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M A G A Z I N E

December 2021

Joy and Hope

At Home With Ron and
Cindy Mittelstedt

Vocal Gymnastics

Lone Star Chorus members, Lee
Tayon and Stormy Ritchmond,
create sweet harmony

2021 Holiday
Shopping Guide

In the Kitchen With
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Crossword/Sudoku
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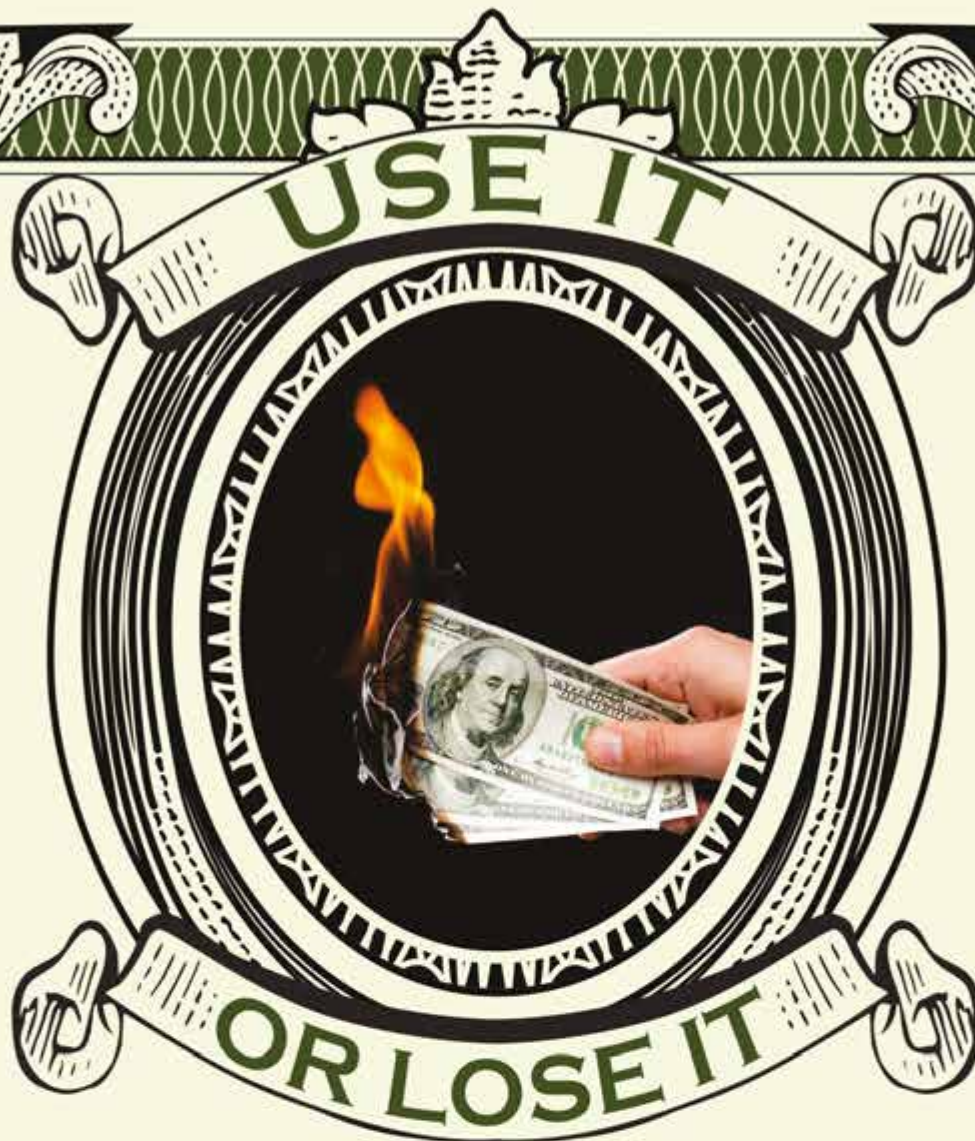
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ON THE COVER

The Mittelstedts welcome Christmas with a heart of giving.

Photo by
Constance O'Bryan.

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EDITOR'S NOTE



Lisa

Lisa Bell
WeatherfordNOW Editor
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I love Christmas!

Always have — always will. For me, Christmas means celebrating Jesus' birth. I'm uncertain how that ties back to my multitude of decorations, but the festive environment lifts my spirits. The lights, smells, sights and sounds renew my soul throughout the month of December, and much of it reminds me of the love at the heart of the season.

