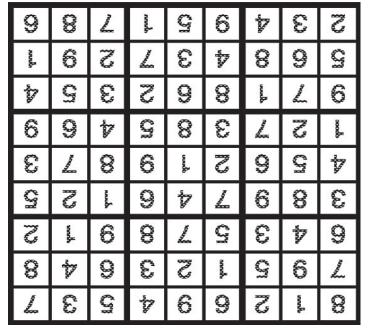
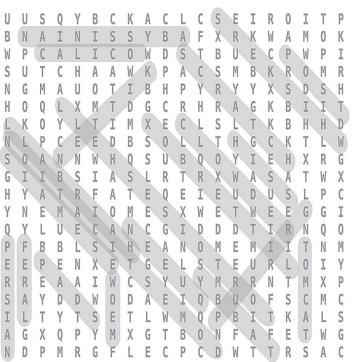
# Sudoku answers





### Craft a cocktail with some seasonal staples as the star ingredients

Holiday season parties are particularly festive affairs. The jovial spirit of the season lends itself to fun gatherings with family and friends. When welcoming loved ones at home this holiday season, hosts can consider some seasonal staples and craft a unique cocktail guests won't soon forget.

Pumpkin might be more synonymous with fall than winter, but cinnamon certainly has a place on holiday season dinner tables. This recipe for a "Pumpkin Martini Cocktail With Cinnamon" from Lines+Angles combines staple flavors of fall and winter into a delicious drink holiday celebrants will love. Pumpkin Martini Cocktail

#### With Cinnamon

Serves 2

2 tablespoons maple syrup 1/4 cup graham cracker

5 ounces pumpkin spice liqueur

- $2\, {\rm ounces}\, {\rm Baileys}\, {\rm Irish}\, {\rm Cream}$
- 2 ounces vodka 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract

Fill a shaker with ice and add the pumpkin spice liqueur, Baileys, vodka, and vanilla extract. Shake for 15 seconds and strain between the prepared glasses. Garnish each with a cinnamon

2 cinnamon sticks

ham cracker crumbs.

Pour the maple syrup in

a saucer and put the graham

cracker crumbs in a separate

saucer. Dip the rims of 2 chilled

martini glasses first into the

simple syrup, then into the gra-

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## Putting farm waste to good use

Agricultural waste poses a challenge for farmers, even if the subject does not garner a lot of attention outside of rural areas. Farms generate enormous amounts of organic waste, including crop residues, fruit peels, sawdust, and livestock manure. Farmers must decide how to get rid of agricultural waste legally and economically.

If not disposed of properly, farm waste can pollute the environment, particularly the air and waterways like rivers and streams. It is best for everyone to mitigate agricultural waste to minimize further hazards. Farmers may not have considered recycling some agricultural waste, but it is a way to transform this potential hazard into something that can be used on the farm itself or sold commercially. The following are some considerations for putting farm waste to good use.

Compost

Animal waste, crop residues and additional organic material can be combined to create nutrient-rich compost. Compost is utilized to improve soil structure, fertility and water retention. This helps reduce reliance on chemical fertilizers. By investing in large-scale composting tools, farmers can process hundreds or even thousands of tons of organic matter each year. While some can be used on the farm, the excess can be sold at a profit.

Biogas Biogas production is carried out through a process known as anaerobic digestion (AD). The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says AD involves bacteria breaking down organic matter, such as animal manure,



wastewater biosolids and food wastes in the absence of oxygen. As the bacteria digest the waste, they generate biogas, which is mostly comprised of methane. Capturing biogas can reduce greenhouse gas emissions on a farm, and the biogas can be turned into a renewable energy source to power electricity, heating or transportation, according to Prime Dumpster Incorporated.

**Digestate** 

Anaerobic digestion does not only produce biogas. Digestate is the solid and liquid effluent remaining after the process, says the EPA. Digestate can be used in many applications, including animal bedding, fertilizers and a  $\,$ foundation material for creating bioplastics and other bio-based products.

Recycling

Certain items used on farms cannot be turned into compost or fertilizer. However, recycling containers, tires, cardboard, rubber, and plastics offers the potential for these products to be made into new items. Western Packaging says recyclable items can be kept separate from other waste so they can have new life outside of landfills.

