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M A G A Z I N E

DECEMBER 2021

## Traditions of Christmas

At Home With  
Rachel Lee

2021 Holiday  
Shopping Guide

In the Kitchen With  
Becky Herrera

Also inside:

Scavenger Hunt

Crossword/Sudoku

Featured Business:  
Sugar Ridge Winery



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## ON THE COVER

*Rachel Lee's home reflects  
the things about the season  
that mean the most to her.*

**Photo by**  
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# EDITOR'S NOTE



*Bill*

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## *The Perfect Gift...*

In Christmas past, we have searched far and wide for the “perfect gift,” so much so that a lot of angst was experienced. Are you old enough to remember waiting almost too late in the season to purchase a Cabbage Patch doll, or perhaps Tickle Me Elmo? Those “important” toys go back before online shopping was popular. The Cabbage Patch doll we purchased for our daughter came from a very clandestine operation that my sister pulled off in an Albertson’s store in Tyler, because she “knew someone who knew someone.” The details of the purchase would make a plot for a spy movie.

I must admit that our shopping as grandparents seems to have moved from popular to practical, at least to some degree. We tend to let the parents enter the fray for the hard-to-find items, our thoughts being that we will get the kids the things they really “need.” However, we do still enjoy shopping in our local “bricks and mortar” stores, especially at Christmas. There is just not as much excitement filling up an online shopping cart. Going into the local stores, enjoying the downtown decorations, the Christmas music playing from the outdoor speakers, interacting with people we know, including the merchants, their employees or friends that we have known for many years, makes pulling on a sweater and the trip to town more than worthwhile.

I hope you will patronize our local merchants as you look for gifts this year. I know we sometimes lose our Christmas focus in the hustle and bustle of holiday activities. May you find joy in the Perfect Gift this year.

*Merry Christmas!*

*P.S. The publisher and staff of NOW Magazines would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and the happiest of holiday seasons!*



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# AT HOME WITH RACHEL LEE





# TRADITIONS OF *Christmas*

— By Bill Smith


*Rachel Lee, who grew up in Ellis County in a family with a lot of Christmas traditions, likes to decorate her home for the seasons. “Christmas is my favorite time of year to decorate, and having a child causes me to want to make it more magical,” she offered. Rachel spent years out of state pursuing her education, and now that she is back home, she continues to build on those holiday traditions.*

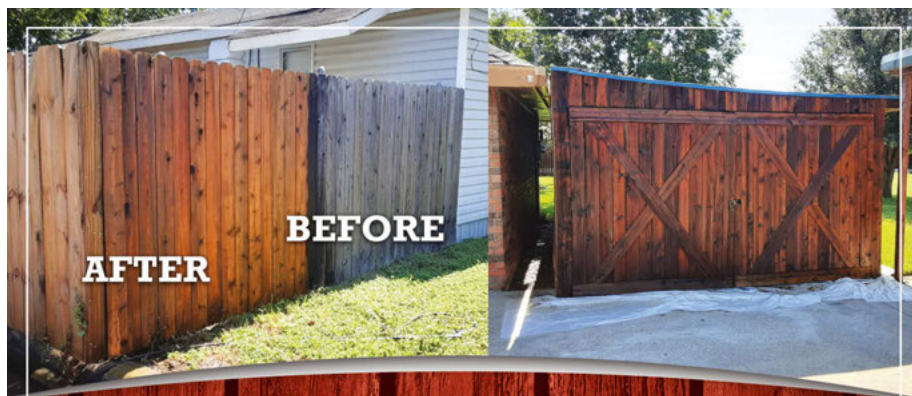
Rachel began pursuing her nursing career as soon as she finished high school at Scurry-Rosser. After attending Trinity Valley Community College, she spent a few years in the Washington, D.C., area, eventually completing her internship at Virginia Hospital Center. The move back home came in 2015. Baylor Scott & White Medical Center in Waxahachie had recently been completed, and Rachel went to work there as a surgical nurse.

In 2016, after some extensive remodeling, she and her young son, Clark, made the house she purchased a cozy home. “We did a complete remodel, including removing the wall that separated the dining room from the living room,” she explained.

“My parents and brother, Robert, live here, and Clark and I are able to spend a lot of our free time with them,” Rachel mentioned. “They were a great help getting our house ready, and my parents have just finished building their own new home, where I know they will continue the Christmas traditions.”

In her own home, before the Christmas decorations came out, the fall decorations with pumpkins, scarecrows and autumn leaves had to be stored away. “The milk can on the hearth has holly in it now, but the holly just replaced the fall flowers,” she said. All of the fireplace is decorated for the season. Bright, white and twinkling lights entwined with green garland adorn the mantel. A snowman and a Christmas mouse hold the stockings in place. “The stockings were handmade by a nurse I worked with in Waxahachie,” she explained. The stockings are large enough for an ample supply of Christmas treats, and they are personalized with the names *Rachel* and *Clark* in large script.





