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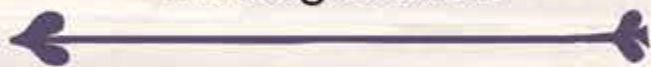
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Editor's Note

Hello, Granbury Family and Friends,

I remember my daughters being young and in multiple schools at the same time. The month of May brought all types of school and church activities — so many I sometimes felt like we ran nonstop. Add to those events two birthdays, one early in the month and one at the end, plus mother's day and a full-time job — well you get the picture.

Today, I sit back in the quietness of my home and think about those times. Not a whisper this morning, other than outdoor noise. In some ways, I miss all the noise and challenges of having children at home. On the other hand, I'm grateful they grew up, married and now are the busy ones in May, although I've found other things to keep me running all the time!

Children are a blessing. But after running nonstop for days and with little sleep, we easily forget that truth. For young mothers, embrace it all. Before long, you'll be the one sitting in a quiet house and remembering.

Happy Mother's Day!

Lisa

Lisa Bell
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FLAGS OF

Time



For Gail Joyce, the waving of an American flag in the wind is much more than a symbol of freedom. Each flap is a reminder of the sacrifices members of her own family gave through service in the military. This includes the ultimate sacrifice by her son, Casey. He was an Army Ranger killed on the fatal Black Hawk Down mission, of which a movie of the same name was made.



Freedom

— By Rick Mauch

So, for Casey, her late husband, Larry, and so many other military members past and present, Gail chairs the annual Field of Flags event in Granbury. The event, sponsored by the Greater Granbury Military Officers Association of America, will be held this year from May 26 through 29 across from RaceTrac on Highway 377. “Once you’ve gone out and walked through those flags flying in the breeze, you can’t help but understand completely what it all means,” said Gail, who is the surviving spouses’ liaison for the Granbury Chapter of MOAA.

The event features hundreds of flags, each of which is placed in honor of someone who has served, is currently serving in the military or is a first responder. People pledge a sponsorship, a flag is tagged with a name, and on the aforementioned days, they will fly for all to see. If you have no one specific to honor, a flag may be designated to a group of service members/first responders,

a branch of the military, a specific battle or war or a police/fire department. “Last year, we had 500 flags, and our goal this year is to fly 1,000,” Gail said. “It’s just a matter of getting the word out. When that flag is flying, you’re saying ‘thank you’ to our military.”

Every penny raised from the Field of Flags event goes to help needy veterans and their families. Last year, they provided a special Christmas for several families, helped build a ramp for a veteran in a wheelchair so he could leave his house, fixed a car and repaired a water well for two veterans.

For Gail, 78, it’s a way to help her family. As she said, “Once you are a part of a military family, you’re always a part. They may be Navy, Air Force, Marines and you’re Army, but it’s all under the same umbrella.”

“I’ve had the good fortune to work with her on the Field of Flags project last year and again this year as a representative of

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the American Legion,” said her friend, Jack Sides. “Her work has been tireless, and she is a great leader and organizer.”

Casey, 24, was part of the famous 1993 raid in Mogadishu by the U.S. military aimed at capturing faction leader Mohamed Farrah Aidid and the ensuing firefight, known as the Battle of Mogadishu. He was among those killed in the battle that featured Black Hawk Copter Super Six One being shot down.

Larry, an accomplished writer and former deputy editor-in-chief of *Stars and Stripes*, along with working in the Public Affairs Office of the Pentagon, wrote about the mission in a series of stories. Gail said he felt the administration and the military made some of the same mistakes they made in Vietnam. “Larry knew how the system worked because of his experience with the military and the media,” she said. “He appeared on TV news shows and wrote countless articles.”

Larry, long since retired from the military, continued to write while working for both the American Heart Association and American Medical Association. They moved back to Dallas from Chicago in 1995. He was diagnosed with leukemia in 1996, passing away in 1999.

Gail speaks often about the work Casey and Larry accomplished. It was through one of those speeches at a Veterans Day breakfast that she was noticed and was asked to help start a Granbury Chapter of MOAA in 2012. “When they said they needed a female for this chapter, they called me,” she said.

It was also in 2012 that Gail got the idea for the Field of Flags. It came to her during a conversation with her sister, who told her of a similar project in Palm Springs, California. “I thought it would be great for Granbury,” Gail said.

