

*A special edition of*  
**Roswell NOW**

**ROSWELL**  
*Christmas*  
**RAILWAY**



Guide to the Christmas Railway  
Holiday Shopping Guide  
Jesse McDaniel: Christmas Light  
Extraordinaire

A Corn Family Christmas  
Next Stop, St. Nicholas Station!  
What Does Christmas Mean to You?

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A Product of the Roswell Chamber of Commerce

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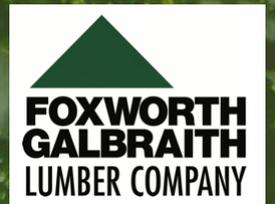
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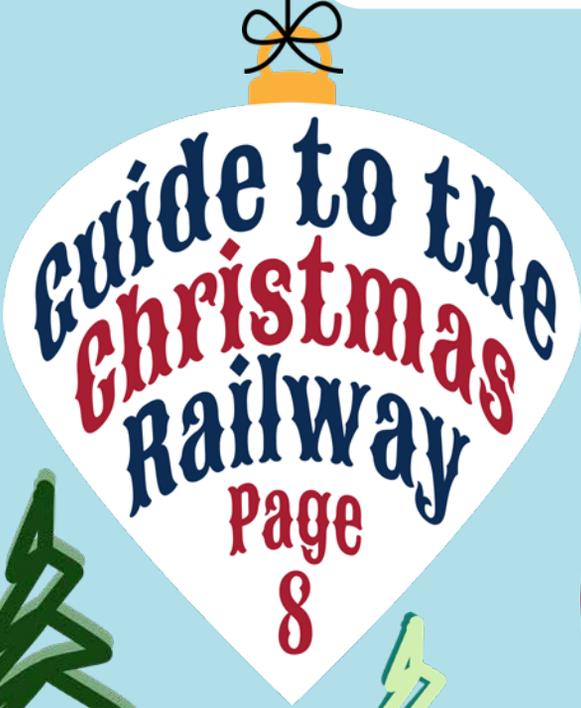
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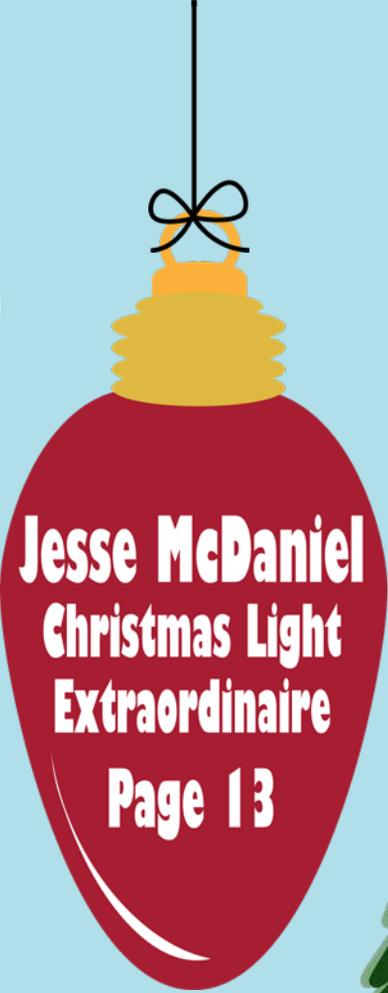
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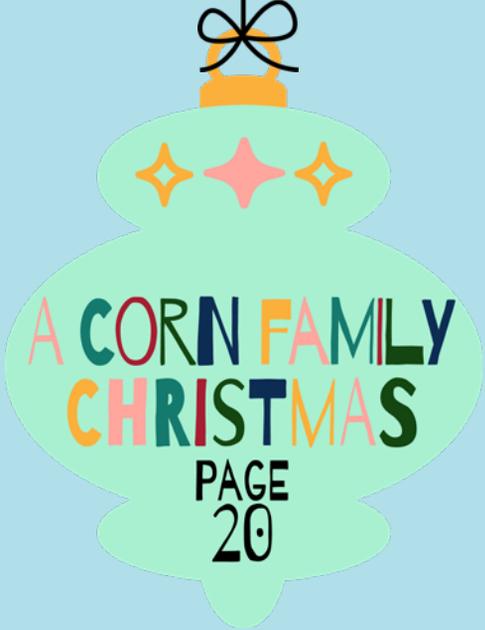
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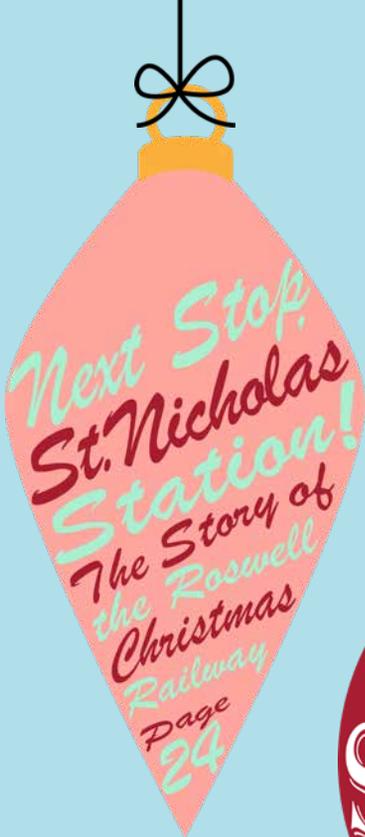
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Locals share what Christmas means to them.

