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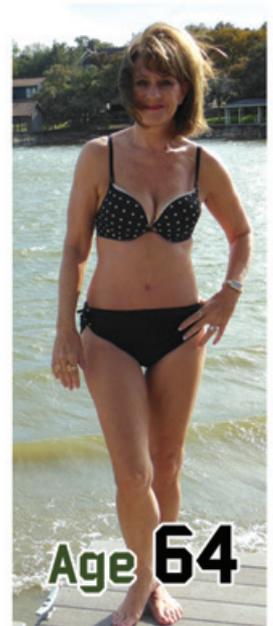
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## ON THE COVER



John and Peggi Bratta help raise money for local charities.

Photo by Jennifer Spears.

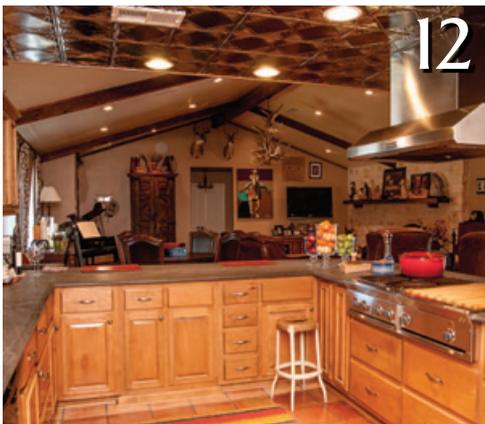
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## Editor's Note

*Hello, Friends!*

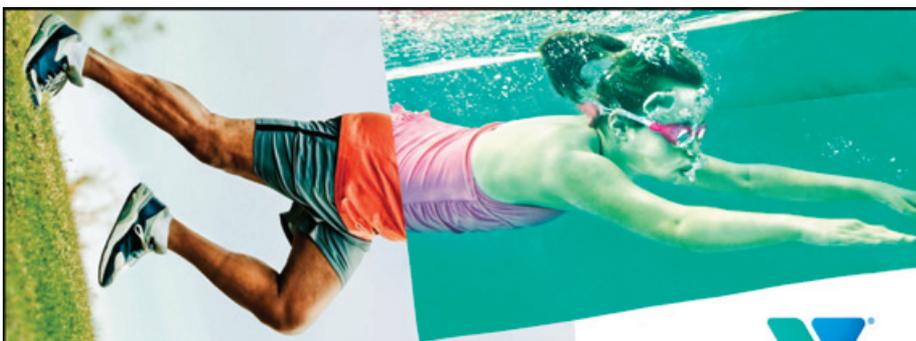
All over our town, Granbury's awesome team spirit shines through booster clubs, who honor student groups from every age level. It's beautiful to see how groups communicate with each other, staggering their fundraising schedules in order not to conflict with another's mission. I am especially amazed how many teen-, woman- and man-hours are being devoted this winter and spring to no less than 10 events geared to raise \$60,000 to throw an outrageously fun, safe, drug-free and alcohol-free party for this year's graduating seniors. After 11:30 p.m. on May 31, Project Graduation will celebrate every senior's accomplishments over the last 13 years. This and all

Granbury's youth activities require willing helpers, and the support of parents, grandparents, family friends, the community and the kids themselves is quite inspiring.

Happy New Year!

*Melissa*

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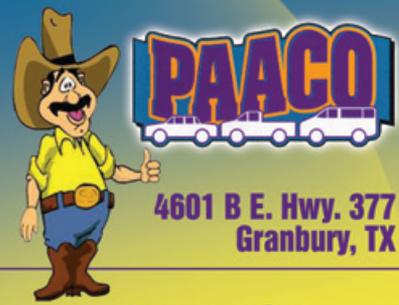
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# Driving

# FAITHFUL DEVOTION

— By Sarah Anderson



*Faith, family and good-old fashioned values are the foundation of John Bratta's philosophy on life. His outlook and beliefs hinge on his trust, conviction and reliance on a loving God. John's ideals are rooted in devoted gratitude for his good fortune. From his handsome water-front Granbury home to the two striking Corvettes filling two of the slots in his three-car garage, John, without a doubt, enjoys his belongings, but he is quick to clarify they are all just possessions. He believes the true meaning of life is faithful confidence in God's love. "Anything I have had in my life, I give the glory to God," he said. "I am fortunate to live in this country and in this community. I absolutely love Granbury. I think it's a precursor to heaven, to be quite honest."*

John and his wife, Peggi, of 26 years, moved to Granbury from California five-and-a-half years ago. After several years of visiting their oldest son's family in the area, they exchanged their intended retirement home in the Golden State for a relaxed community in the Lone Star State. "Things are very different here. It is so pleasant and peaceful," he said. "With our retirement home in California, you had to ask yourself, *Why gridlock? Why craziness? Why high taxes?* And from a spiritual standpoint, Granbury has been a tremendous blessing. Here I can feel comfortable talking about God and Jesus in public places. That wasn't true in California. People are very receptive to the Word here and very respectful. You'll get more 'Yes, sirs' and 'No, sirs' from young people here in a day than you would in a year in California. It's just the way life is here. It's a pleasure."