Her friend and fellow MOAA member, Phil Newsom, agreed. And he knew the right person to take up the charge. “One of Gail’s strong points is her wide range of friends and acquaintances. She has reached out to other military organizations in the Granbury area, as well as civic organizations and other not-for-profits,” Phil said. “When she says she’ll do something, you can bet that she will.”

After working on the initial Field of Flags project, she focused on other projects for the next three years. Then in 2015, MOAA took it over and she returned to the helm. MOAA is a national

organization with around 400,000 members. She is the chair of the National Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee and travels the country, speaking to and on behalf of spouses of military members who have passed away.

She also participates in the annual “Storming the Hill” event in which members of MOAA lobby Congress for the benefit of veterans, military members and their families. This year’s storming took place in early April. “We go in groups of two to three people and visit each of Texas’ representatives,” she said. “It’s hard work, but fun and very rewarding.”



Gail said watching the 2001 movie, which won two Academy Awards, was tough. So is speaking sometimes, but it’s also something special to her she will never turn down. “I’ll always accept an invitation to talk about Casey and Larry. If I don’t talk about it, who will? And every time I do, a little bit of them returns to me,” she said. “Larry was a tremendous storyteller. I love to tell his stories whenever I have the opportunity.”

Gail recalled a young man she met at the movie premiere. Casey saved his life on the ill-fated mission. “He said, ‘There’s someone I want you to meet.’ It was his 4-year-old daughter, whom he named Casey. I was very touched and honored,” she said.

Gail has two other children, Steve, 56, who lives in Mansfield, and Sancy, 54, in Pecan Plantation. She has seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

MOAA’s motto is: Never Stop Serving. And that is exactly what Gail plans to do. “I will always be a part of MOAA,” she said. “We need them to make sure the military is taken care of always.” **NOW**

Editor’s Note: For more information on the Military Officers Association of America, visit www.moaa.org and granburymoaa.org. For more information on the Field of Flags, visit www.granburyfieldofflags.com.

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At Home With Charles

The Best Parts

— By Lisa Bell

When you put a transported Texas/Western-style man from Oklahoma together with a native Texas dragonfly/ Paris-loving woman, 40 years later you get a lovely couple with a unique home. Charles and Diana Smith moved to Granbury in August 2014 from the Houston area after living there 26 years. He doesn't like the city — she does. They agreed on being closer to her family.

Diana's brother lives in Arlington, and when they were contemplating moving, so did her sister. The couple wanted to live somewhat in the country. They started looking in the area, at golf communities but not necessarily on a lake. Diana's widowed sister, Gwen, was thinking about moving to Granbury, so they came here. The couple liked the quaint community, but the more they looked, the more they liked the town.

As they searched different areas around town, they found a community where Couto Homes had some lots. "We were first on our cul-de-sac," Diana said. "It's been a good move." Looking at floor plans, they made modifications, creating a home built just for them — a warm and cozy home. They decorated it





and Diana Smith

with both of their tastes blended together in a wonderful, original style that works.

A feeling of grandeur comes alive at the entry, with rich tones, an open feel and beautiful archways complete with a wood-burning fireplace to warm the living room, dining areas and kitchen during cold months. A partial wall and tall breakfast bar sets off the kitchen, so it feels separate, yet it still allows for visiting.

The kitchen itself has dark-stained cabinets, some with glass in the doors. Lighter colors behind the glass, as well as on counters, brighten the kitchen. On the large island, a plaque Diana found in a Fort Worth boutique-type store decorates and welcomes all. On the front, the plaque reads *The Smith Family*. The message on the back says, *Bless this house with family, friends, love and laughter. Established 2014*. The store owner offered to custom make one for Diana, but she had already found the perfect one and took it home that day.

A unique and special backsplash makes Diana happy whenever she cooks. The couple and Gwen all love traveling,

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What was Diana's office before she retired from Wells Fargo as a corporate trainer became Charles' space, doubling as a spare bedroom for their grandson, Jonathan. He loves their home and enjoys visiting as often as possible. "He's a good man, like his dad, Chris," Diana shared. After removing the large L-shaped desk, they placed a smaller desk where Charles can spend time on the computer if he wants. He also decorated one wall with Western memorabilia, as well as Texas influences and the medals his father earned during his time in the Air Force.

Diana's favorite place in Europe is Paris, while Gwen loves Portofino. The backsplash in Diana's kitchen features a scene from Paris. Charles suggested Gwen buy the new home next door, and when she did, they gave her a backsplash of Portofino as a housewarming present.