## A brief history of Christmas trees

Towering evergreen trees adorned in lights and other trinkets are a focal point of the holiday season.

Christmas trees are placed in prominent locations in homes, typically in front of a large picture window or in the corners of large entryways. These aweinspiring trees beckon people to inspect all of the ornaments and often are the first thing people envision when thinking of holiday decor.

The tradition of the Christmas tree is believed to have begun in Germany in the sixteenth century. However, the National Christmas Tree Association says there may be earlier references to Christmas trees in other parts of the world as well.

The first written record of a decorated Christmas tree comes from Riga, Latvia, in 1510. Men of a local merchant's guild ited the tree with and then set fire to it. The rose was considered a symbol of the Virgin Mary.

In the sixteenth century in Alsace, France, trees were sold in the marketplace and brought home and set up undecorated. Laws limited the size to "eight shoe lengths" or slightly more than four feet.

Early German Christmas trees were adorned with apples, a holdover from earlier traditions when evergreen boughs hung with apples were used as

**Nelson-Griggs** 

District Health Unit



props in miracle plays. These plays took place in churches on December 24, which was Adam & Eve's Day in the early Christian calendar.

Evergreens have long been symbolic of life during the cold months of winter, calling to mind the promise of spring to come. Various cultures, including early Christians, featured trees during winter solstice celebrations.

Some historians believe Martin Luther, a Protestant reformer who might have been inspired by stars in the night, was responsible for adding lighted The Christmas tree was introduced to the United States by German settlers in the 1800s. Soon after those settlers' arrival, trees began to be sold commercially. President Franklin Pierce is credited with having the first Christmas tree at the White House.

Today, Christmas trees are wildly popular, with the American Christmas Tree Association reporting that 94 percent of U.S. consumers plan to display one.



-metrocreativeconnection

The control of white mold and other soybean diseases will be among the featured topics at the 2025 Central Dakota Ag Day. (NDSU photo)

#### Central Dakota Aq Day is **December 19 near Carrington**

The 2025 Central Dakota Ag Day will feature an accomplished lineup of speakers, including a keynote presenter who will address how farmers and ranchers can protect themselves from the increasing threat of cyberattacks. The event, organized annually by NDSU Extension, will be held Friday, Dec. 19 at NDSU's Carrington Research Extension Center (CREC). Chris Sherman, principal owner and director of operations for Tech Support Farm, will kick off the event with his plenary presentation "Cyber: US Ag's Next Big Storm." Later in the day, Sherman will present a breakout session titled "Riding Out the Storm: How to Improve Your

Cybersecurity Posture Today." "We're excited to have Chris addressing the topic of farm cybersecurity at Central Dakota Ag Day," says Jeff Gale, agriculture and natural resources Extension agent in Foster County. "New agricultural technologies offer many benefits, but they also increase the risk of cybercrime. It's essential that farmers and ranchers know how to protect themselves.

In addition to the keynote address, the day-long program also includes concurrent sessions covering three main areas: agronomy, livestock and agricultural life. The topics include the following:

• Sulfur and potassium: Are we giving them enough atten-

· Soybean disease considerations

• Robotic weeding: Concepts and options

• Optimizing deployment of fungicides for management of white mold in dry bean and soybean

• Wheat weed management and maximizing glufosinate

• Food preservation basics

• Be the help (Mental health resources)

 Challenges and benefits of multigenerational farming

 Upcoming research in the CREC orchard

 What feed tags tell you How to compare feed tags

and what they don't say

• When will the beef cowherd start rebuilding?

• Is highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in our cow

• Best practices for using manure on crops and pastures

Frayne Olson, NDSU Extension crops economist, will conclude the day's program with a one-hour general session titled "Discipline and Patience: 2026 Crop Market Outlook."

The Central Dakota Ag Day will begin with coffee and donuts at 9:30 a.m. Introductions will begin at 9:50 a.m., followed by the keynote presentation at 10 a.m. and sessions afterward.

The Central Dakota Ag Day program is organized by NDSU Extension agents in Barnes, Eddy, Foster, Griggs, Sheridan, Stutsman and Wells counties, as well as staff from the Carrington Research Extension Center.

No registration is required. Lunch will be provided.