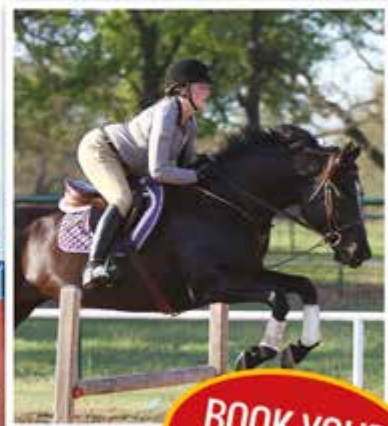
Earlier this year, I received an invitation to take part in writing a Christmas anthology with four other women. The project, filled with historical short stories and novellas, got me thinking about how an angel might view Christmas. We often hear people talk about the commercialism of the holiday, so I wondered, *Do angels get frustrated with humans at this time of the year?* In my story, they do.

If I'm honest, I sometimes get frustrated with myself. Too often, the season passes, packed with activities, leaving me feeling as though I missed out on something important. This year, I'll enjoy seasonal events, some of them traditions, but I also plan to embrace the season, sit back and enjoy the beauty surrounding me. To do less robs me of a precious time of love, joy and peace.

Whether you love Christmas or dread it, take time this year to stop and smell the pine ... or cinnamon ... or peppermint. Let the bright lights and festive decorations take you away to a place of sweet memories or make new ones. Most of all, don't let the season pass with the regret of not stopping long enough to enjoy it.

Have a wonder-filled holiday!

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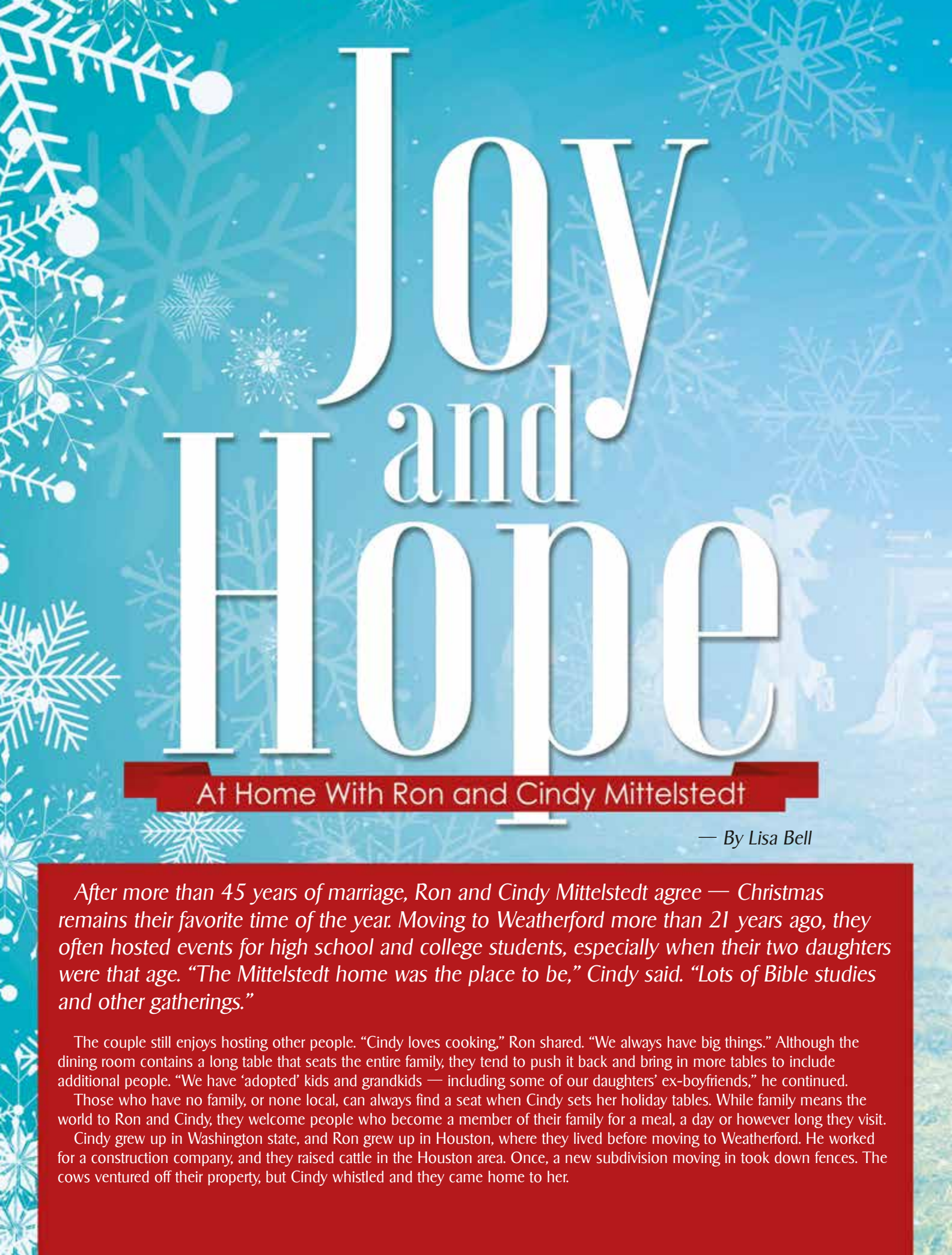
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Joy and Hope

