Roswell NOW

Winter 2022

A Christmas Tradition that Lights up your Night

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Spreading Holiday Cheer with Tasty Treats

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This lively program features mysterious music by a variety of composers. Fun for the whole family - costumes are encouraged!

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Sunday, December 18th, 2022 @ 2:30 PM

Our annual Christmas event brings holiday cheer every year!

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Saturday, April 29th, 2023 @ 7:30 PM

Blast off to the stars as Maestro John Farrer leads
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PRE-CONCERT EVENTS

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RECIPROCITY

Back by popular demand the Southwest Symphony and Ocotillo Performing
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Chamber Contact Information

Roswell Chamber of Commerce 131 W. Second St. Roswell, NM 88201 (575) 623–5695 reception@roswellnm.org

At the Chamber, it's our business to help your business. We're here to support you and your customers. We want to help you find new customers and grow your business. We do that by promoting your product and services.

Mission

Our Mission is to Promote Economic and Social Prosperity, Business Development and Foster Community Spirit & Pride.

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"Graditude
is the sign of
noble souls."
- Aesop

Letter from the President

erry Christmas and Happy New Year! With this issue, we have successfully completed two years of Roswell Now! Thank you all for the support and love. We here at the Roswell Chamber of Commerce work hard to publish a magazine that is by the community for the community. We are always looking for ideas, writers, and photographers. If you think this is you, please reach out to us!

The holidays are in the air, and the Roaring 20s are off to the races so far. They are not exactly what I imagined they would be, but our 20s are definitely roaring. Who would have guessed that we would start the decade with a lockdown that would last a year and a half?! While we were all in lockdown, we were forced to spend time with our loved ones and reevaluate our priorities. We learned a new trade or hobby and how to slow down—all good things, in my never to be humble opinion.

As we close 2022, we have a lot to be grateful for; we made it thru a global pandemic, our community is stronger than ever, and we have each other. Chaves County may not be perfect, but we are great! Every day tourists come into the office and rave about how kind and considerate our community is. I cannot think of a better place to call home and raise my family. As 19th Century writer Franz Grillparzer once said, "Drink and be thankful to the host! What seems insignificant when you have it, is important when you need it."

As you celebrate the holidays, take some time to tell your friends and family how much you love, care, and appreciate them. We never know what the future holds. Take a moment to cruise down Main Street at night and take in the lights, drive around your community and take in the decorations that your neighbors have hung with care. Please stop in and shop at our local businesses; they have survived the odds. While shopping and spending time with your loved ones, remember the words of Coretta Scott King- "The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members."

As I conclude my last letter to you all for 2022, I will leave you with a few quotes from some of my favorite people:

"Be grateful for what you have and stop complaining- it bores everybody else, does you no good, and doesn't solve any problems." -Zig Ziglar

"When I started counting my blessings, my whole life turned around." -Willie Nelson

"Gratitude is the sign of noble souls." -Aesop

Happy Holidays and have a very Merry New Year! God bless, and God speed to you all! See you next year!

a moore

ROSWELL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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Snowed

Looking at the pillows of snow, time slows.

Standing under the lullaby glare my fingers want to count ahead but finally give it up.

Time's pulling at my ankles, I must sit down.

There's nothing else for me to do, I'm not going anywhere. There's nothing to do but wait it out, count the colors of the snow, sun white, shadow white, ocotillo white, juniper white, dirt road white.

The earth has drifted into snow and this is not the earth I know. This is someone else's winter. It's a stranger's house, elegant and lonely, where everything is clean and soft. My mountain's gone, I'm on the moon but the doe is here, her halfling fawn, the jays and juncos. My Chihuahua's footprints are dancing on the porch. It's 17 degrees out there. That snow's not going anywhere.

A cloud is sitting on the snow, the snow is sitting on the ice, the ice is everywhere, long grass, short, rock and rubble of the compo. Today I'll crochet the second bootie for my nephew's baby. It's a tender moment in my kitchen, in the nook beside the window. I'm held quietly by the creaking cold, will use this time, this dazzling meantime to weave. I pick up the hook, the soft blue yarn, the white.

Hedda P. Saltz

Morning in Roswell

By: Eva McCollaum

Light floods the Staked Plains.

Autumn clouds burn pink and gold.

Trains and cranes chorus.





ROSWELL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUSINESS OF the Month



Plateau

For more than 70 years, rural citizens living in West Texas and Eastern New Mexico have benefited from communications services provided by Plateau. Driven by the need for dependable, quality telephone service, interested area farmers, ranchers, and other citizens came together to create Eastern New Mexico Rural Telephone Cooperative (now referred to as Plateau). Regulatory agencies quickly recognized this unmet need and the importance of affordable phone service in rural America; as a result, these groups became very supportive of this small company's initiatives. In more recent times, residents have enjoyed the benefits of other modern telecommunications technologies including mobile phones, long-distance service, business solutions, high-speed fiber-optic internet, and television – all provided by Plateau.

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ROSWELL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. Elite Business of the Month

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Today, L&F Distributors owns eight distribution warehouses, which service 35 counties throughout Texas and Southern New Mexico, and employs more than 1,200 people. As L&F's markets grew, so did its portfolio; L&F now represents more than 150 craft and import breweries and distributes an extensive list of wine and spirits. To further diversify its portfolio, L&F began to distribute water, milk, energy drinks, and other non-alcoholic beverages in 2011. L&F actively acquires new brands to stay competitive and satisfy its customers in an evolving market.





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Recover with Renewal

by Carolyn Patterson Sidd

"We want

to help these

folks and their

families get

their lives

back," - Carter

eaceful is the word that comes to mind as I enter. A courteous staff member escorts me into a tastefully decorated waiting room furnished in muted colors and comfortable seating. Even on the rainy day of my interview, the space is bright and welcoming. It's as if one would expect a friend to appear with a warm blanket and a cup of tea. Such is the atmosphere within the environs of Renew Health, Roswell's only outpatient addiction treatment and recovery clinic.

