomatoes, diced
- 1 small, sweet onion, diced
- 1 8-oz. bag frozen corn, cooked and drained
- 1/4 tsp. garlic power or garlic paste 1 small lime, juiced, or 1 Tbsp. white-

wine vinegar

Salt, to taste

Pepper, to taste

Drain and cook the beans in water at a simmer for about 10 minutes; drain again.
 After dicing the peppers, place them in a microwave dish; cook for 1-2 minutes to remove bitterness.



**3.** Mix all the ingredients together. Enjoy with chips, on a taco or with fajitas.

#### Garlic Butter Salmon With Lemon Asparagus Skillet

- I medium salmon fillet, cut in 3 or 4 chunks (Substitute chicken, if desired.)
- Salt, to taste
- Pepper, to taste
- 2 bunches asparagus, washed and trimmed
- 1 tsp. olive oil
- 2 tsp. minced garlic
- 1/2 cup low-sodium vegetable broth or white wine
- 1/2 stick butter or 1/4 cup healthy oil
- Juice of 1/2 lemon
- I Tbsp. Tabasco hot sauce (optional) I Tbsp. minced parsley (Substitute cilantro, if desired.)

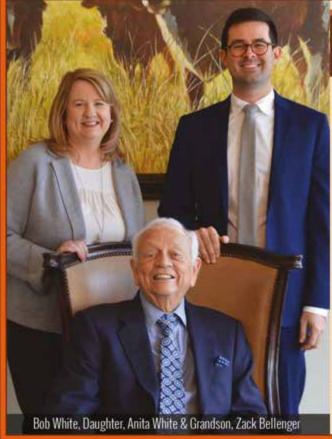
#### Crushed red chili pepper flakes (optional) Several slices of lemon for garnish

**I.** Pat the salmon dry; season with salt and pepper. Set aside while preparing the asparagus. 2. Wash the asparagus; trim the ends. Blanch in boiling water 2-3 minutes; soak in ice water to stop cooking. Drain; set aside. (Skip this step if the asparagus is thin.) 3. Heat the olive oil in a large cast-iron skillet over medium-low heat. Gently cook the salmon on both sides until golden brown; remove the salmon to a plate; set aside. 4. In the same skillet over medium heat, add the garlic; deglaze with broth or wine. Bring to a simmer; add the butter, lemon juice, hot sauce and parsley. Give it a quick stir to combine. 5. Add the asparagus; toss for 2 minutes to cook. Add the salmon back to the skillet: reheat for another minute. Garnish with more parsley, red pepper flakes and lemon slices; serve immediately.

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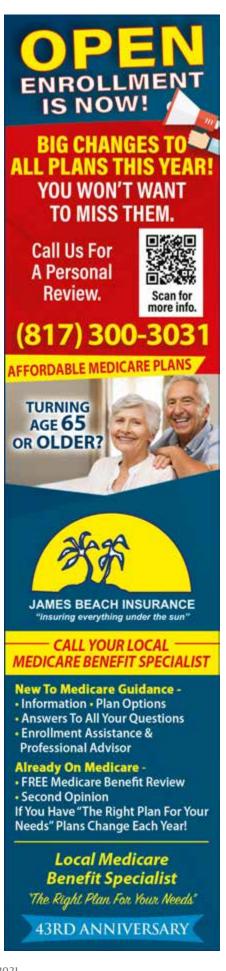


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## TRY IT TODAY!











What if two young moms with many children gave away unused baby items? What if people at church donated used and new items to support that ministry? And what if they outgrew a small space? Tracy Clay and her friend, Meghann Rutledge, learned the answer to those questions — answers they never expected but don't regret.

Tracy and her husband, Greg; Meghann and her husband, Garrett; and Daniel and Noemi Fodoreanu attended church together and, unknowingly, lived practically as neighbors. Noemi and Daniel led worship and youth ministry.

"We had a bunch of kids and baby stuff not being used," Tracy shared. She and Meghann approached church leaders with the idea of starting a ministry to supply these items to families who needed them. The church leaders liked the idea and provided a small storage room, granting access to anything in the supply closet. With expectant moms and foster parents in their church, they knew someone needed everything. Soon, other people donated items, money and even diapers.

"We didn't want moms to feel like they were digging through someone else's junky, dirty stuff," Meghann added. Tracy suggested turning it into a boutique. Finding leftover paint, they renewed walls, creating an inviting space dubbed Childlike Grace Boutique. Garrett, supported her in the endeavor, content to stay in the background.