At Home With Ron and Cindy Mittelstedt

— By Lisa Bell

After more than 45 years of marriage, Ron and Cindy Mittelstedt agree — Christmas remains their favorite time of the year. Moving to Weatherford more than 21 years ago, they often hosted events for high school and college students, especially when their two daughters were that age. “The Mittelstedt home was the place to be,” Cindy said. “Lots of Bible studies and other gatherings.”

The couple still enjoys hosting other people. “Cindy loves cooking,” Ron shared. “We always have big things.” Although the dining room contains a long table that seats the entire family, they tend to push it back and bring in more tables to include additional people. “We have ‘adopted’ kids and grandkids — including some of our daughters’ ex-boyfriends,” he continued.

Those who have no family, or none local, can always find a seat when Cindy sets her holiday tables. While family means the world to Ron and Cindy, they welcome people who become a member of their family for a meal, a day or however long they visit.

Cindy grew up in Washington state, and Ron grew up in Houston, where they lived before moving to Weatherford. He worked for a construction company, and they raised cattle in the Houston area. Once, a new subdivision moving in took down fences. The cows ventured off their property, but Cindy whistled and they came home to her.





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During a project in Abilene, Cindy traveled with Ron, and they drove through Weatherford. "I always wanted to live in a town with a main street," Ron divulged. "You don't get that in Houston." About two or three years after that, he attended a business convention and received a job offer, which he accepted. As they prepared to move, they decided to sell the cattle in order to live near downtown. When the house purchase fell through, they found a beautiful place in the country instead.

Originally, their new home didn't have much of a dining area and no laundry room or pantry. They added a second story to the house as well as the dining and laundry rooms alongside a massive pantry. Both agree, the dining room is their favorite in the entire home, but the living room places second because they have welcomed so many people to the two rooms over the years. A corner wood-burning stove adds warmth to the room, figuratively and literally.

Eventually, Ron built a 6,000-square-foot office and storage building. Then in 2013, wanting to leave the ups and downs of construction, they planted a vineyard and began making wine as Sweet Springs Winery, mentored by Gene Estes. Although they closed their tasting room in 2017, they continue producing wines and plan to do so in the future.

Ron said, "Christmas has always been our thing. We love kids." Along with entertaining their three grandchildren, they strive to bring joy to other children. In the past, they dressed up as Santa and Mrs. Claus every year. "That was our way of helping a local organization."

To capture the season, they put up multiple Christmas trees and decorate outside. Keeping up a tradition, they





acquired a giant nativity set from their neighbors, Gerald and Bobbie Bates, when they moved. Gerald made the set from wood and painted it white.

"Neighbors drive by to see it," Cindy said. "Our flagpole had a cross, so from a distance, it looked like a floating cross." Of course, the couple has other lights on and around the house, which create a beautiful backdrop for the nativity.

Inside, one tree in the dining room holds nothing but Precious Moments ornaments. Cindy also displays the sweet figurines in curio cabinets. "Ron got me started on that," she stated. However, Cindy loves decorating — for Christmas or any time of the year. This is evident by the grapevine border she put in her kitchen and breakfast nook.

At Christmastime, throughout the house, she includes nutcrackers of various sizes, including two life-size ones. "We love Christmas and the joy and hope it brings in the celebration of Christ," Cindy said. "Ron's a musician, so the seasonal music also means a lot to us."

"Christmas is a time to give, and we get back without expecting it," Ron said. He sings and plays guitar, enjoying sharing his talents. After serving in the U.S. Army doing social work and psychology during Vietnam, Ron became a preacher. "Although I'm a pastor, we're not churchy. We're more pastors to the pastors," he said.

That's one thing the couple loves about their home. They share a place to relax and find restoration for those who sometimes need solitude from the life of ministering to people. For Ron and Cindy, it's a pleasure to do that any time of the year, but especially when holidays add stress.

