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FEBRUARY 2021

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Publisher, Connie Poirier | General Manager, Rick Hensley

### EDITORIAL

Managing Editor, Becky Walker | Ennis Editor, Bill Smith  
Editorial Assistants, Rachel Rich . Lori Widdifield  
Writer, Angel Morris  
Editors/Proofreaders, Lisa Bell . Virginia Riddle

### GRAPHICS AND DESIGN

Creative Director, Chris McCalla | Artists, Kristin Bato . Beth Davis  
Martha Macias . Anthony Sarmienta

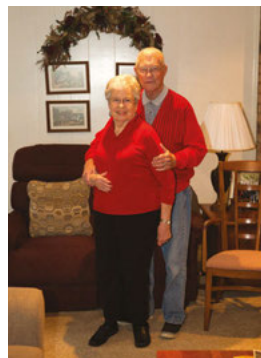
### PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography Director, Chris McCalla  
Photographer, Bill Smith

### ADVERTISING

Advertising Representatives, Linda Roberson . Cherise Burnett  
Dustin Dauenhauer . Bryan Frye . Kelsea Locke . Linda Moffett  
Lori O'Connell . Steve Randle . Keri Roberson . Joyce Sebesta

Billing Manager, Angela Mixon



## ON THE COVER


Bob and Betty Taylor recreate a picture from a date over 60 years ago.

Photo by  
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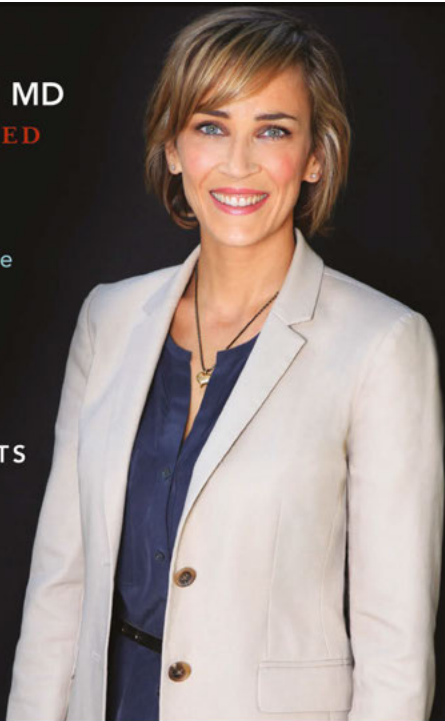

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# EDITOR'S NOTE



*Bill*

Bill Smith  
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*History repeats itself ...*

When I think of Groundhog Day, the first thought that enters my mind is not Punxsutawney Phil, the famous groundhog in Pennsylvania, coming out of his den and either seeing his shadow or not, predicting whether winter will continue for another six weeks. No, my thoughts always first return to the 1993 movie *Groundhog Day*, in which Bill Murray played a weatherman sent to cover the big event who relives the day over and over. He wakes each day to his radio alarm clock playing Sonny & Cher's, "I Got You Babe," sees the same people and gets asked the same questions over and over again. He sees the life insurance salesman "Ned" step off the curb into the same puddle each day, ad nauseum. Eventually, he starts using the repeated day to make some changes in his life, and (spoiler alert!) the movie has a happy ending.

Yogi Berra is attributed with saying, "It's like déjà vu all over again." As we continue to move into this great new year, I'm still being positive, and saying good riddance to 2020. Can you imagine having to repeat that one? I've had that déjà vu feeling before, but only for brief moments. I'd hate to think we had to relive last year.

February always seems like the coldest month of the year, and if we are going to have any ice or snow, this would be the month, even though it is pretty rare for us here in North Central Texas. A little snow would be nice, but we could certainly do without the ice. Move past Groundhog Day to Valentine's Day and Presidents' Day.

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*"If there was ever an example of 'love at first sight,' that had to be it," Bob Taylor said as he recalled his introduction to Betty more than 69 years ago. "We were in one of the halls of Kilgore Junior College in 1951. I was an athletic trainer, and one of the guys on the football team introduced me to Betty.*

"The Valentine Banquet for the First Baptist Church of Longview was coming up in the next couple of weeks, and I remember asking my friend from the football team if he thought she would go to the banquet with me. That was our first date."