Opened in February 2022, Renew Health offers outpatient medically assisted treatment (MAT) for individuals dealing with alcohol, opioid, and methamphetamine

dependency disorders. MAT services include a combination of medication along with counseling and behavioral therapies, with the dual goals of long-term abstinence and life change. "We have a need here for outpatient rehabilitation. Our goal is to help individuals overcome their dependencies," states

proprietor and provider Trent Carter, Nurse Practitioner.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration estimates there are 2.5 million Americans with opioid use disorders, including prescription pain medications and heroin. Alcohol, opioid, and methamphetamine dependency rates in Chaves County, according to Carter, are high—in the top 30% of New Mexico. The state also has the highest rate of alcohol-related deaths in the United States—34.3 per 100,000 people. According to the 2020 Legislative Finance Report, there are an estimated one

hundred thousand, or close to one out of 150, New Mexicans with untreated substance abuse disorders.

Substance abuse and addiction affect more than the individual with the dependency. When someone suffers from addiction, the family unit and general community feel the results emotionally, physically, socially, and financially. "We want to help these folks and their families get their lives back, "states Carter.

How does an individual attain treatment? Carter receives self-referrals, as well as those from physicians, counselors, and others. Walk-ins are welcome. Carter and his staff offer compassionate, professional

support, beginning with an initial referral visit to determine eligibility for treatment Renew Health accepts Medicaid and Medicare, and private insurance. Telehealth virtual appointments are also available.

"We offer outpatient behavioralbased therapy which helps patients identify and understand what triggers their cravings, combined with specific medicines to help curb

impulses that drive the abuse. Treatment methods depend upon the substance type and degree of dependency," Carter says. "We are able to medically manage the process from the time a patient enters our treatment program, including medically-managed withdrawal, which lessens the intensity and duration of symptoms."

Specific oral and intramuscular medications are prescribed according to the individual's needs. Some medications, such as Suboxone and Vivitrol, reduce cravings by replacing opioid receptors. Medications can be oral or by monthly injection. Initially, a patient

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under treatment can expect three weekly visits to the clinic, then adjusted as the patient progresses. "Our goal for our patients is to help them find freedom and take back control of their lives."

If you or a loved one has a substance abuse disorder, Roswell's Renew Health is available to help. Located at 207 North Union, Suite E, Renew Health is a bright, comfortable space with a calm, healing atmosphere. Trent Carter and his capable staff are there to provide outpatient professional medically assisted treatment. "Addiction and dependency are treatable. Our methods are safe and proven. We are available online or by phone any time. We are here to help anyone."

"Addiction and dependency are treatable," - Carter

Renew Health Office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 9 AM-5 PM Phone: (575)-363-3189 Email: RenewHealthNM.com 207 North Union, Suite E Roswell, NM 88201



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Winter 2022

Charlotte the Pig

By Hedda P. Saltz

"Ooink,

oink, oink,

oinkoinkoink!"

-Charlotte

The know that baby animals are cute, but the black, white, and pink baby pig at the Spring River Zoo is crazy cute. Meet Charlotte, the 6-month-old mini pig. Renee Fair, the Education Director at the Zoo says "We're not 100% sure what her genealogy is. Her mother and her piglets were brought to a sanctuary called Texas Exotics, and we found out about her when we were looking for a companion for our 2-year-old potbellied pig, Kevin Bacon."



Since Charlotte's mother was a miniature pig, they don't expect her to get as big as Kevin, who weighs in at about 250 pounds. Her yard is right behind Kevin's so they can get acquainted. As we enter Charlotte's yard, Renee distracts her by offering Cheerios from

her jacket pocket. Kevin, who is right next door, starts loudly grunting and moaning, and he sounds pathetic. Renee explains, "He gets jealous when anyone but him gets attention." After her treat, Charlotte begins running and oinking, "Ooink, oink, oink, oinkoinkoink!"

Renee says, "Sit Charlotte." Charlotte sits. "Good girl! This is part of the training we're doing with her. We're teaching her commands. We're getting her nice and social. We're getting her used to people. All right, Charlotte, can you spin?" Charlotte spins. "Fantastic! Good girl! She's about to turn six months old, so we're still doing a lot of training with her. We're going to harness-train her so she can come out for walks. That will help her get used to people."

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The Zoo has had Charlotte for only a few months. They got her in August when she was tiny. She has gained weight since then, and now weighs 25 pounds. She gets fed three times a day- a mixture of pig grain, fruits and veggies. The keepers are trying to get the two pigs used to each other by winter and want Charlotte a little bigger before they put them together. They don't know just how it will work out. "Kevin might be aggressive toward her. Or she might turn around and say, 'No, I'm the boss."

Charlotte will eventually be on display and the goal is for the pigs to live together in a new enclosure. Pigs are incredibly social and do better with a companion. Kevin loves walks and soon will be able to take walks with Charlotte. Exercise is good for them as is walking on pavement which helps keep their hooves trimmed. Kevin goes out on his harness twice a week and his walkers have to jog to keep up with him. "We're hoping we can

wear down his nails so that he doesn't have to go to the vet for a trim," says Fair.

Many people buy pot-bellied pigs as pets and don't realize how big they can get. "That's how we got Kevin Bacon. He got too big for his owners to handle." says Fair.

"He's a Vietnamese pot-bellied pig. That is why he has that rounded belly. That's how pigs



Roswell NOW

end up at a rescue." Pot-bellied pigs lived wild in Vietnam and were domesticated. They are now critically endangered in the wild. Fair said that they mature slowly. "It takes them two to three years to be fully grown."

Charlotte has a straight tail rather than a curly one. Pot-bellied pigs have straight tails, so it seems that this piggy is part pot-bellied. And, she wags her tail! "Pigs are like dogs in that way. She's happy." says Fair. This winter, visitors at the Spring River Zoo will get to see this happy, little pig and her big buddy, Kevin Bacon, and hopefully they will be sharing a yard in radiant companionship.