"Christmas is your flag," Ron expressed. "The decorations you display show who you are. I hope that never changes." **NOW**

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When Dr. Sarkar came to Texas from India for the first time, he joined UNT Health Science Center in Fort Worth for his Masters of Public Health. During that time, he observed areas around Fort Worth which were underserved communities in available dental health.

After completing his MHP, Dr. Sarkar pursued a Doctor of Dental Surgery from Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry at the University of Southern California in 2015. His dental career



began with the purpose of serving the rural community, and with that thought, he started his first job in Snyder, Texas, serving as a general dentist. During that time, he enjoyed working for a small community.

With Fort Worth being so close to his heart, he decided to move to Weatherford in 2016, so he could live close to the city. He observed the need for a dentist in Weatherford, and in 2016, he established Main Street Dental. Currently, Dr. Sarkar lives in Aledo and has plans to open a second dental office in Fort Worth.

"My specialty is digital smile design. I recently finished my residency in smile designing. I come from a creative family and have a fine arts degree. I believe that if you are not artistic, then you cannot be a good dentist," Dr. Sarkar shared. "Around the age of 9, I fell while playing on a rainy day and broke my front tooth. I felt great when it was fixed, and I felt really confident."

He also shared that the experience led him to choose a profession. Now it has become his passion to give others that smile and confidence.

"Maintaining healthy oral hygiene is a critical foundation of a healthy, confident smile. A healthy mouth can go a long way and can help people live a longer life," he added based on studies. "The mouth is a gateway to the body, connected to our systems. Practicing healthy oral hygiene can prevent a lot of diseases."

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Zoomed In: Denise Collett and Justin Spigelmyer

By Lisa Bell

Denise Collett and Justin Spigelmyer take a stroll along the Weatherford Boardwalk. The serene setting creates a romantic atmosphere on a pleasant fall afternoon. “We’ve known each other since high school, but recently reconnected and started dating,” Justin shared. The young couple enjoys spending time together.

“Best friends forever,” Denise Collett said, wearing a broad smile. While the couple doesn’t yet have definite plans in the future, they intend to continue strengthening their friendship. Both agree that marrying your best friend makes life better. In the meantime, they take pleasure in a simple walk with conversation and establishing what they hope becomes a lifetime as best friends.



Frank Bond holds Wren and Leigh, who want to chase a squirrel more than pose for a photo.



Retired parks director, Charles Wood, spends his afternoon with great-great nephew, Tripp Walker.



The Parker County Sheriff's Posse doubles its scholarship endowment.



Jairo Juarez and Diego Castro get ready for Christmas at The Design Center.



Local authors share their art.



Prestin and Amaya Ables and James Onosield, cousins, enjoy Chandor Gardens.



Students from WC Jazz Orchestra celebrate drummers during a November concert.



Beloved artist, James Spurlock, shares his love of art and works in progress.

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CookingNOW

In the Kitchen With

BRANDON SEGURA

— By Amber D. Browne

Peace finds its way into people's lives in many ways. Brandon Segura finds his peace behind the grill. "I love to cook because it's relaxing and helps me clear my head when I need to," Brandon shared. "I feel like I belong behind the grill."

Brandon is not a professional chef, but after watching family and friends cook over the years, he had to try it. "I liked it more every time."

Brandon works as a mechanic, and each year, his shop holds a competition among employees — a rib cook-off. "I look forward to it every year," Brandon said. "I haven't won yet, but I will." When Brandon is not grilling his favorite recipes, he enjoys hunting, playing golf and sharing a few video games with his son. **NOW**

Bacon Jalapeño Corn Salad

6 slices bacon
3 cups whole kernel corn
1 jalapeño, chopped
1 Tbsp. cilantro
1 tsp. garlic powder
Juice from 2 limes
1/3 cup mayonnaise
1 tsp. chili powder
Salt, to taste
Pepper, to taste

1. In a skillet, cook the bacon. Remove the bacon from the grease. Chop it into small pieces; set aside.

2. In a pot, heat the corn to desired temperature; drain. In a large bowl, combine the bacon, corn and the remaining ingredients.
3. Mix well. Serve warm, or refrigerate and serve cold.

Grilled Cajun Lime Chicken

1 lb. boneless, skinless chicken breasts
Juice from 1 lime
1/2 tsp. garlic powder
1/4 tsp. onion powder
1/4 tsp. oregano
1/8 tsp. black pepper
1/4 tsp. chili powder

1/2 tsp. smoked paprika
1/4 tsp. salt
2 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
1/4 tsp. ground cumin

1. Heat a grill to 350 F. Rinse the chicken; pat dry.
2. In a bowl, combine the lime juice and the remaining ingredients. Brush the seasoning onto the chicken.
3. Grill the chicken until the internal temperature is 165 F. Remove from the grill; serve.