Betty recalled that not everyone had confidence in their long-term future. Betty was a year ahead of Bob in school, and Betty's mother questioned her dating a "younger" man. "When she mentioned that, I said I knew he was a year younger, but that he was a good, Christian man. That put an end to any questions for my mother."

Being a year ahead in her education meant she would leave Kilgore Junior College at the end of the year to continue at East Texas State University at Commerce (now known as Texas A&M University–Commerce). It is about a two-hour drive from Kilgore to Commerce, but Bob indicated it might take three-and-a-half hours hitchhiking. "I just about wore my thumb out hitchhiking to Commerce on the weekends I could get away," he said with a smile.

When they decided to get married, they took a hard look at their financial situation. "Mother and I had been saving for a long time for my college education, and we had about \$2,000 saved up," Betty said. "We talked about spending it for the wedding, but Bob and I both wanted to finish school. The best idea we could come up with was to save the money by eloping! We eloped and were married in a Presbyterian church in Hope, Arkansas."

That was just the beginning of a long and fruitful life together for two people any observer would say were meant for each other. Bob and Betty believe God had a hand in bringing them together, and they have been able to see Him in many of the moves they have made over the years.

While they were at East Texas State University, Betty worked for the dean of men and often saw Dr. Gee, the president of the university. Bob continued to be an athletic trainer, and while he was familiar with the athletic director, the man seldom spoke to students. However, on one occasion, he asked Bob to come talk with him. The gist of the conversation was that he had been observing Bob working with the coaches and athletes. He thought Bob should change his major from business to education, so he could go into coaching. Bob took his advice, and after graduating, his first job was teaching and coaching at Sherman. Bob is still in touch with some of the young men he coached there more than 60 years ago.



LIFE  
*Valentine*





TIME

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— By Bill Smith







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After Bob related that career-changing, probably life-changing story, Betty added, "The Lord just does that for you."

Betty was a Kilgore Rangerette, and Bob likes to say he is married to a Rangerette. While at East Texas, Dr. Gee once told Bob he would like for him to go back to Kilgore and marry three or four more Rangerettes and bring them to Commerce. He obviously thought a lot of both Bob and Betty, even though Betty once called him a "goon" right to his face! Betty said, "It actually made him feel good that the secretary to the dean of men could joke around with him."

The couple's road to Ennis would eventually go through El Paso, where Bob was the head football coach at El Paso High School before becoming principal at Austin High School, also in El Paso. Betty taught elementary school there.

As both of their parents began getting up in years, Bob and Betty began to consider moving somewhere closer to East Texas. In 1976, Harlin Dauphin was Superintendent of Schools in Ennis, and the Ennis High School principal position was open. Betty's cousin, Patsy Bain, and her husband, Jim, called Bob and asked if he was still interested in relocating.

Soon, Mr. Dauphin was on a plane for El Paso, where he observed Bob's interaction with the 3,000 students at Austin High for an afternoon. "Do you know the name of every student in the school?" Mr. Dauphin asked Bob. Bob said, "Probably only about 97 percent of them." Mr. Dauphin was obviously impressed, and soon Bob was the new principal at Ennis. Mr. Dauphin quickly arranged for Betty to be hired in the district also, as an elementary teacher had just retired. To further seal the deal, as they were considering the move, a man knocked on their door in El Paso



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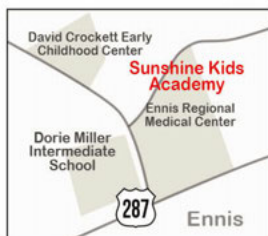
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and asked if they were interested in selling their home. He made a cash offer for it. Bob and Betty both remarked that they could see the Lord's hand in that.

Since moving to Ennis, the Taylor family has been active in most every aspect of the local community. Bob and Betty are both members of the Lions Club, where he has previously served as president, as well as serving as secretary for the past 20-plus years. They are active in their church, and they can be seen at every football game, as well as many, many other school activities. They proudly point out that eight of their descendants are active in the school system.

Together, they were named as Ambassadors of the Year for the Chamber of Commerce. Bob served the city as mayor pro tem for 18 years. When Bob and Betty retired from their careers in education, they founded the Ennis Retired Educators Association, which began with five members and is now known as the Ennis Retired School Personnel Association with about 190 active members.