# ULTIMATE GUIDE TO THE ROSWELL Christmas RAILWAY

The Roswell Christmas Railway is more than just a train ride around the zoo. It's a collection of magical Christmas experiences for your family and friends. There is so much to do and see! Over the next couple of pages we will break it down for you so you don't miss a thing.

## Attractions



### Visit Santa

What do you want for Christmas? Santa Claus is looking forward to meet kids of all ages. **Guests are welcome to take pictures with their own phones/cameras**, but Santa's official photographer elf is also available to provide professional photography.



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## JUST THE FACTS

### 2021 Dates

November 26-28

December 3-5

December 10-12

December 17-24

December 26-27

### Hours

5pm to 9pm

### Ticket Prices

Adults – \$15

Children 3 to 12 – \$9

2 and Under – FREE

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## Ride the Train

Your admission includes a ticket to ride on the Railway around the Christmas Village. The trip lasts around 10 minutes and the train carts are open air, so be sure to bundle up!

*To keep the wait in line to a minimum, parties reserve a 30 minute window in which to ride.*



## NEW! Plateau Skating Rink

Whether you go skating with family, friends, or a sweetheart, enjoy the magic of Christmas Ice Skating at the Roswell Christmas Railway. Using synthetic ice, the Plateau Skating Rink is a fun activity for kids of all ages no matter if it is 70 degrees or 7 degrees out. We can't wait to see you move on the ice!



Adults – \$11

Kids 12 and under – \$9.50

*Purchase online and SAVE \$2*



SEE MORE ATTRACTIONS  
ON NEXT PAGE

Holiday 2021

# More Attractions



## The Amazing Light Maze

Over 12 miles of lights make up this spectacular adventure that you will want to experience again and again. Try to find your way out, or just get lost with family and friends in the glow of over 200,000 Christmas lights.



## Snowfall Flats

Snowfall Flats is a place where families and friends can hang out with our fuzzy Christmas friends who come down from the North Pole to Snowfall Flats to play with kids of all ages. They love hugs, dancing and getting their pictures taken. Hey, is that snow falling?



## Elf Town

The Elf Town is a (tiny) holiday village where kids can play while parents relax. Explore the elf buildings, eat the elves' favorite snack—S'mores, and enjoy the magical light show at the mountains dance to holiday music.



## NEW – Illuminate!

In the center of a 29 foot transparent dome sits a piano. When a performer plays, the over 2,500 feet of RGB LED lights that wrap the dome illuminate in coordination with each note struck.

## Polar Pals

Bring a bear, penguin, reindeer or other Polar Pal critter to life. These cuter-than-cute stuffed animals are ready for kids of all ages to take them home.



Polar Pal Experience - \$18

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## Christmas Carousel

Rides are \$2 and go to support our hosts the Spring River Zoo.



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# ULTIMATE GUIDE TO THE ROSWELL Christmas RAILWAY



## NEW – Bricktown Christmas

See the minifigs of Bricktown getting ready for the holidays in this magical display built from over 50,000 LEGOs & thousands of little lights!



## Photo Spots

Get your selfie on!



## Entertainment at Plaza de Navidad

Celebrate the Holidays with great food from south of the border, local entertainers and Christmas Karaoke. Let the fiesta begin!



## Entertainment Schedule

- Fri, Dec 3, 6pm – Roswell Flute Ensemble
- Fri, Dec 3, 7pm – Desert Darlings
- Sat, Dec 4, 6pm – Studio Plus
- Sun, Dec 5, 6 & 7pm – Devon Bullock Music Students
- Fri, Dec 10, 6pm – Roswell Flute Ensemble
- Fri, Dec 10, 7:30-9 – RHS Choir
- Sat, Dec 11, 7pm – Kids Love To Dance
- Fri, Dec 17, 7pm – Desert Darlings
- Sat, Dec 18 – Kendra Beagles Music Studio
- Mon, Dec 20, 6 & 7pm – Mike Lively's Piano Students
- Tue, Dec 21, 6pm – Deanna Whitehead Music Students

Visit [RoswellChristmasRailway.com/entertainment](http://RoswellChristmasRailway.com/entertainment) for the latest schedule.



NEW – Grab an egg nog and sing your favorite Christmas song with family and friends–Karaoke Style. Maybe even we'll get Santa up there!



## Entertainment

# Dining & Treats



Whether you are looking for a warm meal or a special Christmas sweet, there are great tastes waiting for you at The Roswell Christmas Railway.



## Tacos de Navidad

Enjoy street tacos, tamales, and more at Tacos de Navidad. Be sure to get RED and GREEN sauce! After all it is CHRISTMAS!



### Menu

Taco Plate Dinner – \$15  
 2 Asada or Pollo Street Tacos  
 Tamale  
 Delicious Chips!  
 Festive Bottled Beverage

Kids Meal – \$6  
 Chips or apple sauce, juice box  
 and one of the following:  
 Cheese Quesadilla  
 Pollo Street Taco  
 PB & J Sandwich

Tamales – \$3 ea  
 Street Tacos – \$3.50 ea  
 Tortilla Chips – \$3  
 Water or Soda – \$2



## The S'more Cart

Select your favorite Ghirardelli chocolate and toast up a warm holiday treat at the Elf Town fire place.