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Tall candlestands painted white contrast with the red candles. A winter-themed plaque says *home-sweet-home*, and another sign on the hearth proclaims *joy to the world*. Ever ready to produce a roaring blaze to enhance the cozy atmosphere is an ample supply of firewood.

On the coffee table stands a lone nutcracker, but he is expected to be accompanied by many more in the near future. "I have a collection of them," Rachel explained. "The rest of them are stored away in my parents' attic, but they will be coming home soon."

Rachel and Clark's Christmas tree is beautifully decorated with white lights similar to those that grace the mantel. Some of the ornaments are very special because not only are they handmade, but they are actually salt dough impressions of Clark's hands. One of them is the likeness of Santa Claus. Another is obviously Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer. A third ornament, which Clark made in Sunday School, is in the shape of a Christmas tree. It proclaims many of the biblical names attributed to God and Jesus that are often included in Christmas carols.

Several accent pieces in Rachel's home were built by Robert, whom Rachel said can build anything. "He built the TV stand and gave it to me for my birthday," she said. "The other table was a gift for Christmas two years ago. It is my favorite table to decorate. Right now, it is decorated for Christmas with garland, a reindeer, a nativity and three family pictures. I have had the

nativity for more than 10 years, and it has traveled all over the country with me. The pictures are of Clark in pre-K and first grade. Earlier in the fall, it was decorated with pumpkins. Robert also built the A-frame plant stand. People at work call me 'The Crazy Plant Lady.' It is shaped like a Christmas tree, so I string lights on it during the season.



"Now that Clark is getting older, he is learning about our Christmas traditions," Rachel said. "We have always had the advent candles. Clark has a book called *Happy Birthday Jesus*. It includes the advent calendar. Mom's family is Italian, so we have Italian Christmas traditions, and we get together with our cousins the week after Christmas. Robert usually comes by for a while on Christmas Eve. On Christmas morning, it will be just Clark and me, then we will go to Mom and Dad's. We are looking forward to this first Christmas in their new home.

"The gingerbread house was new last year. It was the first year Clark showed an interest in it, and he decorated it. I'm sure we will do it again this year."

The outside of the house is decorated with white icicle lights, and the trunk of the big oak trees are well-wrapped in lights, as are the small shrubs in the flower beds. "Dad and Robert put those up for us," Rachel acknowledged. She said her father provided the Santa Claus in the yard, who seems to wave to people passing by as he is touched by the fall and winter breezes.

"We celebrate Jesus," Rachel emphasized. "It means more to us to teach Clark what Christmas really means. My parents always did that." **NOW**



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The background of the top half of the flyer is a photograph of an MRI machine. A large, light blue circular gantry is the central focus, with a patient bed extending from its center. To the right of the gantry, the 'Innate Imaging' logo is overlaid. The logo consists of a stylized 'I' made of blue and purple geometric shapes, with a network of white dots and lines above it. Below the 'I' is the word 'INNATE' in blue capital letters, and below that is the word 'IMAGING' in white capital letters on a purple rectangular background.

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BusinessNOW

# Sugar Ridge Winery

— By Bill Smith

## Sugar Ridge Winery

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Sugar Ridge Winery first opened to the public in April 2011. Owners Michele and Don Andrews wanted something they could do together, and the winery has been a family business since its beginning.



“The labels on our wine bottles mean something to us. Sometimes, the meaning may be obvious — on other bottles the meaning may be subtle, and our customers will have to ask if they want to hear the story,” Michele advised. “The label on our North and South wine represents Don and me. This property belonged to my grandparents, and I have lived here all my life. Don is a Yankee, so North and South represents us. We honor my grandparents with a wine we call Heritage. Their picture is on the label, along with a very brief history of the property.”

Don said the winery got started by accident. Michele explained, “Mom gave us a winemaking kit for Christmas in 2007. Soon after that, we started going to winemaking classes.” Don continued studying and took winemaking certification classes with Texas Tech’s Department of Plant and Soil Science. Now, he is a certified enologist through their Texas Winemaking Certificate Program.

Walking through the production facility, Don said, “Michele

handles all of our retail and distribution, as well as some of the TABC things. My role is production.” The production facility has a number of large stainless-steel vats, as well as containers of new grape juice to be processed. There is also a new bottling production line. “Just about all of these vats are full right now. The process takes a year or more to complete for the proper aging of the wine. Even though we are using stainless vats, we still use oak to flavor some of the wines. We purchase oak barrels, then use the staves for flavor as the wine ages.”