The couple's list of awards and accomplishments could fill several pages, but when asked about what has been the most important over the years, they agreed that it has been family and personal relationships, as well as their relationship with the Lord. Bob offered, "We tried to make it a point to learn all of our students' names, and I think that goal was achieved. Our daughter and three sons are all married, and we have eight grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren." What does the future hold? Bob was quick to exclaim, "More and more great-grandchildren!" Betty laughed, then smiled and agreed. **NOW**



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# • *Tales of Texas* • REMEMBER BUFFALO SOLD

*While the first regular Army regiments made of African-American soldiers are officially celebrated on July 28 with “Buffalo Soldiers Day,” it is fitting to recognize them during Black History Month, as well. The U.S. Army’s first peace-time, all-Black regiments were established by Congress in July 1866, honoring the significant contribution of some 200,000 Black volunteers to a Union victory in the Civil War.*

About a year-and-a-half after the war, six peace-time regiments for Black enlisted men were created: “The 9th and 10th Cavalry and the 38th, 39th, 40th and 41st Infantry regiments (consolidated in 1869 into two infantry regiments, the 24th and 25th),” as documented by [blackpast.org](http://blackpast.org).

“Soldiers of these regiments between the Civil War and World War I have come to be called ‘Buffalo Soldiers,’” the site notes. It outlines that while most of the regiments’ officers were white, they were also led by five Black men, including Henry Flipper, who was not only the first Black West Point graduate, but also the first African-American commissioned officer of the Buffalo Soldiers. He went on to earn a 2nd Lieutenant Army commission.

In 1999, Henry was posthumously pardoned by President Bill Clinton for an “unduly harsh and unjust court martial and dismissal from the Army,” according to the National Veterans Memorial and Museum.

Buffalo Soldiers helped win dozens of battles against Native

Americans, and served in Cuba with Teddy Roosevelt and the Rough Riders. Buffalo Soldiers protected National Parks, served as park rangers, guarded roads, settlements and stage coach stations, among numerous other efforts.

History.com reports that “about 20 percent of U.S. troops participating in the Indian Wars were Buffalo Soldiers,” battling in at least 177 conflicts. Buffalo Soldiers also went on to defend the U.S. border with Mexico during World War I. Between the Civil War and World War I, records suggest 23 Buffalo Soldiers received the Medal of Honor.

In the last decades of the 19th century, the Buffalo Soldiers regiments formed a special kinship with the state of Texas, where Fort Davis became their Regimental Headquarters. The 9th Cavalry was first to occupy the fort, which was abandoned by the Union during the Civil War.

Soldiers spent the summer of 1867 constructing a new fort and protecting travelers. Joined by three Buffalo Soldier units over the next eight years, the men proved invaluable in many ways, not the least of which was “constructing over 91 miles of telegraph line west from Fort Davis,” [blackpast.org](http://blackpast.org) notes.

“They arrived at the post in 1867 when western Texas was still very open to attack by raiding Apaches and Comanches. When the 10th Cavalry left in 1885, peace largely prevailed,” the site explains.

While trained for overseas combat during World War II, Buffalo Soldiers were deactivated in 1944, and in 1948, racial segregation in the military was eliminated by executive order of President Harry S. Truman. According to [history.com](http://history.com), the Buffalo Soldiers proved their worth with “the lowest military desertion and court-martial rates of their time.”

Those numbers speak to the lore by which these Black men garnered the name Buffalo Soldiers, with some suggesting they were so dubbed by Native American tribes who held the buffalo





Photo courtesy of Huntsville-Madison County Public Library.

# NG IERS

— By Angel Morris

in high regard. According to history.com, another theory is that the soldiers bore resemblance to buffalo with their dark skin and curly hair. Whatever the origin of the name, it led to the 10th Cavalry adopting the buffalo upon its crest in 1911.

Today, the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum in Houston is “dedicated to exploring and displaying the stories and contributions of African-Americans in the military by way of performing and visual arts, educational programming and exhibitions.”