If you want to see
Charlotte or any of
the other animals
we have highlighted
please go visit them
at the Spring River
Zoo
Located at 1306
E. College Blvd,
Roswell, NM 88201



Travel Advisory

By: Hedda P. Saltz

A mantle of fog; no sky to see, the mountain banished for two nights and days, the ice on the flagstones, crazed.

The green lizard that wanders Ray's office hid away the whole fantastical time; tucked dark on the wall behind a picture.

The ice began at night, it covered trees But not the way snow covers. No. Ice loves each twig, turn and needle;

Unlike the snow the blurs and evens.
It began as a brilliant veneer
On every blade, stone and stick.
It cleaned, magnified, beautified.

The clean of white light coming through White curtains, the clean of a neon dove; Clear and ringing like a crystal goblet.

And it was cold and the roads were closed, the porch and outside stairs deadly.

My car bound close, a fossil in matrix.

On the second day the ice grew feathers. Out of leaning tall grasses, scrubby vines, Gates and locks; tiny feathers everywhere.

Still no sky. The land frosted, immaculate. On the third morning the sun powered in. As quickly as the ice had come and vast, It twinkled and was done. Gone.

The world has become rought; its dusty, Opaque, muscled, old banging self again. And today the sky's a wan middle blue.

The lizard's basking on the sill.



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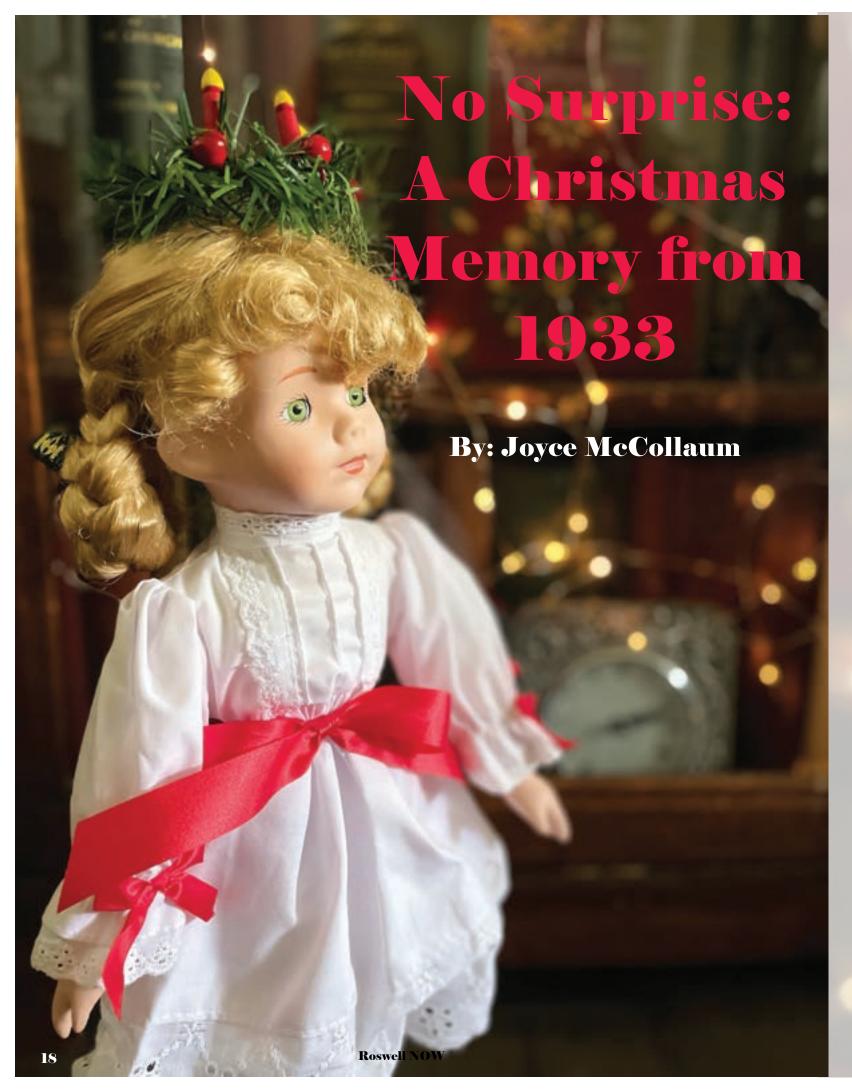
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elen was five years old. When December weather set in, her mother and father left her in charge while they went to the corral to do the evening chores. Her little brother was three, and he could be depended upon to play with his trucks and flashlight (until the battery ran down). He spent his time under the bed driving the trucks, having wrecks and rescuing victims, while he controlled the light and dark of the situation. They wouldn't be left alone for very long, but the time was enough to give Helen the opportunity to pilfer in her parents' bedroom closet. Christmas was coming soon, and she was pretty certain that gifts were hidden somewhere.

She was careful to be silent when she opened the closet door. She had a handful of matches she had taken from the kitchen, so she closed the door carefully and struck the match on the floor. Sure enough there was a big boot box leaning against the wall behind a rack of clothing. She blew out the match, and stood silent for a minute, considering how to proceed. She had to see what was in that box. To get more light she cracked the door open and started to pull items from the hiding place. A pair of mittens. She put them aside. A man's cap with warm ear flaps, also laid aside. Next—Helen could hardly believe it—a doll. And not just a doll! It was the prettiest doll Helen had ever seen, a baby doll with a little blanket, dressed in a nightgown and tiny knitted slippers. It fit perfectly in her arms. She was ready to clasp the doll and sing a song when she heard the yard gate open and her father's voice and her mother's laughter as they returned from milking. Careful to reveal no sign of her snooping, Helen returned the doll to her hiding place, and scurried to the kitchen. At every opportunity for the next few days Helen slipped into the closet to hold her hidden treasure.

On Christmas Eve Daddy and Mommy decided to do things a little differently. Daddy didn't want to wake up at dawn the next day.