Throughout the home, Diana tries to place wall hangings found during traveling. Many came from trips the two sisters took together. The home also has

archways and crown molding all over. She also tries to keep the bathrooms comfortable. The guest bedroom is simple and comfortable. While many people say not to make the guestroom too comfortable, or they'll stay, Diana is exactly the opposite. She honestly likes having guests and wants them to stay longer.



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Charles spent many of his earlier years in the Big Bend area working on ranches. He still loves rodeo and stock shows, big belt buckles and old guns. He has one story belt that came from Vail, Colorado. "He's fascinated with anything Western," Diana revealed. "He's a native Texan in spirit." She's glad he has a spot to display everything outside of the living room.

Diana has a small room she calls her retreat. A large chair and ottoman provide the perfect spot, where she often reads or watches movies and television, other than Charles' favorite Fox News. Her room has an antique secretary desk where she pays bills and takes care of other tasks. The space provides a great place for her to simply relax and be alone for a little while.

The spacious master bedroom has a sitting area with two chairs. Nearby, a shadow box-style frame holds a baby picture of Diana wearing the crocheted dress her grandmother made, which is also included in the frame. Although simply decorated, the dark and light contrasts create the same cozy feeling as the rest of the house. The master bath is massive, with a separate tub and shower, plus separated sinks. While the design worked great before Diana retired, the separate elements aren't as necessary any longer. "We're seldom in a hurry now," she said.

A favorite part of the house is actually the large back patio. The couple spends a lot of time enjoying the large yard. Soon after finishing the house, they had a pergola built to cover the patio. During warm months, they like to start the day sipping coffee on the patio. As cooler weather comes, they light up the chiminea and enjoy the warmth. The trees have a couple of rope swings for

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great-nieces and -nephews, and a solid rock, golf hole-marker is also found in the yard. As members of Tomball Golf Course, they paid for a marker in support of an expansion. It was supposed to read *Jonathan Elmore — grandson of C and D Smith*. But they left out “and.” Rather than see the marker trashed, they kept it for yard decor.

Charles’ hobby takes over an area in the garage. He makes miniature antique houses and buildings, some of them models of actual locations. The coolest part — Charles creates them with objects he finds. A shell casing becomes a tiny mug. Matchsticks morph into wagon wheel spokes. Pieces of wood and even coffee swizzle sticks find a place in the buildings. Charles makes the houses for his own pleasure, displaying them on top of antique furniture they own but can’t fit in the house. He also gives them to family and close friends who treasure the gifts and the magnificent detail. Every building incorporates amazing, tiny chairs. Churches have stained glass made from a printed picture. He spends at least a month on each building, but often several months.

During holidays, the Smiths host as many as 30 people. Having Diana’s brother near makes it better. Having Gwen next door is the best part. “They’re so close to each other,” Charles said. But that’s another story. **NOW**

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LOVE CHARA

A smile runs across Tyson Stewart's face as he prepares to talk about perhaps his favorite subject — character. It's something he knows quite a bit about, displays with regularity and loves discussing, especially with his players. "I preach a lot that I want really good effort. It's not just a tennis thing. It's a life thing," the 35-year-old Granbury High tennis coach said. "If you can fight through, you'll win, maybe not on the scoreboard, but you're still going to be a winner. You're going to have jobs you don't like, be in situations you don't like as you go through life, and you are going to have to fight through."

This attitude was key in Tyson recently being given the Carey Caldwell Character Award from fellow members of the Texas Tennis Coaches Association. It is named in honor of the late former Burkburnett tennis coach. Tyson was nominated for the award by his longtime friend and mentor, Bobby Kleinecke, former Texas A&M University women's tennis coach. "You always wonder what people think of you," Tyson said. "I was very surprised. This is not something I seek out, but it's very cool."

Of course, Tyson's character is also a very good tool when it comes to motivating a team to victory. For example, the Granbury Pirates won the program's first team tennis district championship since 2003 this past fall, going 7-0 in District 9-5A. He was named the league's Coach of the Year. "We have a good group of kids who knew it was there in front of them. We're set up for next year, also," Tyson said, noting that the squad features three senior boys, one senior girl and a lot of juniors.

AND CTER

— By Rick Manch

"I enjoy seeing a kid learn a skill they never knew before."

His assistant coach, Denise Scott, said Tyson keeps the game fun and promotes honesty above all else. In most high school matches, players have to police themselves on shots being inbounds and keeping accurate scores. "He expects hard work from the kids, but most importantly he values the integrity of the game," she said. "It's wonderful to work with him because he's always so full of energy."