From the beginning, April has been a big month for the winery, and brings all of the family in, particularly during the Bluebonnet Trails. Michele explained, “We have our children and even grandchildren involved. One year, when we tried growing our own grapes, the grandchildren tried to sell the grapes for pennies and nickels. Grandparents may help out just by watching the kids. It has always been a family business, and we welcome families to come and enjoy the winery.”

Over the years, the winery has grown from producing four varieties of wine to the present 24, and from annual production of 200 cases to about 3,500. “Though we were closed to the public for 32 weeks during 2020, we had started our wholesale distribution, and it has continued to grow. Sugar Ridge wine can now be found in 120 retail stores and restaurants, including Doc’s, H-E-B and Spec’s.

“We also have a restaurant located with the winery, and we have a wonderful cook. We are thrilled with the people we have met from all around who continue to come and enjoy our wines. Visitors from the Bluebonnet Trails have been some of our best customers and have become great friends over the years. A man from Italy came during the Bluebonnet Trails in 2011 and has been here every year since, except for last year when the trails were closed. However, we are first and foremost a local winery that caters to people in this area. We love that families can continue to come and find a variety of quality, affordable wines to enjoy.” **NOW**

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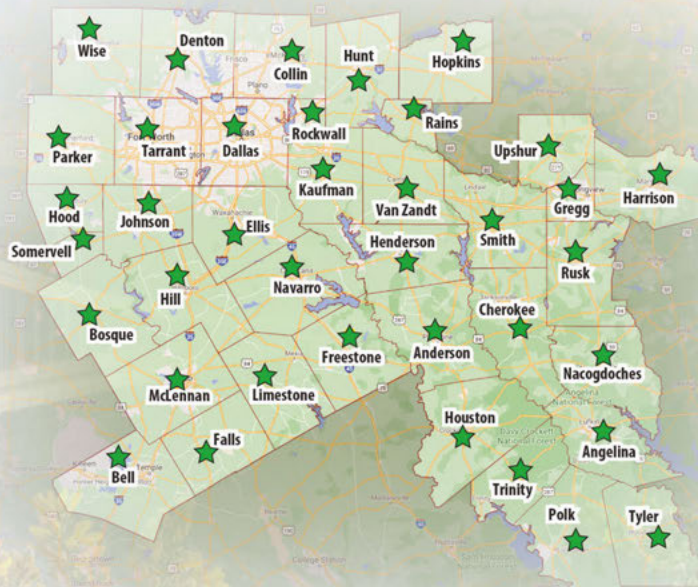
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## Zoomed In: Cayden and Brayden Isbell

By Bill Smith

Ennis twins, Cayden and Brayden Isbell, enjoyed spending time downtown at the Autumn Days festival. They are 9 years old and in the third grade at Ennis public schools now, after a time of being homeschooled during the pandemic.

Cayden and Brayden enjoy being outdoors, as well as playing video games. They spend a lot of time in livestock shows, following in the footsteps of their grandparents, parents and older brother. Their mother, Lynda Isbell, said, "The whole family is involved with showing animals. Cayden and Brayden's older brother comes down three times a week and helps with grooming and training. They just acquired the stock for their next season, which will begin in Fort Worth during January and February."



*Dariana Salas smiles while watching the children's entertainment during Mornings at Minnie.*



*Nora and Kristin Glaspy make time for some early Saturday shopping at the Bluebonnet Market.*



*New downtown business The Rustic Shed to Home holds a ribbon cutting.*



*New nail salon Grand Lux holds an open house and ribbon cutting.*



Aubrey, Haley, Nick and Everleigh Dixon are about to enter the hay maze.



McKenzie, Julie and Mike May enjoy a Saturday lunch at Home Grown Market.



Jim Haberman, physical therapist, brings a program on senior safety to the Ennis Host Lions Club.

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**DEC. 3, 4, 10, 17, & 18**

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**DEC. 4**

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**DEC. 10-12**

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**DEC. 17-19**

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**DEC. 31**

Downtown Countdown



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



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

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

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CookingNOW

## In the Kitchen With BECKY HERRERA

— By Bill Smith

“Cooking for me is therapeutic,” Becky Herrera shared. “I love my work as a realtor, but I find comfort and peace cooking for family and friends. I also enjoy cooking with another friend and church member for our church family on Wednesday nights.”

Many of Becky’s recipes have been passed down over the years from her grandparents. “There was not a lot of precise measuring,” she said. “Some of this and a little bit of that, taste it and continue tweaking until you had the right flavor you wanted.”

