

LAKE

COMPLIMENTARY | SPRING 2016

# GRANBURY

*Living*

*A City Girl with*  
**COUNTRY**  
*in Her Heart*

A little more than two decades ago, Ty and Tracie had a goal to build the kind of life they dreamed about in a small town, where an old house creaks a little, where friends can become family, a place where you always want to be.

HOMETOWN LIVING AT ITS BEST

# TROY VINSON JEWELERS

Let Us Make Your Dreams True



*Designs by  
Curt Vinson*

- Diamond and Platinum Specialist • Free Cleaning and Checking • Pearls, Colored Stones, Watches
- Custom CAD Jewelry Design • Watch Repair & Batteries • Work Done on Premises
- Repairs of fine jewelry • Engraving



In Granbury at 401 E. Hwy 377 (in front of Home Depot) 817-573-7881  
In Fort Worth at 4666 Loop 820 817-377-8555  
[troyvinsonjewelers.com](http://troyvinsonjewelers.com)



*Unique* **FINDS**  
**FOR YOUR HOME**

**Wagon Yard**  
Est. 1977

Furniture • Lighting • Decor

213 N Crockett Street | Downtown Granbury

Monday - Saturday 8:30 - 5:30

817.573.5321 | [www.wagonyard.com](http://www.wagonyard.com)

1507 N Plaza Dr | Granbury, TX 76048

800.800.2851

granburymotorsports.com

CERTIFIED MECHANICS  
FULL SERVICE REPAIRS  
PARTS • ACCESSORIES



can-am




SEA-DOO



SERVING GRANBURY  
FOR 24 YEARS

LOCALLY & FAMILY OWNED

Signs of a heart attack are rarely this obvious.



Nausea,  
dizziness,  
shortness of breath,  
chest pain

During a heart attack, every minute matters.

So, know the warning signs. If you experience them, call 911. And count on the Nationally Accredited Chest Pain Center at Lake Granbury Medical Center for emergency heart care.



**LAKE GRANBURY  
MEDICAL CENTER**

[LakeGranburyMedicalCenter.com](http://LakeGranburyMedicalCenter.com)

**Nationally Accredited Chest Pain Center**

# contents

10

## Lone Star Guide Dog Raisers

It is often said that a dog is man's best friend. That is especially true for someone who is blind. The Guide Dog is not only a friend and constant companion, but the key that unlocks the windows of the world, providing increased mobility, independence and confidence.

18

## The Musical Sojourn of Shake & Sammy

Words are known to possess power. They can evoke a broad spectrum of emotions, incite people to take action and unfurl worlds never seen. When those words are lyrics, set to expertly crafted music, they elevate themselves to spellbinding power.

26

## The Rare Breed of Texas Visionaries

Part residential area and orchard, Pecan Plantation remains one of the largest pecan orchards in the United States, producing between 1,750,000 and 2,500,000 pounds of pecans per year.

36

## A City Girl with Country in Her Heart

Cindy Cook, owner of Fat Cow Studios, fully understands the beauty of Granbury, having escaped the city and worked to simplify her life, surrounding herself with her husband, her pets, the wildlife and a bunch of cows.

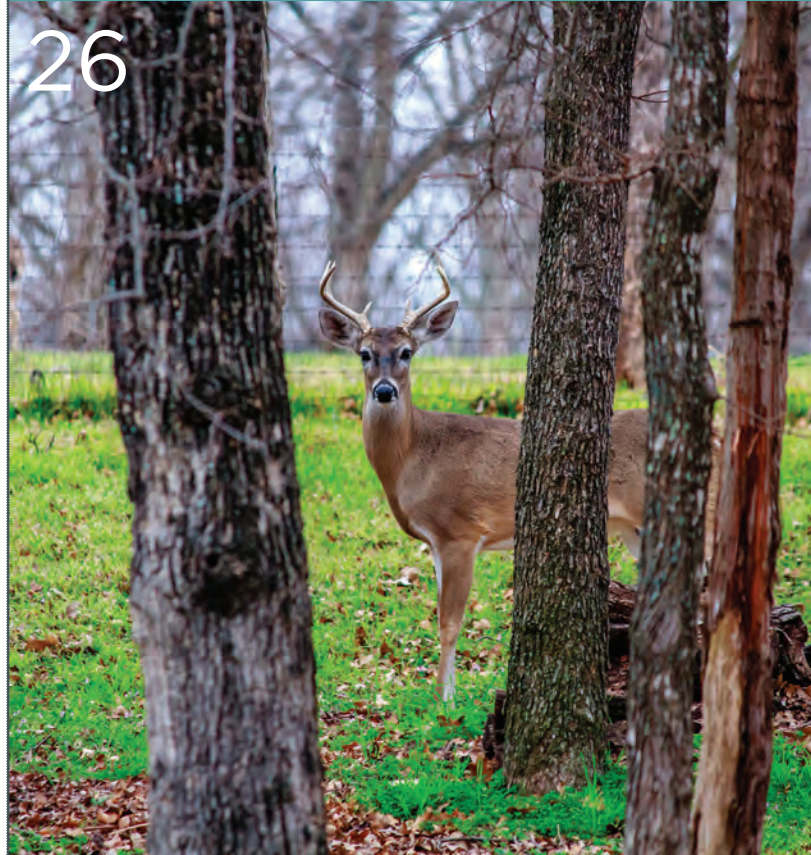
46

## Frame by Frame

The building truly is amazing. One of the first stone buildings on the Square, the structure at 115 East Pearl was built in 1890, and like most of the neighboring buildings it has seen a long and varied line of occupants.

# LAKE GRANBURY *Living*

26



## About The Cover

Cindy Cook pictured at her art studio.

56



56

## Diners, Drive Bys and a Dive: The Big “O”

This issue’s Diners, Drive Bys and Dives takes a look at organic food and where you might be driving by it, right here in Granbury.

64

## A Rose by Any Other Name: Jean Smith and the Granbury Flower Shop

Much like the flower, a symbol of hope and a reminder of change, the Smith family business is indicative of so many small town merchants that have managed to keep their doors open for decades.

70

## Granbury Celebrates Texas Independence Day

Great legends surround our historical town square. However it begs the question, what could the land just under your homestead be withholding? One local student made it her mission to find out.

74

## Remembrance and Honor

Old glory grows patriotism in the hearts of everyone who drives by the annual Field of Flags. The colors stir the hearts of those who have seen oppression and tasted freedom. Fluttering in a May breeze, these flags symbolize liberty, freedom and pride.

84

## AMS Outdoor Learning Classroom

We have all spent seemingly endless hours inside a classroom setting... But what if we could take that knowledge gained inside the classroom to the outside, and study those issues literally “hands on” where it actually happens, rather than on the sterile pages of a textbook?.

96

## Brenda Massingill: Preserving the Black Diamond Ranch heritage

Rich history lies beneath the soil of the Black Ranch. At one time, the ranch had 26,000 acres, making it the largest in Hood County and the largest between Fort Worth and San Angelo.



96

# in every issue

## Hometown Happenings

Throughout this issue take a glimpse inside a few of the exciting events recently held in and around Granbury.

82

## Hometown Bundles of Joy

Welcoming Granbury’s  
Newest Residents



82



With mammograms,  
there is no magic age.

### When to Get Your Mammogram

There's a lot of information out there about mammograms, and Texas Health Resources is here to help clear things up. Because when it comes to mammograms, the most important thing to remember is getting one in the first place. And when you should start scheduling them depends on you and factors like family history, physical activity and lifestyle. Know your risks by taking our Breast Cancer Risk Assessment. And if you are at risk, as an American College of Radiology Breast Imaging Center of Excellence, we offer a full range of services, from screenings to treatment to recovery. Call to schedule your digital mammogram today.

1-877-THR-WELL | [TexasHealth.org/Breast](https://www.texashealth.org/breast)  
Southwest Fort Worth | Stephenville



GRACIOUS  
*Country*  
SENIOR LIFESTYLE

Quail  
Park  
of Granbury



*Stop by for a tour and enjoy a free lunch or dinner for two!*

Please show coupon to redeem



*Ask about our new Memory Care - coming soon!*



817.677.8906 • 2300 Paluxy Highway • Granbury, TX 76048 • [QuailParkofGranbury.com/Living](http://QuailParkofGranbury.com/Living)  
COMMUNITY LICENSE #134939

## FROM THE PUBLISHER



### SPRING.

The smell of flowers, rain, and the new green grass. I love spring. Every time the seasons change it brings moments of reflections for me. The nostalgia of home and all the springs that have come before, and to the future seasons I get to share with my Granbury family make my heart full. To watch the children experiencing lightning bugs for the first time, raising baby ducks or fishing, that is the joy of this time of year. To say that we are busy with family life is an understatement, and ways of finding new and fresh ideas for articles to feature always surprises me. But, like the surprise of color that the iris will be when it blooms, it is always beautiful, no matter what. That is the inspiration of Lake Granbury Living for me.

We reflect on the beauty of people, art and community and this Spring issue is no different. We have a fragrant garden of stories about our beloved Granbury. Each one a little different, highlighting local business and furry friends is a delight, as we dig deeper into some of Hood County's most inspirational residents.

I hope that you continue to enjoy LGL, share it with your friends and please support our advertisers. They absolutely make this possible.

Thank you as always to my amazing team. You are small but mighty, and I am always proud of the talents we get to publish. What an honor!

Enjoy the spring and here's to summer on it's way.

*Amy Wade Winters*

(817) 330-9015  
info@lglmagazine.com  
www.lglmagazine.com

# LAKE GRANBURY *Living*

**PUBLISHER** enVision Publishing  
**EXECUTIVE EDITOR |**  
**ART DIRECTOR** Amy Wade Winters  
**MANAGING EDITOR** Melissa McGavock  
**DIRECTOR OF**  
**ADS + MARKETING** Kelly A. Lindner  
**GRAPHIC DESIGNER** Dawn Skinner

**COPY EDITORS** enVision Publishing

**CREATIVE | DESIGN** enVision Creative Services

**CONTRIBUTING**  
**WRITERS** Brandy Herr  
Connie Lewis Leonard  
James Hamilton  
Jan Brand  
Jonathan Hooper  
Julie A. Lyssy  
Melissa McGavock  
Peggy Purser Freeman  
RJK Hamilton

**PHOTOGRAPHERS** A + C Photography  
Dawn Skinner  
enVision Creative Services  
Fat Cow Studio  
Jennifer Kochis  
Landi Whitefield Photography  
Misti White Photography  
Shad Ramsey of Red Door Photography  
Stevo Torres

**COVER PHOTO** Cindy Cook by Shad Ramsey  
of Red Door Photography

Lake Granbury Living© is published  
by enVision Publishing, LLC.  
www.lglmagazine.com

201 East Pearl Street, B-102 | Granbury, TX 76048  
(817) 330-9015

All rights reserved. Copies or reproduction of this publication in whole or in part is strictly prohibited without expressed written authorization from the publisher. Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained herein. Advertising is subject to omission, errors, and other changes without notice.