John spent 39 years as an educator and school administrator in Ontario, California, near Los Angeles. He finished college with a bachelor's degree in police administration, but was recruited into a teacher prep program before he could sign on with a police department. Before long, he was hooked. So much so, he went back for a master's degree in education administration at Pepperdine University. He was eventually responsible for programs for troubled students, which he directed more than 25 years. Working with high-risk children came easily for him after





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growing up poor in an L.A. ghetto. He knew what they needed, and they in turn respected him for it.

Now in retirement, John still earns the respect of people he encounters. He humbly serves as an elder on the board of the two-year-old church in Granbury where he is a founding member. He was also appointed president of the Brazos River Corvette Club in late 2011. He wrote about his awe and appreciation for the life he's been blessed to lead in a recent club newsletter. "We live in ... a country that has welcomed people from all nations, a land of opportunity, a country where a first-generation American boy with Italian parents could come out of an inner-city ghetto in Los Angeles and be blessed with a quality of life that exceeds 99 percent of the world," he wrote.

Neal Bellamy, a good friend and fellow car enthusiast, has known John through the Corvette club since 2008. "Being president was sprung on him due to the untimely death of Mike, our president at the time. John really stepped up. He did it perfectly," Neal said. "He's a very giving person. He gave a lot of time and effort making the Corvette club successful. He is one of our true car guys." And without question, John *is* a car guy. He has not only owned Corvettes his entire adult life, he was also fascinated by cars as a boy. By 8 years old, he could name every year and model of every American car.

John and Peggi, who also drives an eye-catching red Corvette, have worked with their fellow Corvette club members to raise more than \$15,000 for local



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charities. The organization's 2012 annual car show and silent auction attracted 100 Corvettes to the Granbury square in October and raised money for several causes — two of which were awarded in the names of members who have passed away. The group donated money to the Granbury High School auto body shop in memory of its late president, Mike Lanzara, and to Parkinson's research in memory of Vicki Sharp, another member and friend who died of Parkinson's disease. "Our club is very aware of how fragile life is," John said. "Mike was one of my closest friends. We were all grief-stricken when he died last year."

The Brazos River Corvette Club has nearly 60 members now with a total of 40 cars and has also contributed to the Salvation Army and Face the Fire Ministries. Face the Fire reaches out to families of military burn victims. Military men and women have an especially warm place in the Brattas' hearts. They have three Marines in their family. Their oldest son, who now lives in Aledo, and

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their two sons-in-law all have military experience. “We are very proud of them,” Peggi said.

The Brattas have four children with seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. “John is a good family man and a good husband,” Peggi said. “One of the reasons we chose this house was to share it and enjoy it with our kids.” John likes to share everything, including his stunning, steely blue Corvette, which sports silver flames licking back along the sides from the hood, and his #18 Bobby LaBonte NASCAR, a clone of Bobby’s 2006 Chevrolet Monte Carlo. He even added a passenger seat to the NASCAR. “The motivation for the race car is to give our family and friends a unique experience, which is why I converted it to have a passenger seat,” John said. “God gives us blessings to share with others.”

He keeps and drives his NASCAR at the Cresson Motorsport Ranch. “It’s a lot of fun. Driving that car is a completely different experience than driving a Corvette. It’s a completely different animal,” he said. He has driven his Corvette on the track, but it is more fun to cruise around town with. The car even bears a subtle spiritual recognition. “Driven by the flame” is penned on the rear fender — a symbolic reference to the Holy Spirit given to Christians in the second chapter of the Book of Acts, which is also his vanity license plate: 2ACTS. “God designed us where we will never be fulfilled without Him,” John said. “These cars and our home are wonderful, but they mean nothing without Him in our lives, molding us and showing us who He wants us to be.” **NOW**

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# CASUAL *Comfort* — By Erin McEndree AT HOME WITH JOHN HENRY & MARILYN LUTON

*When you enter John Henry and Marilyn Luton's home, you are surrounded by warm, western heritage and decor reminiscent of family ties from the past. The Lutons strive to make their home a place where family and friends can feel comfortable, either chasing kids around or rooting for their favorite football team — the Aggies, of course.*

John Henry bought the ranch-style house in 1979. He married Marilyn in 1985, and "our house has seen a lot of reincarnations ever since," John Henry laughed. "She is very creative in fashion, finance and remodeling." Marilyn gave the house a new floor plan. She started at one end of the house knocking down walls and expanding rooms. Recently, the remodel reached the other end of the house where she created more storage and a sewing room.

"John Henry always wanted more room for his stuff,"



Marilyn said. “And I wanted a room where I could sew and quilt.” The sewing machine disappears into the built-in cabinet. Marilyn is most proud of the exquisite little chandelier hanging from the tray ceiling and the Murphy beds that are hidden until family comes over. “I always wanted a chandelier, and I love the fact that I don’t have to keep a bed [decked out] with comforters and pillows.” A large, whimsical cabinet sits against the wall for storage. The drawers are covered in mirrors, and the doors are ornate picture frames. A collection of glass bottles with crystal star stoppers twinkle as the light comes in from the window.