Anyone could come and select what they needed without stipulations — no proof of low income or reasons for coming, although many confided in the two women. They gathered information only to check on those who came. Starting in October 2014, by November of the same year, they realized it was a thing.

"We have no clue how people learned about our closet," Tracy said. "By December, we had people bringing new toys and other things to help people for Christmas."

Years passed, and the small ministry grew, but the closet didn't. When COVID-19 hit and paused church services, everything ended up in storage. During the shut-downs, Tracy became more fascinated than ever by an abandoned church in the neighborhood. She had tried for three years to find the owner. One day, Greg sent her a picture with a for-sale sign in front of the building.

Purchasing the property, they intended to

expand the boutique. "We thought perhaps in the future we might have a church there, too," Tracy admitted. "In the middle of a school drive, we needed the things out of storage." Unfortunately, one building, infested with termites, required demolition. The original building demanded massive repairs.

With no electricity and a church building under renovation, one Tuesday, the group wondered, *What if we hold an outdoor service on Saturday?* The Fodoreanu family already hosted a Bible study and worship time in their home and had contacted Tracy about a worship night in the distant future.

Many neighbors experienced hurt from established churches, yet a crowd gathered for that first service. Others listened from porches and yards. "We were *Little House on the Prairie*-ing it," Noemi recalled.

"We didn't intend the first time to become weekly," Meghann shared. "People need stuff and food, but they need Jesus more."

Daniel had experience as a worship leader and preacher. Before long, the group realized all six of them should step into leadership roles rather than hire staff.

As colder weather approached in the fall of 2020, a private donor offered materials if they did the work. Then a man from Kingdom Builders, an organization made up mostly of retired pastors, reached out to Meghann. The group volunteered to help with remodeling, so they could move indoors.

With electricity, heat and air, they serve the neighborhood community far beyond a modest boutique. Providing a food pantry in front of the church, they also offer farm-fresh boxes most weeks. Many shut-ins live near the Unabandoned Church. Others don't attend services, but they hang around, sometimes volunteering, and always watching over the building.

"The boutique is up and running, but the Lord wants us to feed them differently now," Tracy said. Operating similar to a first-century church, they see walls coming down in the community. Every time they need something, someone offers it as a gift, such as chairs that came from another church, abandoned when the pastor became ill.

"This church has 'wrecked' us in so many ways," Tracy said. "Having a front-row seat to all God is doing — unforgettable."

While Unabandoned Church still needs work, this handful of unexpected leaders continues reaching out to their neighborhood, making a difference for people who sometimes fight dark battles. "They love hard," the ladies shared. Showing that same love back, these ladies and their husbands prove great things happen when only a few people ask, "What if?" **NOW**  Names of civil rights leaders like Martin Luther King Jr, Malcolm X and John Lewis are known to everyone nationwide, young and old. But here in Texas, much of the progress toward equality was spearheaded by an unassuming woman in old South Dallas. Juanita Jewel Craft helped change the face of race relations in Dallas and beyond.

Juanita Craft isn't the household name that the men are, but she should be. Born in 1902, in Round Rock, by 1925 Craft, as her friends called her, was living in Dallas. She earned a teaching certificate from Samuel Huston College, but worked as a maid at the Adolphus Hotel. In 1935, she joined the NAACP and found her life's work. As the membership chair of the Dallas branch, she hid the membership rolls to protect her fellow members from those who would have used the rolls to harass those fighting for change. She assisted in organizing 182 branches of the NAACP and worked hard to ensure that African-Americans paid their poll tax and secured their rights to vote. She herself had been the first African-American woman to vote in Dallas County. She was surrogate mother to the young members of the Dallas branch, advising them on life choices and choosing the right brides and husbands, as they struggled to integrate lunch counters, schools and the State Fair. She would later be elected to the Dallas City Council for two terms.

Mrs. Craft owned a small house, on Warren St., near Fair Park, but she lived in the guest house out back, running the main house as a boarding house for young men who are leaders in today's NAACP. She welcomed important figures like MLK and LBJ to her house, when they came to talk to her about her work. But she also welcomed the neighbor kids. The girl who lived next door, named her daughter Juanita, for her, and called her Neet. "Mrs. Craft met a lot of people and had a lot of photographs. On one wall of her sitting room, she had a picture of herself with JFK standing behind her. On the opposite wall was a picture of Neet," Patricia Perez recalled.