Taco Stuffed Shells

1 lb. ground beef
1 1-oz. pkt. taco seasoning
2/3 cup water
1 1/2 cups cheddar cheese (divided use)
1 1/2 cups salsa
12 oz. jumbo pasta shells

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F. In a skillet, brown the ground beef; drain the grease. Add the packet of taco seasoning and water; mix well. Add 1 cup of the cheese and the salsa; stir.

2. In a pot, boil the shells according to the package directions; drain and cool. Stuff the shells with the meat mixture; place the shells in a greased pan.

3. Once the pan is full of filled shells, sprinkle the remaining 1/2 cup cheese on top. Bake, uncovered, at 350 F for 15 minutes.

BBQ Chicken Pineapple Kabobs

1 lb. boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cubed

1 pineapple, peeled, cored and cubed
10-12 slices of bacon, each cut into four equal pieces

1 cup barbecue sauce
Skewers

1. Heat a grill to 350 F
2. Beginning with chicken, alternate chicken, pineapple and bacon onto the skewers. Place on the grill; cook until the internal temperature of the chicken is 165 F
3. When the skewers are done cooking, brush on the barbecue sauce, or serve it on the side.

Roasted Red Potatoes

14 small red potatoes
3 Tbsp. olive oil
1 tsp. garlic powder
1/2 tsp. onion powder
1/2 tsp. paprika
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. pepper
1 tsp. Italian seasoning
1/4 cup Parmesan, grated

1. Preheat an oven to 375 F
2. In a large bowl, add the potatoes and the remaining ingredients; toss until coated. Spread the potatoes on a foil-lined baking sheet; bake, uncovered, for 45-50 minutes.

Cheesy Ranch or Cheesy Garlic Potato Foil Packs

1 1/2 lbs. red skin potatoes, cubed
2 Tbsp. olive oil
3 Tbsp. ranch seasoning mix or garlic powder
1/4 tsp. freshly cracked pepper
1 cup sharp cheddar cheese, shredded

1. Heat a grill to medium. Lightly spray four rectangles of foil with cooking spray; set aside.
2. Put the potatoes in a large bowl; drizzle with olive oil. Sprinkle in either the ranch seasoning or the garlic powder and the pepper; toss to coat the potatoes. Divide


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Dry Rub
for Ribs

equal portions of the potatoes onto each piece of foil. Fold the foil; seal the ends. Place on the grill, seam side down, for 10 minutes.

3. Turn over the packages of potatoes; cook for an additional 10 minutes. Remove the packages from the grill; carefully open the foil. Sprinkle cheese on top of the potatoes. Put the open packs back on the grill for another 3-4 minutes, or until the cheese is melted.

Cheesy Bacon Ranch Chicken Bake

4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts
1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese
1 1-oz. pkg. ranch seasoning
1 tsp. garlic powder
1 tsp. onion powder

2 cups shredded cheese
2 1/2-oz. real bacon pieces

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F. Halve each chicken breast; spread even amounts of the cream cheese onto each piece of chicken.
2. Sprinkle the ranch seasoning, garlic powder and onion powder evenly over the cream cheese. Top with shredded cheese and bacon pieces.
3. Bake at 350 F for 30 minutes.

Dry Rub for Ribs

1/3 cup brown sugar
1/4 cup paprika
3 Tbsp. kosher salt
1 Tbsp. cracked pepper
2 Tbsp. garlic powder
1 1/2 Tbsp. onion powder
1 1/2 Tbsp. ground mustard

2 tsp. white pepper
1 1/2 tsp. ground coriander
1 tsp. ground fennel seeds
1/3 tsp. cayenne pepper

1. Mix all the ingredients in a bowl until completely combined.
2. As an alternate method, you can place all of the ingredients in a jar and shake them together, making sure to break up any clumps with a fork.
3. To store the dry rub, choose one of two methods: Place it in a Ziploc freezer bag, press out as much air as possible and seal. Store in the freezer. Or, you can place the rub in an air-tight jar. Store it for up to 6 months in a cool, dark place or in the refrigerator.
4. Use the dry rub on ribs or other meat before smoking.