When open, the museum offers educational programs exploring the contributions of African-American military personnel, such as the Buffalo Soldiers. Historical re-enactments, military-inspired art exhibits and group tours are just some of the ways the museum continues to keep the spirit of the Buffalo Soldiers alive. The reggae song, “Buffalo Soldier,” also commemorates the efforts of these men, who were slaves or descendants of slaves, fighting for a country that stole them from their own. **NOW**

## Sources:

1. <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/buffalo-soldiers/>
2. <https://www.history.com/topics/westward-expansion/buffalo-soldiers>
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2<sup>ND</sup> 8-Weeks  
**MAR 22 - MAY 11**  
Register by Mar 19

**MAY-MINI**  
**MAY 17 - JUNE 3**  
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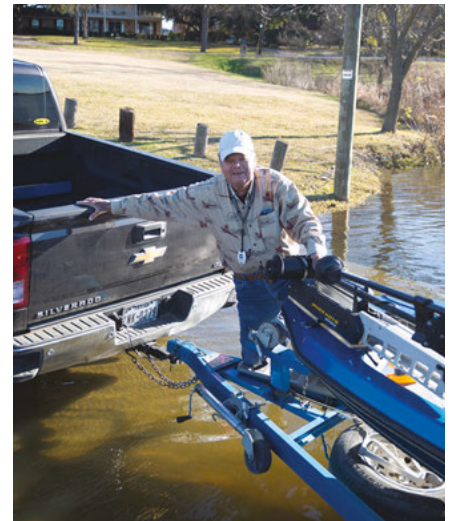


## Zoomed In: Christy Danson

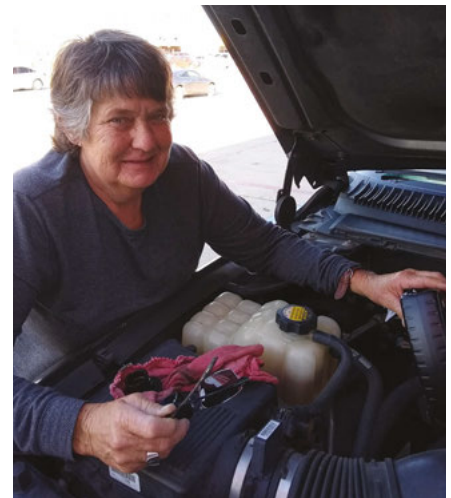
By Bill Smith

Christy Danson said she was an entrepreneur before she started delivering the mail in Ennis about 9 months ago. "I was a personal trainer and also a baker in Waxahachie," she explained. "I am from all around the Dallas area, including DeSoto and West Mesquite, where I graduated from high school.

She also has a military background, having honorably served in the U.S. Navy as a corpsman. Christy is married and has three children aged 16, 19 and 20. Her smile gives away how friendly she is, as she greets her postal customers, even though these days it is usually behind her mask. It was a beautiful, warm winter day to be delivering mail in Ennis.



Greg Smith caught and released 24 fish on this January afternoon at Country Club lake.



Donna Lynch stops at AutoZone to top off the oil in her truck.



Dominic Rankin helps Lindsey Watson take down the Christmas decorations at her home.



Peyton and Shyanne Slone and Jacob and Faith Knavel enjoy the sun at their backs at Lions Park.





Robert J. Williams enjoys a beautiful January day in his pickup.



Wilson Erwin admires Ken Isom's Corvette at the auto show on Main Street.



The Keener Family visits with Donna Baumgartener at the Bluebonnet Market.

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# HAPPY, Valentine's Day

## FEBRUARY

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.

**2/5-2/21**

### **Almost, Maine:**

Live theater. Welcome to a place that's so far north, it's almost not in the U.S. It's almost in Canada. And it's not quite a town, because its residents never got around to getting organized. Residents find themselves falling in and out of love in unexpected and hilarious ways. Ennis Public Theatre, 113 N. Dallas St. For specific dates and times: [info@ennispublictheatre.com](mailto:info@ennispublictheatre.com) or (972) 878-7529.

**2/9**

### **Varsity Ladies Soccer:**

Ennis vs. Corsicana. 7:30 p.m., Lion Memorial Stadium.

**2/12-2/28**

### **Life's Little Miracles:**

Live theater. The last in "The Greatest Generation Trilogy." The lives of the Erhard family after Pearl Harbor continue in Mathis, Texas. Anna and Caleb have been married, but she hasn't seen him since their brief honeymoon in Corpus Christi. Theatre Rocks!, 505 NW Main St. For tickets, visit [www.theatrerocks.com](http://www.theatrerocks.com). (972) 878-5126.

**2/18**

### **S.W.A.P.**

Networking at the Ennis Chamber of Commerce. Bring your business cards! 11:30 a.m.-

1:00 p.m., 207 NW Main Street. Call Jeanette or Cindy for more information at (972) 878-2625.