Patricia was one of those youth who spent countless hours at the Craft house. "That was my house of power. You just felt it being around her. She showed us in word and deed. She was militant, but quiet. She knew what wasn't right and knew it could be changed. She had all these community connections, and she used them to enhance our lives. I felt empowered and special when I was with her."

Bob Lydia was one of those young men who received advice from Mrs. Craft. "I rented a room from her. She'd give me and the other young guys advice on which girls to avoid. Craft was like a mother. She was also artistic. She'd buy wooden boxes and turn them into decoupage purses. She wouldn't accept

any help making them, but she did take the leaves we'd bring her to use. She'd sit on her bed and put in all the screws and nails. She could sew anything. She kept a garden and canned and made jams and jellies. She was very frugal. She wanted to teach us young people how to behave and be respectful. If you wanted something done, all you had to do was sit down with her, and she'd figure out a way. She didn't have to scream and holler. I thought I was too young, but Craft decided I should be the first vice president for the Young Adult Council of the Dallas NAACP, and she made it happen."

In 1977, Mrs. Craft was interviewed for the Black Women's Oral History Project held at Harvard University. In the interview she discussed the hardships of growing up Black in the pre-Civil Rights era. Her mother died in 1935 from tuberculosis, because there was



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no state hospital for Black people. But she never let hardship stop her. And her reach extended far beyond South Dallas, or even Texas. She worked with Eleanor Roosevelt and other national leaders on important issues, and rallied support for Thurgood Marshall as he litigated cases eliminating whites-only primary elections and "separate but equal" education.

She was 73 when she was first elected to the Dallas City Council, where she served from 1975-1979. "When she won, she said, 'I showed 'em!' And a few other words," Bob Lydia remembered. She died in 1985, leaving behind a better Texas for all of us. Her house on Warren St. is now a Civil Rights museum.

#### Sources:

 https://www.nps.gov/people/jjcraft. htm.
 https://dallasculture.org/culturalvenues/juanita-craft-house/.
 https://www.womenintexashistory. org/biographies/juanita-craft/.
 https://iiif.lib.harvard.edu/manifests/ view/drs:45168259\$1i.
 Personal interviews with Bob Lydia and Patricia Perez.





## **Crossword Puzzle**

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Solutions on page 36

#### Across

- 1 Feeling of hunger
- 5 "Four Weddings --- Funeral"
- 9 Operatic solo
- 10 Director of "Amadeus"
- 13 Unfortunate
- 15 Moumful ring
- 16 Great ideas
- 17 In peril
- 19 Fink
- 20 Coats
- 23 Going
- 26 Old capital on the Vistula
- 30 One way to hydrate in hospital
- 32 The first Mrs. Trump
- 33 A shared characteristic, if common
- 36 Inactive state
- 37 Diamond team
- 38 Kind of year
- 39 Where holes are started

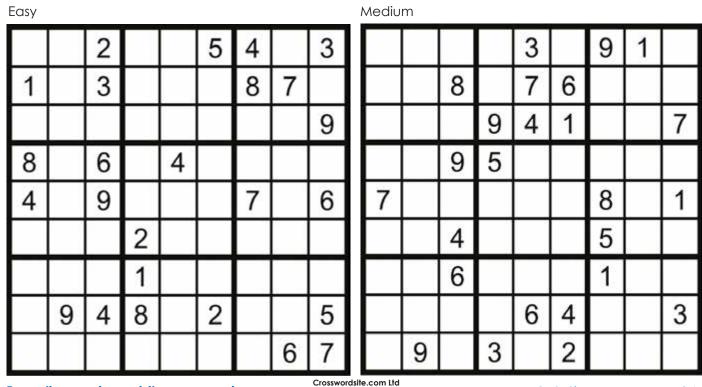
#### Down

- 1 Arctic garment
- 2 --- you forgetting something?
- 3 It hangs near Chad
- 4 Vampire repellent
- 5 Toward the stern
- 6 A negative
- 7 Street
- 8 Fossil resin
- 11 Egyptian dancing-girl
- 12 Digs of twigs
- 12 Digs of twigs
- 14 "Born Free" lioness 18 Fearsome initials
- 18 Fearsome initi
- 21 Emerald Isle
- 22 Learned one
- 23 Chances
- 24 Erode
- 25 Last edition
- 27 Holmes, a Tom Cruise ex
- 28 One- --- (basketball defense strategy)
- 29 Merchandise
- 31 Sit for a portrait
- 34 "Mamma" follower
- 35 Web-connection co.