Throughout the entire house, reminders of John Henry’s childhood are seen in the furnishings and the photos. John Henry’s parents, Johnny and Doris, were very active in the Granbury community. Many reminders have been passed down including a china hutch in the dining room and an antique music cabinet that holds sheet music beside Marilyn’s baby grand piano. She loves to play classical music and hymns, so the piano was a wonderful Christmas gift from John.

John Henry is president of the First National Bank in Granbury. The bank has been in his family for three generations. He grew up with his two sisters in a Granbury stone house where the H-E-B development is now located. It was very

“IT CAME OUT  
EXACTLY LIKE I  
ENVISIONED IT.”



difficult to see the home place taken down, but the family was very pleased the developers saved groves of trees. One tree has very special meaning — it was dedicated to Matthew, John Henry and Marilyn's son who passed away last year.

The family also has a ranch in southern Hood County acquired in the 1920s by John Henry's grandfather, Henry Zwiefel. A restoration of the two-story rock house was recently completed. The house is used by the entire extended

family all year long for hunting, fishing and family gatherings. A black and white picture, which won first place in a photo competition, was taken by the couple's daughter, Courtney, showing John Henry repairing the kitchen window.

Marilyn knew what she wanted when she started remodeling their Granbury home. She added 20 feet to the master bedroom and bathroom and made the doorways bigger. "It came out exactly like I envisioned it," Marilyn said. The

iron canopy bed was created and welded by John Henry. "That's one of his many talents," Marilyn said. A secretary from Doris sits in the corner. Two large bookshelves hold Aggie memorabilia, candles and books. In the bathroom, Marilyn made a huge walk-in closet and jokingly said, "John Henry's side keeps getting smaller."

The dining room, living room and kitchen are one big room with terra-cotta tiles throughout. Leather couches face the



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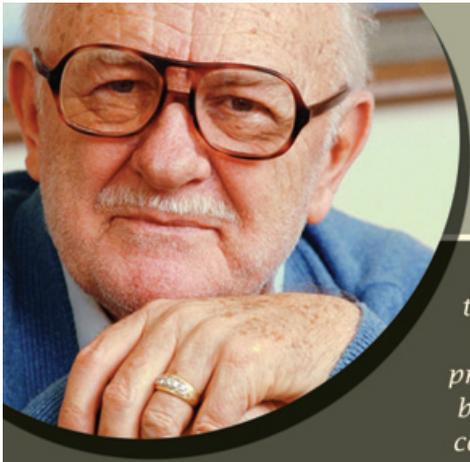


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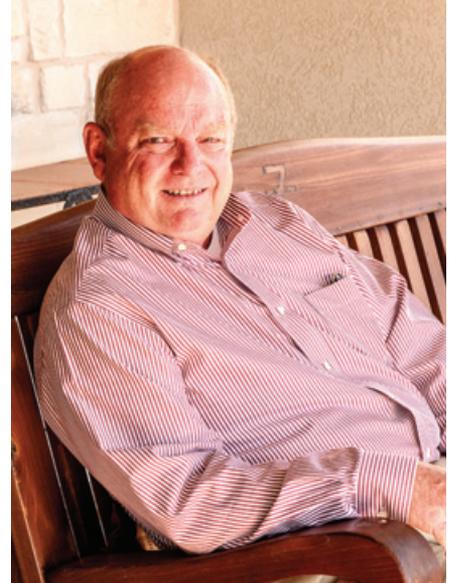
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rock fireplace and mantel that runs the length of the wall. A rocking chair beside the couch is from John Henry's aunt and has the family brand on the seat. The western decor includes horses made of iron, a vase filled with barbed wire, ropes and cow hide rugs. Two elk chandeliers hang in the room.

The dining room is set apart by a tiny tile border on the floor and three twisted wood pillars. The long rectangle table was a wedding present from John Henry's parents. "Doris asked what kind of table I wanted," Marilyn said. "I told her we needed a big one. When all the kids are here there are 10 adults." The grandchildren sit at the bar and at the game table. Marilyn admitted they sit at the game table, because it's closer to the TV.

Down the hall in the extra bathroom sits a claw-foot tub Marilyn found in a pasture. Corrugated tin walls surround the tub on three sides. Horses and cowboys run across the walls on the western wallpaper. Other western art from well-known artists hangs on the wall.

"There are three things we like — wine, gourmet cooking and Texas A&M," Marilyn said. "We have been to France, Napa Valley and Italy. We have also taken cooking classes." John Henry and Marilyn like to cook together while friends sit at the bar and visit. They enjoy traveling with their friends and are involved in the Traveling Aggie Alumni Club. Every year the group takes a trip together. When Marilyn and John Henry are not traveling to Aggie games to take advantage of their season tickets, they are hosting Aggie football parties at their home. "We are huge Aggie supporters," Marilyn stated.

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John Henry's favorite place is outside. He loves his outdoor kitchen. Two A&M bar stools rest at the bar. A fireplace made with rock from his parents' home is surrounded by a seating area. "I love the back porch where I can look out over the pasture and see no signs of the city," he said. "It feels like it's still the country, like it felt when I grew up." Courtney and her sisters, Monica, Jennifer and Elizabeth, and the 10 grandchildren visit and love to swim in the pool and play in the large sand pit. "Our grandkids range from the ones who need cribs to the ones who play Xbox," Marilyn laughed.