Tyson, who is also second vice president of the TTCA, was raised in a tennis environment. His father, Randy Stewart, has been the head coach at Bryan High School for 22 years, having also coached for 10 years at Graham and three at

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Coach Tyson works closely with his players to perfect their skill.

Amarillo. Ironically, Tyson did not want to be a coach when he started college at Hardin-Simmons University following a successful high school career at Bryan. He enrolled to study business and was also a member of the tennis team.

His success on the tennis court at Hardin-Simmons was more enjoyable however, than the short time he spent in the business department. After just one paper he knew he had chosen the wrong major, something he promptly corrected. "I walked out of the building, went and changed my major," he said with a laugh. "I'd always told mom and dad I didn't want to be a coach, but at that moment it clicked that business wasn't for me, and that I was meant to be a coach."

He played two seasons of tennis at Hardin-Simmons, making the squad's top six roster in his freshman season. He helped the team reach the conference tournament semifinals as a freshman and the finals as a sophomore, something they had not done in years. "After I left, they won something like five or six conference championships in a row," he said, smiling, "so all my friends have rings. But I did the right thing transferring. My dad had played in college and told me I needed to experience it, but it was time to move on."

A new coach came on board at Hardin-Simmons, and he and Tyson did not share the same philosophy. Tyson transferred to Texas A&M University and got his degree in sports management. His coaching career began in the summer of 2000, when he helped with camps at Texas A&M. He still helps with those camps today.

Tyson's first head coaching job was at Groesbeck. After being an assistant for a couple of years, he took over in 2012. During his tenure, he coached teams to

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state in boys' doubles, girls' doubles and mixed doubles, extending a streak of 26 straight seasons for the school to compete at state. Also among the highlights were defeating his dad's team at Bryan.

Tyson did coach with his father for three years after graduating from A&M. He was his junior high coach. "It was cool. I didn't get to travel with him a lot, but I went to the playoffs and such," he explained.

He was happy coaching in Groesbeck, but with in-laws in Granbury, when the job came open, he felt he had to apply. It was, as he said, one of two jobs he'd always wanted. The other being Grapevine. He was already familiar with the area thanks to the many visits he and his wife, Jana, made. "I really didn't think I had a chance, but lo and behold, I got it," he said.

Granbury Athletic Director Dwight Butler said hiring Tyson was an easy pick. Being a man of character himself, Dwight said he could tell right away they were "kindred spirits." "We put the kids first," Dwight said. "He's a kid and people magnet. He smiles all the time. I knew he was a good fit the minute I hired him. He's just a super guy. He puts a smile on your face. Kids respond to him, not just as a coach, but also to how he lives. We're very lucky to have him. We hope he's here for a long time."

Tyson and Jana recently celebrated the birth of their second child, a girl whom they named Charley, after Jana's father. They also have a 3-year-old daughter, Ellie, who is already showing some interest in tennis. "Ellie has a racquet, and she'll whack at stuff around the house," Tyson said, chuckling. "She watches me. I'll get her out here in the spring and summer."

He can't tell you what his win-loss record is as a coach. He can, however, tell you some of his most memorable moments that include his players finding something special in themselves. "I enjoy seeing a kid learn a skill they never knew before," he said. "One of the first kids I took to state was a JV player the year before."

Tyson is sometimes asked if he will coach as long as his dad. He admits he has given thought to someday getting into administration, but adds it's not on his radar. "I get paid for tennis, and that's a great thing," he said. "It's what I love. That, and doing all I can to make a difference in kids' lives." **NOW**

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Heart for Helping

Circumstances led Lisa Ezernack to this place in life, but her heart keeps her here. — By Lisa Bell

January 1, 2016, started a new world for Lisa Ezernack. That day, she opened All About Care, an in-home care service company. Outside of medical care, her staff does almost everything else. They perform housekeeping, basic yard work, such as mowing, pet care in the client's absence, errands, transportation to many places — including church — and hair needs. They also do wellness checks by phone or in person. She charges \$15 per hour with no minimum requirement.

Lisa owned half-interest in another company but frequently saw clients turned away. Her heart hurt for those who couldn't afford or didn't need the minimum hours. She wanted to help everyone. Finally, she decided to open her own company, and as 2016 started, she launched All About Care on a prayer.