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## Sudoku Puzzle



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Solutions on page 36



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# Thanksgiving

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

#### 10/22-11/7

Rocket Man: Live theater production. Fridays and Saturdays: 8:00 p.m.; Sundays: 2:00 p.m., Theatre Off the Square, 114 N. Denton St. www.theatreoffthesquare.org.

#### 11/5

#### Burnout Cancer BBQ Cook-off:

Features four meats in a judged show. 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Heritage Park, 317 Santa Fe Dr. For details, visit www.experienceweatherford.com.

#### 11/6

Burnout Cancer Car Show: Top 40 judged show with cash prizes for entered participants. 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Heritage Park, 317 Santa Fe Dr. www.experienceweatherford.com.

#### 11/13

#### **Coyote Chase Race:**

27th annual 5K and 1-mile runs. Register online. 9:00 a.m. start for both races, Weatherford College. www.wc.edu/chaserace.

#### **Holiday Open House:**

Visit the Junktion for an early holiday open house. 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., 125 North Elm. www.experienceweatherford.com.

#### 11/20

Clark Gardens Date Night:

For 21-plus, enjoy the beautiful garden and entertainment. Bring an evening picnic, beer or wine (no liquor). \$20/couple. 5:30-7:30 p.m., Clark Gardens, 567 Maddux Rd. (940) 682-4856, www.clarkgardens.org.

#### 12/3

#### **Celebrity Cutting:**

Event featuring celebrities from all walks of life benefits Careity in their support of the cancer community. General Admission: \$20. 7:30 p.m., Will Rogers Coliseum, Fort Worth. www.careity.org/portfolio-items/ celebrity-cutting/.

#### 12/4, 12/18

#### Christmas Movie Magic Tours:

Celebrate the holiday season by seeing how movies come to life. Tour includes Capernaum Studios' festive statue garden. Purchase tickets online. Various times available, Capernaum Village,

10700 FM 920, Poolville. www.capernaumstudios.com.

#### Weekend Prior to First Mondays

#### Weatherford First Monday Trade Days:

Event held on Friday-Sunday prior to the first Monday. One of the oldest open-aired markets in Texas steeped in tradition and located in the heart of the historical district. 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m., 200 Santa Fe Dr. rhamilton@weatherfordtx.gov or (817) 598-4359.

#### Mondays

Aledo Farmers Market: Now open all year long (weather permitting). Farm fresh items and homemade novelties available for purchase. 3:00-7:00 p.m., Aledo Community Center Parking Lot, IO4 Robinson Ct., Aledo. www.aledo-texas.com.

#### Tuesdays and Thursdays

Storytime at the Library: Back in person and streamed live to Facebook. 10:30 a.m., Weatherford Public Library Reading Pavilion, 1014 Charles Street. For more information, visit www. weatherfordtx.gov/142/Library.

#### Third Thursdays

#### Evergreen for Senior Adults:

Hosted by Northside Baptist Church, senior adults enjoy a monthly meeting followed by a potluck lunch. 10:30 a.m., Northside Baptist Church, 910 N. Main Street.

#### Quilter's Guild of Parker County:

Meeting in-person and on Zoom. Come early to socialize. 6:45 p.m., Lakeshore Drive Baptist Church, 200 Lakeshore Drive, Hudson Oaks. For more information, visit www.quiltersguildofparkercounty.org.

NOVEMBER

#### Second Fridays

Parker County Women's and Newcomers Club: Social hour, Club Shop, a special program and lunch. \$11 for lunch. Social hour: 9:30 a.m.; meeting begins: 10:30 a.m., FUMC Family Life Center, 301 S. Main Street. Lunch reservation, Shirley, (817) 757-7379. www.pcwnc.org.

#### **Living Waters Writers:**

Christian writing group for encouragement and feedback. Free open group. 2:00-4:00 p.m., Hood County Library, Granbury. Lisa, (817) 269-9066 or LisaBell@bylisabell.com.

#### **Spring Creek Musical:**

Old-time musical with bluegrass, gospel and country music. Concession stand available with all proceeds going toward expenses. Free and open to the public. 6:00 p.m., 100 Spring Creek Rd. Spring Creek Musical on FB.

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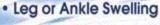
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