When Marilyn is not watching grandkids or hosting parties, she volunteers and is on the board of Hood County United Way and Hood County

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## "VOLUNTEERING FILLS A VOID. I ENJOY GIVING BACK."

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Committee on Aging. "Volunteering fills a void. I enjoy giving back," Marilyn said. "I feel blessed beyond belief because of our family and our homes. The kids are here a lot and that is great.

"We're casual people," Marilyn continued. "We want our home to be welcoming and comfortable. We have a lot of fun here." Family and friends are welcome at their home often. John Henry and Marilyn enjoy what they have been given and delight when they share it with others. **NOW**

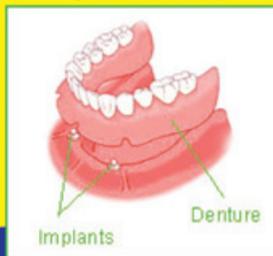
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“I have a drive to make this school district the best in the state of Texas.”

# First Year Focus

— By Melissa Rawlins

*Just a few months ago, as Dr. James Largent began his tenure as superintendent of Granbury Independent School District, he was more likely to be found out of the office than sitting at his desk. Whether greeting the public and local business owners at Chamber of Commerce luncheons or walking through school hallways meeting teachers and students, this man's mission was to understand our community and welcome their participation in educating our youth.*

His focus this first year has been on formulating fresh ideas for how GISD can continue providing the great school system Granbury expects. "First, I started a year-long process of strategic planning, where we invite all of our stakeholders in to talk about what they want our schools to look like," Dr. Largent said. "I have been impressed with the GISD school board, a group that has the best interests of students at heart. They have been very supportive of the changes I have been working on as we take this district forward."

Dr. Largent also makes good use of inside information to get that balanced vision. As the parent of two GISD students — a senior in high school and an eighth-grader — Dr. Largent takes time at the dinner table to learn from his own children

how students perceive the environment where they are being prepared for their successful futures. "I talk to my kids about the culture of their schools."

Dr. Largent and his wife, Jeri, now an educational diagnostician in Crowley, had positive impressions of GISD's curriculum offerings before he accepted his job. As a father, he researched and confirmed his children would receive the education they needed once they moved to Granbury. "Now, as a superintendent, I want to hear that we have a friendly environment for teachers and kids," Dr. Largent said. He came to understand the quality of staff in GISD by visiting all the campuses. "It starts with the secretary greeting you as you walk in. It's really easy to get a good feel for the district just by getting out of the office."

During the fall sports season, the superintendent attended pep rallies and felt the spirit of GISD. Student groups cheered, the band played in tune and the drums beat excitement. "That's what school's all about — having a great time, enjoying what you're doing," Dr. Largent said.

"Our goal should be that when a student leaves 12th grade they are ready for their next stage in life. They're ready for an Ivy League school or a community college or the workplace in a meaningful job," Dr. Largent said. "Not everyone's going to go to college. We can't expect that. There are a lot of jobs that provide really good money and are really beneficial for society that don't require college."

Hoping to expose students to real-life options and ideas, Dr.



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Largent solicited local experts and leaders in the business community to form a speaker's bureau. Members willing to share their perspective on a variety of topics are available to GISD teachers. "So if a third grade teacher is talking about veterinarians, we can bring one in," Dr. Largent said.

Another of his initiatives during his first year has been to invite 23 students from grades nine-12 to invest time in the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council (SSAC). He has lunch with the students four times per year. "I want to listen to them about their concerns," the superintendent said, "any issues they care about. I am listening and addressing whatever issues they have, good or bad." This stems from Dr. Largent's belief that in the business of education, the highest standard of education depends upon attaining the highest standard of customer service.

"I want our staff and students to treat others the way they'd want to be treated if they were in their shoes. The last part is the most important part," Dr. Largent said. With that in mind, Dr. Largent fully supports Rachel's Challenge, which he describes as "a student-centered program about being friendly, helping each other and having safe, inviting schools."

Growing up in such schools in Kirbyville, Texas, Dr. Largent carries in his heart the vision of a well-rounded education. "I spent all of my life in the east Texas corridor between Texarkana and Conroe," Dr. Largent said. "I'm a product of public schools. My mother was a long-time second grade teacher, and my dad a building trades teacher and

then a tax assessor collector for our school.

"Kirbyville was a small community where everybody took care of everybody. We didn't have near as many opportunities as kids have now," Dr. Largent remembered. "Our big deal was student sports, student government or being in the one-act play or in the school band."



In his opinion, Granbury is just a larger version of Kirbyville. "Everybody in this community is behind our one high school, which I really like. So we still have that feeling of all being in this together," Dr. Largent said. "And we still have a downtown area with local vendors and merchants. Kirbyville, too, had the main street with mom-and-pop stores that had been doing business for 100 years."

When he first entered adulthood, James Largent coached baseball and football, training athletes in schools throughout East Texas. He ended that portion of his career near Conroe, in



Coldspring, where he served as head baseball coach, head athletic trainer and assistant high school principal while working on his master's degree. His mentor at Sam Houston State University guided him into the administrative career path, and his most recent 11 years were spent as superintendent in Rusk. He found that since he had always coached with a lot of passion because he wanted to be the best, he could easily transition into being a superintendent because the role provides an alternative avenue for competition.