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VOCAL GYMNASTICS

— By Lisa Bell

Most every great music genre incorporates harmony. With barbershop style, the harmonies take a different shape, resulting in a sound built on vocal gymnastics where baritones and leads constantly switch places. Lee Tayon first learned about Lone Star Chorus when she went to see a friend's show. "I leaned over and whispered to my husband, 'I have to do that,'" she said. She joined in 1998.

Stormy Ritchmond became a member in 2020. "A friend and I decided we wanted to join a choir," Stormy said. "I'd never been in a choir, but with the learning media, I can sing." Ironically, her friend didn't continue with the group, but she loves it. As she approaches empty-nest years, it makes the perfect hobby for her.

Although she sang karaoke before, Stormy enjoys the challenge of the chorus. "I hoped to gain new skills, and I do," she shared. "They're good about warm-ups and drills." She loves singing with Lone Star, listening to the harmonies and blend of voices. The camaraderie within the group also appeals to her. "They're all so sweet," Stormy said. "Most are grandmotherly and try to welcome new people. Everyone is so supportive."

Lee agreed. "We all joined for the music, but we stay for the friendships. I can call any of the 35 and have more than enough help," she shared. Over the years, the group helped move people, picked up each other and provided support beyond singing. Although she grew up singing in school and church choirs, the a cappella and unique style provide enough challenge for both the most advanced singers and newcomers alike.

Lone Star Chorus co-directors Becky Loveday and Charlotte Hoffman lead the local group in preparation for competitions and performances. As part of the national group, Sweet Adelines, local choruses must compete at least every three years with a minimum of

17 members. In 1993, the chorus, then named Fort Worth Metro, merged with another small chorus. After their first contest, the group adopted the new name of Lone Star Chorus.

Founded in 1945 by Edna Mae Anderson in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Sweet Adelines came together as a small group of women who loved singing. Over 70 years later, the sisterhood spans the globe and contains almost 21,000 singers around the world. Committed to preserving the unique sound of a cappella barbershop harmony, they continue sharing a passion for music and empowering communities. The organization provides opportunities for barbershop music education, multiple competitions throughout the year, special performance events and an international convention.

The women meet weekly and come from all over, although they want to see more members from the Weatherford area. Normally, they compete annually in March or April. In past international competitions, they appeared using themes such as biker babes, ducks and birdwatchers among others. Half the fun comes from the costumes they choose.

Disappointed at not having the



regional and international competitions for two years during the pandemic, they faced challenges by meeting temporarily via Zoom. Their perseverance paid off when they received an invitation to perform in Hawaii this month during a memorial for the 80th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Excited, the group of women plan on showing up wearing their Texas vests. As official representatives of Texas, they have a proclamation from Governor Abbott they will present to Hawaii during the six-day, five-night trip.

As the daughter of a veteran, Lee looks forward to the Pearl Harbor trip. Many in the group are children and grandchildren of those who fell during the attack, so the trip holds deep meaning for all the members.

Practices throughout the last year provided many challenges. Although they used Zoom, and continue doing so for those who aren't comfortable meeting in person, they miss being together. With many vaccinated now, most of the members have returned in person.

As always, Lone Star Chorus

welcomes new members and those who want to visit and see what the group does. Members can join for long or short term. Some come long enough for competitions or Christmas events. The co-directors have no problem with short-term attendance as long as each woman gives 100 percent while there.

With few requirements, they hope to see their small group continue growing. "You have to be able to carry a tune — not in a bucket," Becky said with a laugh. "Seriously, you need a love of music, but don't have to read music. I look for not the perfect voice, but one I can work with." During auditions, she asks herself if that voice is teachable.

The group has dues, and each woman must pay for her costume and contests. Like most hobbies, it requires spending money. They work with members when necessary. "Because I drop money into this, I'm gonna give it my best," Becky admitted. "Lone Star is coming back strong."

As they meet in person again, they will take precautions and check temperatures each week. Made up of all ages, dues and fees cost less for

those under 25. Although allowed to join, children must have a sponsor. Their youngest ever member started at 10. Now 30 years old, the woman no longer lives in the area, but participates in competitions through a sister Sweet Adeline group. "She came in fifth at Internationals, top five in the country," the ladies boasted.

While most choral music follows a spherical shape, barbershop has a cone shape with bass at the foundation. With extremely tight harmonies, the notes lock and ring, producing a sound that, in actuality, no one sings. Performed a cappella, the audience hears only words and sweet melodies.

The practices require work, but Lee and Stormy enjoy the weekly times with other singers. Whether women come for only the meetings, to perform, compete or take part seasonally, the two find rejuvenation in the practices and look forward to many years of singing. **NOW**

Editor's Note: To learn more, visit www.lonestarchorus.org.