S'more Kit – \$4  
 Family Pack (5) – \$15  
 Coffee – \$3

## Mrs. Claus' Kitchen

Warm up with complimentary hot chocolate & satisfy your sweet tooth with one of Mrs. Claus' baked goods.

Warm Cinnamon Roll – \$3  
 Frosted Cookie – \$2  
 Souvenir Mug – \$8.50  
 w/ Hot Chocolate Refill  
 Hot Chocolate – \$2  
 complimentary w/ticket  
 Coffee – \$3



# ULTIMATE GUIDE TO THE ROSWELL Christmas RAILWAY



# Shopping



The Roswell Christmas Railway features two shops where you can find gifts, toys, jewelry & more.



Looking for a fun and unique gift? Visit St. Nick's Emporium and North Pole Knick Knacks!



Find a great assortment of LEGOs—We are an official LEGO retailer.



# Jesse McDaniel: Christmas Light Extraordinaire

Every 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.

## **How many lights do you use on your home Christmas Display?**

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

## **When did you first do a display?**

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.

## **Why do you go through all the trouble?**

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

## **What does your family think about your light display?**

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.



## **What do your neighbors think?**

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 too upset about it all.

## **Any funny or interesting stories from set up?**

As a real estate broker, I listed the house one over 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.

## **Any funny stories from/about visitors?**

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.

**What do people tell you about the display?**

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.

**How much do you change it every year?**

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.

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

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.

**Have to deal with too many grinchers?**

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

**What is the hardest part of doing a display?**

Keeping up with three displays—we are basically doing my house, Main, and the Railway all in the

same time frame. It can get a little stressful knowing everyone is waiting on them all

**What part is the most fun?**

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!

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

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 looked back up at me and said, "I hate Christmas, but I cannot help but smile when I 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.

**Anything else you want to say?**

Mom always took my brother and I to look at lights in the very same 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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An artist cannot fail, It is a success just to be one.

# The Art of Courage and Discipline

By Beverly Coots



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Speak with Peggy Krantz about her art and you will learn two things quickly. She is fearless about it and disciplined. Peggy is self-taught in her field, but don't let that fool you, she is a fabulous teacher and well-schooled in color, composition, and technique.

Peggy owns Main Street Arts at 223 North Main Street. It houses one-thousand square feet of Peggy's work and four-thousand square feet of work from members of the Roswell Fine Arts League.

In 2014, six years into a personal art quest, Peggy's canvases filled the spaces below the beds in her home. Though she questioned her calling to large bold work, she worked diligently for "the One who called". Then two things happened. First a property on Main Street became available. It was a dream for Peggy that lived in the impossible dream bucket. Concurrently Roswell Fine Arts League lost their premises and were searching for a new location. After consulting with her husband, Greg Krantz of Krantz Farms, they decided Peggy could just swing a joint effort.

The first years weren't perfect. Peggy had a large investment immediately and the awning and storefront only added debt. The Art League had lost members and was struggling as well. Both the League and Peggy



went to work. It was the beginning of the paint party craze, and Peggy's parties took off. Since members of the league also held parties, Peggy began to work off site at Pecos Flavors and the Liberty and later at Hippie Chicks. At

these parties, she honed her already prodigious teaching skills and learned new techniques to keep the parties fresh. One of Peggy's delights is teaching youngsters. In all of her classes she loves watching capability emerge. She calls it excavating talent. With young people, their delight with their own work is authentic and easy to encourage. She enjoys a child's intensity and curiosity and is reminded of those qualities in her own art when she teaches. Speaking of teaching children, Peggy remarks, "Who knows what way God will take their particular talent and use it to give to the world."

Besides teaching, Peggy is a perpetual student of the arts. When she travels, she sees firsthand the art she had formerly only witnessed in a book or on a screen. Traveling to Europe to see Renaissance masters, she filled her vision with brush strokes, composition, use of light, and rendering of shadow.

She says that it's a type of visual understanding that deepens and informs her own work. She comments that in many disciplines you may simply become more





proficient, but the study of art keeps ballooning before you.

Peggy's muses are art supplies, teaching, and travel. She is the only supplier of Golden Premium Acrylic Paints in the area. Her latest projects combine her love of art supplies and teaching. She is putting together art kits with a link to a video for learning skills in painting. It gives her greater freedom in working at different skill levels. She is also thinking large again. She would like to teach large canvas composition and painting working side-by-side with the student.

Peggy's joy and thankfulness come through with every word she speaks about art. It may be discipline, but it's delightful. She invites us to come see the talent in Roswell at Main Street Arts.



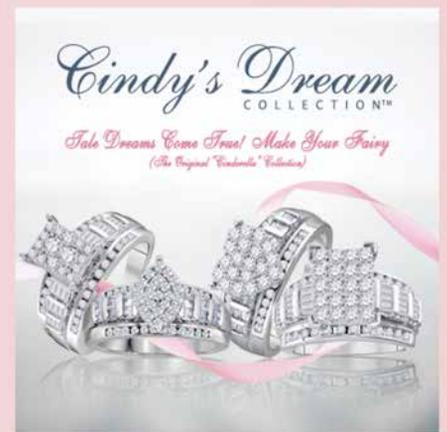
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**Holiday 2021**

# No Surprise

## A Christmas Memory from 1933

By Helen McCollaum

**H**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.



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# A Corn Family Christmas

**By Carolyn Patterson Sidd**

Christmas 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."