Within a year, she employed eight women, and the growth of her young company left her looking for more workers. Lisa tries to pay better and hires those she believes will treat the clients well. She wants to make sure her clients are safe and well cared for, and that her employees have a good work ethic and integrity.

All About Care employees work different times as needed. Some have certification as a nurse's aide. Others have a business background in housecleaning, or they may fall in the category of having very little education or working toward a degree. "I love to hire people who need to work," Lisa stated.

Lisa grew up with a sister who has cerebral palsy, so she understands working with handicapped individuals. She married at 14 and had three children. One of her daughters died in 1986

because of a drunk driver. The family moved to Granbury from Fort Worth because she wanted to get the kids out of the traffic. "When I came here, my husband had a stroke, and I hadn't even been to high school." Faced with caring for her kids and husband while he recovered, Lisa got her GED and earned her LVN license. She never imagined nursing school at almost 40 or the next 10 years working in a nursing home.

"We're not just for seniors. I want to service everybody who wants or needs it."

Although her husband recovered some from the stroke, he had accidents, too, which left him disabled about five years ago. Still, Lisa didn't let it stop her. She continued caring for people and eventually launched her own business. "It's divinely inspired — God led me to do what I was born to do," she said. So far, she hasn't turned anyone away.

"We're not just for seniors," she said. "I want to service everybody who wants or needs it." Although many of her clients are seniors, she offers services to anyone who needs help because of injuries or illness.

Giving back to the community is also important to Lisa. In 2016 around Easter, she gave baskets to different organizations including the police, sheriff and fire departments, and to the hospital. She also donated gift certificates as auction items for Indian Harbor Fire Department. As her business grows, she plans to continue supporting the community.

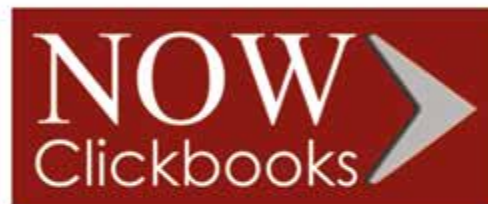
As Lisa celebrates her 40th wedding anniversary, she's thankful for the business and unexpected events that took her life down the path God planned for her. "Don't get discouraged," she said. "Keep looking for what you need. Don't settle for what you're not looking for." This is true with care — and in life. **NOW**

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An Itchy Situation

— By Betty Tryon, BSN

A couple of days after some serious yardwork, you start to experience intense itching with a rash. Thinking back, you wonder if that bothersome patch of weeds you pulled was poison ivy.

Poison ivy is a plant that contains an oil or resin called urushiol. Poison oak and poison sumac also contain this oil, and all three of these plants together produce more than 300,000 cases every year of allergic contact dermatitis. The resin can be found in every part of the plant: leaves, stems, roots or flowers. The problem comes from direct contact with the oil on the plant. This is not transferred in the air through sneezing and coughing or by touching the fluid from the rash.

Within a few days after contact with the plant's oil, the skin develops an itchy rash. The rash, or hives, will progress to blisters. When the blisters burst, a crust forms over the lesion. You might also detect red streaks and swelling. Swelling in the face, mouth, eyes and/or difficulty breathing could turn into a serious condition. If this is a person's first contact with the oil, it generally takes longer for that first symptom to appear. If this is a repeated contact, then the rash appears within one to two days. Typically, the rash may last a couple of weeks but can last six weeks, if symptoms are severe.

Treatment for poison oak and poison ivy can usually be cared

for at home, if the rash is mild. Rinse the area with cool water for at least 10 to 15 minutes. Allow to air dry. Never use warm water as it causes your pores to open and more toxins could absorb into the skin. If possible, use an oil dissolving soap to clean the area. Do not scratch! If the oil is left on your skin, you can inadvertently spread it by scratching, thereby causing the rash to spread on your skin. Apply calamine lotion or hydrocortisone cream to help with itching. Change your clothes immediately. Wash them separately from other clothing, and don't forget to include any towels you may have used. With any swelling, contact your physician. Swelling in the face or airway requires an immediate trip to the emergency room.

The most effective way to avoid these complications is to stay away from these plants. Whether working in your yard or hiking through a wilderness, wear protective clothing, such as long pants, long sleeves and closed, sturdy shoes. Wear gloves when working on the ground. Learn to identify these leaves in all seasons to avoid contact, and remember a famous saying, "Leaves of three? Let them be!" **NOW**

This article is for general information only and does not constitute medical advice. Consult with your physician if you have questions regarding this topic.