TravelNOW

SMALL TOWN, Big Personality



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,



Photo courtesy of the National Park Service.



Photo courtesy of the National Park Service.



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.

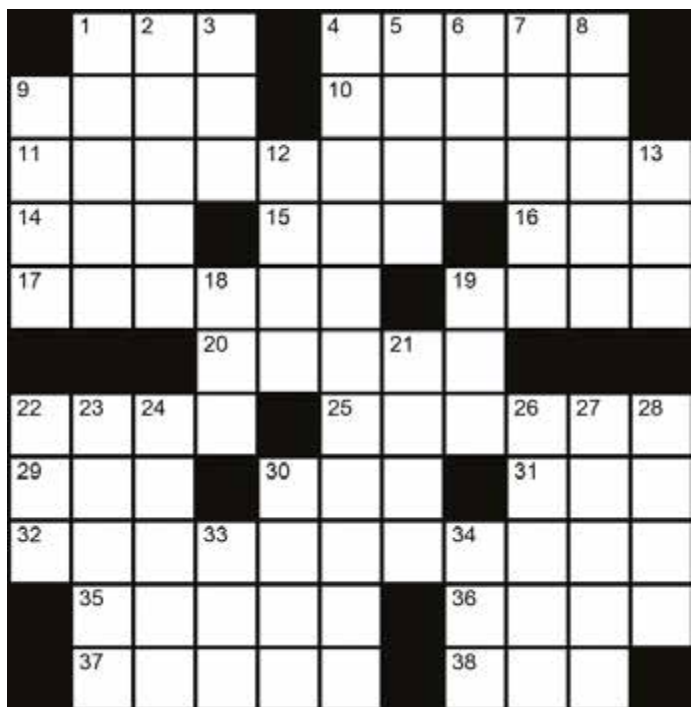
The Exotic Resort Zoo & Safari Cabins is a wildlife park where you can go on a guided safari. Things are always wild and fun for all ages. With art, science, history, farms, outdoor activities and plenty of shopping, everyone in the family can enjoy the trip. Iconic restaurants wait to serve your new 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.

Crossword Puzzle



CrosswordSite.com Ltd

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 36

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Sudoku Puzzle

Easy

Medium

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

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Solutions on page 36



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12/1

Holiday in the Park:

Tree lighting ceremony and pathway of lights. 42-foot live Christmas tree, photos with Santa, petting zoo, crafts, food vendors and more. 6:00-9:30 p.m., Heritage Park Amphitheater, 378 Jack Borden Way. For more information, visit www.experienceweatherford.com.

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. For more information, visit www.careity.org/portfolio-items/celebrity-cutting/.

12/3-12/19

It's a Wonderful Life Radio Show:

Beloved American holiday classic comes to captivating life as a live 1940s radio broadcast, presented live on stage. **Fridays and Saturdays:** 8:00 p.m.; **Sundays:** 2:00 p.m., Theatre Off the Square, 114 North Denton St. www.theatreoffthesquare.org.

12/4

Christmas on the Square:

Fun day filled with Christmas cheer. Find a unique gift for that

special person. 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., 1 Courthouse Square. www.experienceweatherford.com.

Christmas on the Tracks:

Celebrate the 8th annual event with Cowboy Santa and live llamas. Also enjoy pony rides, train rides, bounce house and a slide, plus vendors. 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Peacocks Feed, 122 W. Water St. (817) 594-5424.

Christmas Tyme in Aledo Arts and Crafts Fair:

Annual arts and crafts fair. Shop for unique gifts. 11:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m., Church at the Crossing Gymnasium, Oak St. www.aledo-texas.com.

Photos With Santa:

Bring the family and camera for this free, fun event with Santa and crafts to make and take. 12:30-2:30 p.m., Weatherford Public Library. www.experienceweatherford.com.

Christmas Tyme in Aledo:

Holiday food, fun and entertainment for all ages, and Santa stopping by. 5:00-9:00 p.m., Downtown Aledo and Front Street. www.aledo-texas.com.

Weatherford Lights the Night Parade:

Come enjoy the second annual lighted parade. Parade: 6:30 p.m., starting at the ninth-grade center and winding around the courthouse to Waco St. www.experienceweatherford.com.

12/4, 12/11 and 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.

12/11 and 12/18

Pictures With Cowboy Santa:

Bring your kids or pets for a photo with Santa. \$20/print. 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Peacocks Feed, 122 W. Water St., Ste J. www.facebook.com/events/397528858488483.