FOSSILRIM.ORG

GLEN ROSE, TX

254.897.2960



**ON-SITE LODGING:** THE LODGE AND SAFARI CAMP  
**GUIDED TOURS:** FAMILY, SPECIALTY AND GROUPS  
**CAMPS:** DAY, OVERNIGHT AND BADGE  
CHILDREN'S ANIMAL CENTER, CAFE AND NATURE STORE



# LONE STAR

## GUIDE DOG

### *Raisers*



BY CONNIE LEWIS LEONARD  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY LANDI WHITEFIELD PHOTOGRAPHY



It is often said that a dog is man's best friend. That is especially true for someone who is blind. The Guide Dog is not only a friend and constant companion, but the key that unlocks the windows of the world, providing increased mobility, independence and confidence. And as I've learned, many people contribute to the partnership involving dog and handler.

One group contributing to that partnership is the Lone Star Guide Dog Raisers - Fort Worth. Lone Star Guide Dog Raisers of Fort Worth partners with Guide Dogs for the Blind. The lone star group “is comprised of experienced and dedicated individuals and families throughout North Texas with the skills and commitment to raise, socialize and nurture specially bred and selected pups in preparation for formal training in anticipation of becoming guide dogs.” The club was established on October 30, 2014, when five new puppies were placed with their new raisers. Currently, they have nine puppies ranging in age from eight weeks to 14 months.

Lois Merrihew and Don Donaldson recognized the need to help wounded servicemen who would return from World War II without their sight. With the help of many volunteers, they created the first guide dog training school on the West Coast. The school was incorporated in May of 1942. A German Shepherd named Blondie, who had been rescued from a Pasadena, dog pound, was one of the first dogs trained. She was later paired with Sgt. Leonard Foulk, the first serviceman to graduate from the new school. Shelter dogs were used until the late 40’s when a breeding program began mainly with German Shepherds. Now the breeding program uses only Labrador Retrievers, Golden Retrievers and Lab/Golden mixes because of their temperaments, size and ability to live in a variety of climates. Guide Dogs for the Blind is located in San Rafael, California and Boring, Oregon. They have graduated more than 10,000 teams since their inception.

Puppy Raising programs are in the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Texas, Utah and Washington. Lone Star Guide Dog Raisers have clubs and volunteers in Dallas, Austin, College Station, Fort Worth, Houston, San Antonio and Waco. The goal of the Fort Worth club is “to see the potential in each and every puppy, and to support and encourage each puppy and raiser so that they can develop to their fullest potential. We are thrilled to be Ambassadors for Guide Dogs for the Blind in the State of Texas. We pledge to reach our goals with hard work and integrity utilizing creativity and partnership.”

Bailee Baxter, a senior at Granbury High School, is a puppy raiser. She says, “I first became interested in



*“We are performing a service of raising puppies to give them the best chance to change a life.”*

- BECKY CLARK

training for Guide Dogs for the Blind through my FFA classes. When our club in Fort Worth was first being formed, they reached out to local agriculture teachers to spread the word, and the idea immediately caught my attention.”

I met Bailee at the weekly Puppy Class with her second dog, Romero, a yellow lab. Her first dog, Decker, is back at the California campus finishing his training before being assigned to a visually impaired individual. “One of the first things I learned when I got my puppy was how similar it is to having a baby, including the sleepless nights and the heartbreak when they have to go to ‘college.’ However, I am eagerly anticipating the chance to attend his graduation and meet the individual that will require Decker’s services.”

During his training, Decker accompanied Bailee to classes at Granbury High School. Romero has spent time at the Ag barn and he is about ready to start attending classes. Like parents, the puppy raisers guide the “children” through elementary, middle school and high school. When they are ready for “college,” they return to one of the California campuses. Bailee said, “I have received a variety of responses when I am accompanied



by my dog. However, for the most part, people are excited and eager to learn more about the program.”

Socialization in a variety of settings with many people and animals is an important part of the puppy training. Bailee has five other dogs at home, as well as cats, chickens, rabbits and lambs. She plans on becoming a veterinarian later in life, and this program has given her hands on experience with dogs and their behaviors, as well as an opportunity at a summer veterinary internship. She said, “After Romero, I do hope to continue training dogs as long as my schooling still allows for the time and dedication it requires. One of the most difficult things about my training experience has been ensuring that I do not slack off. One of the most important things in their training is consistency and practicing every day.”

Bailee is doing an excellent job. Romero performed very well in his puppy class with the sit, let’s go, down and go to bed commands. The puppies vary in age, with some performing better than others. They were all adorable, especially during the “puppy handling” when the trainers

exchanged puppies, rubbing them into a state of total relaxation. It was a bittersweet time for Osaka, a fourteen-month-old golden. She is going to visit a College Station Puppy Group before heading off for her own “college” experience. Because of her excitable temperament, Osaka is on breeder watch. Dogs used for breeding are allowed to have one litter a year for five years.

Dogs that don’t qualify as Guide Dogs may go on to work in search and rescue, hearing or PTSD service dog training, agility, pet therapy, Canine Buddies, diabetic alert or cancer detection. Dogs are dropped from the program either because of a physical health problem or behavior problems such as high activity level, incompatibility with cats or other dogs, or assertiveness. These “career change” dogs can be adopted as pets, with the original puppy raisers having first choice.

Becky Clark started the Fort Worth club in October 2014 with five puppy raisers. They currently have seven raisers and four sitters. When asked about giving up a puppy after having it for 12-14 months, she said, “We





*"In each dog is the heart of a raiser. Giving back is an incredible feeling."*

-BECKY CLARK

must keep our focus on the big picture of seeing the end product with the visually impaired. This is not our dog. It is the property of Guide Dogs for the Blind. We are performing a service of raising puppies to give them the best chance to change a life."

The raisers give basic obedience for well-mannered dogs to be the best they can be, but it's up to the dog to choose to be a guide dog. Some dogs don't want to work. Some dogs that prefer sniffing the ground may be happier as search and rescue or diabetic alert dogs. All well-mannered dogs make great companions.

Becky said, "In each dog is the heart of a raiser. Giving back is an incredible feeling." Becky and her husband have developed a relationship with the owner of the first guide dog they raised, which she explained, is like adding a new member to their family.

More information about becoming a puppy raiser, sitter, or donor is available at [www.lonestarguidedograisersfw.com](http://www.lonestarguidedograisersfw.com).

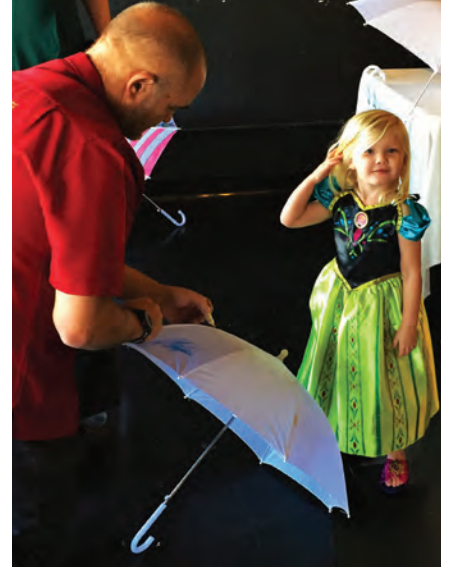
The club loves to introduce their puppies to retirement communities, churches and boy/girl scout clubs, just email your request to [lonestarpuppyraisers@gmail.com](mailto:lonestarpuppyraisers@gmail.com).

■LGL

# TEA PARTY WITH MARY POPPINS

Families from all around came to have a once in a lifetime tea with Mary Poppins, Burt and lots of friends from the Granbury Theatre Company. The Bake Shop Café provided tea cup & spoon shaped cookies. Attendees enjoyed a proper tea time and decorated umbrellas, as well as had professional photos made with Mary Poppins, herself, as party favors.

*Photography courtesy of Mary Mullen and Dawn Skinner*





BRAUN



# IMAGINATIVE



# PASSIONATE



# Shad Ramsey

## photography

Commercial & Lifestyle Photographer

Studio - Granbury Square Plaza  
817.209.4852  
shad@shadramsey.com  
shadramsey.com

# THE MUSICAL SOJOURN of Shake & Sammy

by Julie A. Lyssy

Photography by Landi Whitefield Photography



Words are known to possess power. They can evoke a broad spectrum of emotions, incite people to take action and unfurl worlds never seen. When those words are lyrics, set to expertly crafted music, they elevate themselves to spellbinding power.





Samuel “Shake” Louis Anderson understood this phenomenon by the age of five. While in Washington D.C. with his mother and sister who sang with the Louisville Gospel Singers, in the midst of gospel singers from across the land, it hit him, “Ok, this [music] is what I’m going to do.”

Shake’s music is most easily identified with rhythm and blues, though has many influences that seamlessly cross genres. His professed long-term greatest influence is singer songwriter, Van Morrison, for how to create great lyrics that inspire.

At eight years old, his brothers, cousins and he formed a singing group at the prompting of his cousin’s pastor father and performed at many venues around the Louisville, Kentucky area.

“Harmony was a natural thing for us— ear and ability. We started singing in church on Sunday. Then people would ask, ‘Can they come sing in our program?’ Every weekend we were traveling somewhere in our manager’s Lincoln Continental.”

They had their first record soon following the beginning and, by age 12, tripled their albums. Little did he know then it was just the beginning of a life-long vocation to reach people through the beauty of his words,

rhythms and soulful spirit and that he would be planted in Granbury, Texas to spread the good news of Jesus Christ as Worship Pastor at Generations Church.

“I thought I’d play sports... basketball and football,” said Shake, “I made the football team because of my speed. At my first game, I was put in on a play and a guy hit me from the blind side and knocked the wind out of me. As I lay on the ground I thought to myself, I don’t care what I do, but this won’t be it.”

Soon after that revelation, a touring group came through Louisville who needed a bass player. He played for them and they hired him to go on the road not realizing he was only 13 years old. “I had lots of hair then...big hair... I could easily pass for 16 or 17,” joked Shake. From there, it was one group to another playing in the band.

Shake’s career blossomed into something larger than him and allowed him to grow musically. From the outside looking in, he was living the dream and it seemed, sometimes, from the inside looking out.

He worked with some of the biggest names in the industry – playing for Stevie Wonder, co-writing songs with Ray Charles, playing at the Apollo Theater with the Soulsters, meeting some of music’s greats – Aretha





Franklin, Patty LaBelle, Wilson Pickett, and Lou Rawls, watching records and soundtracks achieve gold and platinum status, winning Grammy awards and writing songs for films and musicians alike. He knew everyone in the industry. His reputation as a musician was solid. Sammy had been re-branded Shake and his music was on the charts as he was going places.

As in any life, not all days are perfect and some are frightening and sad. In those moments, Shake found that no amount of fame or talent immunized him from life's tragedies. He has experienced divorce. He spent nearly nine months in the hospital fighting for his life through a series of illnesses. He mourned the loss of his parents.