"I'll take the kids to the lot with me, and you can put the gifts out while we're gone. We'll tell them Santa came early. We can stay up a little late tonight and sleep late in the morning."

And so it was done.

When they returned from the evening chores, Little Brother jumped on his stick horse, strapped on his belt with gun and holster, and made countless galloping trips around the kitchen table.

Helen rushed to pick up her doll and cuddle it in her arms, meanwhile searching under the tree for another gift. But there would be no surprise that year.

Goliaths in Winter

By. Hedda P. Saltz

Winter trees in Roswell seem too big. Shouldn't they be hunched, contracted? It does get cold, but mostly dry, then drier, until static electricity, that old parlor trick, zaps and witches limbs and trunks, the reaching branches.

The leaves have fallen, blown away.

I see grum grackles dot inner spaces;
close together but not too together,
dark exclamations, now visible.

1 1 2

Tiptop twigs hocus pocus the sky,
conjure a slow rising icecherry sunset.
A flock of black birds lifts as one from
a soaring Roswell tree, swoops, ascends,
warms the Christmas pink wind; loops down
to roost again in the winterbig arms.

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Roswell Youth on Stage and in Life

By: Beverly Coots

APS (Kids Arts Programs) began in Roswell as an outreach of the First Presbyterian Church in 2007. Lynetta Zuber began teaching at KAPS in 2010. In 2013, Alethea Hartwell joined forces with her and KAPS became its own entity.

Both Zuber and Hartwell bring talent and a love of youth to the program. Since both of them were already giving their time and talents to the Roswell Community Little Theatre, it seemed like a natural fit to move KAPS to the Little Theatre where Angela Strange came on board to teach and serve as an administrator.

All three organizers and teachers are passionate about working with children. Hartwell works well with older students and appreciates the opportunity to "bring up the next generation." Hartwell has a gift for improvisation, both as a teacher and as a performer. She enjoys watching as students strengthen their confidence, communication, and teamwork skills through this discipline. She states that many of the youth are "cleverer than adults realize".

Zuber works well with younger age students, and she is delighted by their openness and willingness to play. Teaching them enlivens her as much as she enlivens them. Zuber remarks that many students learn effective body control through performing arts. Simply learning to be still helps students concentrate and communicate more effectively. It also helps with facial expression control: informing your face of your thoughts or else masking those thoughts.

Walking into a class, you might find the students playing a game called "Statue." The point of the game



is to remain as a statue while the "watchman" (teacher or a designated student) is watching. Once the watchman is turned away, the students may move at will. A sneeze or twitch or falling foot sends a student out. The youth enjoy this game so much, they rise to the occasion by striking difficult poses, one-footed stances, deep squats, and leans. They often keep these poses better than other simpler stands.

Angela Strange enjoys working with children, and her patience and dedication keep the administrative side of the organization running smoothly. She also assists in classes as a teacher and third adult in designing the curriculum.

This performing arts program has three class sections divided by age group. The youngest group is the Rising Stars program geared to ages three through five. It is a beginning level class taught over six weeks and includes a parent or guardian of the child. It teaches introductory creativity, self-expressions, and rhythm. Through rhythm, the class also touches on communication and teamwork.

The Enchantment Company is for third to fifth graders. It is a full semester-long course with classes meeting once weekly. Students learn stage direction, effective public presentation, character development, storytelling, and public speaking. They rehearse and perform. In 2022, the Enchantment Company assisted the older group in the Living History Project in conjunction with the Historical Society. They will perform with the older group on Nov. 11th and Nov. 12th at the Roswell Community Little Theatre which may pre-date the publication of this magazine. Together with the third group of students, the Enchantment Company will offer a full drama in the Spring of next year

The third group of students, the Cover-Up Company, is geared towards those in 7th through 12th grades. The students learn not only stage movement, but set and light design, the basic elements of sound projection, and full characterization. Through improv, they learn to work together as an ensemble and make their stage partners look



like "geniuses." They learn to think on their feet and be creative while solving a problem. Most importantly, improv can teach effective active listening, which is something we all need. They will perform live improv on November 11th and 12th at the Roswell Community Little Theatre.

To find out more, get involved, learn performance times (or just be nosy), go to https://roswelltheatre.com/kaps-of-rclt/. KAPS hopes to see you at the theater.





1st - 5th - A Season in Bethleham Live Nativity



2nd - Wool Bowl



2nd - Christmas Tree Lighting & Light Parade (6 PM)



3rd - Downtown Christmas Market & Movie on City Hall Lawn (Polar Express 6 PM)



8th - 12th - A Season in Bethleham Live Nativity



17th - 18th - The Nutcracker



18th - Christmas Classics



19th - 30th Christmas Break



24th- Christmas Eve



25th - Chrismas Day

Please look at our website event calendar for more details.

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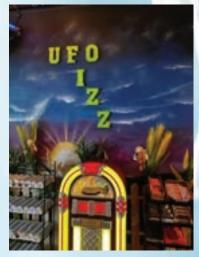
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The First Annual Artists Reception for the Roswell Fine Arts League