“My interest in cooking came after having children. We didn’t eat out much, and so the cooking journey began. I try not to duplicate meals if possible, keeping it mixed up. I primarily enjoy cooking down-home comfort foods and baking.” **NOW**

### Banana Pudding

Maternal grandfather’s recipe.

**2/3 cup sugar**  
**2 heaping Tbsp. flour**  
**Dash of salt**  
**1 egg**  
**2 cups milk**

**1 tsp. vanilla**  
**1 box Nilla wafers (to use as needed for layering)**  
**4-6 medium bananas, sliced (to use as needed for layering)**

**1.** Mix the sugar, flour and salt together in a saucepan.

**2.** Beat the egg into the dry mixture.

**3.** Slowly add the milk; combine in the saucepan. Cook until thickened, stirring constantly.

**4.** Remove from heat; add the vanilla.

**5.** In a bowl layer Nilla wafers, sliced bananas, and cover with a layer of custard. Repeat this layering until all custard is used.

*Note: This recipe can be doubled or tripled to make as much as needed.*

### Loaf Cake

**4 eggs**  
**1 cup butter**  
**2 cups sugar**  
**3 cups flour**  
**3 tsp. baking powder**  
**1 cup milk**  
**1/4 tsp. vanilla extract**  
**1/2 tsp. almond extract**

**1.** Separate the eggs; beat the whites until stiff.

**2.** Cream the butter and sugar until the mixture

is fluffy. Add the egg yolks; beat thoroughly.

**3.** Combine the flour and baking powder. Add the flour mixture to the egg mixture, alternating with the milk.

**4.** Add the vanilla and almond extracts. Fold in the egg whites.

**5.** Pour the batter into a greased tube pan. Bake for 1 hour at 350 F.

## Goosey

*Paternal grandmother's recipe.*

**2 lbs. ground beef**

**1 medium onion, diced**

**4 garlic cloves, minced**

**Salt, to taste**

**Pepper, to taste**

**2 medium potatoes, diced.**

**2 cups beef broth**

**1 8-oz. can Goya tomato sauce**

**Water, as needed**

**1.** Brown the beef with the onions, garlic, salt and pepper; drain the grease.

**2.** Add the potatoes to the beef mixture.

**3.** Add the beef broth and Goya tomato sauce.

**4.** Simmer until the potatoes are tender, stirring occasionally. Add water as needed.

## Mexican Chicken and Rice

**Cooking oil, to taste**

**1 2-lb. bag white rice**

**1/2 yellow onion, chopped**

**5 cloves garlic, minced**

**32 oz. chicken broth**

**1 8-oz. can Goya tomato sauce**

**Cumin, to taste**

**Salt, to taste**

**Pepper, to taste**

**Rotisserie chicken, deboned**

**Water, to taste**

**1.** Pour just enough cooking oil into a skillet to cover the bottom. (I use a cast-iron skillet.)

**2.** Brown the rice; add the onions, garlic, chicken broth, tomato sauce and spices.

**3.** Add the deboned rotisserie chicken to the mixture; stir. Simmer until the rice is tender.

**4.** Add water as needed if the broth evaporates. Be sure to stir from the bottom as it cooks.

## Hummingbird Pound Cake

*Cake:*

**3 cups flour**

**2 cups sugar**

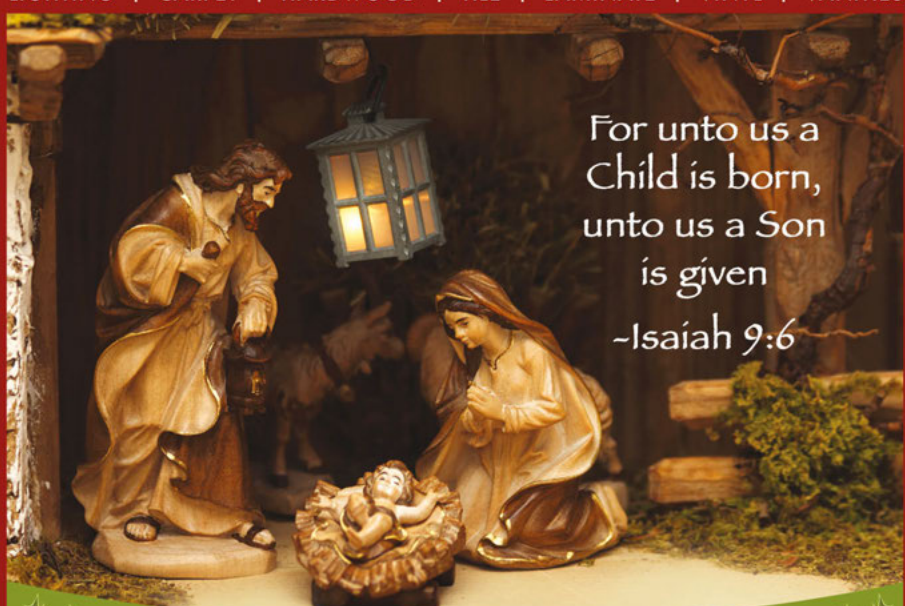
**2 cups ripe bananas, diced**

**1 8-oz. can crushed pineapple, drained, but save the juice**

**1 1/2 tsp. vanilla**

**1 1/2 cups Wesson oil**

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For unto us a  
Child is born,  
unto us a Son  
is given  
-Isaiah 9:6