It was in those times that Shake was left in the shadows and Mrs. Anderson's son, Sammy, was in the spotlight. "A name gives you a heroic character... boldness... a created entity. You take on that persona [but], when you strip all that away you are just the poor kid from Louisville, KY who made the right move. Most of my friends I grew up with are dead. That was Sammy," shared Shake.

The judge dissolved Sammy's marriage. The doctors worked tirelessly to regain Sammy's health. Sammy lost his parents. It was with Sammy that Mrs. Anderson planted the seeds for her son to become a strong man of God. It was through his personal growth that he was able to find the strength to endure even in those times of incredible sadness, pain and grief.

In addition to being a popular secular musician, Shake Anderson is actively involved in the Christian music world. He has worked with many Christian artists including Avalon, Nicole Nordeman, Crystal Lewis, Bryan Duncan and Anointed. He, along with Israel Houghton, also formed the Grammy winning Gospel group, New Breed.

Over the last 15 years, he has served as Worship Pastor at Evangel World Prayer Center in Louisville, Ky, then Worship Director for Dr. Jerry Savelle's Heritage Worship Center in Crowley, TX and, since 2010, proudly serves as Worship Pastor at Generations Church in Granbury.

While husband, father and worship pastor might be enough for some, Shake continues to experience and explore many different avenues. He resolved at New Year's 2015 to introduce a new instrument every year. Last year, it was harmonica. 2016 is the year of the flute. He continues to perform and he is cast as the music director on a soon to be released television show – The Big, Big Show.

Shake is able to share his love of the Lord and music with his wife, Karen, and their son, Samiel. Samiel is also a budding musician who at the very tender age of 18 months showed promise on the drums. Not the loud banging the rest of us get, but rather, actual rhythms. Like his father, mastering one instrument is not enough. He is currently adding piano to his repertoire.

Despite his busy schedule, he is not too busy to help a friend in need — even when the favor grows exponentially. "TBAAL [The Black Academy of Arts and Letters] is a program in Dallas that helps keep kids off the streets through learning the arts. They were looking at 70 to 80 percent budget cuts. He wanted to do a performance to raise awareness and potentially money for TBAAL," Shake explains. "He asked me for three or four songs. I said I had a few for him. I picked Medicine, which I wrote when I was in the hospital. I thought it would be cool to

have someone sing this.” When others fell through with their promises to help, Shake prepared the presentation package along with calling in a few friends to perform and add some flair for the board presentation literally overnight. He was thrilled when he was told it had been approved. It was only then that he found out he would be producing the entire event featuring all the music he has both written and co-written. Ultimately, TBAAL gained great benefit and Medicine Live was nominated for a Dove Award in 2012.

His latest project, a new album — Advice for the Kind Hearted, will be available this year. It began as just words; a private memoir for his son. Reflective of Shake’s life, the story became lyrics set to expertly crafted melody and the result is spellbinding.

To experience the soulful sounds of Shake Anderson and watch for the new release, visit his website [ShakeAnderson.com](http://ShakeAnderson.com). ■LGL



# LAST SATURDAY GALLERY NIGHT

The Galleries of Granbury consist of the Dora Lee Langdon Center, the Lake Granbury Art Association (LGAA), Artèfactz, Your Private Collection Art Gallery, Uptown Arts John G. Campbell Gallery on the square, D'Vine Wine and enVision Creative Services. Every month for Last Saturday Gallery Night, the galleries feature artist exhibitions, as well as live entertainment and refreshments. The entire event is walkable, however there is a free tram to chauffeur goers to and from each exhibit quickly. Receive updates via Facebook at [www.facebook.com/galleriesofgranbury/](http://www.facebook.com/galleriesofgranbury/).

Photography courtesy of enVision Creative Services and Shad Ramsey of Red Door Photography



# FI GHT CANCER



David M. D'Spain, D.O.



Ann-Margaret Ochs, D.O.

Together with Texas Oncology, Dr. D'Spain and Dr. Ochs bring world-renowned cancer care right here to Granbury. We provide compassionate patient care, offer the latest treatment innovations and share one goal: to make sure every Texan can receive recognized cancer care close to home.

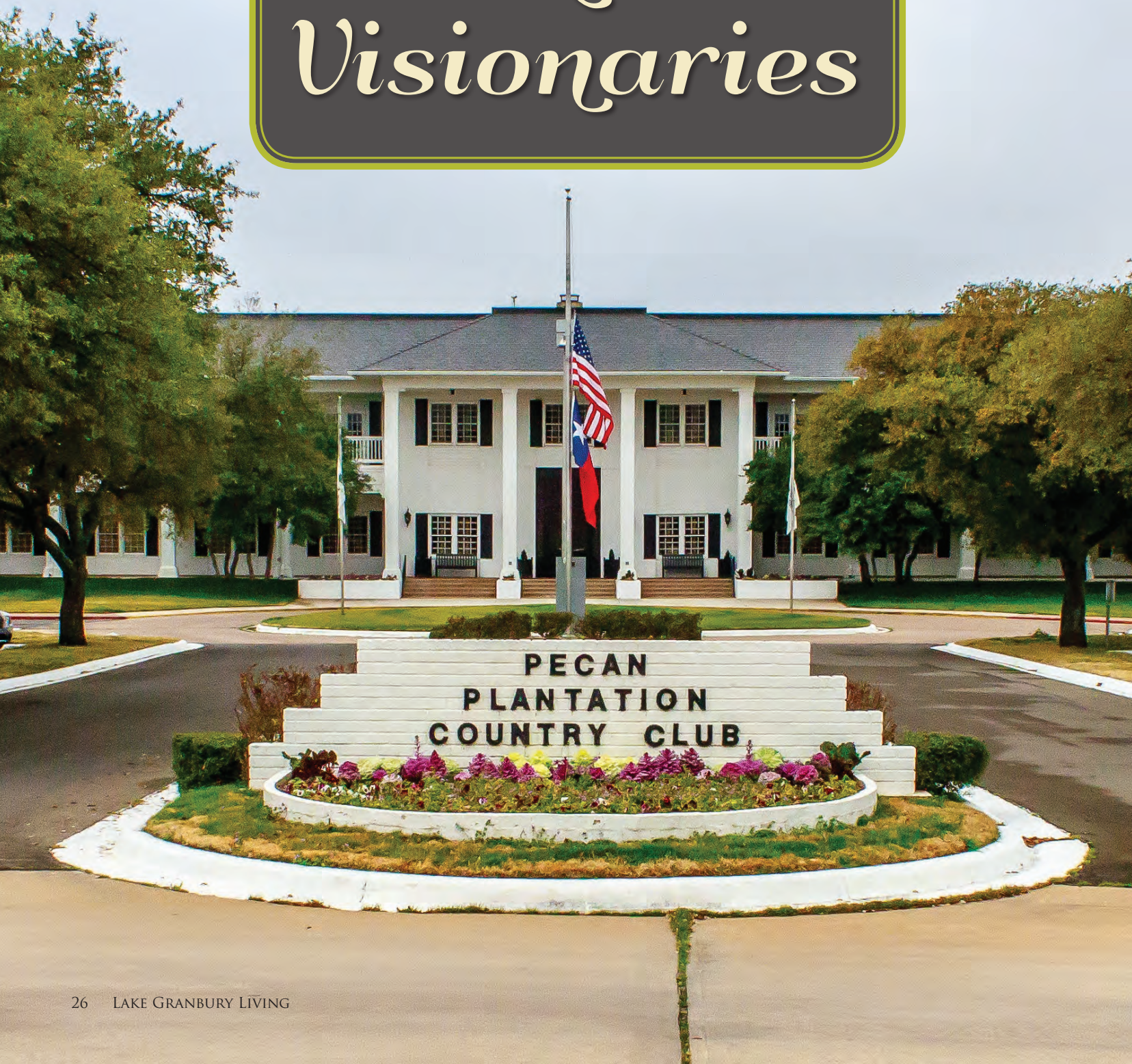
**TEXAS ONCOLOGY—GRANBURY**  
303 W. Pearl Street  
Granbury, Texas 76048 • 817-579-3700

**TEXAS  ONCOLOGY**

*More breakthroughs. More victories.®*

1-888-864-4226 • [www.TexasOncology.com](http://www.TexasOncology.com)

# *The Rare Breed of Texas Visionaries*



BY JAN BRAND  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JENNIFER KOCHIS

**I**n August 1835, Davy Crockett lost his re-election bid in Tennessee for the United States House of Representatives. He is said to have had a few well-chosen words for his constituents. “You can go to hell,” he said, “and I’m going to Texas.” He died three months later alongside men with visions of a land where anything was possible, defending the Alamo.

Texas was fast becoming a land that beckoned freedom-loving men with big dreams. From the piney woods of East Texas to the vast plains of the Llano Estacado, along the Rio Grande and across the rich farmland that swept through the heart of the state, adventure-seeking men hurried to get here.

Jacob Raphael de Cordova came to Texas in 1839. He quickly saw the opportunities of the fledgling republic and the unsettled land that seemed to go on forever. Once elected to the new Texas State House of Representatives, he went about buying land. He laid out the town of Waco, and at one time owned as much as one million acres of land. He is credited with compiling the first comprehensive map of Texas boundaries. De Cordova Bend Reservoir is named after him.

Between 1839 and 1949 the area remained sparsely settled, and Granbury was little more than a small frontier town. That all changed in the 1950s when O.P. Leonard saw more than what others had



**IT REMAINS  
ONE OF THE  
LARGEST PECAN  
ORCHARDS IN  
THE UNITED  
STATES,  
PRODUCING  
BETWEEN  
1,750,000  
AND 2,500,000  
POUNDS OF  
PECANS PER  
YEAR.**



*Texas was fast becoming a land  
that beckoned freedom-loving  
men with big dreams.*

seen. The successful Fort Worth businessman and land investor didn't just see barren land. He saw an orchard of pecan trees. In the next six years, he kept adding more and more pecan saplings. When the planting was done, 3,300 acres were covered with pecan trees, interspersed with peach trees because they bore fruit in half the time. When the peach trees played out, they were not replaced, leaving only pecan trees as far as the eye could see—the nuts being a more durable crop.

In 1968, the Leonard Bend Farm, as the orchard was named, contracted with the Brazos River Authority for sufficient water to produce plump, tasty pecans. Between 1969 and 1974, the company laid enough plastic pipe throughout the farm to reach from Pecan Plantation to downtown Chicago—a thousand miles of precious water-carrying vestibules.