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# Next Stop, St. Nicholas Station

By William Lewis

In the spring of 2016, film producer and marketing consultant Jacob Roebuck took his 4-year-old daughter to the Spring River Zoo for some father/daughter time. Little did he know that afternoon outing would be the start of one of Roswell's most successful attractions.

"I love trains and the one at the zoo was a real classic! As the track went around a huge empty field I thought 'It would be great if there was something awesome to see out here,'" said Roebuck as he mused about how the Roswell Christmas Railway got started. "But what could it be? Then I remembered a conversation about some friends who had driven all the way to Lubbock just to see Santa. And it just clicked—Roswell needed something for Christmas—trains go with Christmas—we could really do something awesome here."

"The big problem was the zoo was owned by the city—and I knew nothing about city government and was kind of afraid of it," Roebuck confessed (who, somewhat ironically, now serves as a City Councilor).



However, a year earlier Roebuck had met Mayor Dennis Kintigh at a ministry event and decided to try to set up a meeting. Armed with a concept poster advertising a “Train Ride to St. Nicholas Station,” he pitched the idea—and the mayor loved it.

“That first year was the hardest,” recalled Roebuck, “We didn’t start planning until late July. We were struggling to work out an agreement with the city. We didn’t have any money. We didn’t have Christmas lights. There wasn’t even electric power where we wanted to put the lights.”

Previously having experience producing two movies on shoestring budgets, Roebuck was undaunted. He got to work soliciting help from the businesses of Roswell. “A lot of the people I talked to were a bit skeptical—but ultimately I found our community wanted something awesome to do at Christmastime and they were willing to get behind our plan.” First, Xcel Energy and Bullock’s Jewelry came on board as sponsors. Then J & G Electric installed power. Rhoads Co built buildings. Sponsors started coming out of the woodwork. Local artists joined the team and lent their creativity. Everyone wanted to help make some Christmas magic.

“We had no idea what we were doing, really. Opening day that first year was probably the most stressful day of my life,” recalled Roebuck, “But I knew if we could just get some lights up and run the train, people would love it.”

And love it they did. That first season more than 12,000 people crowded their way into the zoo for some Christmas joy. The Roswell Christmas Railway instantly became a holiday tradition for Roswell families and visitors. In its first five years of operation, more than 60,000 people have visited the Roswell Christmas Railway. The attraction enjoys hundreds of 5-star reviews online and thousands of people drive from all parts of New Mexico and



*Work begins at St. Nicholas Station.*

West Texas to experience the enchantment.

“Helping people build relationships, celebrating the first Christmas when Jesus was born long ago, that is what is important,” said Roebuck, “We don’t sell hot chocolate and a train ride—we provide a time and a place for families and friends to make meaningful memories they will have for their whole lives.”

Roebuck is quick to point out he believes the success of the Roswell Christmas Railway has little to do with him. “There are so many people who have made the Railway possible—my beautiful wife who is my business partner, our extended family, dozens of friends who have pitched in year after year, more than 50 businesses that have sponsored us over the years, the amazing city parks and zoo team. We are a real community effort.”

But the people Roebuck credits most for the success of the Christmas Railway is his staff. “They give up a big part of their holiday season to serve our community in what can be a cold, difficult job—and they do it with such joy and happiness. Sure, the lights are stunning. The special effects are amazing. But it is our team who really share their love with our guests that is the true magic.”





*Make sure you visit Santa Claus, at his house in Santa's Square.*

"It is a rewarding experience that continues to surprise me every year," said William Atkinson, the lead Conductor for the Railway, "From the guests to my coworkers, to the amazing things that happen every night, being a conductor has been the single most fulfilling job I have had for a very long time."

Roebuck especially thinks his Santa, Carroll Caudill, who Roebuck emphatically claims is the REAL Santa, embodies the way the team shares love with the guests.

"I first saw Santa working at Sam's Club, and I thought, 'He is exactly who we need,'" said Roebuck. "He didn't just have the look—he also exuded kindness and caring in a gentle manner. He was Christmas inside and out."

Caudill didn't return Roebuck's phone call at first. But not one to give up easily, Roebuck kept calling. Finally, when they did meet, Roebuck shared with him the Railway's vision for bringing families together during the holidays. Caudill decided he would give it a try. Six years later, together with his wife, the wonderful Mrs. Claus, he is still THE Roswell Christmas Railway Santa.

"During the Christmas season, everyone's attitude begins to change," explained Santa, "It truly brings out the best in people every year, as people lend a hand to their neighbor and help each other out."

After serving over 5,000 gallons of hot chocolate and increasing the number of lights displayed to nearly one million, the Roswell Christmas Railway is entering its sixth season. Each year Roebuck and his team works to add something new and exciting to the attraction. This year they are even adding an Ice Rink (that uses synthetic ice) as the latest new experience. But for Roebuck, all that is secondary to the people.

"Every year, my wife and I interview the wonderful people who will make the magic at the Roswell Christmas Railway. Recently there has been of trend of applicants who 'grew up' coming to the Railway and it has been part of their family tradition—and now they want to help create the magic they experienced. It is really touching for us. What a privilege to touch lives and have that kind of impact. Yeah, it's a lot of work—but we are helping people make shared memories that will bond them together for a lifetime. Now that is Christmas magic."