By: Beverly Coots

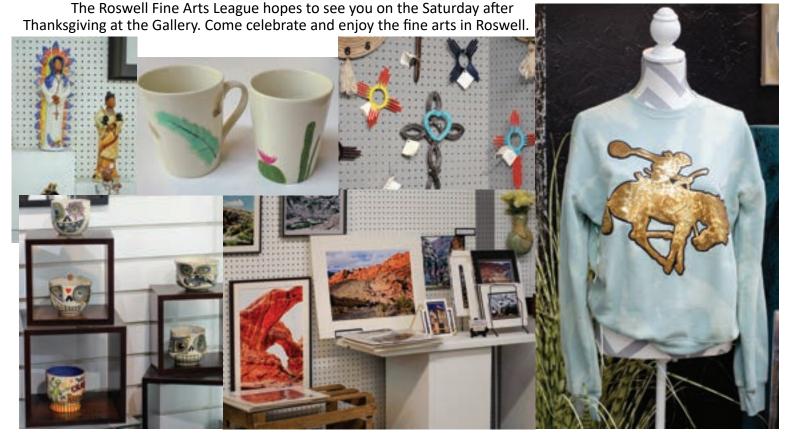
ome meet and speak with local artists about their work and the fine arts in Roswell at the First Annual Artists Reception on Nov. 26, 2022, from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Enjoy a cup of hot chocolate or a mug of apple cider and speak with artists of the Roswell Fine Arts League, RFAL. Find out how and why they do what they do. Learn about classes for young and old and purchase beautiful works of art for your own collections or as lovely gifts for Christmas and the holidays. The first twenty adults will receive a signed hand-painted ceramic cup painted by a local artist. The cups will each be unique pieces of art. The reception will be family-friendly and held at The Gallery located in the Main Street Arts Building, 223 N. Main Street, Roswell, NM.

The Roswell Fine Arts League is a juried league of local artists. Once accepted into the League, members pay dues to the League and may staff The Gallery to show and sell their work at The Gallery in the Main Street Arts Building.

Bob Goode is the current RFAL president and Tammy Alvarez is the current director of The Gallery. The RFAL started in the mid-1970s and opened a gallery in a different location in 1997. They moved once before settling into Main Street Arts Building, after Peggy Krantz bought the building and remodeled it into a great light-filled space for artists.

The RFAL stays family friendly: they do not show or sell pornographic or graphically visceral work. They also concentrate their efforts on fine arts rather than crafts. Visitors will find photography, drawing, painting, jewelry, ceramics, metalworks, and textile arts.

Goode and Alvarez came to the RFAL about five years ago and focused on stabilizing the League. Now that the League is much stronger, they have looked to the future and to growth. The League held its First Annual 'Out of this World' Art Contest in July of this year in conjunction with the UFO Festival. Patrons of the arts in Roswell can expect another fine arts contest in 2023.



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I WANT TO GIVE AN EXTRA FLAKE OF HAY TO THE COWS,

FOR OF COURSE AT CHRISTMAS TIME THEY DESERVE AN EXTRA TREAT.

I WANT AN APPLE AND CARROT FOR THE HORSES,

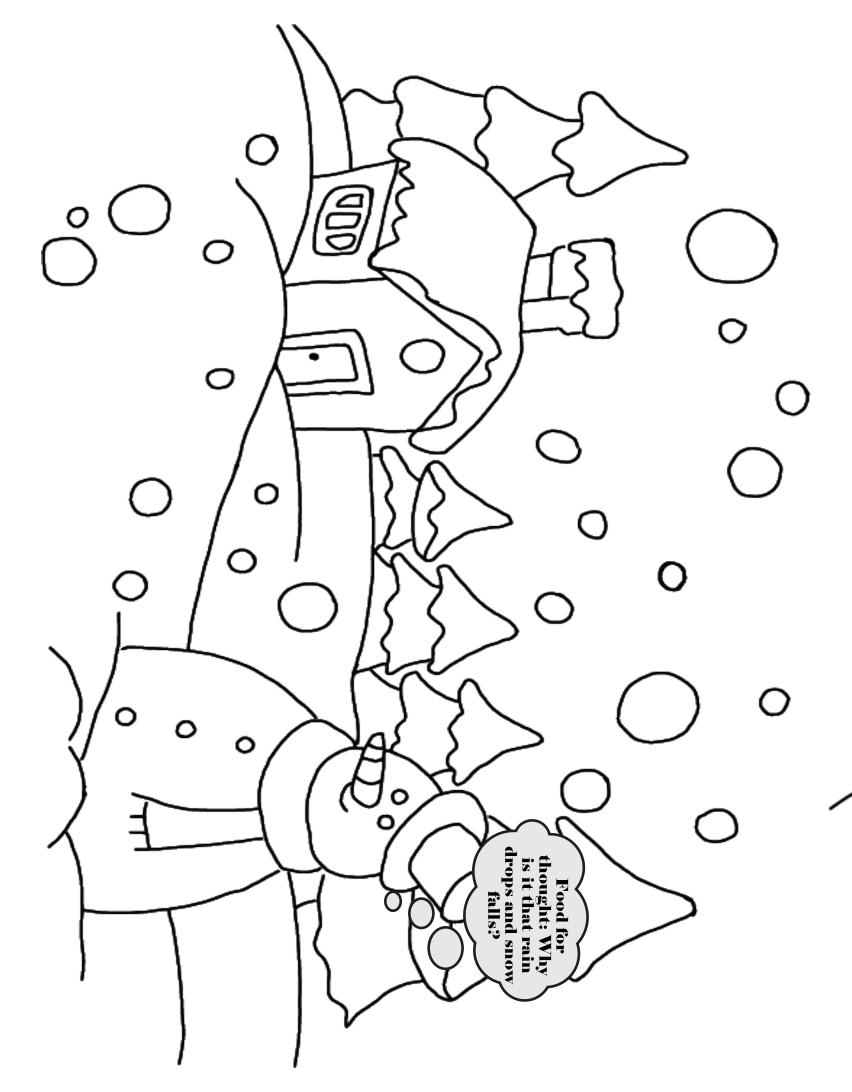
FOR IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW LONG I RIDE, THEY ARE ALWAYS QUIET AND SWEET.

I WANT TO THANK YOU ABOVE ALL FOR ALL THE ANIMALS IN THE BARN,

FOR THAT'S WHERE IT ALL BEGAN IN A MANGER LONG AGO UNDER A BRIGHT BEAUTIFUL STAR.