**2/27**

### **Cadillac V-Racing Top Gun Invitational:**

Texas Motorplex, 7500 W. Hwy. 287. For more information, contact: [www.texasmotorplex.com](http://www.texasmotorplex.com) or (972) 878-1848.

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### **Wednesdays**

### **Ennis Public Library Virtual Storytime:**

New content each week. For more information, email [childservices@ennistx.gov](mailto:childservices@ennistx.gov) or call (972) 875-5360.

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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# CookingNOW

## In the Kitchen With

### ARTURO HERNANDEZ

— By Bill Smith



Fireman Arturo Hernandez likes to cook because he prefers to eat something besides take-out food. “My wife has an associate degree in culinary arts, and while she has taught me some of what I know, I am also self-taught. I just experiment and hope it works!” Arturo admitted that while he cooks some at home, his wife is the primary cook for him and their children. “At home is her kitchen, and she likes to cook there.”

While he has some recipes that he calls his own, most of them started with something he tried at a restaurant or something his mother made that he has changed to his taste. “When I ask my mother how to make some of the things she made, she usually just says, ‘Why do you want to make it? Just come by, and I will make it for you!’” **NOW**

## Discada

**1 lb. bacon**  
**1 lb. beef**  
**1 pkg. beef wieners**  
**1 small onion, chopped**  
**1 chorizo log**  
**Tortillas, to taste**  
**Green salsa, to taste (optional)**

- 1.** Cut all ingredients into small pieces.
- 2.** Add bacon to a large pan; brown.
- 3.** Remove the bacon from the pan; add the beef. Cook until almost done.
- 4.** Add the wieners to the pan; return the bacon to the pan. Cook until wieners are brown, and the meat is fully cooked.
- 5.** Add the onion and the chorizo log. When chorizo is fully cooked, it is ready to serve.

**6.** Warm up tortillas; serve as a taco with green salsa, if desired. *Note: Usually served with yellow rice.*

## Flautas

**1 store-bought rotisserie chicken**  
**Warm corn tortillas**  
**Oil**  
**1 head cabbage**  
**3/4 cup lemon juice, freshly squeezed**  
**Salt, to taste**  
**2-3 Roma tomatoes**  
**Mexican table cream, to taste**

- 1.** Shred the chicken. Add a portion to each tortilla; roll. Secure tortillas with toothpicks.
- 2.** In hot oil deep enough to cover the flautas, fry the flautas a couple at a time, making sure not to crowd the pan. Remove from the oil once golden brown; remove the toothpicks.
- 3.** In a separate bowl, shred the cabbage as fine as possible.



4. Add lemon juice and salt to the bowl. Allow to sit for a couple of minutes.
5. Cut the tomatoes into small squares; set aside.
6. *To assemble the dish:* Add 4-5 flautas to a plate. Pour Mexican table cream on top; add the shredded cabbage and tomatoes.

## Steak and Potatoes

2 6- to 10-oz. steaks  
 Oil, to taste  
 Salt, to taste  
 Pepper, to taste  
 McCormick steak seasoning, to taste  
 2 large russet potatoes  
 Butter, to taste  
 Sour cream, to taste

1. Rub the steaks with oil. Rub in salt, pepper and McCormick steak seasoning.
2. Put the steaks in the refrigerator for at least 1 hour.
3. Wash and dry the potatoes. Oil and salt them heavily. Poke the potatoes with a fork several times.
4. Bake the potatoes in the oven at 350 F until soft. *Note: Do not wrap them in aluminum foil.*
5. Remove the steaks from the refrigerator; bring them to room temperature.
6. Place the steaks on a hot grill for 4-5 minutes. Remove and allow them to rest for a few minutes before serving.
7. Serve with butter- and sour cream-topped baked potatoes.