*The Roswell Christmas Railway opens its 6th season at the Spring River Zoo on November 26<sup>th</sup>.*

*Find out more in our Ultimate Christmas Railway guide, also in this issue.*



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# 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 that 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 rough; its dusty,  
opaque, muscled, old banging self again.  
And today the sky's a wan middle blue.

The lizard's basking on the sill.

# Sweet Holidays

By Beverly Coots

**B**efore the “alien invasion,” Roswell held a sweet notoriety. Roswell ‘4s, a delicious chocolate dipped pecan caramel, heralded the holiday season, thanks to Kipling’s confectionary. John Kipling opened his soda shop and candy store in 1907. By the 1920’s Kipling’s ‘4s were famously sold in store and by mail all over the southwest. They became known as ‘4s because the candymaker topped the dipped caramel cubes with a swirl of chocolate in the shape of a ‘4.’

Though Kipling’s sold, the new owner continued production with the same recipe and the same dedication, but in 1947, a new building on the site of Kipling’s became Woolworth’s. It kept the soda fountain but not the confectionary. By then, many home

candy makers knew the recipe and made their own version of the delicious holiday treat.

From the early 1950’s to 1991 St. Andrews Episcopal church and school sold the candies. In 1992 another candy maker began selling them. More recently Whitfield Farms on Sycamore in Roswell sells Roswell ‘4s and toffee. You can find them here:

[Whitfieldfarmscandy.com.godaddysites.com](http://Whitfieldfarmscandy.com.godaddysites.com)

SCAN ME

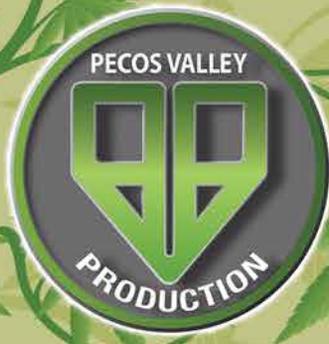


For those brave candy makers who want to try their own hand at Roswell ‘4s, you can find the recipe at [www.cooks.com](http://www.cooks.com).

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# 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.

! ! !

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.





# HOLIDAY



**2021 Christmas Railway Days**  
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 December 3–5  
 December 10–12  
 December 17–24  
 December 26–27

# D

## Roswell Symphony Orchestra



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**28**  
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 First Sunday of Advent

**5**

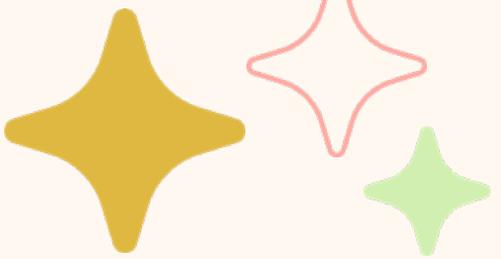
**12**  
 Christmas Classics  
 Roswell Symphony Orchestra