In 1970, with land to spare, six hundred orchard acres were converted into the development of the Pecan

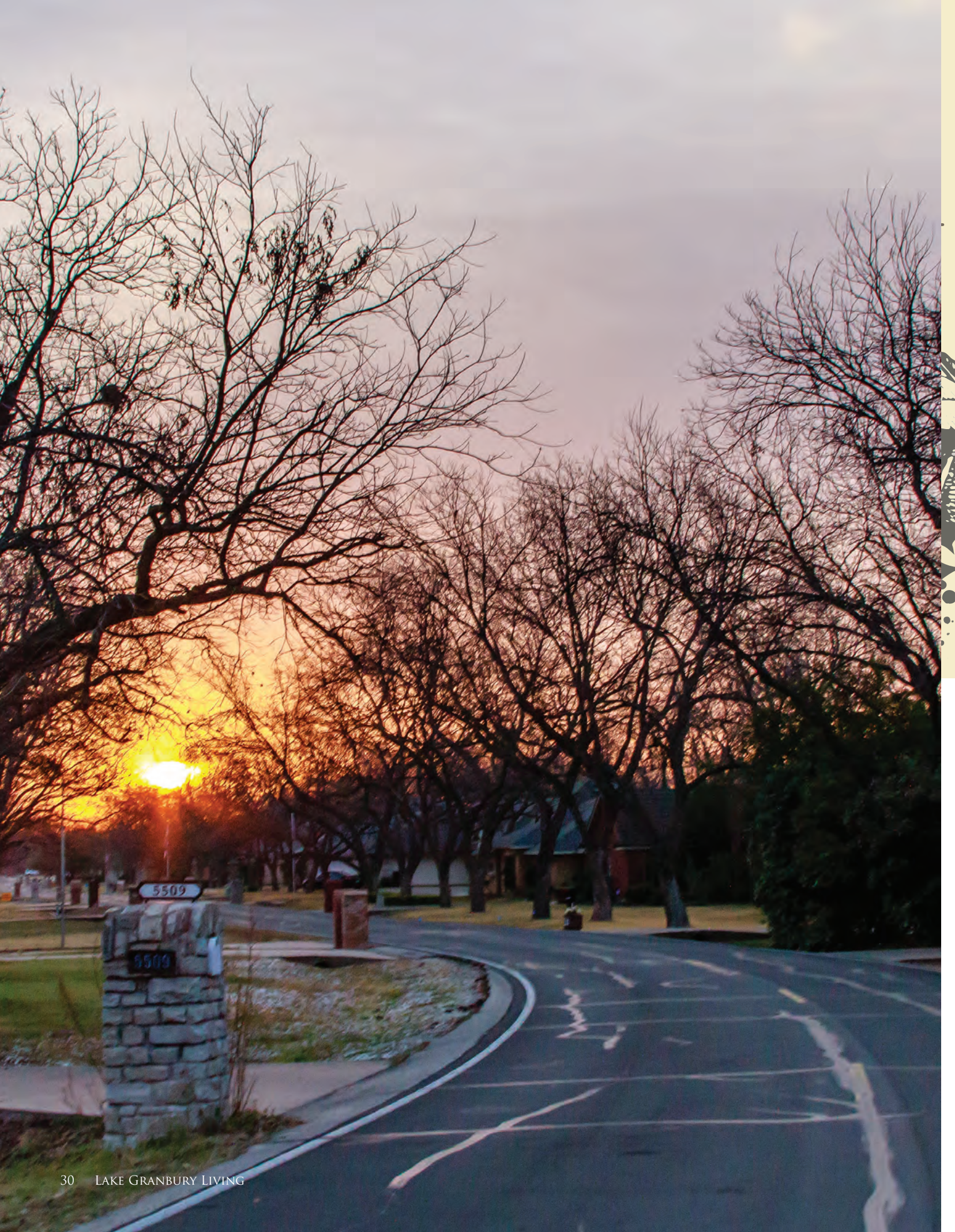
Plantation residential community, which included the golf course and clubhouse. Eight years later, the ownership of the residential association was transferred to the property owners, with the Leonard family holding company, Lenmo, Inc., retaining ownership of the orchard.

Jim and Jane Leonard Anthony and their children, partners in the Leonard Bend Farm and development of Pecan Plantation, acquired 100 percent of the Leonard Bend Farm pecan orchard in 1988, and they still maintain ownership and responsibility for the operation.

Meet Jim Anthony today, and you will be impressed. He's a tall man with quiet strength and gracious manners. Years of planning and hard work are etched into the lines of his face, along with a sense of pride in what has been achieved.

The Anthony family donated land for the Nutcracker Golf Club in 1991, when it became apparent that the area didn't have enough fairways to satisfy all the enthusiastic







golfers. Three years later, the Anthonys took ownership of the golf course, completed the second nine holes, and built the clubhouse.

What the Leonards and Anthonys have created staggers the imagination. It shows what one visionary can accomplish when working with the help and for the benefit of the community.

Not many neighborhoods have houses with a hanger next to their garage for a small, private aircraft, within taxiing distance from the runway. Joe and Mary Mullen, residents for more than fifteen years, enjoy such a hanger for their AA1A Grumman. Joe flies for American Airlines. Ask Mary to describe all the civic groups available to residents, and her eyes will sparkle. “Start it and they will come,” she says: “Art, archery, exercise, genealogy, Spanish lessons, pickleball, a singles’ group, a breakfast club, and that’s not all. You can even attend canasta and yoga classes.”

Linda Kuntzman is president of the Green Thumb Garden Club, responsible for the beautiful landscape that greets residents and visitors as they enter Pecan Plantation. In the springtime, the white redbuds and yellow daffodils present a spectacular display of color on the traffic circle. Through the efforts of volunteers, fund raisers are sponsored throughout the year, including a community garage sale and hot dog stand, which provides funds to purchase the trees and plants.

Brothers of the Cross is a Christian men’s group that meets from April through October to inspire, mentor, and disciple men in their faith. Mel Robinson, the founder and Pecan Plantation resident, has a rock pavilion at his residence on the Brazos River, with an old chuck wagon where he feeds the flock spiritually and physically in a beautiful setting. The group is most proud of being able to raise funds to drill five water wells in poor Zimbabwe villages last year.

Jean Carmichael, member of the Pecan Plantation Art Guild is known for her bluebonnet landscapes. She has work hanging at the Hillsboro Texas History Museum and another at Tarleton State University. Jean started painting after moving to Pecan Plantation, with Kathy Yoders of the guild as her teacher.


Today, 1650 acres of the original orchard is fully intact. About an equal amount of acres have been converted into residential property, with a population of about six thousand. It remains one of the largest pecan orchards in the United States, producing between 1,750,000 and 2,500,000 pounds of pecans per year.

Two of Jim and Jane Anthony's six children, Ben and John, have joined the operation of Pecan Plantation. Ben has worked with the orchards since high school, and has been involved in the planning, development and expansion of the Pecan Plantation community over the last twenty years. With the continued growth of

the property, John was persuaded to join his father and brother, bringing his real estate and mortgage experience to help with the sales and marketing aspects of the business.

In addition to ownership and management of the pecan orchard, Ben owns and operates the retail store, Leonard Farms Pecan Store, located at the intersection of Highway 377 and Highway 167 in Hood County. The store ships pecans by mail order and through their website at [www.AnthonyOrchards.com](http://www.AnthonyOrchards.com). Chocolate covered pecans are always in demand, and especially during the holiday seasons.

When Jim Anthony is asked to comment on the accomplishments of the Pecan Plantation, he says, "I think we made a footprint." Yes, that much and much more. Because of our rare breed of visionaries, we are blessed to live in Texas. ■LGL



*Because of our rare  
breed of visionaries,  
we are blessed to  
live in Texas.*

*Granbury* 4th Annual  
**LIGHT UP THE BLUES**  
*Gala*  
**2016**



Benefitting  
**LAKE POINTE**  
 GRANBURY

Saturday April 16  
 Granbury Convention Center

Featuring  
*Hale Baskin*  
 and The Southpaw  
 Preachers

Culinary Delights by  
 Del Norte Taco

Silent and Live Auctions

Purchase TICKETS or TABLES in advance online  
[LakePointeGranbury.org](http://LakePointeGranbury.org)



**Lake Pointe Resource Center**  
*Community Outreach and Education*

**Lake Pointe Academy**  
*Private School & Accredited NeuroNet Therapy Program for Ages 5- Grade 12*

**1921 Acton Hwy**  
**Granbury, TX 76049**  
**(682)936-4112**

For families, children and youth living  
 with Autism, ADHD, Social or other  
 related learning differences

[www.LakePointeGranbury.org](http://www.LakePointeGranbury.org)

**3rd Annual**  
**RUNNING**  
**WILD FOR AUTISM**



**CITY SCRAMBLE**  
**AND 5K**

**March 26, 2016**  
**Shanley Park-Granbury, Tx**

**5K @ 8:30am**  
 Run, walk or stroll your way  
 to the finish on winding paths starting at  
 Shanley Park, past the Historic Square,  
 enjoying the sights along the way.

**City Scramble 10:30**  
 Teams of 4-10 to a race through Wilder in  
 downtown Granbury enjoying breakfast  
 along the way to solve the puzzle.

Registration \$35 per person  
**TWO events One Price**  
 Join the Fun for One or Both

**Register Online**  
 @ [LakePointeGranbury.org](http://LakePointeGranbury.org)  
 or by calling 682.936.4112

All Proceeds benefit  
 Lake Pointe Resource Center and Lake Pointe Academy

*Parent Testimony*

“Most of Cooper's school experience has been about trying to make him "fit in" and keep up with the other kids in his class. To say this has been frustrating and defeating for him would be a huge understatement. Over the last couple of years he began to say things like "I'm just stupid" or "I can't do any of this". As a parent it was heart breaking. We knew something had to change. That's where Lake Pointe Academy comes in. Lake Pointe has provided an environment where Cooper's success is measured on HIS achievements and progress, not against others. His teachers have allowed him to be exactly who he is while modifying his day to fit his strengths. Things will always be more challenging for him, but Lake Pointe is giving him the tools to be successful now and for the rest of his life. We are so grateful that God lead us right here to Granbury and Lake Pointe Academy.”



*- Kenneth & Denise Turnage*

**NOW ENROLLING**  
**2016 Summer Program**

**"LET'S GET REAL... SOCIAL"**

**682.936.4112**

**www.LakePointeGranbury.org**

**JUNE 13TH - JULY 1ST**  
**9AM - 2PM**  
**AGES 5-22**



**LAKE POINTE**  
 ACADEMY

© Lake Pointe Resource Center  
 50103



# Hard Eight *catering*

No: (254) 968-5552  
[www.hardeightbbq.com](http://www.hardeightbbq.com)



Full-Service Catering | Upscale or Casual  
In-House Executive Chef

## *Flowers & Gifts*



**GRANBURY  
FLOWER SHOP**

PROUDLY FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1967

1430 E HWY 377 | GRANBURY TX | 817.573.1101  
[www.granburyflowershop.com](http://www.granburyflowershop.com)

*A premiere, upscale wedding & event venue*

NESTLED IN 80 ACRES OF BEAUTIFUL RANCH COUNTRY BETWEEN GRANBURY AND STEPHENVILLE,  
JUST WEST OF THE DFW METROPLEX

info@hwranch.com | www.thenathardwayranch.com



**N**  
*Design*  
& DÉCOR

Accessories, Furniture,  
Lighting & More

1204 Waters Edge Dr  
Granbury, Texas  
817.579.9962  
ndesignanddecor.com

Mon-Fri 10 to 6 | Sat 10 to 5  
pinterest | instagram | facebook







*A City Girl with .....*  
**COUNTRY**  
*..... in Her Heart*

**By Brandy Herr**  
**Photography by Shad Ramsey**  
**of Red Door Photography**

*Living in the country  
has irrevocably changed  
this metropolitan woman.*

**T**he town of Granbury offers the best of both worlds to its residents. Those that love the city life are not far from it, and those that enjoy a serene country setting can find that in abundance in this humble Texas town. Cindy Cook, owner of Fat Cow Studios, fully understands the beauty of Granbury, and works to simplify her life, surrounding herself with her husband, her pets, the wildlife and a bunch of cows.