May 4

9th Annual National Day of Prayer: Breakfast: 6:00-7:30 a.m.; lunchtime gatherings: 12:15-12:45 p.m. Breakfast is at the Granbury Resort Conference Center; lunchtime will be at multiple gathering sites. For details, visit www.granburyministries.org/national-day-of-prayer-events.

Granbury Newcomers The Art of Wine: 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., DeCordova Country Club. Barking Rock's Winery owner, Larry Tiberia, shares techniques and secrets of winemaking. Reservations due by noon **May 1** at (817) 243-9831. Visit www.granburynewcomers.org.

May 5

Melody Belles Spring Concert: 7:00 p.m., Langdon Center Concert Hall, 308 E. Bridge St. "A Sentimental Journey" is free to the public; donations welcome. Call (817) 326-2687 for information.

May 5 — 7

Spring Family Camping Weekend: 5:00 p.m.-10:00 a.m., 7710 Fall Creek Highway. \$30-\$90 per person, fees apply to ages 5 and up. To learn more call (817) 831-2111 or visit www.campfirefw.org/youth/camps/family-camping-weekend/612/1493960400/.

May 6

3rd Annual ANC Reptile Day: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Acton Nature Center, 6900 Smokey Hill Ct. Meet scaly friends, learn about native and exotic reptiles and kid-friendly crafts and activities. For details, visit their Facebook page or www.actonnaturecenter.org.

Danny Wright Benefit Concert: 7:00 p.m., Granbury FUMC, 301 Loop 567. Internationally known pianist performance benefits the Forward Training Center of Hood County. \$30 tickets available at (817) 573-6677 or www.forwardtrainingcenter.org.

May 7

Camp Fire Camp El Tesoro preview: 1:00-4:00 p.m., 7710 Fall Creek Highway. Free come and go camp preview. RSVP online at www.campfirefw.wufoo.com/forms/rsvp-for-a-camp-el-tesoro-preview-2017/ or call (817) 806-5451.

May 8

North Central Texas Civil War Roundtable: 5:30-8:00 p.m., Spring Creek Barbeque, 317 E. Hwy. 377. Mark Christ, author and outreach director, Arkansas Heritage Department, presents "The Battle of Arkansas Post, January 11, 1863 at Fort Hindman." Visitors welcome. For more information, visit www.ncentexcwr.com. Last meeting until September.

May 11

Senior Circle Prom: 5:00-8:00 p.m., Granbury Resort Conference Center 621 E. Pearl St. 18th Anniversary celebration of Senior Circle. Tickets are \$15 and must be purchased in advance. Call (817) 579-2979 for tickets or information.

May 12

Melody Belles Choral Group Concert & Dinner: 6:00 p.m., DeCordova Bend Country Club. Public invited to "A Sentimental Journey." \$15 per person. For reservations, call (817) 326-2381.

May 18

Chowing Down for Heroes: 5:00-8:00 p.m., D'Vine Wine, 107 E. Bridge St. As a fundraiser for the Memorial Lane Project, 20-percent of all sales donated to the project. For more information, visit www.granburymemorallane.com.

May 26

Red Hot Concert 2: 6:00 p.m., Granbury Resort Conference Center. The concert benefits the Memorial Lane Project. Silent and live auction and cash bar available. For details or to purchase tickets, call (817) 243-1779 or visit www.granburymemorallane.com.

May 26 — 29

Field of Flags: 8:00 a.m. May 26-8:00 a.m. May 29, 3602 E. Hwy. 377. Hundreds of flags will fly on Hwy. 377 during Memorial Day weekend. Wonderful opportunity to visibly honor and remember military and first responders, past and present. Visit A Field of Flags on Facebook.

Ongoing:

Second Mondays

Lake Granbury Art Association meeting: 7:00 p.m., Shanley House. Program followed by Q&A time. Refreshments served. Free for citizens supporting art and artists. Jeanette Alexander, (817) 578-3090.

Second Tuesdays

Granbury Knitting Guild: 9:30 a.m.-noon, Presbyterian church fellowship hall, 303 W. Bridge St. Coffee at 9:30; meeting starts at 10:00. For more info, contact Cosette Falter, humhound@yahoo.com.

Third Tuesdays

Greater Granbury Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America meetings: 6:00-9:00 p.m., Pecan Plantation Country Club. Contact Colonel Mike Brake, USAF (Ret), (702) 612-9317, or speedobrake@gmail.com.