**19**

**26**  
 Kwanzaa



# CALENDAR



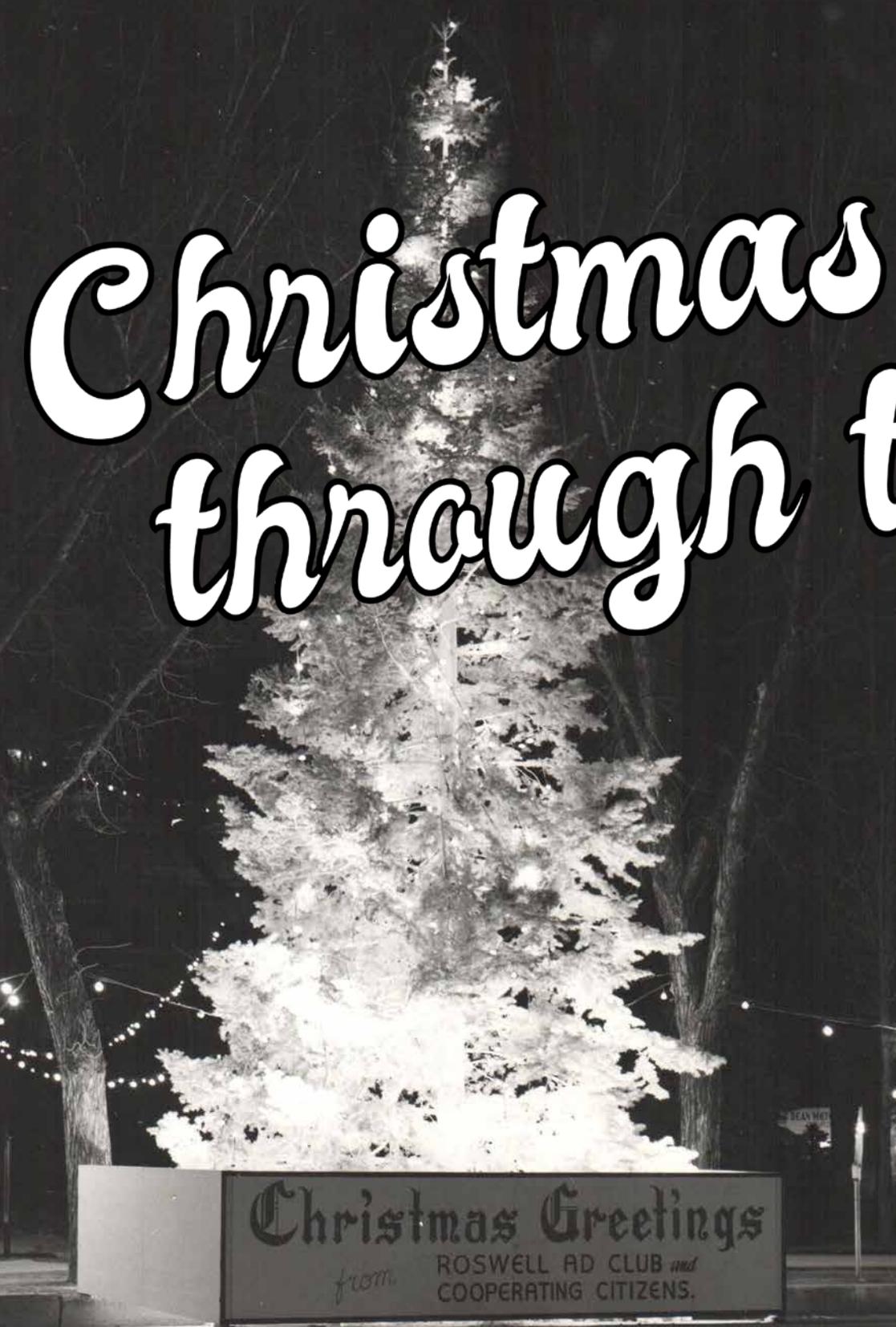
# December 2021

<b>29</b> Cyber Monday	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> National Cookie Day Main Street Light Tour
<b>6</b> St. Nicholas Day Hanukkah Ends at Sundown	<b>7</b> Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	<b>8</b> Feast of the Immaculate Conception	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Yuletide Festival Roswell Public Library 2-6 p.m. Reindeer Run
<b>13</b> National Cocoa Day	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Winter Solstice	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Christmas Eve	<b>25</b> Christmas Day
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> New Year's Eve Noon Year's Eve Party Roswell Public Library 11:30 am	<b>1</b> New Year's Day

# Merry Christmas



# Christmas in Roswell through the Years



# Roswell ears



A MERRY CHRISTMAS  
AND  
A HAPPY  
NEW YEAR



*Pictures provided  
by the Roswell  
Historical Society*

Holiday 2021



# Extend the Celebration

By Eva McCollaum

**W**ith families coming together for the holidays, it's fun to think of ways to make one feast stretch into two days of great eating. By using leftovers in creative ways, a good home cook can turn one dinner into breakfast and lunch for the next day. Lots of folks will be getting together for the first time in a long time, and this set of recipes should help make easy work the day after the BIG DAY.

**A**fter the hard work of the big dinner, breakfast the next morning can be done in bed-and-breakfast style, starting with everyone's favorite breakfast treat—waffles! This recipe employs left over mashed potatoes (white or sweet). My preference is the sweet potato version with its deep brown color, and warm compatibility with butter and syrup.

## Sweet Potato Waffles

- 2 cups mashed sweet potatoes
- 3 eggs
- 2 cups buttermilk
- 3 tablespoon melted butter
- 1 ½ cups flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda

- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon sugar (optional)
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon (optional)
- 1 teaspoon allspice (optional)
- ¼ cup chopped pecans (optional)
- 1 teaspoon vanilla (optional)



Whisk together the dry ingredients. Whip the eggs, potato, buttermilk, and butter together. Stir in the vanilla. Add the wet ingredients to the dry ingredients and whip until smooth (it doesn't take many turns and some of the potatoes might make the mix seem slightly lumpy). Put 1/3 cup of the batter in the waffle iron and cook to medium brown.

This is such a simple and sturdy batter, you can leave the bowl with the 1/3 measure by the waffle iron, and folks who want a waffle can simply put in the batter

themselves and cook the waffle to their preferred brown. I heat the syrup on the stovetop in a couple inches of water in a saucepan over a low heat, but some like it cold. That's the cook's call. It will make as many as 18 waffles, depending on the size of the iron.

**F**or those members of the family with less of a sweet tooth, you might want to try Holiday Hash.



## Holiday Hash

- 2 cups shredded turkey
- 2 cups chopped ham
- 2 cups cold stuffing (cornbread style preferred)
- 1 cup mashed potatoes (optional)
- ¾ cup cream
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 6 to 8 eggs

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. In a bowl stir together the turkey, ham, stuffing, potatoes, and cream. On the stovetop, use a cast iron skillet to melt the butter. Press the hash mixture into the skillet and cook over medium heat for 10 to 15 minutes to form a bottom crust. Carve circles into the hash to hold the eggs. After 10 minutes, drop the eggs into the holes. Allow the eggs to turn slightly white, then place the skillet in the oven to let the eggs finish cooking (about 12 minutes). Remove the skillet before the eggs are completely cooked as they will continue cooking until the skillet cools. Serve using a spatula to lift out hash and eggs together.

This is one dish you can leave sitting on the stove top and allow folks to dish for themselves. Having some berries and cream or some sliced oranges on the side will give them dish elegance.

It's a good idea to allow the eaters to serve themselves after a big family gathering. That way people can go to the kitchen when they are ready and have some breakfast without much fuss. They can also clean their own dishes to be kind to the cook.

**M**y particular favorite of all the next day's options has to be New Mexican Turkey Soup. It is much lighter than all other holiday dishes, but it's bright, spicy, and delicious, especially served with a side of cornbread or dinner rolls, but it can also hold up to tortillas and even Fritos. In fact, it's great with crushed Fritos thrown in.