Now, he comes up against other school districts while dealing in test scores, graduation rates and staffing. "This may be a different type of competition," Dr. Largent mused, "but still, I have a drive to make this school district the best in the state of Texas."

After years of driving through Granbury on the way to hunting leases out west, the Largents were impressed the town ideally fit their lifestyle. "Part of what attracted him to the superintendency of Granbury was the area's beauty and access to the DFW Metroplex. He and his son enjoy the golf courses, and his family likes to travel.

The Largents have just returned from Christmas break spent playing in the snow in the mountains. "We've never done that at Christmas," Dr. Largent said, "because I've always either coached or our kids were playing a winter sport." In this new season of his life, Dr. Largent is happy to offer his fresh perspective to Granbury. **NOW**



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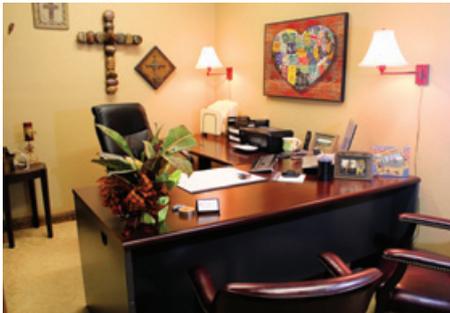
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Cathy Helberg, licensed to sell life, property, commercial and health insurance, was voted Best of Hood County 2012 Insurance Agent.



# Here to Help

*Whatever is necessary, Farmers Lakeside Insurance Agent Cathy Helberg makes sure that people's needs are met.*

— By Melissa Rawlins

When Cathy Helberg notices somebody's too stressed out to take care of business, she knows just what to do. "It goes beyond helping people get their car fixed. It's about compassion," Cathy said. "God puts us here to take care of people and show them His grace." A client who was rear-ended en route to her husband's funeral called Cathy recently, very upset. In her sweet, kind manner, Cathy was able to get the license plate number from her client, and told her, "You don't worry. It's OK. I got this!" After contacting the other driver's insurance company and ensuring she would be covered, Cathy instructed her client how to get her car fixed. Then she said, "In the interim, if you need anything, let me know. You're in my thoughts and prayers." And her client's relief overflowed.

Cathy has taken care of people's insurance needs, including their emotional needs, since 1982, when she started working for an independent agent in Orange, Texas. Through the years with Farmers and other agencies, Cathy became licensed to sell life, property, casualty and health insurance. Now that she is an Agent at Farmers Lakeside Insurance, Cathy works closely with Linda Kennimer, who used to have her own independent agency and understands the support that Cathy and her clients need.

Before Cathy decided to start her own insurance agency, she had worked at another company. Suddenly, the office manager passed away, and she found herself running it alone. "I griped and complained and then when I got the phone call to start my own agency of Farmers Lakeside Insurance, I looked up and

## Business **NOW**

realized God had been preparing me to do this on my own," Cathy recalled. "This is just one more step in what He's trying to do. It's not me. It's about protecting people's families, and I'm an instrument able to do that."

Cathy's goal in every encounter with every client is to make sure they understand their coverage and have no gaps. "On top of that, I want to make sure that their needs are met, not just in insurance but also through prayer or whatever is necessary," Cathy said. When you become part of Cathy's office, whether as a customer or a networking buddy, you become family.

**"It goes beyond helping people get their car fixed. It's about compassion."**

Cathy is a very active member of the Granbury Chamber of Commerce. She has been a Chamber ambassador for four years and served as secretary for her business development networking group. She is also in Business Networking International. "Their philosophy is Givers Gain," Cathy said. "I want to do for all people, and by doing for others you get rewarded yourself. The more you give the more you gain."

Understanding that people can get insurance anywhere, Cathy recognizes that Farmers Lakeside Insurance provides the best price or the best coverage *sometimes*. But she is convinced that her customers come and stay because she and Linda take care of each one. Cathy contacts her customers every year to see what's going on in their lives. She may find they need Farmers' full-service insurance, whether auto, home, life or commercial. But she may learn about some other need, and she always tries to help.

"I'm so connected in the community that no matter who they need," Cathy said, "I can refer them." People who know Cathy know they can go to her for just about anything. Not surprisingly, she was voted Best of Hood County 2012 Insurance Agent. This year, Cathy's heart is still her greatest gift to Granbury. **NOW**



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Sherman & Tammy Aten

Conference registration is now open with \$50 deposit due at signup through deadline of February 10, 2013. For more information email [sherman@a10s.org](mailto:sherman@a10s.org) or call 817.578.3510. To register online, visit [www.a10s.org](http://www.a10s.org)