Wednesdays

Fresh Starts, Divorce Recovery Group: 6:30 p.m., Granbury FUMC Room #119, 301 Loop 567. Covers all stages of separation or divorce. All ages, faiths, denominations, beliefs and ages welcome. There is no cost or pre-registration required. Child care provided. For details, call (817) 573-5573.

Third Wednesdays

Master Gardeners meeting: 1:00-2:00 p.m., Hood County Annex 1 Meeting Room, 1410 W. Pearl St. For information, contact (817) 579-3280.

First Thursdays

Hood County Clean Air Coalition meetings: 8:30 a.m., Neely House, 304 E. Rucker St. This proactive organization exists to promote clean air in Hood County. Visit www.hoodcountycleanair.com. Contact Michelle McKenzie, (682) 936-4049 or mmckenzie@hoodcountycleanair.com.

Granbury Extension Education Club luncheon: 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Hood County Annex 1 Meeting Room, 1410 W. Pearl St. Monthly programs cover family and consumer science topics, and community service projects are planned. For information, contact Brianne Langdon, (817) 408-0746.

Second Thursdays

Special Needs Parent Support and Networking Group: 6:15-8:00 p.m., Lake Pointe Resource Center, 1921 Acton Hwy. Parents and professionals learn, connect and share in a caring, responsive and socially supportive setting. Free. For information, visit www.lakepointegrnburry.com or call (817) 937-4332.

Second Saturdays

Girls Night Out: 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., Granbury Town Square. Collect pink tickets for \$100. Downtown Dollar Shopping Spree. Visit Girls Night Out Facebook Page for details, special sales and promotions.

Last Saturdays

Last Saturday Gallery Night: 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., Granbury Town Square. Supporting galleries open late. "Meet the artists," receptions, demonstrations, hors d'oeuvres, wine and music. A tram runs between galleries. Visit Galleries of Granbury on Facebook Page for details.

Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your event details to lisa.bell@nowmagazines.com.



In the Kitchen With Mary Pike

— *By Lisa Bell*

“I have to admit I was surprised when I got the call asking me to be the cook for *GranburyNOW*,” Mary Pike said. “The only people who know I can cook are my family and the girls at Blushes.” As the owner of the full-service salon, she frequently takes food in for all of them to enjoy.

For home meals, Mary prefers making soups and casseroles — things that last more than one meal. She learned to cook on her own, and she strives to make healthier dishes. She found her French onion soup recipe 40 years ago and still loves it. Often, she finds recipes in different places and makes changes to form a unique dish. “I am unique,” she said. **NOW**

French Onion Soup

5 lbs. onions
1/2 cup (1 stick) butter
1 1/2 tsp. freshly ground pepper
Paprika, to taste
Bay leaf, to taste
2 tsp. salt
7 16-oz. cans beef broth (divided use)
1 cup white wine of your choice
3/4 cup flour
1 bottle Kitchen Bouquet seasoning sauce
Sliced French bread
Swiss cheese, sliced

1. Peel onions and slice 1/8-inch thick, preferably using a food processor.
2. Melt butter in a 6-quart or larger stockpot. Add onions; cook uncovered over low heat for 1 1/2 hours, stirring constantly. *Note:* The long cooking time makes the onions mellow and sweet.
3. Stir in pepper, paprika, bay leaf and salt; sauté over low heat for 10 minutes more, stirring frequently.

4. Pour in 6 cans of beef broth and the white wine; bring to a boil.
5. Dissolve flour in remaining 1 can of broth; stir mixture into boiling soup.
6. Reduce heat and simmer slowly for 2 hours.
7. Adjust color to a rich brown with Kitchen Bouquet and refrigerate overnight.
8. Pour into ovenproof crocks or bowls; top each bowl with a slice of bread and sliced Swiss cheese. Heat under broiler until cheese melts. *Note:* Leftover soup can be frozen.

Green Chile Cheese Squares

4 eggs
2 Tbsp. milk
1 lb. shredded cheddar cheese
1 or 2 4-oz. cans chopped mild green chilies

1. Grease an 8x8-inch or 8x11-inch baking dish.
2. Beat eggs. Add milk and cheese; mix well.
3. Scoop 1/2 of the egg and cheese mixture into the baking dish, spreading evenly.

4. If you want a milder chili flavor, rinse the chilies through a strainer to remove some of the seeds.
5. Spread the green chilies on top and cover with the leftover egg/cheese mixture.
6. Bake at 350 F for 30 minutes. Cut into squares and serve.