A native of Asheville, NC, Cook grew up used to the hustle and bustle of the city. Even today, she can't escape the city with her job as a graphic drafter with the Federal Aviation Administration, a position she has held for 26 years, requires her to commute. But it's the fresh country air and the magic of nature found on her own front porch that brings her true inspiration.

"I never would have thought I'd be a cattle person," Cook said. But life has a funny way of working out. Upon marrying her husband Steve, this former vegetarian now spends her days tending to their cows as part of her husband's family business.

This opportunity to slow down and get in touch with the nature has given Cook new ways of looking at life. In her blog at [FatCowStudios.com](http://FatCowStudios.com), Cook describes her favorite daily chore of walking the fence line to check for broken segments, fallen trees that may have snapped the wires or posts that have been pushed over. She believes we can transfer this habit into our everyday lives, that we can learn a lesson about which of our own boundaries we should take down and which we should reinforce.

Though she was raised a city girl, Cook has always held a love of the country in her heart. She credits her parents for instilling her love of nature, saying that her mother was the "original tree hugger." Her family always made time to vacation in the wilderness, allowing their daughter to become attuned to the world around her. This fascination with the natural world only deepened further when she found herself at a college in the mountains of North Carolina, where she took art classes and learned how the earth could complement her personal values.

Still today, Cook holds true to the influence of her parents. Moments before her mother passed away, she told her daughter, "Life goes by way too fast." Cook lives each day with that mantra, taking time to enjoy what lies around her. This contributes heavily to the contentment she feels out in the country. Her favorite aspect about living away from the city is the great number of stars she can see in the sky. Her mother once said, "Look at the tip of the moon, and I'll be there." In the quiet calm of the night, Cook can look to the heavens and feel united with her mother.

Cindy Cook took the inspiration she received from her family and her circumstance and combined that



with her college art training to form Fat Cow Studios, so named because she is enamored with her portly cows. She began with jewelry making and stamping spoons, evidence of which you can see displayed in her booth at local shop, Witherspoon's Antique Mall. From there, she graduated to photography and her real love, pottery.

Though she has had no formal pottery training other than her college classes, she began to focus on this medium after her husband purchased a wheel, and her sheer love of the work shines through in every piece. Once again, she sees this act as a metaphor for life. You have to manipulate the pottery, really feel it in your hands, and if it doesn't work out, you simply start over and make something new. She is never completely sure how it will turn out until the project is done, and that's what she loves about it. Her pottery making is a source of constant discovery.

Another of Cook's passions involves rescuing found objects from flea markets, estate sales and antique shops to give them new life, yet another hobby inspired by her mother. She and her mother were "junkers before it was cool." Cook once purchased a dove decoy used in hunting and transformed it into the focal point of her birdcage-themed lamp, turning an object that could be associated

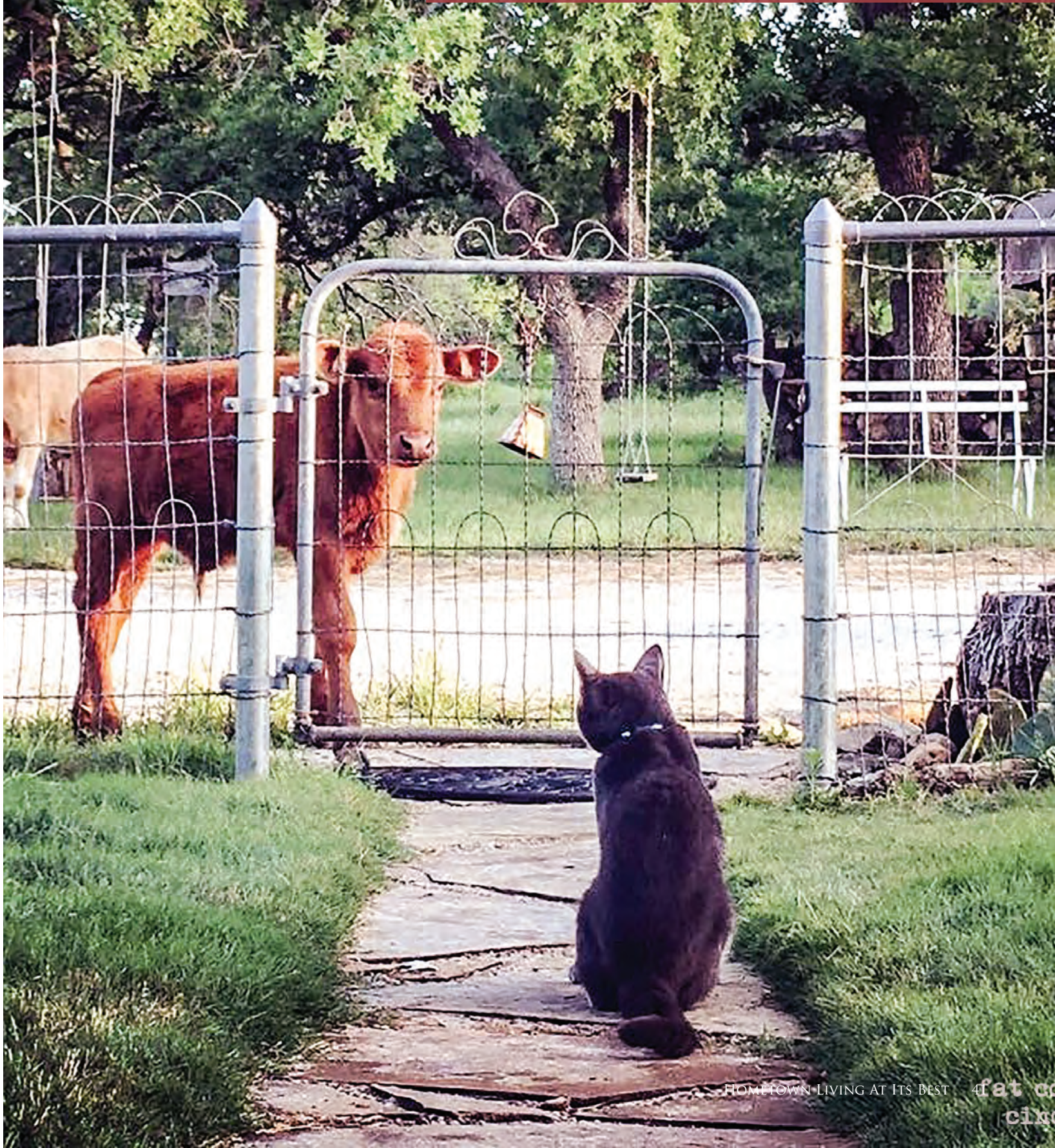


with killing into one of beauty. She has a particular fondness for old typewriters with several already in her collection. Old typewriters have a history; someone at one time had typed on them, creating stories. “If it has meaning, I like it. If it doesn’t have meaning, I don’t have any use for it,” Cook said.

Living in the country has allowed Cindy Cook to expand her love of photography. Her blog is filled with images she has captured, most of which come from her own backyard. Her photography lives up to the Fat Cow Studios name, featuring many photos of her beautiful, majestic and sometimes even goofy cows. In her work, you will also find photographs of her other pets, visiting birds and other wildlife that choose to spend a moment on her farm. Cook’s true love of animals really shines through each photographic print.

Cook has been forced to come to terms with the harsh realities of nature associated both with living in the country and with her husband’s cattle business. She

*Cook's true love of animals really shines through each photographic print.*





*"Live the best you can, do the best you can, and be kind."*

admits that the one downfall to country life is getting attached to the wild creatures only for them to disappear at the hands of a roving predator. As well, she has had to accept compromises when it comes to raising cattle. As someone who wants to love everything as a pet, Cook has taken to naming each of their heifers, thus making it impossible for them to be sold. "When you name them, you've got to keep them!" she said. She even has a cactus named Ethel.

Cook has trained the cows to accept her love, some of which have even learned to ring the bell on her front gate in search of treats. She credits Temple Grandin, the best-selling author and animal behavior expert, as having a major influence on her views of cattle-raising. The entire experience has given Cook a new outlook on the way we eat and our role in how we treat animals; that if you

treat the animals well, they will treat you well in return. She lives her life in the same manner as her herd, taking cues from them. As she wrote in her blog, "I find humor in nature and animals to be inspiring! They really don't know that the world is in chaos, they choose to find joy."

Living in the country has irrevocably changed this metropolitan woman. She knows that she could never move back to the city. She prefers to give up the chaos of traffic and crowds, and instead enjoy the feeling of wide open spaces and witnessing the little miracles such as colorful birds and delicate spring flowers. Cook's simple yet profound philosophy mirrors that which can be commonly found throughout many country towns like Granbury: "Live the best you can, do the best you can, and be kind." ■LGL

# CREATIVE



# PASSIONATE



*Shad Ramsey*

photography

Commercial & Lifestyle Photographer

Studio - Granbury Square Plaza  
817.209.4852  
shad@shadramsey.com  
shadramsey.com



OUR BRANCH MANAGERS AND DOWNTOWN LOAN OFFICERS

**FNB**  
Your Hometown Bank

**817.573.2655**

VISIT US ONLINE AT [www.fnbgranbury.com](http://www.fnbgranbury.com)

**MAIN BANK**  
*(On Historic Square)*  
101 E. Bridge Street  
817-573-2655

**Craig Davis**  
**Kelly Staley**  
**Jake Caraway**  
**Mark Webb**

**TOLAR BANKING CENTER**  
8401 Highway  
377 West  
254-835-4338  
**Morgan Green**

**HWY 144 BANK**  
1905 Morgan Street  
817-579-1980  
**Jerry Hodges**

**HWY 377 BANK**  
4064 E. Highway 377  
817-579-2655  
**Tina Rickenbrode**

**PECAN PLANTATION**  
9205 Plantation Road  
Suite 101  
817-579-5677  
**Maria Sirois**

**ACTON BANK**  
3000 Fall  
Creek Highway  
817-326-3000  
**Debbie Adams**  
**Dede Grizzard**



# WHERE WE TREAT YOU LIKE FAMILY

## FIRST NATIONAL BANK *Mortgage Group*

Whether you're a first-time home buyer or a seasoned veteran, finding a great mortgage is often stressful and time-consuming. Choosing the right mortgage loan for your financial situation is a big decision.