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Banana Pudding

1 tsp. baking soda  
1 tsp. cinnamon  
3 large eggs, well beaten  
1/2 cup pecans, chopped

*Glaze:*  
Reserved pineapple juice  
1 tsp. Wesson oil  
Powdered sugar, as needed

1. For cake: In a large bowl, sift together the flour and sugar. Add remaining ingredients. Stir, but *do not* beat.  
2. Cook in a Bundt pan at 350 F for 1 hour and 5 minutes.

3. For glaze: Mix the pineapple juice and Wesson oil with powdered sugar to your desired consistency; pour over the cake.

## Mexican Casserole

1 large onion, chopped  
Oil or grease, enough for sautéing  
2 lbs. ground beef  
1 15-oz. can enchilada sauce  
1 15-oz. can taco sauce (hot or medium)  
Salt, to taste  
Pepper, to taste  
Garlic powder, to taste  
1 10.75-oz. can cream of mushroom soup  
1 10.75-oz. can cream of chicken soup  
1/2 can water  
Crushed tortilla chips, enough to layer

1. In a skillet, sauté the onion in hot grease. Add the ground beef; brown the beef.  
2. Add the enchilada sauce, taco sauce, salt, pepper and garlic powder.  
3. In a bowl, combine the soups and water.  
4. Line a casserole dish with crushed tortilla chips.  
5. Put in a layer of the meat mixture on top of the tortilla chips. Add a layer of the soup mixture on top of the meat mixture. Top with more crushed tortilla chips.  
6. Bake for 20 minutes in 250 F oven.

## Smothered Pork Chops

Serves 4-6.

4-6 pork chops, 1/2-inch thick  
Oil, enough for browning  
1 10.75-oz. can cream of chicken soup  
2 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce  
1/4 cup ketchup  
1 medium onion, sliced or chopped  
2 stalks celery (optional)  
Salt, to taste  
Pepper, to taste

1. In a skillet, brown the pork chops in hot oil. (Do not flour them.)  
2. Drain off the fat; add the remaining ingredients.  
3. Cook, simmering, for 45 minutes.

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# SMALL TOWN, Big Personality



Photo courtesy of the National Park Service.



Photo courtesy of the National Park Service.

*This Hill Country town may be small, but it boasts some of the biggest personalities in Texas. While not named after him, the community was the home of Lyndon B. Johnson, the 36th president of the United States of America. The Lyndon B. Johnson National Historic Park, located in both Johnson City and neighboring Stonewall, is only one interesting part of this town.*

A city twinkling with small-town personality, come visit and explore all the hidden treasures the charming community has to offer. From wildflowers in the spring to historic sites, wine trails to Christmas lights, Johnson City has something for the entire family. Johnson City's convenient proximity to the state capital keeps you connected while still affording the benefits of small-town living. In the words of Lyndon B. Johnson, "All the world is welcome here."

Full of history and family adventure, everyone will want to visit President Johnson's boyhood home and ranch. The home of Texas legends, take in the Sauer-Beckmann Living History Farm or the Behrens Cabin.

Learn while having fun at the Science Mill. A family destination, they offer a fun, interactive learning environment for all ages. Through cutting-edge, technology-based exhibits, games and programs, the Science Mill expands students' understanding and appreciation of science in their everyday lives. By igniting their curiosity and inspiring them to pursue post-secondary education, the Science Mill experience starts students on the path to a lifelong career in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

While in Johnson City, explore the great outdoors at Pedernales Falls State Park. You can camp, hike, mountain bike, picnic, geocache, bird-watch and ride horses. On the river, you can swim, wade, tube or fish. Look for local wildlife and plants at the bird blind and butterfly garden. It's the perfect way to spend time outdoors with your family or friends.

Local shops offer an array of items, including specialty items unique to Johnson City. Our art galleries are unrivaled in the area. We have several wineries, breweries and distilleries. Your journey across the 290 Texas Wine Trail starts here and works west to Fredericksburg, Texas.