BY: KRISTI BENEDICT







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hristmas Eve at the R. L. Corn Family home was a four-generational long-standing tradition. If you were a member of the family, and could make the trip, attendance was expected. There was always a Christmas tree—usually a cedar or piñon cut from one of the Corn ranches

north of Roswell. Each year, the angel, carried by Maggie Ash Bowden from her home in Uvalde, Texas, graced the family tree. Once, the angel topped a mesquite, and one year she held the place of honor on a yucca plant. Nestled underneath the branches of each year's tree, sat the treasured china doll, a gift from her mother for Maggie's fourth birthday in 1884.

"Grandma loved that doll, and she wouldn't let us play with it. Once, she let

us girls hold it." reminisces Barbara Corn Patterson, now 87, one of Maggie Corn's granddaughters. The doll, made of cloth, with porcelain head, arms and legs, remains a prized heirloom, lovingly cared for by Maggie's youngest granddaughter, Jane Corn Nevarrez.

In 1900, Robert Lafayette Corn, son of Roswell pioneer Martin Van Buren Corn, married the young blonde schoolteacher

> who boarded with the Corn family, and taught at the Eden Valley School, 25 miles north of Roswell. They had six sons, who were raised on the Eden Valley ranches. The family moved to Roswell in the 1940's, to a home located at the corner of Richardson and Ninth Streets. The Corns held their Christmas gatherings there for more than thirty years. In the 1944 photo, Bob and Maggie are flanked by all six sons and their wives, along with fourteen grandchildren.

"We all dressed up to go to Grandma and Grandpa's," states Barbara. "The men stood along one wall and talked about the weather



and livestock prices. The ladies sat with Grandma and talked about the kids. The kids had fun, especially when Graham (Alton and Margaret Corn's oldest son) came in wearing a red shirt. We stuffed it with rags and went to the attic, where there was a window we could open and get onto the roof. We made a human chain with our arms, so Graham could get to the chimney. Fortunately, we knocked some chimney bricks loose, startling the folks below, and our fathers came running. Looking back, it wasn't a very good idea."

At a 1960's Christmas party, ten of the Corns' great-grandchildren and thirteen of twenty grand-children were present. This writer remembers sugar-sprinkled Christmas stars and candy canes hanging from the magnificent pine in the front room. The

angel smiled down upon us, as we lined up to kiss our Great-grandmother Corn, wishing her a Merry Christmas. It was to be one of her last Christmases in the family home. She passed away in 1977, at the age of 97 years. Billie Corn, now deceased, was the wife of Ronald Corn, (son of Maggie and Bob). She contributed many of the Corn family stories to the Roswell Daily Record, and to the Old Timers Review in the 1970's and 1980's, including the family Christmases. "Amid this atmosphere, the family is truly drawn together in love and good cheer. Perhaps this is the secret my mother-in-law learned long ago from the family Christmas tree."



Corn Family--1944

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"GINGERBREAD HOUSE/CHURCH BAKING CONTEST

DATE: NOVEMBER 28, 2022

TIME: 2:00 pm

LOCATION: The Gospel Village's "A SEASON IN BETHLEHEM" 2603 S. Eisenhower Rd.

Adult Category:	RULES:
-1st Place: \$75 gift certificate to the Baker's	1. Entrants must bring the opened bag of King Arthur Flour when they submit the entry.
Catalogue/ kingarthurflour.com (Spending rights!)	2. All entries must be a GINGERBREAD HOUSE/ CHURCH. The style of a house or church can be cathedral, pueblo, or just simple architecture. Decorate as elaborately as you wish.
-2nd Place: King Arthur Flour Whole Grain Baking Cookbook (Bragging rights!)	3. An entry form must accompany the entry and can be picked up at the Roswell Chamber of Commerce at 131 W. 2nd.
-3rd Place: King Arthur Flour Doughnut	4. Must provide a legible recipe, with the entry, preferably typed.
Pan (and a ton of bragging rights!)	5. All entries must be submitted on a disposable container for judging (specify size)
Junior/Youth Category:	6. Suggested criteria for baked goods:
-1st Place: \$50 gift certificate to the Baker's Catalogue/kingarthurflour.com (Spending rights!)	a.Taste: 50 points b.Overall Appearance & Creativity: 25 points c.Texture: 25 points d.Total: 100 points
-2nd Place: King Arthur Flour Whole	7. Failure to follow the rules may result in disqualification.
Grain Baking Cookbook (Bragging rights!) -3rd Place: King Arthur Flour Doughnut	8. King Arthur Flour is not responsible for replacing lost or misplaced prizes or ribbons (including gift cards.)
Pan (and a ton of bragging rights!)	9. Entries are due one (1) day before the contest by 5:30 pm.

12, 2022.

All winners will also receive a gorgeous

ribbon

Winter 2022 41

10. Entries will remain on display for visitors during THE SEASON IN BETHLEHEM 2022 at the above address from December 1 through December







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very year, local realtor Jesse McDaniel creates an extraordinary Christmas light display at his home on North Cambridge that is so amazing the city has made his street one way to help with the traffic. We sat down with Jesse to ask about the display and why he does it.

Q: How many lights do you use on your home Christmas display?

A: I have never had the time to count but it's between 500k and 700k by estimations.

Q: When did you first do a display?

A: I first started my display in 2014 at my current home on North Cambridge. I did set up lights at my old house but was on a low traffic street.

Q: Why do you go through all the trouble?

A: This is a simple answer, there are few things better than seeing a child smile:)

Q: What does your family think about your light display?

A: My kids have kind of become used to it now. They seem to like the fact that all their friends know where our house is. My wife, Jahanna, loves the holidays also. She does an awesome job decorating the inside of our home every holiday. The older kids have started helping some so this makes me really happy as I want this to continue even after I'm not able to do it anymore.

Q: What do your neighbors think?

A: Some love it and have started decorating bigger and bigger every year. Some seem okay and a few don't seem to care for it much. I know the traffic can get overwhelming at times, so I appreciate them not getting to upset about it all

Q: Any funny or interesting stories from set up?