FNBMG specialists, First National's group of dedicated mortgage lenders and support staff, can find the right solution for nearly every buyer's situation and help match you with a mortgage you can live with. Along with skills and experience, they have the Home Team advantage - loan decisions are made locally, so you get fast loan approval.

### FNB MORTGAGE GROUP

4062 E. Highway 377  
817-279-6655  
[www.mgfnb.com](http://www.mgfnb.com)



**Mark Webb**  
SVP/CLO

**Ron Hampton**  
VP/Mtg Lending Mgr

**Mike Moore**  
VP/Loan Officer

**Larry Wilkins**  
VP/Loan Officer

---

*Come see why  
we've been voted  
Best Bank and  
Mortgage Co. for  
the last 6 years*

---



Small informational card or menu fragment on the wall.



# Frame by Frame

BY JAMES HAMILTON  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY SHAD RAMSEY OF RED DOOR PHOTOGRAPHY





One of the first  
stone buildings on  
the Square,  
the structure at  
115 East Pearl  
was built in 1890.

When Eighteen-Ninety Grille and Lounge owner, Jason Emerson, first saw the Hood County Square a few years ago, the word that came to his mind was “love”.

“In October of 2011, I traveled to Granbury to take a look at a piece of property owned by one of my closest friends in Houston,” Emerson recalls. “When my eight year old daughter and I arrived in Granbury, it was during Harvest Moon Festival and we instantly fell in love with the town.”

It’s a sentiment that locals, transplants and visitors understand all too well.



“The old town Texas square was joyful and full of life on this weekend,” Emerson said. “...and as we walked into what is now Eighteen Ninety Grille and Lounge, we could see with a little bit of TLC that this building could be amazing.”

The building truly is amazing. One of the first stone buildings on the Square, the structure at 115 East Pearl was built in 1890 and, like most of the neighboring buildings, it has seen a long, varied line of occupants.

Insurance records down through the years show the building has housed a furniture store, undertaker, grocery store, hardware store, a garage, a printer, a tailor, a pool hall, restaurants and – perhaps most famously – a movie theater.

From 1929 until the 1970s, the building housed the Palace Theater. Owned by Fort and Fleda Mae Keith, the Palace offered first run movies and a stage for amateur performances. The Keiths also built the Brazos Drive-In in 1953.

In the theater’s early days, Hood County was a rural place and people came into town on Saturdays to sell goods, conduct business, shop and have a little fun.

In a 2003 interview, Fleda Mae Keith remembered the glory days of the Palace Theater.

“Saturday was always our big business day and we showed a western movie,” she said. Roy Rogers and Gabby Hayes were among the standard fare.

The Keiths also hosted amateur nights which featured local speakers, musicians and dance recitals. Fort Keith knew what it took to get people in the door.

“Fort was a great promoter and he was always giving away dishes, money and other things to attract customers on a certain night each week,” Keith recalled.

He often sponsored dance recitals by Miss Elaine Garrison’s School of Dancing, for example, on week nights. Family members paid to see the recital, but there was “no further charge in admission” for the movie, the Hood County Tablet reported.

Among other gimmicks, the Keiths found a sure way to increase movie attendance during the summers: cool air.

Many Hood County residents got their first introduction to air conditioning sitting in the Palace. The monstrous evaporative cooler provided a refreshing relief to the Texas heat.

It was a community gathering place for over forty years.

Unfortunately for early theater patrons, there were no restrooms.

Movie-goers in the 1930s had to cross Pearl Street – which was then busy U.S. Highway 377 – to use the restrooms in the courthouse.

Extensive renovations in the 1970s by co-owners Cynthia Brants and Brooke Blake gave the building its current appearance. Among the rocks and rubble, workers found broken beer bottles from long-ago Granbury and Stephenville breweries.

Brants used special pigments to match the Brazos River sand used in the original mortar. Re-purposing stones found under the building, workers created stone columns for the front of the building. Mexican tile was placed in the entryway to match original tiles found during the renovation.

“Saturday was always our big business day and we showed a western movie,” she said. Roy Rogers and Gabby Hayes were among the standard fare.





Brants was a leading arts advocate and helped Granbury start its transition to becoming an arts community. She offered gallery space in the building and new fair that included a music store and a jewelry shop.

After the dust settled, the building also hosted another local legend: The Cuckoo's Nest.

The Cuckoo's Nest restaurant occupied the second floor for almost 25 years. Granbury's famous Mary Lou Watkins, a descendant of the Nutt Family and an important community organizer, started the restaurant's long run by preparing French cuisine for dining guests.

A succession of restaurants followed when the Cuckoo's Nest closed. Most notably, Kelly's on the Square and Hanks which offered food and – in a throwback to

the Palace – showed old movies on a big screen television.

Eighteen Ninety owner Emerson loves the building's history, but his eye is on the present – and the future.

“At Eighteen Ninety we have one goal in mind and that is to impress each and every guest that walks through our door with our food, award-winning wine list, and the most professional and friendliest servers in the area,” Emerson said.

“We can accommodate large parties in downstairs private dining rooms,” Emerson shared. “We have won numerous diners choice awards from best steak in the Metroplex to Top 10 Best Overall Restaurants in Dallas-Fort Worth. We also have won a Wine Spectator Award of Excellence.”



Following the long succession of businesses on the ground floor, Emerson recently opened The 1890 Marketplace.

“The 1890 Marketplace offers a gourmet shopping experience,” Emerson said. “With fine oils, spices and an amazing selection of imported balsamic vinegars, we give cooks and gourmets a way to take our dining experience home with them.”

Reflecting on the long history of the building, it’s easy to wonder what the grease monkeys, store clerks or moviegoers that spent time inside these walls would make of the bacon-wrapped quail, sea bass or crème brulee served these days in the restaurant upstairs.

Today’s menu choices, served alongside the locally-brewed beer from those long-ago breweries, might have kept those folks talking for a long time. ■LGL

## Meet Chef Michael Watkins

One bite of the smoked pear chutney from the 1890 Marketplace tells you that someone has tremendous culinary talents. Unctuous, smoky and sweet, with mustard seeds for an added kick. You haven’t tried anything like this before. Thanks to owner Jason Emerson for introducing Michael Watkins as the new chef at 1890 Grille & Lounge and getting that chutney to Granbury.

Chef Michael joined 1890 in the fall of 2015 to be closer to family. He most recently was at Winslow’s Wine Café in Fort Worth. A Texas native, he began his culinary career in Lubbock in 2001 as a line cook and Sous Chef at Stella’s. Michael learned a solid foundation of the basics in a “from scratch” kitchen.

From there he embarked on a culinary journey taking him to Scottsdale, AZ, Durango, CO, Los Angeles and ultimately back home to Texas. While in Scottsdale, Chef Michael worked as the Sous Chef alongside James Beard Nominee, Chef Chrysa Robertson of Rancho Pinot Grille.

While there, Chef Michael learned the beauty and simplicity of fresh, rustic New American California style cuisine with an emphasis on fresh ingredients and never overworking a dish. While living in California, Michael was a Guest Chef at the Colonial, BET Awards, as well

as the U.S. Track and Field Time trials in Eugene, OR in 2012.

What chef wouldn’t want access to an entire store of spices, oils and vinegars? Chef Michael has the pleasure and the freedom to utilize everything in the 1890 Marketplace below the restaurant.

With that, he’s created pork with a cinnamon pear balsamic glaze and a sublime sea bass with a five peppercorn blend.

He is partial to the sesame and ginger crusted ahi tuna. He’s so happy to work with the kitchen crew at 1890 and is impressed with their level of professionalism and desire to please their guests. He says he looks forward to meeting all of the guests that dine at 1890 and we’ll say that once you try his cooking, you’ll be happy to know him, too.





# Sugar Tree Golf Club

Have you ever dreamed of a place far away from the cities fast paced life style? Well, Sugar Tree Golf Club is the place. You will get lost in the serenity and the beauty of this championship golf course nestled along the banks of the Historic Brazos River. An experience so serene, you will never want to leave. Rolling hills along with the tree lined fairways, a traditional style golf course that will put your shot making to the test. Do yourself a favor. Visit SugarTree and you will see how relaxing golf can be when you are surrounded by the beauty of nature and not traffic and people.



Visit us at [www.sugartreegolf.com](http://www.sugartreegolf.com)

SugarTree, where the GOLF  
begins and the city life ends!!

Membership Opportunities available now!!

*Stay and Play Packages Available*

*SugarTree Golf Club has been voted best of Weatherford, 4-straight years. Rated 4 stars by Golf Digest, Top-3 Favorite courses in Texas by Texas Outside, a Texas top-10 Hidden Gem by Golf Texas.com, and #17 in the Metroplex by the Dallas Morning News*

**Sugar Tree Golf and Country Club**

251 Sugar Tree Drive

Lipan, TX 76462

817-341-1111

817-594-0420 (Fax)

# RAT PACK AND LITTLE BIG BAND - NEW YEARS EVE

To break in the new year, the Granbury Theatre Company welcomed The Rat Pack and Little Big Band. Audience members watched as the voices of Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Sammy Davis, Jr. came to life in this nostalgic reunion concert.

*Photography courtesy of Shad Ramsey of Red Door Photography*



# Granbury Cuisine

BY CHEF MICHAEL WATKINS

## PAN SEARED CHILEAN SEA BASS W/ TOMATO-BASIL RELISH AND PESTO ROASTED ROOT VEGETABLES

### INGREDIENTS

#### 8OZ SEA BASS

1oz Arbequina Extra Virgin Olive Oil (available at 1890 Marketplace)

Sea Salt

Five Peppercorn Blend (1890 Marketplace)

#### TOMATO BASIL RELISH

1 Cup Grape Tomatoes, rinsed and halved

6 Basil leaves, chiffonade or julienned

1-2 Garlic cloves, minced

1oz Basil Oil

1oz Red Wine Vinegar

Sea Salt and Five Peppercorn blend to taste

Your favorite Root Vegetables(Parsnip, Yellow Carrots, Sweet Potatoes, etc.

Arbequina Oil

Salt and Five Peppercorn Blend

#### ROSEMARY BASIL PESTO

10 Garlic Cloves

¼ cup Rosemary

3 Cups Basil

1 Cup Parmesan

¼ Cup Lemon Juice, fresh

¼ Olive Oil

¼ Cup Tuscan Herb Oil (1890 Marketplace)

Salt to taste

### DIRECTIONS

- Preheat oven to 400 degrees
- Make the Tomato Basil relish first by thoroughly mixing tomatoes, basil, garlic, basil oil, red wine vinegar and seasonings in a bowl.
- Season fish with salt and pepper blend.
- Heat arbequina oil until just smoking and place fish in pan until a nice crust has formed. Roughly for one minute without burning.
- Flip and in the same pan, if oven proof, or on a sheet pan place in the oven along with your root vegetables and Cook for 6-8 minutes.
- Remove fish and vegetables out of the oven and immediately toss your veggies with the Rosemary-Basil pesto and adjust seasoning.
- Place veggies in the center of a plate, carefully place fish on top and generously top the fish with the Tomato-Basil relish as well as some of the juices from the relish.