You begin by picking the meat off the turkey carcass and chopping about a cup of it. You will add that chopped turkey once you have the soup base built. Feeling ambitious? Then put the turkey carcass in a soup pot filled with cold water and boil it. Add salt and

pepper to taste. This is the broth that is the foundation of the soup. Throw in a sprig of rosemary, a sprig of thyme, and a bay leaf during this part of the process, and you'll have a fine bone broth full of flavor. If this doesn't appeal, just use store bought broth. It will also taste good (not AS good, but good). The rest is easy.



## New Mexican Turkey Soup

- 4 cups broth
- 1 chopped onion
- 1 chopped bell pepper (red or green)
- 2 chopped celery ribs
- 2 chopped carrots
- 2 tablespoons roasted green chile
- 1 cup chopped cooked turkey
- 2 tablespoons chopped cilantro
- 1 large lime

In a soup pot on the stove top add onion, peppers, celery, and carrots to broth. Bring to low, rolling boil, and salt and pepper to taste. Reduce heat and simmer 30 minutes. Add chopped turkey and simmer 15 minutes until the turkey is hot. Squeeze the lime into the pot. Taste and add salt and pepper as needed. Spoon into bowls and sprinkle with fresh chopped cilantro. ENJOY!

Here's hoping you have a blessed and bountiful celebration, and that it becomes so much fun that everyone stays for an extra day. If they do, you'll know just what to make. If they don't, you can still make the soup. It's good no matter what!

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# What Does Christmas Mean to You?

We asked people to tell us what Christmas really means.



When I was younger, I was only able to see my cousins at Christmas time at my Grandparent's house in Tularosa. All day on Christmas Eve my cousins, brother, and I would help set up luminarias, decorate sugar cookies, and help wrap presents. Afterwards we would pile in the car to go look at the luminarias. One time when we were gone, my aunt's dog Rocky ate the cookies my mom had decorated for Santa. We'd always open one gift set aside specifically for Christmas Eve, which was always pajamas. My grandpa had an app on his phone that tracked

where Santa was, and one of my cousins would yell updates to us from across the house. To me, Christmas has always been about those I love, the memories we make, and the cookies the dog will probably steal.

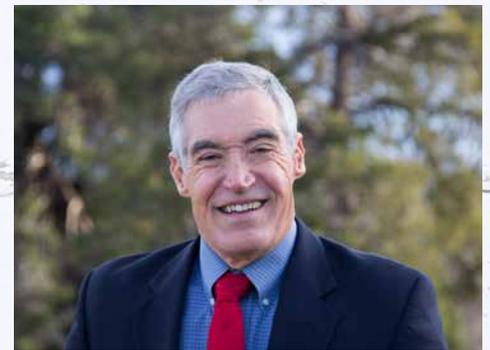
—Emery Carter, *High School Junior*



With the exception of 2, I have spent every Christmas of my life in my grandparents' home on 8th Street. For me, Christmas is about nestling in with family, about home, about warmth and joy, about tradition, and, of course, about food! My all-time favorite is the breakfast mom makes each Christmas morning, the highlight of which is the Danish pastry braided almond wreath. She still uses the same butter-stained recipe pulled out

of an old McCall's Cooking School magazine from decades ago. Partnered with a tart fresh cranberry salad and dried beef gravy with homemade biscuits... ahhhhh... I can hardly wait!

—Miranda Howe, *Artist and Owner of Bone Springs Art Space*



The physician Luke wrote his gospel in a starkly matter-of-fact manner. Nowhere is that more apparent than in the second chapter of his epistle. There he describes with simple beauty the birth of Jesus Christ. This is a season that has become synonymous with busyness. We have so many things to do, items to buy, events to attend, trips to complete, plus more. As intense as it is, the noise of all this activity cannot drown out the simple powerful message,

“For there is born to you this day in the City of David a savior, who is Christ the Lord.”

—Dennis Kintigh, *Roswell Mayor*



Giving. That’s what Christmas is about. Giving toys to all the kids. And the boxes. The boxes that we mail to the kids every year. I like to fill the Operation Christmas Child boxes with toothbrushes, and shoes, and maybe a yo-yo. Or maybe a Slinky. Those are really fun. Then before we send the boxes, we tape them and we pray over them. We want them to know about God. We even put notes in there. Because Jesus the Messiah was God’s most precious son and the best gift we get at Christmas. I also really like a Christmas breakfast. Especially strawberry bread. And for dessert, we have ice cream.

—Will Marley, *age 7*



On Christmas Eve, my family faithfully attended midnight mass at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church. My dad and brothers sang in the choir, my daughter helped decorate the altar with poinsettias,

and my mom made Christmas banners. The church was full and dimly lit by candlelight. There was always a slight chill in the air. It was joyous to see lifetime friends that I didn’t see often, but always at midnight mass. I loved the music the most. At midnight, when the tower bells rang, it was powerful! Jesus was born. It was Christmas. Praise be to God. Merry Christmas, Roswell.

—Jennifer Wolfe, *Studio+*



Christmas is the season that my family celebrates the coming of Christ into the world. Had it not been for Christ’s life, death, and resurrection, I would have no forgiveness of my sins or joy or fulfillment in life. So, when I think about Christmas I’m filled with an extreme amount of hope. My prayer is that all who read this would know the same hope of Christmas that we will celebrate this year and for many years to come.