## Tacos de Bistec

3-4 lbs. bistec suave  
 Lawry's Seasoned Salt  
 2 or 3 limes  
 Oil, to taste  
 1 onion, chopped  
 Corn tortillas, to taste  
 Cilantro, to taste, chopped  
 2-3 avocados  
 Green salsa, to taste

1. Cut bistec into small pieces; season with seasoned salt as desired. Add lime juice.
2. Allow to marinate at least 30 minutes before cooking.
3. Heat oil in a skillet; add meat and onion. Cover; cook until done. Set aside.
4. Heat the tortillas; serve with cilantro, avocado and green salsa. *Note: Usually served with yellow rice.*

## Yellow Rice

Corn or vegetable oil, to taste  
 Rice, to taste

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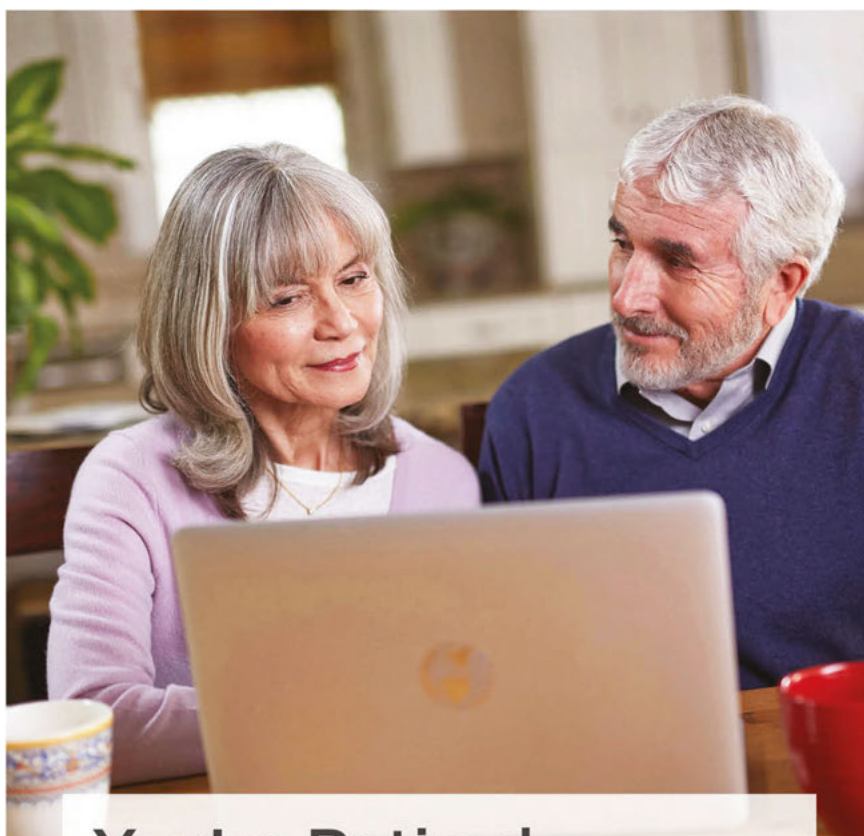
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**Water, to cover**  
**Tomato bouillon, to taste**

1. In a pot or pan with a lid, add enough oil to coat the rice in the pot.
2. Turn the heat on high; start stirring the rice around until you see some of the rice start to brown.
3. Once some of the rice starts to brown, add enough water to cover the rice by about 1/2 inch. Turn the heat on low.
4. Add the tomato bouillon. *Note: I do not measure it out. I add enough to make the water change to a dark reddish color, and it should taste a little salty.*
5. Cover; let boil, without opening the lid, until the rice is dry and fully cooked. Enjoy.

## Salmon and White Rice

**Salmon:**

**1/2 stick butter**  
**1 Tbsp. garlic powder**  
**1 small lemon, juiced**  
**Salt, to taste**  
**Pepper, to taste**  
**Fresh salmon**  
**Olive oil**

**White rice:**

**2 cups jasmine rice**



Tacos de Bistec

**2 cups water**  
**Salt, to taste**  
**1/2 cup oil**

1. *For salmon:* In a saucepan, melt the butter. Add the garlic powder and lemon juice.
2. Salt and pepper the salmon to taste.
3. Add olive oil to a hot skillet. Sear the salmon on high for less than 1 minute per side. Transfer the fish to a baking dish.
4. Pour the lemon butter sauce over the salmon before placing it in the oven.
5. Finish the salmon in the 350 F oven,

uncovered, for at least 15 minutes. Do not let the salmon dry out.

**6. For white rice:** Wash and rinse the rice at least 3 times.

**7.** In a cooking pot, add the rice and the water, seasoned with salt. Taste the water.

**8.** Add the oil; bring to a boil, uncovered. Once the water is almost gone, cover the rice. Turn the heat to low. When rice is ready, you should be able to fluff it with a fork.