EIGHTEEN NINETY  
grille & lounge

DINNER | PRIVATE EVENT SPACE | CATERING

Located on one of the finest town squares in Texas, Eighteen Ninety Grille & Lounge blends local history and flavors to create a unique polished, yet casual dining experience.

EIGHTEEN NINETY  
marketplace

SPICE | OLIVE OIL | VINEGAR | WINE

[eighteenninety.com](http://eighteenninety.com)

115 East Pearl Street, Granbury, Texas 76048

817-533-3400



# DINERS, DRIVE BYS AND A DIVE

## The Big "O"

BY RJK HAMILTON | PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAWN SKINNER

This issue's Diners, Drivebys and Dives takes a look at organic food and where you might be driving by it, right here in Granbury.

Most big cities in 2015 had a "farm to table" concept restaurant on their "best of" list, more are popping up daily and those big city menus tout and source where they get their organic products from, menu item by menu item. How is it that "farm to table" eggs came from 900 miles away?

Go to many local spots in Granbury and asked them if they have organic menu items and sometimes you will hear "no", ask it differently and you might hear "well, I get my eggs from my neighbor's chickens." We consider that about as organic as there is.

The three of us set out to find out who's cooking with their neighbor's eggs and other homegrown delights. When told the concept for this rendition of D, D and D, our tween groaned, confusing organic with things we make her eat for her own good.

My tween would be happy to know that the term, organic, can encompass all delicious foods. The United States Department of Agriculture defines organic as being produced using sustainable agricultural production

practices. Not permitted are most conventional pesticides; fertilizers made with synthetic ingredients, or sewage sludge; bioengineering; or ionizing radiation. Organic meat, poultry eggs and dairy products come from animals that are given no antibiotics or growth hormones.

### The Local

We cruised down Temple Hall Highway off East Hwy 377 to start with a place that calls itself The Local, to see where they source their ingredients and how they have created such a chill vibe and instant community favorite



hang-out. Partners, Trish Stratton, Janetta Kingery and Linda Stephens have been friends for many years and have bandied about the idea of opening their own restaurant nearly as long. After Janetta bought a dilapidated RV, set it down on land she owned, and scrubbed it clean, Trish and Linda realized this dream may become a reality.

Trish has been a landscaper/gardener for years and has been working hard to turn the side of The Local into a show stopping vegetable and flower garden. Yukon gold potatoes, red burgundy onions, a large variety of herbs and lettuces are all yours for the choosing. This garden's bounty is used in the dishes at The Local, as well as for sale to the public in a brick and mortar building on site that houses jewelry made by Janetta and art from local artists. Since opening in 2015, people have flocked to The Local, sitting outside by fire pits, roasting marshmallows and visiting friends. It has become the hot hangout in Granbury. It's the kind of place that doesn't take itself seriously and wants you to know it's okay chill out there, too. With a diverse menu like grilled pimento cheese and bacon jam sandwiches, to smoked meatloaf topped with one of those neighbor's eggs, you can't not find something to love. Linda is the talented chef, schooled the old fashioned way in her family's Stephenville restaurant.

Kids of all ages love the Local and dogs do too, feel free to bring them. Linda even created a dog menu. Our tween loves the cheeseburgers and make your own s'mores.



## Bake Shop Cafe

You don't have to venture far off the historic square to have organic deliciousness, it's a block away at the Bake Shop Cafe. We knew something cool was going on when the owners suggested we pop over there one day last summer to snip some of the rosemary growing from pots in front of the restaurant. That rosemary graced many a roast in our home. This year, the Bake Shop Cafe plans to expand on the concept and will be offering a mini farmer's market just outside the restaurant on Saturdays this summer. They will offer homemade baked goods, fresh herbed lemonade, herb bundles and more, all for sale to passerbys. Dip into the organic hummus, creamy and fresh, you can't get it this good anywhere else around town. The organic quinoa and avocado salad is fantastic. End it with amazing banana and oatmeal cookies, again, all organic and all delicious.

*It's difficult to think anything  
but pleasant thoughts while  
eating a homegrown tomato.*

*- Lewis Grizzard*







## *Keepers of the Peepers*

There are many places with hand lettered signs around the community offering eggs for sale. One of the places to get those eggs is from Karen & Dave Markley, known as the Keepers of the Peepers. They own Broken Branch Ranch and feed their 19 hens fruits and vegetables along with their daily grains. Their hens produce about 14 eggs per day. Each of the hens is named and while we were there, Sweetie Pie laid an egg for us, as if on cue.

## Cajun Belle Produce

Another great local source for organic food is Cajun Belle Produce, just a bit up from the Granbury Square on 51 across from the old cemetery. Vicki Parker moved to Granbury two years ago and couldn't find a delicious tomato at any grocery store. She'd been a gardener for years and after an abundant harvest (she credits the rich Texas soil in Granbury), she offered up her extra tomatoes to people driving to and from Granbury. That first hand lettered chalkboard brought customers in and now Vicki has a full time job growing 11 types of tomatoes, her personal favorite is the Cherokee Purple, a meaty variety. She's growing beans from green to purple hull to zipper cream crowdies, which she describes as a cleaner tasting black eyed pea. Also from her garden, cilantro and lettuces, a variety of melons and lots of peppers, from jalapeno to karmen and sweet banana. Vicki hails from Louisiana, hence "Cajun Belle" and brought her seeds with her when she moved to Granbury. She added beekeeping in January and looks forward to offering local honey.

---

This is something comforting, to know that local restaurants are starting to carry and use products that didn't spend days traveling to get here. When the hottest restaurant in town is called The Local, it feels like the organic trend is going in the right direction. ■LGL



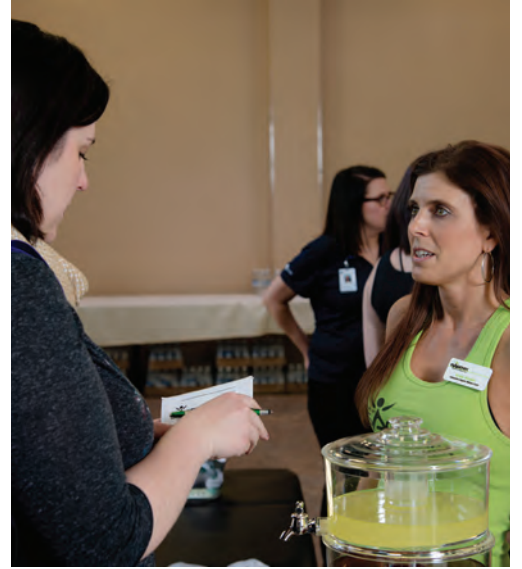
*The first supermarkets appeared on the American landscape about 100 years ago. Until then, where was all the food? It was in homes, gardens, local fields and forests. It was in a pantry, a cellar and the backyard.*



# LAKE GRANBURY LIVING FITFEST

Granbury's resident health nuts came out to share their knowledge with attendees during the first ever FitFest. Guests tried delicious gluten free food, pilates equipment and learned about new trends in living a healthy lifestyle. The Lake Granbury Medical Center provided pedometers to all guests and had a physical therapist on hand to answer questions.

*Photography courtesy of Shad Ramsey of Red Door Photography*



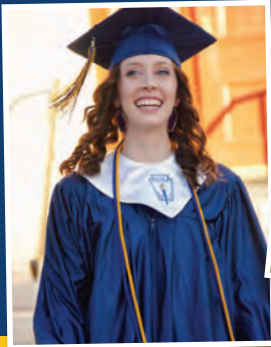
**STOP BY FOR A TOUR!**



# CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

COLLEGE PREP • ATHLETICS • DUAL CREDIT • WEEKLY CHAPEL • STUDENT LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

Kindergarten through 12th grades | Early Education Programs 18 months to Pre-K



### *The Mission of Cornerstone Christian*

*Academy is to provide a Christ-centered environment in which faith can be integrated with learning to enable students to become spiritually, academically, emotionally, socially, and physically prepared to achieve all that God desires for them.*



817-573-6485 | [www.ccagranbury.com](http://www.ccagranbury.com) | 1905 W. Pearl Street Suite 105, Granbury, TX



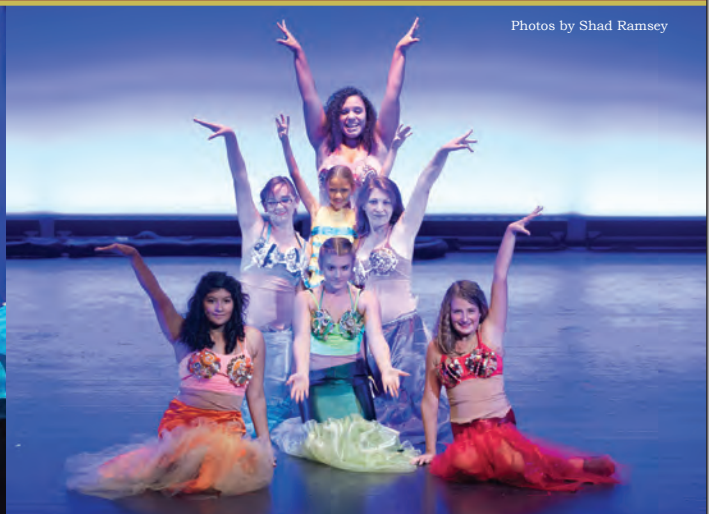
**Mark your calendars now for this year's youth summer camp (ages 6-18) production of *Seussical, The Musical!***

**July 9th:** Seussical Audition Workshop

**July 23rd:** Seussical Auditions

**July 25th-August 5th:** Seussical Camp

**August 5th, 6th, 12th, and 13th:** Seussical Performances



Photos by Shad Ramsey

[GRANBURYTHEATRECOMPANY.ORG](http://GRANBURYTHEATRECOMPANY.ORG) | For more info contact: [granburytheatreacademy@gmail.com](mailto:granburytheatreacademy@gmail.com)



# A Rose by Any Other Name:

## Jean Smith and the Granbury Flower Shop

By Melissa McGavock | Photography by Shad Ramsey



*"The flower that follows the sun, does so even on cloudy days." -Robert Leighton*

To gift a flower may be the simplest gesture with the greatest impact. Flowers are mother nature's sign of a greater tomorrow. A product of hard work and balance, one simple flower is her evidence of beauty and renewal. As such, the pastime of gifting and displaying flowers seamlessly crosses cultures and even time. It is true, no matter what area of the world you're in or century you reference, it seems we all call on our florists during times of great change in our lives, moments of merriment or periods of sadness.