—Aaron Coyer, *Pastor, First Baptist Church*

Christmas is a time where family and friends all join together to share and make happy and magical memories that we all hold dearly. Whether it be over a small outdoor fire or inside while the food is still being prepared.

I truly believe that the meaning of Christmas is not about the presents that you receive but about the things that money cannot

buy; time with a loved one. To reminisce about old fond memories while able to make new ones is a magical thing that I believe is almost the essence of Christmas.

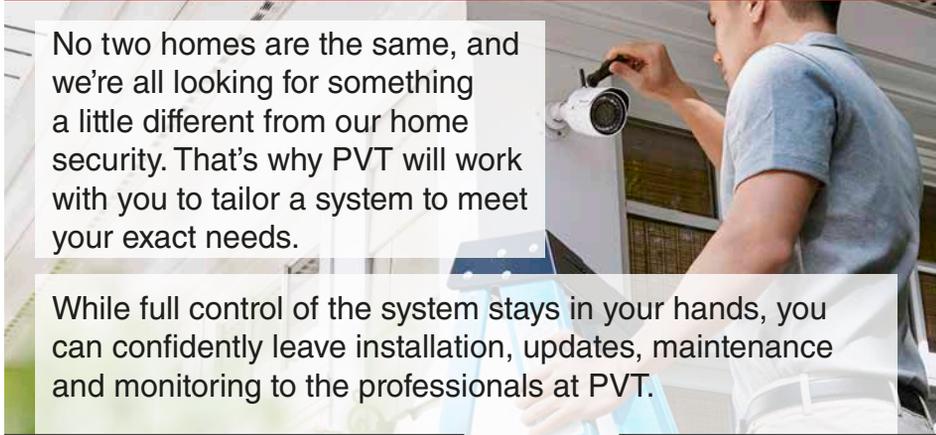
—Alexandria (Snow) Oropesa, *student, age 20*



There are always kids who come to see Santa and want a new toy or game but there are always a few children who come in and when asked what they want for Christmas, they instead describe the things that they want for their siblings and parents. Those children that want to give to other people instead of asking for themselves make it all worth it.

—Santa Claus a.k.a. Carroll Caudill

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## Chaves County Veterans

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***SERVING ALL WHO SERVED***



Chaves County Veterans Association is a group of volunteer Veterans and family members who give of their time and energy to get out in the community and actively gather funds to help fellow brothers and sisters in their time of need. Not only does the public benefit from interaction with the Veterans in our community, but it enables the Association to focus on causes, current efforts and solutions to our Veteran's needs and conditions.

We provide end of life support at our local Veterans Cemetery for all Veterans desiring to be buried at home in Roswell.

Our main fundraising event, the **VETERAN'S VALENTINE BALL** is held annually in February.



***THANK YOU CHAVES COUNTY  
FOR SUPPORTING OUR CAUSE.***

**ALL Donations and Monies benefit VETERANS and their families.**

# Q&A

**ROSWELL NOW MAGAZINE** met with  
**BRIAN BAMMAN** at  
**GOLD FINANCIAL SERVICES**  
to get to know him and his business.



**WHAT IS YOUR BACKGROUND?** I have been in finance for 38 years working in commodities, currency exchange and mortgage lending. Started helping people get into homes in 2006.

**WHERE DID YOU GROW UP?** Toledo (Sylvania), Ohio

**HOW LONG DID YOU SPEND TIME IN OHIO?** The first 22 years of my life.

**TELL ME ABOUT YOUR FAMILY.** In 1990, I married the love of my life, Jane. We have been involved with many adult ministries. We are avid tennis fans and love to play the sport. We also enjoy traveling and cooking.

**BRIAN, WHAT ROAD LED YOU TO THE MORTGAGE BUSINESS?** I always wondered how the mortgage business worked. Once I learned how you can help people with the largest transaction of their lives, I was hooked.

**WHEN DID YOU START DOING BUSINESS IN ROSWELL AND HOW DID IT EVOLVE?** I started working in Roswell in 2013. My assistant, Dina Armijo, would set up 10-15 appointments for a week. I would meet the clients to take the application and get them prequalified. It kept growing, so I needed to get an office and hire employees.

**HOW MANY PEOPLE DO YOU HAVE WORKING FOR YOU?** Currently 13.

**ARE YOU HAPPY AT YOUR CURRENT LOCATION?** Our location at 9th and Richardson has served us well during the last five years. But we have outgrown the spaces. We will be moving to a building at Virginia and 4th Street and am excited to bring our group together.

**WHO DO YOU SERVE IN THE COMMUNITY?** Anyone wanting to purchase a home or refinance a home loan for properties in New Mexico or Texas. We offer financing for residential loans which are single family homes and 2-4 unit complexes.

**WHERE DOES YOUR BUSINESS COME FROM?** Referrals, happy customers and many trusted advisors in the community.

**WHAT LOAN PRODUCTS DOES YOUR COMPANY OFFER?** Most loan programs (*FHA, Conventional, USDA, VA*) including many First Time Home Buyer loan programs.

**WHAT MAKES YOUR BRANCH STAND OUT COMPARED TO YOUR COMPETITION?** Our process, service and good communication.

**WHAT IS THE MOST REWARDING PART OF YOUR JOB?** Seeing clients sign the last document at the title company - especially for our first time home buyer clients.

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