**9.** Once salmon is out of the oven, serve it with the white rice.

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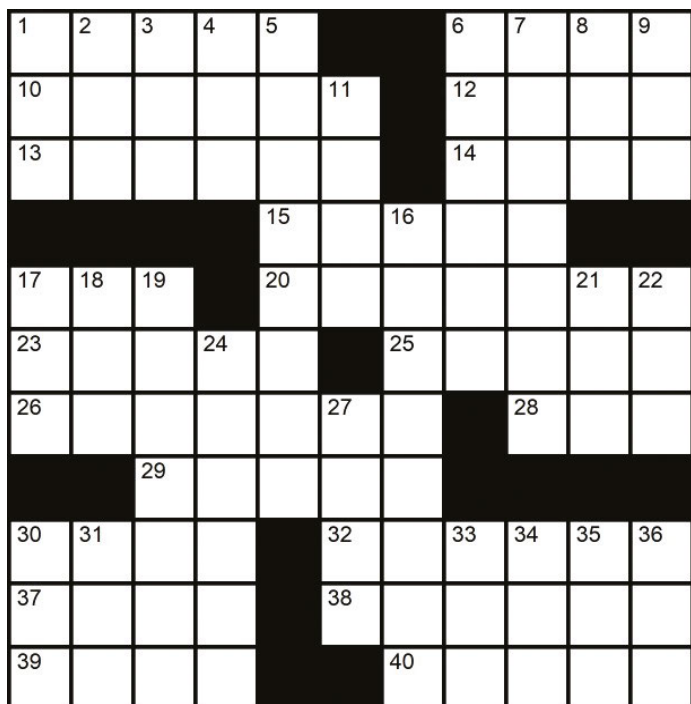
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# Crossword Puzzle



CrosswordSite.com Ltd

## Across

- 1 "I'll eat --- if I'm wrong!"
- 6 "Shane" star Alan ---
- 10 Eccentric old fellow
- 12 Type of race car
- 13 Cloak mental confusion
- 14 Franklin flew one in a storm
- 15 Alleviates
- 17 Big Blue
- 20 Rely on
- 23 Drain by percolation
- 25 Commodious
- 26 Food company in Battle Creek, MI
- 28 Panthers and Rams group
- 29 Ocean capsized this small boat
- 30 Hammer god
- 32 Reply to "Have a good day!"
- 37 After stating your intentions, --- the -
- 38 Oil-rich former Portuguese African colony
- 39 "I guess the joke's ---"
- 40 Dumps

## Down

- 1 Studio with lion logo
- 2 Assenting vote
- 3 Coop layer
- 4 Antiviral drug
- 5 Marathon TV program
- 6 In this manner
- 7 "Mother's Day" actress Jennifer ---
- 8 One of Rachel Carson's targets, now banned
- 9 Coloring material
- 11 Raise
- 16 "Go get him ---!" (Shakespeare, Macbeth)
- 17 Class
- 18 Social gathering
- 19 --- X, assassinated activist
- 21 Global financial body
- 22 Largest US city
- 24 "2001: A Space Odyssey" author
- 27 Painter of "La Maja Vestida"
- 30 Snake eyes
- 31 Chinese dynasty at the time of Christ
- 33 "Gross!"
- 34 End of a golf club
- 35 Former
- 36 Western Hemisphere political forum

Solutions on page 28

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# Sudoku Puzzle

Easy

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

Medium

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

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Crosswordsite.com Ltd

Solutions on page 28

*"So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love."*  
~ 1 Corinthians 13:13 ESV