The Exotic Resort Zoo & Safari Cabins is a wildlife park where you can go on a guided safari. Things are always wild and fun for all ages. With art, science, history, farms, outdoor activities and plenty of shopping, everyone in the family can enjoy the trip. Iconic restaurants wait to serve your new favorite dish, featuring a memorable experience different from the ordinary chain restaurant. Stay with us at a cozy hotel or one of our hospitable bed-and-breakfasts for that "not in the big city" feel.

During Christmastime, Johnson City features Light Spectacular. The community transforms itself from a slow-paced, presidential hometown nestled on the banks of the Pedernales River, into a bright beacon of light like a guiding star, welcoming visitors with good old-fashioned Christmas cheer. Included on multiple top Christmas towns in Texas lists, consider making this a memory of a lifetime or a regular tradition for your family.

Whether you decide to stay for a weekend, a week or a lifetime, come see why Johnson City is the Crossroads to Texas Hill Country. It's a trip you may want to repeat often. **NOW**

By Mayor Rhonda Stell and Frances Giron, executive director, Johnson City Visitors Center/Chamber of Commerce. Photos, unless otherwise noted, courtesy of Johnson City Chamber and Visitors Center.

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# FinanceNOW

## Ranking Your Goals: A Smart Move

Like most people, you may have several financial goals. But can you reach them all?

It would be simple if you had great wealth. But you'll likely need to rank your goals in terms of their importance to your life and then follow appropriate strategies to achieve them. By doing so, you may end up getting pretty close to covering each of your objectives, in one way or another.

When prioritizing your goals, consider following this process:

**Identify goals as “must have” or “nice to have.”** Making sure you don't outlive your resources is a must-have goal, so you need to be as certain as possible of achieving it. On the other hand, a nice-to-have goal might be something like buying a vacation home. If you don't attain the money needed for this goal, you do have room to compromise, perhaps by scaling down to a smaller home in a different area or just renting a place for a few weeks a year. Having this flexibility can provide a psychological benefit, too. Since this goal doesn't have an either-or outcome, you won't have to feel that you failed if you don't get the big vacation home — instead, you can still enjoy the results of your investment efforts, even at a more modest scale.

**Put “price tags” on your goals.** You need to know what your goals will cost. Even if you can only make an estimate, it's essential to have some figure in mind. As time goes by, you can always revise your projected costs. To arrive

at these price tags, you may want to work with a financial professional who has the tools and technology to create hypothetical illustrations and scenarios.

**Follow an appropriate strategy.** The nature of your goals and their estimated cost will drive your investment strategy. So, for example, using the must-have goal mentioned above — the need to avoid outliving your money — you'll want to balance your growth objectives with your comfort with risk, as well as maintain an appropriate withdrawal strategy when you're retired. However, for a nice-to-have goal, such as your large vacation home, perhaps you don't need the same urgency — consequently, with part of your portfolio, you might be able to take more risk in hopes of greater returns. And if you fall short, you can always go with Plan B — i.e., the smaller home or the rental experience. But if your “nice to have” is closer to a “must have” in this area as well, you might want to focus less on achieving greater returns and instead look at ways of adjusting your budget to save more.

**Monitor your results.** As you pursue your goals, whether must have or nice to have, you'll want to check your results regularly. If you think you're not making enough progress toward your desired goal, you may need to make adjustments. But don't overreact to short-term swings in the financial markets or in the value of your portfolio, or take on an inappropriate amount of risk. When trying to reach your goals, you can alter your path, but it's usually not a good idea to change directions altogether.

The decisions involved in identifying, prioritizing and achieving your goals can be somewhat involved. But by following a well-designed process, you can help yourself get to where you want to go. **NOW**

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC. Jeff Irish is an Edward Jones representative based in Ennis.*

## Merry Christmas

During this holiday season,  
we wish you all the best.



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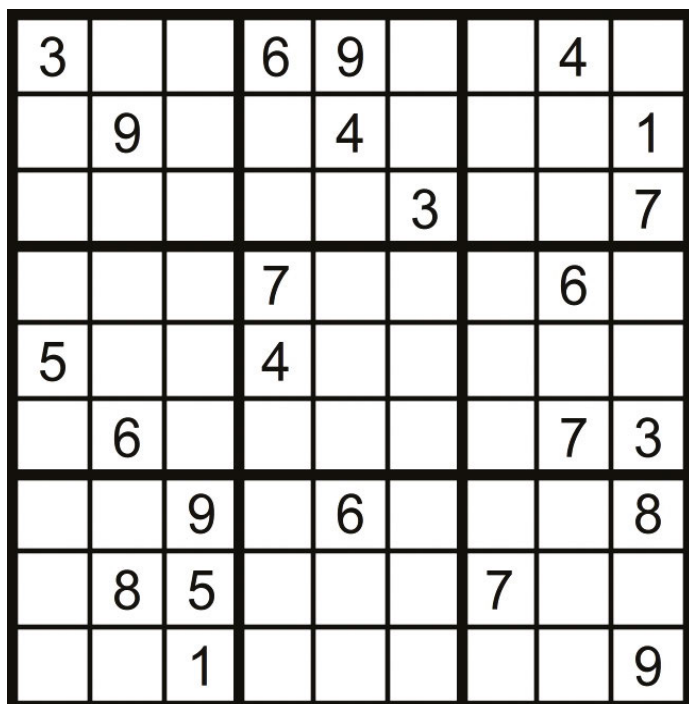
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Linda Roberson