Cauliflower Salad

1 cup of this cauliflower salad is only 3 carbs vs. 1 cup of potato salad, which is 37 carbs.

1 head cauliflower
6 boiled eggs
1/3 cup mayonnaise (Don't use light. It has more carbs.)
3 Tbsp. pickle relish
1/8 cup onion, chopped
Salt and pepper, to taste

1. Cut cauliflower into bite-size pieces, steam or boil until tender but not mushy.
2. Peel eggs; separate the yolks into a bowl. Mash the yolks, and cut the whites into small bite-size pieces; gently blend together.
3. Mix in all other ingredients. Garnish with egg slices and parsley if desired.
4. Chill and serve.

Stuffed Mushroom Casserole

1 lb. hamburger meat
1 lb. sausage
1 large onion, chopped
4 boxes fresh button mushrooms, stems and tops separated
1 1/2 sticks butter
2 cups chicken broth
2 boxes stuffing mix of your choice
Parsley, chopped or dried
Grated Parmesan cheese

1. Sauté meats, onion and chopped mushroom stems.
2. In a saucepan, melt butter and add chicken broth, stuffing mix and parsley.
3. Slice mushroom tops, and layer them in the bottom of a 9x13-inch ovenproof dish.
4. Mix meat and onion mixture with the stuffing mixture; pour over the mushrooms.
5. Sprinkle the Parmesan cheese on top and bake for 15 minutes at 350 F with the top covered with foil. Remove foil; bake for another 15 minutes for a total bake time of 30 minutes.

To view recipes from current and previous issues, visit www.nowmagazines.com.

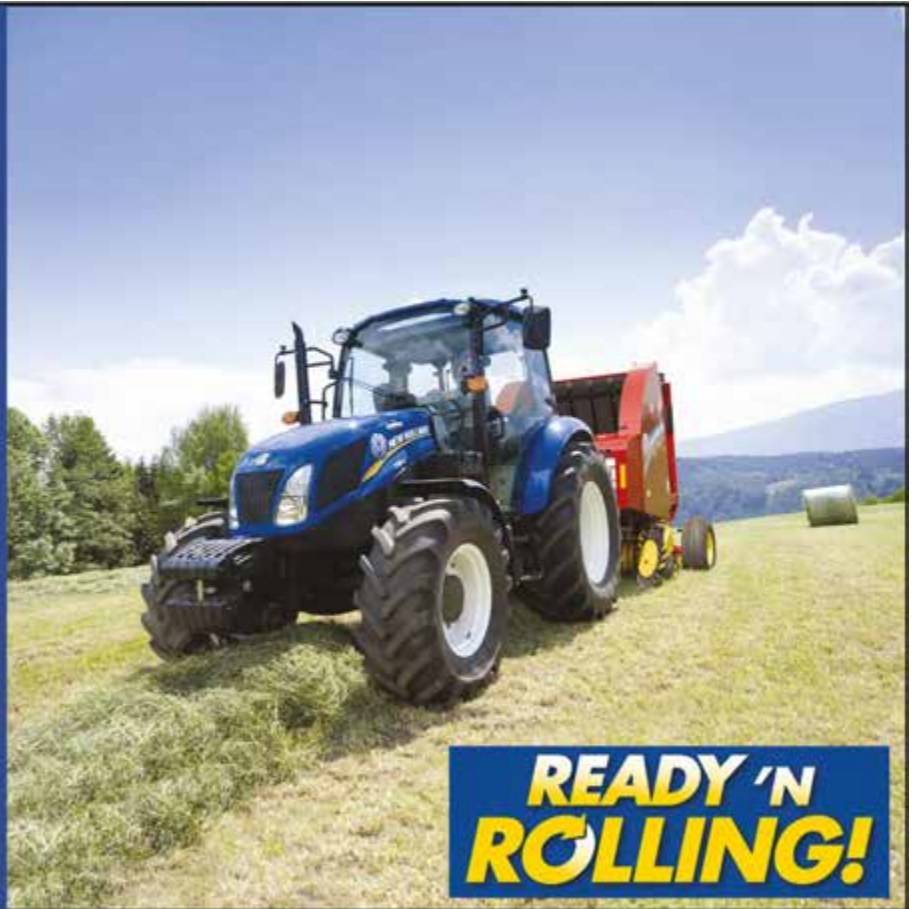


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