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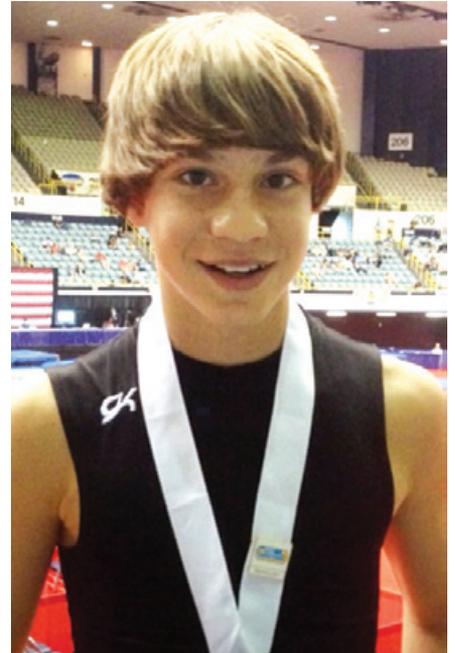


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*A class at Granbury Middle School is collecting bleach, liquid laundry soap, envelopes, postage stamps, kitty litter and toys for cats and dogs to support the Granbury Friends for Animals Shelter.*



*Cody Welch, a freshman at Crossland Ninth Grade Center, went into the history books on October 26, 2012, for 44 consecutive back handsprings prior to the Granbury-Trimble Tech football game.*



*As a new resident to the area, Karen Diederich takes a break from the lake to shop at Accents II in Granbury.*



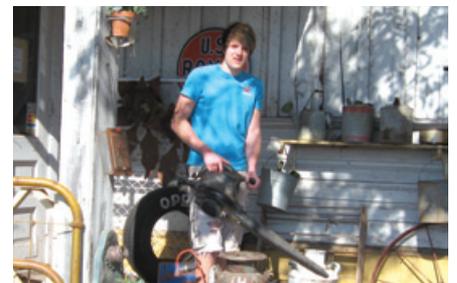
*Lewis Anderson and David Hendrix take time out from electrical work with Lonestar EFS for lunch at Willie & Dick's.*



*Jan Cook looks for her favorite fish in the wildly alive tank at Granbury Eyecare.*



*Lion Simba at the Lipan School with Nancy Alana, Lions James Royse and Walter Baldree presents The Lost Treasures of Lincoln County written by Nancy Alana.*



*Hunter Barr helps the owner of Witherspoon's Antiques by blowing winter leaves off the porch.*



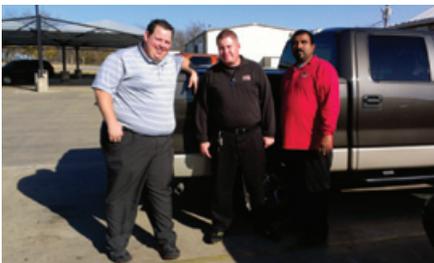
Every day, Himena Trujillo always gives service with a smile at Don Melquia's.



Lawrence White, docent at US Veterans Museum, shows City Councilman Ninnian (Nin) Hulett relics of the Army Rangers.



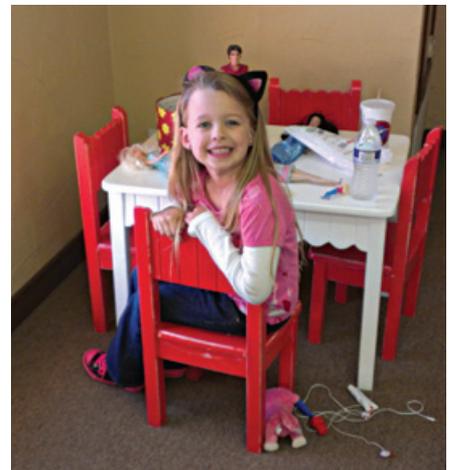
Bob White gives free services from Justice Plumbing to Joan Crowther and Hazel Snyder!



Salesman, Joe Short, Michael Ford and Mark Castillo, with PAACO Automotive Group.



Adrian Caro artfully makes pizzas at Papa Murphy's Pizzeria.



Lilly Davis, 6 years old, plays at her mom's work.



Future Farmers of America students from Granbury High School and Crossland Ninth Grade Center excel in recent leadership competitions. Pictured above are area competitors (left to right) Jarrod Jeffery, Savanna Shellnut, Brodi Markum, Colten Bison, Ashlee Myers, Kenna Williams and Sam Spradlin



Carrie Bellamy and Mitch Tyra enjoy Governor Perry's visit to Granbury.



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# Do your employees need a 401(k)?

With so much talk about Social Security and the need for retirement planning, there are a number of actions small business owners may take. Establishing a retirement plan for small business employees may sound like a huge undertaking. The reality is that setting up a 401(k) can be easier than you think.

A Safe Harbor 401(k) can be an appropriate solution for businesses with fewer than 100 employees. The Safe Harbor 401(k) Plan allows eligible employees to contribute a portion of their own salary to a retirement plan. Employers contribute either matching or non-elective amounts to the plan on behalf of eligible employees.

Both employer and employee enjoy federal tax advantages of contributing. Those advantages include:

- Employer contributions are tax deductible for the employer — up to 25 percent of compensation of all participants.
- Employee elective deferrals are excluded from the employee's income for Federal Income Tax purposes.

- Tax-deferred growth potential is possible — any investment earnings grow tax-deferred until withdrawn.