12/12

Storytime With Santa:

Interactive story time for children. Parents can bring cameras and take a photo with Santa. Visit the website for more details and to purchase tickets. \$40. 131 York Avenue. www.shoprubymae.com.

12/29

Mobile Pet Clinic:

Low-cost pet spay, neuter, dental and vaccinations from Parker Paws and Pet Vet Relief. Vaccinations: Noon-3:00 p.m.

Other services by appointment (book online), Pet Supplies Plus, 222 W. Interstate 20. For more information, visit www.petvetrelief.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-air 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.

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, Bea Cochran, (817) 723-1054. www.pcwnc.org.

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



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Crossword - Sudoku Solutions

1	B	A	D	4	A	S	K	E	D
9	D	A	D	A	10	C	H	I	L
11	E	R	A	D	12	I	C	A	T
14	M	O	P	15	B	U	D	16	Z
17	I	N	T	H	18	I	S	19	W
20	O	S	A	21	M	A			
22	B	E	R	24	G	25	T	U	X
28	U	A	E	30	W	I	G	31	P
32	S	T	E	H	O	S	C	O	P
35	A	S	E	A	N	36	I	C	E
37	T	E	X	T	S	38	S	H	Y

Easy

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

Medium

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



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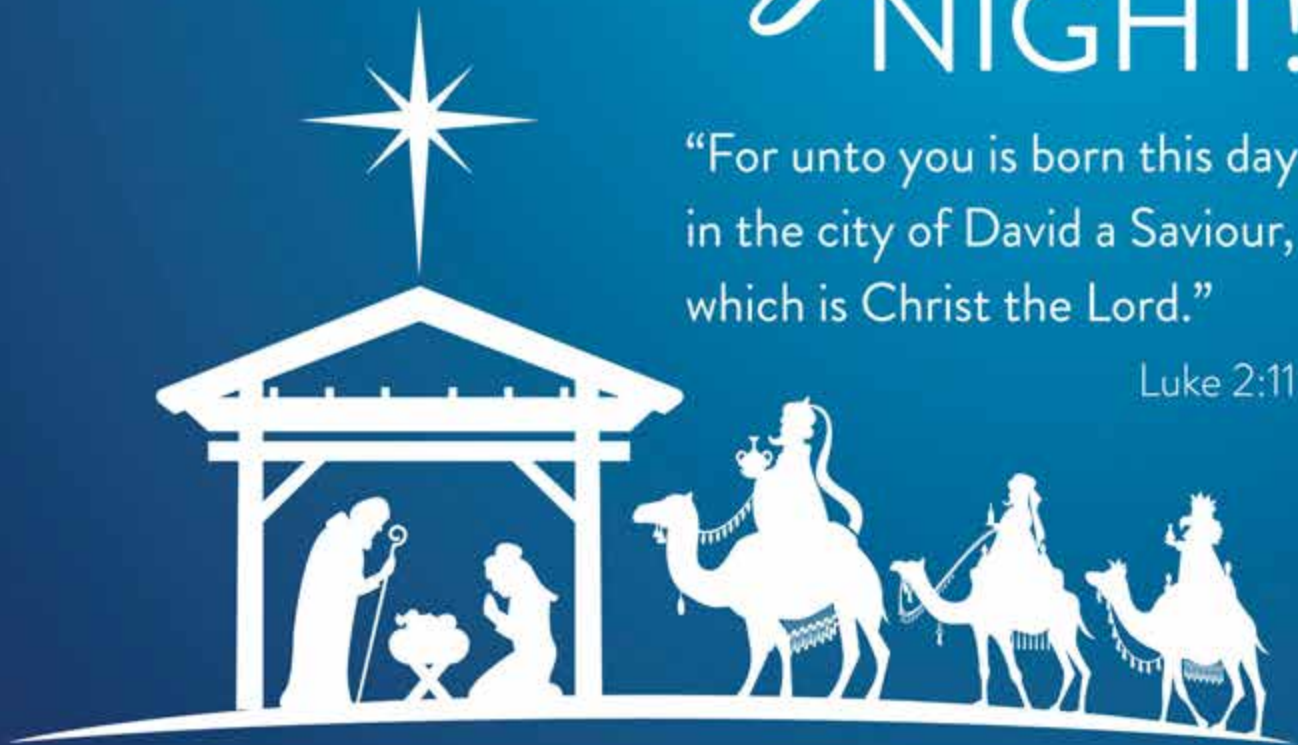
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OH *holy* NIGHT!

"For unto you is born this day
in the city of David a Saviour,
which is Christ the Lord."

Luke 2:11



Have a Merry Christmas!

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