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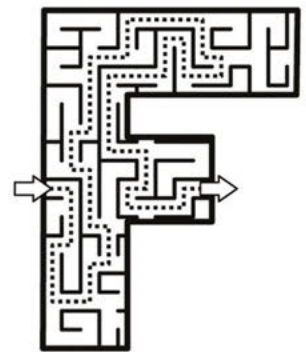
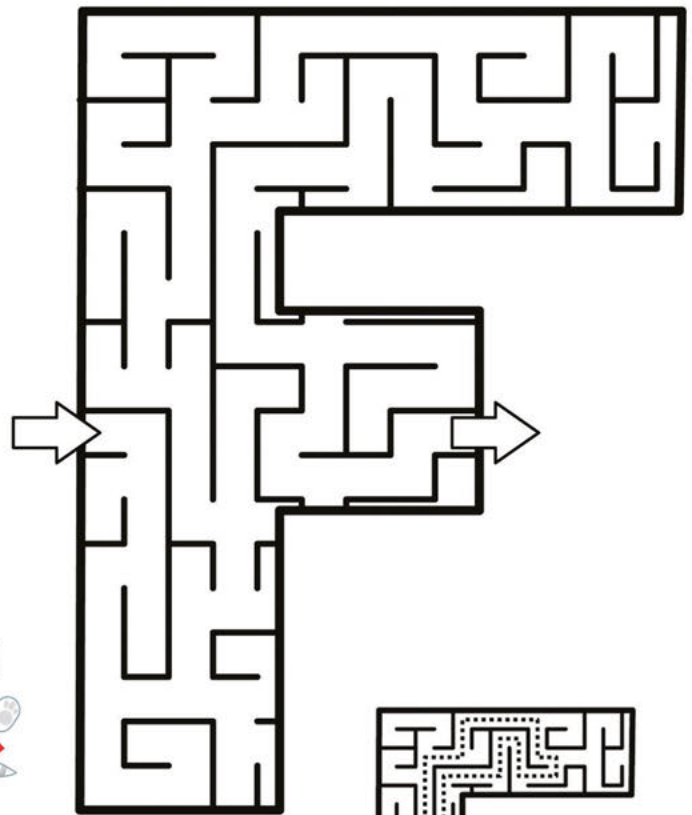


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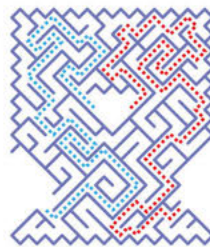


# Kids' Fun Page

Help friends to meet in the middle of the Valentine maze.



ANSWER:



"Fill in the missing numbers"

10	-	6	=	
-				+
=				=
6	+		=	9

7	+	3	=	
+				+
				5
=				=
	-	5	=	

3	+		=	
+				+
				9
=				=
6	+	10	=	



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## Crossword - Sudoku Solutions

1	M	Y	H	A	T		6	L	A	D	9	D
10	G	E	E	Z	E	R		12	I	N	D	Y
13	M	A	N	T	L	E		14	K	I	T	E
							15	E	A	S	E	S
17	I	B	M				20	T	R	U	S	T
23	L	E	A	C	H		25	R	O	O	M	Y
26	K	E	L	L	O	G		28	N	F	C	
							29	C	A	N	O	E
30	T	H	O	R			32	Y	O		34	U
37	W	A	L	K			38	A	N	G	O	L
39	O	N	M	E			40	S	H	E	D	S

Easy

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

Medium

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

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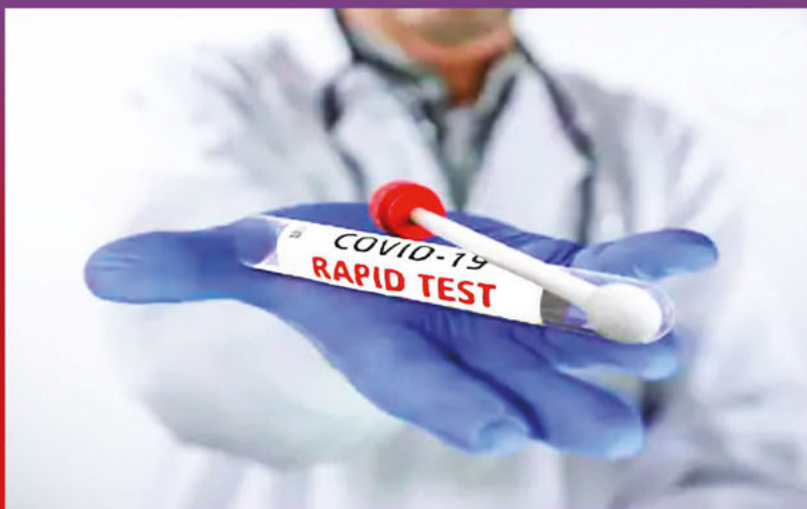
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- State of the art technology with digital scans. No more messy impressions!
- In office teeth whitening
- Compassionate and friendly staff!
- Medicaid-Chip and Most PPO Insurances



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