# Crossword Puzzle



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## Across

- 1 Rotten
- 4 Wanted an answer
- 9 Art movement intended to shock
- 10 Official Texas state dish
- 11 Wiping out
- 14 Thick mane
- 15 Youngster
- 16 Found in the middle of Arizona
- 17 We're all --- together
- 19 Heat up
- 20 9/11's mastermind
- 22 Polar shipping hazard
- 25 Donned for dinner
- 29 Abu Dhabi is its capital
- 30 Artificial locks
- 31 What a captured soldier becomes
- 32 Confused pooches test vet's instrument
- 35 Jakarta-based inter-governmental organization
- 36 Finishes off a cake
- 37 Written phone messages
- 38 Withdrawn

## Down

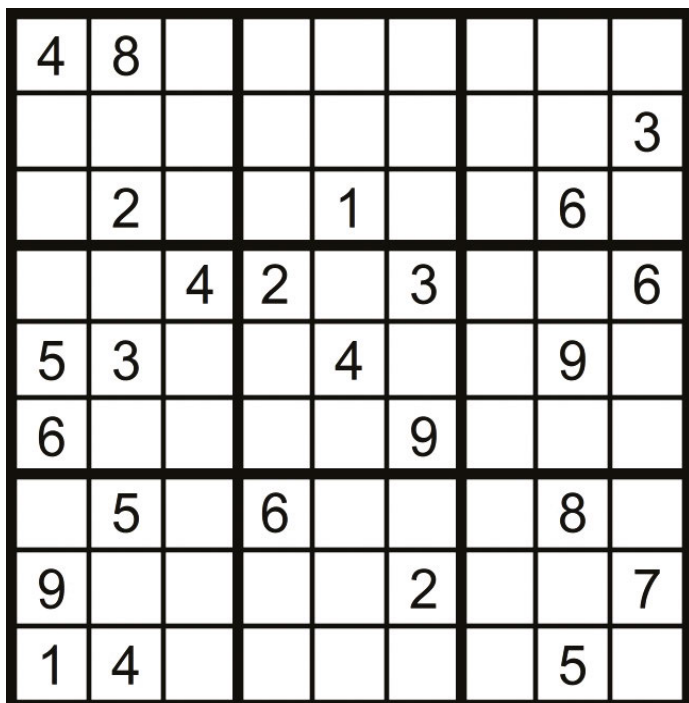
- 1 Beef cut for a nobleman?
- 2 Adjust to fit
- 3 The old man
- 4 Charges
- 5 Food fish
- 6 Baby ferret
- 7 Higgins's prodigy
- 8 Casual eatery
- 9 Bruce's ex
- 12 Sacred Egyptian bird
- 13 Sparkler
- 18 Harley
- 19 Grow
- 21 Faces
- 22 Type of conductor
- 23 --- Joe's (classic gustatory exhortation)
- 24 Della ---, jazz and Gospel singer
- 26 Bit of a period
- 27 One of a famous septet
- 28 Has yet to settle
- 30 "Huh?"
- 33 Man from Dallas or Amarillo, perhaps
- 34 Successor to the U S S R