A: As a real estate broker, I listed the house one over from across the street from mine. I told the out-of-state buyer there is one more requirement for this neighborhood - decorate big for Christmas. He insisted he loved to decorate and had a huge display. I told him the guy across the street kind of goes all out. He insisted he would give that guy a run for his money.

He comes over midway through my set up (after finding out I was the neighbor) and said, "okay, you win." His display does get bigger and bigger every year, though.

Q: Any funny stories from/about visitors?

A: Most people think my electric bill has to be crazy or tons of money. My electric bill really is not bad at all. The light show cost me about 150 to 200 bucks in electricity every Christmas. People always look at me in disbelief—or tell me no way. My reply is always the same. LED technology is why. The power usage is almost nothing for a strand of led lights. Now buying them and labor to put them up and take down . . . well that's another story.

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Q: What do people tell you about the display?

A: People who have kids tell me, "You know I have to drive by your house almost every night cause my kids want to see the McDaniel lights." Makes me smile every time I hear it.

Q: How much do you change it every year?

A: I try to change some every year but changes are expensive and time consuming so I usually try to add something every year or at least a few new songs to the show

Q: You do the lights downtown now? And a display at the Christmas Railway? Tell us about those.

A: Downtown is way more work than my house. It takes about 5 to 7 of us every year about a month to get up and a month to take down. At Christmas Railway, my business sponsors a display that I set up myself. From what I am told I am the only outsider allowed to do up a display myself. I'm sure people understand why.

Q: Have to deal with to any grinches?

A: Yes, but very few. Almost everyone loves the lights,

Q: What is the hardest part of doing a display?

A: Keeping up with three displays—we are basically doing my house, Main, and the Railway all in the same time frame, can get a little stressful knowing everyone is waiting on them all

Q; What part is the most fun?

A: You know the scene in the movie Christmas Vacation with Chevy Chase

plugging in the lights and they all finally come on. Yeah, that's the best feeling. Seeing all the work come to life!

Q: What is the most meaningful/memorable thing someone has said to you?

A: One night a man walked up and point blank told me he hated Christmas. I kind of stood there for a few seconds not knowing what to say. Then he told me that he had lost both his parents during Christmas time.

I told him I was sorry for him. Then he then looked back up at me and said, "I hate Christmas, but I cannot help to smile when is come by your house." He said it gave him back some of the joy he used to have around the holidays. He then walked off just as fast as he walked up. I have yet to see this man again. I promised myself that night I would get the lights up every year no matter what.

Q: Anything else you want to say?

A: Mom took my brother and I to look at lights in the same very neighborhood I live in now. Many families cannot afford a lot at Christmas. I am glad they will be able to bring their kids to our neighborhood just like when I was a kid.

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Practice Holiday Food Giving

By: Eva McCollaum

hen I was little, we had an outside cat named Moonshine. Occasionally, this big black cat would leave a dead bird on the back doorstep. My thought, "Gross." I eventually learned that most people who have outdoor cats get such things, and most think it is an indication the cat is leaving you a gift, at least in the cat's mind. You are so nice to share food with me, thinks the cat, here's a little something for you. Enjoy! I would not say such behavior is conclusive proof that the most simple gift in all the world is food, but it might form the basis of an argument.

Of course, *people* give foods as gifts often. This time of year, my mailbox fills with catalogs of all sorts of food gifts available to send all around the world. Those boxes of cheese and sausage (even better, fruit) are delightful, but nothing expresses love quite the way homemade foods do. Here's my list of three foods that are little wrapped up presents all by themselves.

I've arranged the recipes from most simple to most complex. Let's start with a fine cookie recipe. These are really easy to make. They are also among the most popular I have made lately. They begin with a chocolate shortbread-like dough and involve buying your favorite bite-sized chocolate candies. This classic recipe is inspired by a southern version of the cookie.

Chocolate Surprises

1 ½ cups sugar

6 tablespoons softened butter

2 eggs

2 teaspoons vanilla

2 cups flour

1 cup unsweetened cocoa (Dutch processed)

2 teaspoon baking powder

1 teaspoon salt

30 to 36 unwrapped chocolate caramel candies (I use Rolos.)

½ cup powdered sugar



Whip butter and sugar together. Add eggs and vanilla and blend until smooth. Whisk together flour, cocoa, baking powder, and salt. Gradually add the flour to the butter mixture, beating slowly until just blended. Wrap the dough in plastic wrap and chill for at least 2 hours and as many as 4.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. Shape dough into 30 to 36 balls, each about the size of a walnut. Place each ball between two sheets of wax paper or plastic wrap and press each ball into a flat disc approximately 3 inches wide. Place discs about 1 inch apart on parchment lined baking sheet. Place a candy in the middle of each disc and wrap the disc around the candy, rolling it into a smooth ball.



Bake the cookies 8 to 10 minutes. They will flatten slightly. After they have cooled for about 5 minutes, dust them with powdered sugar. Best served warm.

The next dish in this group of giftwrapped foods is based on my time doing Weight Watchers. This is not meant to be an endorsement of that organization, but they

do have excellent recipes. They've been working on making lean, healthy, palatable food for over half a century. I know this because my first experience of their recipes was TERRIBLE. They used to have a recipe for "mock cheesecake." Bit of advice: Anytime the word "mock" is in the title of a recipe, beware. "Mock" is often a euphemism for "Wretched."

Anyhoo, I use turkey rather than ground pork in this recipe for Chinese dumplings. It's excellent, especially if you get the ground turkey that is 93% lean rather than 99%. You need some fat to give these wee packets the big, round flavor that makes them a family favorite.

Chinese-style Steamed Dumplings

Soy sauce

Seasoned rice vinegar

Dark sesame oil

4 to 6 chopped green onions

3 teaspoons chopped fresh ginger

½ teaspoon red pepper flakes

1 pound ground turkey

1 can water chestnuts

2 cloves minced garlic





Roswell NOW

1 egg

1 package wonton wrappers

Dipping sauce: Combine ½ cup soy sauce with ½ cup seasoned rice vinegar. Add 2 teaspoons dark sesame oil, two chopped green onions, 1 teaspoon grated ginger, and ½ teaspoon red pepper flakes. Set aside to serve with the steamed dumplings.