One attractive advantage of establishing a Safe Harbor 401(k) Plan is that discrimination testing of employee elective deferrals or employer matching contribution limits is not needed. Additionally, each plan participant or beneficiary can request an easily understandable summary plan description within 90 days after they become eligible. A summary annual report may be requested each year within seven months after the end of each plan year.

There are many reasons you may want to begin a retirement plan for your employees. The ease with which you can establish a Safe Harbor 401(k) could make it an appropriate choice for your small business. **NOW**

*Jace Foreman is a State Farm agent based in Granbury.*



## In The Kitchen With J. Laine Meek

— By *Melissa Rawlins*

His passion for food developed while helping his mother peel potatoes and break pecans. “You don’t chop pecans; you break them into pieces — individually — by hand,” Laine Meek recalled, and her pecan pie recipe is included in the four-course meal below, which is similar to what he might serve when he teaches culinary classes in his own home. His favorite meals are the ones he and his wife, Laura, and their sons, Hayden and Mason, create and enjoy together.

Inspired by Bobby Flay, Johnny Carino and Michael Simon, Laine sometimes experiments on his family. Then he transfers the results to his job as director of Food and Nutrition Services for Lake Granbury Medical Center, where he trains his talented staff on the new recipes and cooking techniques. **NOW**

### Chicken Wing Lollipops

**1 5-lb. bag frozen chicken wings**  
**1/4 cup Tony’s Seasoning**

*Traditional Sauce:*

**1/2 10-oz. bottle Franks Hot Sauce**  
**1/2 5-oz. bottle Cholula**  
**1/4 cup molasses**  
**1/4 cup butter**  
**1/4 cup honey**  
**1/2 cup Blue Cheese Dressing**

**1.** Thaw wings; use a sharp knife to cut the skin around the small end of the drumette. Use the back of your knife to push meat down the bone until it forms a small ball at the large end. You can use the flapper wings as well. Just remove the small bone, leaving the large one for the handle. Dry meat thoroughly.

**2.** Season with Tony’s Seasoning up to 1 day prior to frying.  
**3.** Fry at 350 F until done.  
**4.** Mix the next 5 ingredients with a whisk to make Traditional Sauce. Dredge lollipop head only in sauce and serve with Blue Cheese Dressing.

### Truffle Parmesan Hearts of Romaine

**4 hearts of romaine**  
**Olive oil non-stick spray**  
**1 Tbsp. truffle sea salt**  
**2 Tbsp. Parmesan cheese**  
**tsp. fresh cracked black pepper, to taste**

**1.** Cut romaine lettuce hearts lengthwise, wash delicately and dry. Lightly spray romaine with olive oil.  
**2.** Put flat side down on a medium-high grill for a couple of minutes. Turn over; top with

truffle salt, Parmesan cheese and pepper. Cook for an additional 2 minutes.  
**3.** Serve immediately.

### Chocolate-Espresso Pork Tenderloin

**3 Tbsp. espresso, finely ground**  
**4 Tbsp. unsweetened Cocoa powder**  
**2 Tbsp. Paul Prudomme’s Pork Magic**  
**1 tsp. each: cinnamon, paprika, cracked black pepper and salt**  
**1/2 tsp. cayenne pepper**  
**1-2 cups demi-glace (buy at Central Market)**  
**4 pork tenderloins**

**1.** Combine first 8 ingredients to create a rub. (Reserve 1/4 of rub to add to demi-glace). Liberally rub the remainder over pork tenderloin. Refrigerate over night.  
**2.** Bake in oven at 350 F until done. Let the pork rest for at least 10-15 minutes before slicing.  
**3.** Add the reserve rub to 1-2 cups of demi-glace and pour over sliced pork.

### Pecan Pie

**1 cup sugar**  
**1/4 tsp. salt**  
**3 eggs**  
**3 Tbsp. butter, melted**  
**1 cup white Karo Syrup**  
**1 tsp. vanilla**  
**1 cup pecans, broken**  
**1 9-inch pie shell**

**1.** Preheat oven to 450 F. (Turn down to 350 F when you put pie in the oven).  
**2.** Stir together sugar, salt and eggs gently (do not whip).  
**3.** Add melted butter, Karo, vanilla, and pecans. Stir.  
**4.** Pour into unbaked pie shell. Cook for 1 hour.

**To view recipes from current and previous issues, visit [www.nowmagazines.com](http://www.nowmagazines.com).**

### Through January 26

*Cash on Delivery: Thursday, Friday and Saturday 7:30-9:00 p.m.; Saturday matinees at 3:00-5:30 p.m., Granbury Live, 110 N. Crockett St. Ticket prices: \$20 adults; \$17 students & seniors; \$15 children. For more information, contact (817) 579-0952 or visit [www.granburytheatrecompany.org](http://www.granburytheatrecompany.org).*

### January 3

Lake Granbury Newcomers Club luncheon: 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., DeCordova Bend Country Club. Members raise money for charity through sales of \$1 door-prize tickets and raffles. RSVP to (817) 243-9831.

### January 12

Girls Night Out: 5:30-8:00 p.m., historic downtown square. Drawing for \$100 downtown dollars, drinks and food for ladies who come to shop in the boutiques and galleries surrounding the courthouse. Call (817) 573-5299 or visit [facebook.com/GNOgranburytx](http://facebook.com/GNOgranburytx).