Certified crop advisers can receive continuing education units for many of the seminars.

For more information, visit ndsu.ag/CentralAg25. Direct further questions to Gale at 701-652-2581 or jeff.gale@ndsu.edu.

The CREC is 3.5 miles north of Carrington on US Highway

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

November 3, 2025
The Aneta City Council met on Nov. 3, 2025 at 5 p.m. at the Aneta Community Center. Present at the meeting were Jaima Curry, Manley Hegna, Kelly Kueber, Danny Hamlin and Todd Whitman.

Brad from Moore Engineering was at the meeting to discuss the progress of the water and sewer line project and stated that the project is winding fixed and finished up.

Todd called the regular council

meeting to order.

Minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

Financials were discussed and approved. A motion was made by Jaima and seconded by Manley to approve the financials. A vote was taken and all approved. New business was discussed.

Discussed possible water rate change for January 2026. Will discuss more at the December meeting and will notify the public of the decision made.
Checking into getting monitors for

a few propane tanks. Going to check with Jasmine on this. This is to avoid paying the annual fee to Skip's. Bills were discussed:

Otter Tail Power	\$1,894.72
Nelson Co. Sheriff	1,170.00
Brager Disposal	1,500.00
Todd Whitman	401.25
Michelle Middlestead	321.00
Aneta Park District	328.97
GF Utility Billing	26.00
IRS	26.00
Dakota Rural Water	
District	5,485.15
Polar Communications	272.75
Karen Retzlaff	220.68
Cheryl Whitman	300.00
Moore Engineering	20,690.10
Kelly Kueber	72.03
Farmers Union	

#### Aneta Parkview Health Center

Queen City Café
Ness Plumbing 832.76 950.92 Lakota American ...... 73.32 Motion to pay the bills by Jaima and seconded by Manley. Vote was taken; all approved.

Delinquent bills were discussed Todd will talk to them.

Motion to adjourn was made by Kelly; it was seconded by Manley. Next meeting will be Dec. 1, 2025 5 p.m. at the Aneta Community Center.

Submitted by Michelle Middlestead City of Aneta Auditor
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

**ANETA CITY COUNCIL** December 1, 2025
The Aneta City Council met on

Dec. 1, 2025 at 5 p.m. at the Aneta Community Center. Present at the meeting were Jaima Curry, Manley Hegna, Kelly Kueber, Danny Hamlin and Todd Whitman. Brad from Moore Engineering was

at the meeting to discuss the progress of the water and sewer line project and stated that there are just a few items that need to be fixed and finished up. Todd called the regular council

meeting to order.

Minutes from the previous meeting

were read and approved.
Financials were discussed and approved. A motion was made by Kelly and seconded by Jaima to approve the financials. A vote was taken and all approved.

Old business was discussed. The propane tank monitors got ordered and delivered to Todd. He will

put them on the propane tanks at the auditorium and library. New business was discussed It was discussed what the council wanted to give Meggan Sletten for

helping with making the city deposits

for the year. It was decided to pay her \$500. Motion by Jaima, seconded by Manley. A vote was taken and all approved.

The rates going up in January was brought up. It was decided to hold off until February so Michelle could get a few more numbers compiled. The

council will decide at the January meeting.

Kelly mentioned that he heard that the sweeper for the sidewalk isn't

working. Todd said he will go and look at it. Jody was asked and agreed to do snow removal again this winter. Bills were discussed: Otter Tail Power .....

Nelson Co. Sheriff ....... Brager Disposal ..... Todd Whitman ..... .500.00 Michelle Middlestead .... Aneta Park District ... GF Utility Billing ...... Farmers Union Oil ...... Dakota Rural Water ..... Karen Retzlaff 220.68 Moore Engineering ...... Polar Communications ... Tri-County Petroleum .... Ferguson Waterworks ... 1,436.42 Meggan Sletten ..... Motion to pay the bills by Jaima and seconded by Manley. Vote was

taken; all approved.

Delinquent bills were discussed

Todd will talk to them. Motion to adjourn was made by Kelly; it was seconded by Danny.

Next meeting will be Jan. 5, 2026 at 5 p.m. at the Aneta Community

Submitted by
Michelle Middlestead City of Aneta Auditor



Do You Have A 2026 Building Project?

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