Solutions on page 44

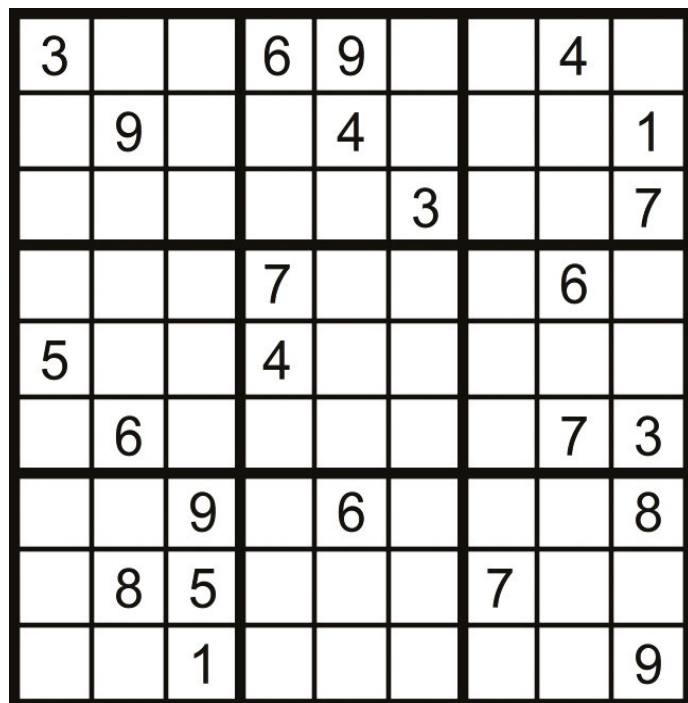
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# Sudoku Puzzle

Easy



Medium



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Solutions on page 44

**Urgent  
Health  
Warning:**

## **An Important HEALTH WARNING for Men and Women Age 55 or Older!**

**Do You Suffer from *Pain, Burning, Numbness,*  
or *Tingling* from Nerve Damage Caused by  
Diabetes, Infection, or *ANY* of the Other  
Conditions Listed in this Urgent Special Report?**

*If so, now you can virtually end your discomfort,  
protect your health, and help you live a more active life.*

Dear Suffering Friend:

Tens of millions Americans have nerve damage — a condition known as “neuropathy.”

*The most common symptoms of nerve damage are pain, burning, tingling, and loss of feeling in your feet, legs, and fingers* — with the pain ranging from mild to almost unbearable.

If you are diabetic, and especially if you are also age 60 or older, odds are that your nerve damage has been caused directly by your diabetes — although many younger diabetics also have nerve damage from this potentially deadly disease.

*But many OTHER people with these symptoms — pain, burning, and tingling — are NOT diabetic, yet also suffer from nerve damage.*

According to the Mayo Clinic, the many diseases and conditions that can destroy the nerves in your extremities and limbs include:

- |                        |  |                  |
|------------------------|--|------------------|
| ✓ Alcoholism           | ✓ Repetitive motions such as typing        | ✓ Chemotherapy   |
| ✓ Autoimmune diseases  | ✓ Bone marrow disorders                    | ✓ Tumors         |
| ✓ Vitamin deficiencies | ✓ Certain prescription medications         | ✓ Infections     |
| ✓ Liver disease        | ✓ Falls, sports injuries, and other trauma | ✓ Kidney disease |
| ✓ Underactive thyroid  | ✓ Wearing a cast or using crutches         |                  |

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# Merry Christmas

## DECEMBER

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.

**12/2**

### **Bluebonnet Christmas Market, Parade of Lights and Block Party:**

Holiday parade, live performance of *The Nativity* by Go! Dance and Gymnastics, free children's crafts, stilt walkers and more! 5:00-8:00 p.m., downtown.

**12/3-12/4 and 12/10**

### **Holiday Carriage and Surrey Rides:**

You must purchase tickets in advance. Minnie McDowal Park 119 North Dallas Street, Ennis. Visit the Ennis Convention

and Visitors Bureau website at <https://visitennis.org> or call (972) 878-4748.

**12/3-12/12**

### **A Charlie Brown Christmas:**

\$15/adults; \$12/seniors, students and military. Ennis Public Theatre. 113 N. Dallas Street. Tickets and showtimes, (972) 878-7529.

**12/3-12/19**

### **Steel Magnolias:**

\$18 for adults; \$15 for seniors and students. Theatre Rocks! 505 NW Main Street. For tickets

and showtimes, visit [www.theatrerocks.com](http://www.theatrerocks.com).

**12/9**

### **What Christmas Really Means:**

Dove Award-winning Erwins sing songs from their Grammy-nominated Christmas album. Limited seating. Doors open: 6:00 p.m.; concert: 7:00 p.m., Ambassador Baptist Church, 2200 Ensign Road. Contact (972) 875-8528 or <http://abcennistexas.org>.

**12/10-12/12**

### **Holiday Roller Skating:**

### **Friday and Saturday:**

5:00-9:00 p.m.; **Sunday:** 2:00-6:00 p.m. Skates will be available or bring your own. Free. Knox street downtown.

**12/17-12/19**

### **Holiday Snow Tubing:**

Tube down a giant snow hill in downtown Ennis! Search for elves. Photo ops. Free, but please consider donating to the Lights of Ennis 501(c)(3). Funds will be used for next years' downtown Christmas festivities.

Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your current event details to [bill.smith@nowmagazines.com](mailto:bill.smith@nowmagazines.com).

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