Filling: In a food processor, combine water chestnuts, 4 roughly chopped green onions, 2 teaspoons ground ginger, garlic cloves, egg, 2 teaspoons soy sauce, and 2 teaspoons dark sesame oil. Blend until relatively smooth but with some pieces of onion and water chestnuts still distinct. Stir this mixture into the ground turkey until it is thoroughly combined.

Construct: Some cooks have a beautiful way to fold the wonton wrappers around the filling. I do not. I simply use wet fingers to dab the edges of the wrappers and then fold them around the filling, making triangles, and then I fold the outer triangle corners together. It works well enough. There are other methods. Feel free to try any that look fun.

Cook: Place the dumplings in a steamer for 8 minutes. The filling will be firm and fully cooked and the wrappers will be *al dente*, (an Italian term, but is means right to the teeth, chewable but not tough or crisp).

Present: Serve warm with dipping sauce on the side. These keep well in the refrigerator. They can easily be reheated the next day in the microwave for a light lunch. I haven't tried freezing them. We like them too much for them to last that long. This recipe will make about 50 dumplings.



The last wrapped packages I share with you here may be merely for the pleasure of reading. These are too complicated and labor intensive to be tackled alone. I know that because I tried to do them on my own. They kicked my butt.

This is also one of my least tested recipes. Almost every recipe I have shared with others has been tested dozens, if not hundreds, of times. They are all recipes that I have revised and remade in various ways to improve them. Not so with these tamales. These I tried only once (so far).

Because I grew up in the southwest, I associate tamales with the season of gift-giving. I love them. We always had them in the cold weather months. We bought them from neighbors and

acquaintances in little towns all over New Mexico. Some had toothsome tamale dough that was stout and had the texture of cornmeal. Some had dough so smooth and rich that it bordered on the texture of pasta. Some had flecks of red chile in the tamale dough. That is my absolute favorite—red, spicy shredded beef filling with a thin smooth tamale dough that echoes the flavor of the meat.

In Anne Lindsay Greer's *Cuisine of the American Southwest* (1983 from Harper and Row Publishers), a most excellent and scholarly text, she devotes no less than ten pages to the discussion and construction of tamales, informing me that the Aztecs considered tamales food for the gods. My niece Ruth, whose mother grew up in Mexico City, says her mother used banana leaves to wrap her tamales, which I believe may be the earliest and still most exotic method. Here in Roswell, use corn shucks which are currently available in the all the local markets.

My recipe uses barbecued beef, which is not typical. I am told every family has their own recipes for the meat filling that is often made with beef, pork, or chicken. If you have a big family, you might try the old *tamalada*, a party involving lots of people, hot chocolate, and churros. One "neighbor lady" who used to supply our tamales said she and her daughters made 50 dozen tamales at these gatherings. That's north of 500 tamales. Yes, it is a project for a crowd. As with all things, practice improves performance, so my next attempt at these delicious and subtle gifts will involve adding more spice to the filling and getting better at shaping the final product.

Barbecued Beef Tamales

Filling:

3 to 4 pound chuck roast

Salt and pepper

Water

1 cup red wine

2 stalks celery

2 chopped bell peppers (any color)

3 cloves garlic, minced

1 teaspoon salt

2 cups ketchup

2 tablespoons brown sugar

3 tablespoons apple cider vinegar

1 teaspoon dry mustard

2 teaspoons red chile powder





½ teaspoon tobacco sauce

1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

2 bay leaves

½ teaspoon garlic powder

1 teaspoon paprika

Season roast with salt and pepper and lightly coat with flour. Sear on all sides in Dutch oven. Add wine and enough water to Dutch oven to cover roast. Cook over low heat for four hours. Remove from heat. Cool. Shred. Return the meat to the Dutch oven with two cups of the



broth. Reserve the rest of the broth for the tamale dough. Add the rest of the ingredients to the pot. Cook on low heat, uncovered for another hour at least. Add water if necessary. When done the mixture will be thick. Allow to cool before making tamales. However, if you're rethinking the whole tamale deal, this meat is excellent by itself or put over corn bread, toasted bread, or fresh rolls. Keeps in the refrigerator well.

Dough:

6 to 8 cups fresh masa harina (Get the stuff made right here in Roswell!)

2 cups lard

2 teaspoons salt

2 tablespoons baking powder

1 cup fresh corn kernels (optional)

Reserved beef both

Whip the softened lard, add the *masa harina*, salt, baking powder, and corn. Stir in enough beef broth (a little at a time) to make a light, slightly tacky dough. A pinch of the mixture should float briefly in a cup of cold water.

Construct: Soak the cornhusks in water until they are pliable. (This is the part that gave me the most trouble.) Spread a tablespoon of the dough in a thin coat on the corn husk, place two tablespoons of the filling in the center of the dough. Wrap the dough around the filling with the husk, fold the narrow end of

the husk up (almost in half). Place the tamale vertically in the steaming pot. Fill the pot with tamales.

Cook: Steam the tamales for one hour to 90 minutes. To test doneness, take the least cooked tamale from the pot and try to unwrap it. If the husk pulls freely from the dough, the tamale is done. If not, it isn't. Return it to the pot and let it cook a while longer.

You will need to add water to the pot as the tamales steam. I used a nickel under the seaming basket to make sure there was water in the pot. The nickel would make a light tapping sound as long as the water was bubbling. When it stopped its clicking song, the pot needed more water.

Tamales can (and should) be served warm and fresh made, but they keep beautifully. They can be stored in foil in the refrigerator or frozen. To reheat them, thaw and steam for about twenty minutes, or you can reheat them in the microwave.

So, there they are, small (and large) gifts of food to celebrate the season of giving. Here's my version of leaving a dead bird on your doorstep. *Enjoy!*







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