### January 14

Metro Beekeepers Meeting: 6:30-8:30 p.m., Cana Baptist Church, 2309 E. Renfro St., Burleson. Novice and expert beekeepers in Texas will enjoy learning from each other at Metro Beekeepers meetings. This month, a review of bee biology and discussion of spring build-up will be followed by announcement of youth scholarships awarded. Contact Stan Key, (817) 888-0470, or visit [www.metrobeekeepers.net](http://www.metrobeekeepers.net).

### January 15

Healthy Woman Luncheon: Noon-1:00 p.m., Granbury Convention Center. Ladies Get Control! Guest Speaker Christopher Buchanan, M.D., with Brazos Urology Clinic, discusses the importance of bladder health for all women. \$2 or \$5 for non-members. Reservation required. RSVP to [www.granburyhealthywoman.com](http://www.granburyhealthywoman.com) or (817) 579-2955.

### January 18

Kentucky Derby: 6:00-11:00 p.m., Pecan Plantation. Best of Business Awards Banquet honors distinguished chamber businesses and individuals. Experience champagne, mint juleps, a five-star derby dinner, plus guest speaker Bill Casner, Kentucky Derby winner. Auction and

raffle of racing memorabilia also helps raise funds to support the community-building work of the Granbury Chamber of Commerce. Cocktail attire. Tickets \$75. Reservations are required. Call (817) 573-1622.

### January 19 and 21

Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration: **January 19**, 8:00 a.m., Granny's Kitchen, 1802 Santa Fe Dr., Weatherford. Come celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life while enjoying breakfast and a guest speaker; **January 21**, 5:30 p.m., 9th Grade Center, 1007 S. Main St., Weatherford. Celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with guest speakers and entertainment. The event is free and open to the public. Contact Yolanda Chavers with Weatherford's NAACP at (817) 629-1168 for more information and to make a reservation for the breakfast.

### January 26

Last Saturday Gallery Night: 6:00-9:00 p.m., historic square, 100 W. Pearl St. Artists will be on hand, some giving demonstrations, while you enjoy hors d'oeuvres, wine and music. Contact (817) 579-7733.

### Saturdays

Breakfast With Veterans: 8:00-10:00 a.m., American Legion Post 491, 3409 Davis Rd. For \$5, the Post offers not only a breakfast buffet, but also eggs cooked to order, pancakes and a variety of breakfast meats. Volunteers are also welcomed to help with preparation, serving and cleanup. Visit [www.alpost491.com](http://www.alpost491.com) or e-mail [contact@alpost491.com](mailto:contact@alpost491.com).

### Second Sunday

Low-Cost Vaccination Clinic: 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Arrow Feed & Ranch, 2031 E. Hwy 377. Call (817) 573-8808.

### Second Tuesday

Salvation Army Women's Service League meetings: 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., DeCordova Bend Country Club. Join with other women interested in helping with the many projects undertaken by the Salvation Army Women's Service League of Hood County. Projects include new shoes, new clothing, hygiene kits, summer camp programs for children, assistance for those in most need in Hood County, and more. For further information, please contact Donna Noyes, (817) 736-2999.

### Tuesdays

Optimist Club meetings: 6:30-7:30 a.m., Granbury Church of Christ, 1905 W. Pearl St. Granbury's Optimists are adult volunteers dedicated to "Bringing Out the Best in Kids" by conducting positive service projects in their communities aimed at providing a helping hand to youth. Call Kathy Davis, (817) 894-4452, or visit [www.granburyoptimist.com](http://www.granburyoptimist.com).

### Tuesdays

Granbury Lions Club meeting: Noon-1:00 p.m., Spring Creek Barbecue, 317 Highway 377 East. The Granbury Lions Club is affiliated with Lions Clubs International and conducts charities that principally benefit the blind or visually impaired. Contact Lion James Royse, (817) 579-6141, or visit [www.granburylions.org](http://www.granburylions.org).

### Thursdays

Yoga with Senior Circle: 11:00 a.m., The Pavilion, 1312 Paluxy Rd. Committed to enriching the lives of adults age 50 and over. Senior Circle encourages the healthiest, most active lifestyle possible through meaningful education, wellness, health, volunteer opportunities and social activities. RSVP to (817) 579-2979.

Kiwanis Club of Lake Granbury meetings: Noon-1:00 p.m., Buffalo Gap Steakhouse & Cantina, 1470 Hwy 377. Kiwanis International is a global organization of members of every age who are dedicated to changing the world, one child and one community at a time. For information, contact President Matt Mills, (817) 219-2513.

Rotary Club meetings: Noon-1:00 p.m., Harbor Lakes Golf and Swim Club, 2100 Clubhouse Dr. The Rotary motto, Service Above Self, conveys its members' humanitarian spirit. Strong fellowship and meaningful community and international service projects characterize Rotary. For more information, please contact President Susan Hamilton, (817) 312-8374 or [PresidentGRClub@aol.com](mailto:PresidentGRClub@aol.com).

*Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your event details to [melissa.ranlins@nowmagazines.com](mailto:melissa.ranlins@nowmagazines.com)*

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