The Granbury Flower Shop opened in Granbury in 1967. Four generations of the Smith family have grown up in the shop and witnessed it change through the decades as consumer relations continue to evolve. Fifty years ago, even 30 years ago, the only place in town to get flowers was your local florist. The supermarket did not keep an entire floral section and in-house florist. 1-800-Flowers did not deliver next day with the click of a button. If you needed flowers in small towns across the nation like Granbury, Texas, you depended on your local flower merchant.





Originally opened decades earlier and run by community leaders, Gertrude and P.H. Thrash, the flower shop was adjunct to their general store, just off the square. “Aunt Gert,” Jean says, “taught me everything.” In the 60s, Jean, a mother and a wife, was commuting daily from Granbury to Fort Worth where she worked at the hospital as a medical technologist. Her husband worked nights for Texaco and often times she’d only see Travis in passing as he brought her the children and went on to work his evening shift. After much consideration and Jean’s family connections in Granbury, she decided to buy out the general store from her aging Aunt and open the Granbury Flower Shop in 1967 at 804 W. Pearl Street. This gave Jean the opportunity to work in Granbury and be nearer to the children.

This may seem like the perfect solution to a pressing problem, but may I remind you that this was 1967. The idea of a woman owning a business was somewhat unheard of, especially in the south where it seemed a woman’s place was in the home. However, our nation was experiencing a time of great achievements, as well as turmoil, but most importantly, it was a time of change. A prime example of that would be Jean Smith, business owner and entrepreneur in Granbury, Texas. In the end, she sacrificed her medical career for her children, but she and the Smith family remain a stronghold in this community, due in part to her decision to open the Granbury Flower Shop. As a Granbury business leader, she set the course for generations that followed her and the generations to come.



Jennie Smith and her daughter Marla at Open House of Granbury Flower and Gift Shop

*“Flowers always make people better,  
happier... they are sunshine, food  
and medicine to the soul.”*

*-Luther Burbank*

Jean grins as she recalls late nights at the shop, “I can’t tell you how many babies napped in flower boxes over the years.” For so many holidays, flowers are in high demand and back then, the family had to be able to lean on one another and help out when needed. Valentine’s Day and Mother’s Day were obviously the big hitters, but not far behind was the holiday season and the wedding season during spring and summer. For a wedding engagement, the phone call to follow the preacher would be to the Granbury Flower Shop. As a result, the Smith family was often one of the first to know about recent nuptials, as well as a community member’s passing.

Hours and weekends were sometimes demanding, but it is apparent there were great memories made over the years. Vicki, Jean’s second daughter, recalled a time that she was on delivery. She approached a lake home and after several knocks was ready to give up until she saw the front curtains shuffle. Just then, the face of a chimpanzee appeared, grinning back at her. Vicki chuckled as she remembered how startled she was, and how she couldn’t wait to get back to the shop and tell the others. As it turns out, the local couple had two chimpanzees they treated like family. The chimps had full run of the house, and as Vicki found out, were available to accept packages on behalf of the humans.





The Smith family has played an integral part in so many of this community's cherished memories. Their floral designs adorned wrists at Prom night, mums at the annual Homecoming, were the centerpiece for countless matrimones, and the ever popular, "I'm sorry, please take me back.." bouquets. Wreaths, bouquets and lavish arrangements splayed across caskets at community funerals honor the life of the deceased, and seem to cushion the blow for grieving family and friends.

Much like the flower, a symbol of hope and a reminder of change, the Smith family business is indicative of so many small town merchants that have managed to keep their doors open for decades. Whether in our garden or a commercial greenhouse, flowers must be tended to and adapt to their environment, much like a small business. The image of the Granbury Flower Shop has shifted over the years, even changed locations three times. However, change is inevitable as the community landscape always evolving. They continue to be a leader in wedding floral design and other high style floral arrangements, and as they approach their 50th anniversary, let us take a moment to celebrate Jean and her sweet flower shop.

To order bouquets online or to contact the store, visit [www.granburyflowershop.com](http://www.granburyflowershop.com). ■LGL



# GRANBURY CELEBRATES *Texas Independence Day*

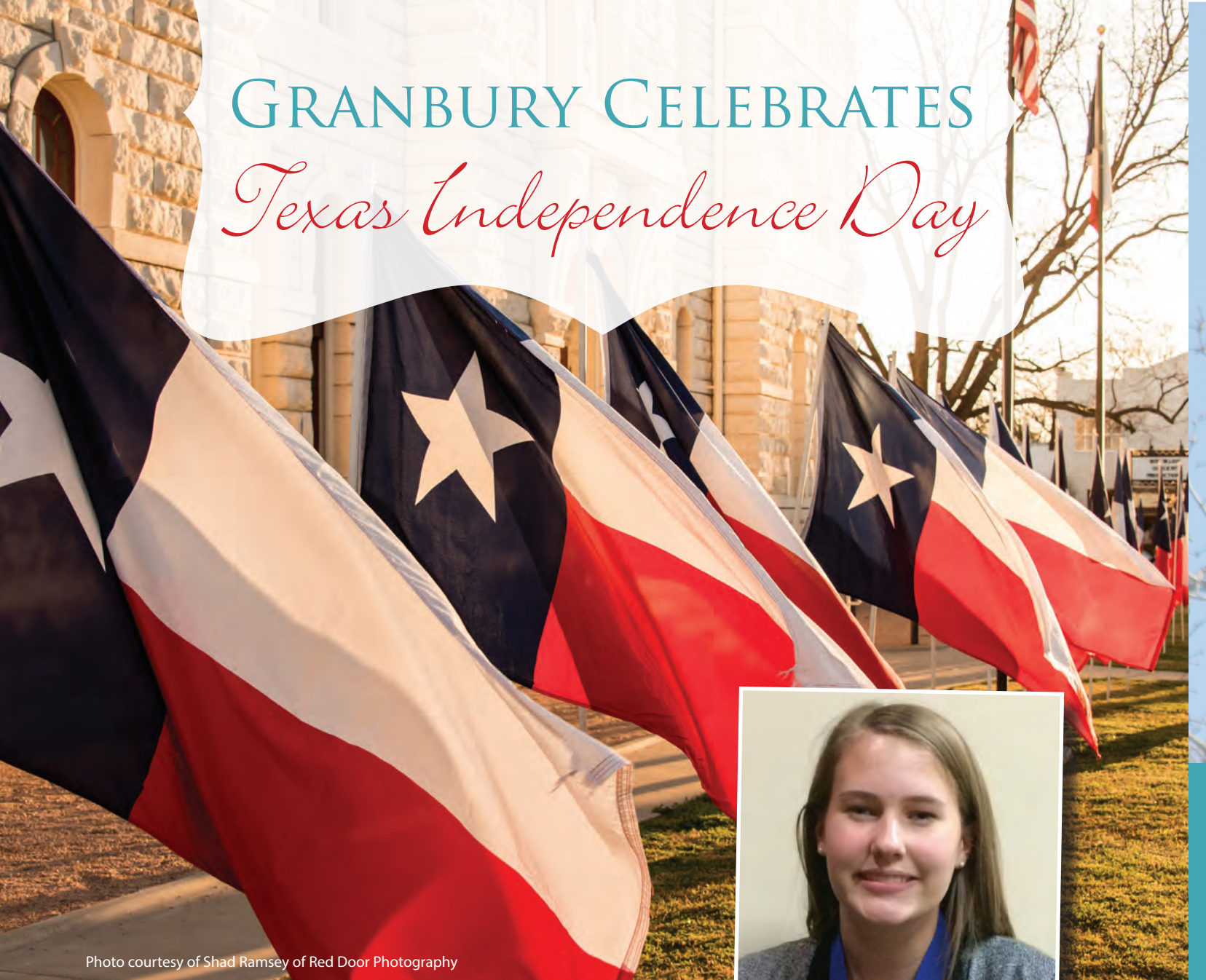


Photo courtesy of Shad Ramsey of Red Door Photography

## **2016 LGL ART OF EXCELLENCE AWARD** *goes to* **Acton Middle School's Keri Kittleson**

Hood County's students help to preserve and celebrate our rich history. As well, local preservationists, teachers and librarians provide a bounty of educational resources. Great legends surround our historical town square, but what kind of stories could the land just under your homestead be withholding? One local student made it her mission to find out. Eighth grader, Keri Kittleson, shares her research project for that inspired lyrical poetry with us.



## *The House That Spoke To Me*

BY KERI KITTLESON

It is now just a pile of twisted tin,  
Or is it? Let me begin.  
There is a girl's button and bottle or perfume.  
Where is she now? In heaven I presume.

Did she play and laugh by the 400 year old walnut tree?  
Did she beg for a swing or tree house, just like me?  
Did she sit out in the open breeze?  
Did she have scars from running and falling, on both knees?

Did she love a dark and cloudless night?  
Did her mom braid her hair too tight?  
Where was she when the arrow pierced the wall?  
Did she ever meet an Indian Squaw?

I stare into her eyes and look at her face.  
She is smiling and young, did she love this place?  
I look for clues in pictures and sift her things?  
What a mystery and fun discovering her history brings.



## *The Deering and Key Homestead Site in Granbury*

By Kittleson

“Celebrating Texas Independence Day is important and fun. Everyone has heard of Davy Crockett, but has anyone heard of the Deering family? I thought it would be interesting to research a local Granbury family that once lived on the 50 acres we recently bought off of Comanche Peak Road. There are the remains of an old house on the property. I dug around and found bottles, a Colgate toothpaste tube, a child's glasses, a marble drawer knob, broken canning jars, wash basins, roofing nails, leather shoe bottoms, bed frame and springs and many other things. I researched the possible dates things were manufactured or made, and found many things were from the mid 1800's thru the early 1900's.

I was interested in learning about the people that once lived there, so my mom and I visited the Hood County Genealogy Society where we were able to find data and

pictures with help of the volunteers. I found out that the house on our land was once owned by descendants of the Deering's and Key's. I went on a genealogy website and pieced together their family tree. I visited the Acton Cemetery where I found Louisa Deering, John Deering, Louisa's mother, Mary and two of John and Louisa's young daughter's, Myra and Lula's graves...

The Hood County Genealogical Society had a folder with pictures and I found one with Merline sitting on a rock fence near the peak, and an oral history document written by 93 year old Merline about growing up on the farm. I also found a picture of their house, which was moved to Nemo in 2005 before we bought the property. Some interesting things I discovered were Merline's grandfather James Key kept the clock on Granbury's square working and running for years and the Comanche Indians shot arrows at the house and one remains lodged in the wall..."

# STROLL THRU TEXAS HISTORY AND CROCKETT MEMORIAL

On this year's Texas Independence Day, March 2nd, students and community members watched as Native Americans, Rangers, cowboys, Tejanos and Texas Hero actors came together to re-enact special moments in Texas history. Crockett family members were in attendance to deliver oral histories. The Crockett Memorial took place the Acton Cemetery where Elizabeth Crockett along with other Crockett family members are laid to rest.

*Photography courtesy of Dawn Skinner*





# Dr. Bruce Wadley

Therapeutic Optometrist

- Complete Eye Exams
- Cataract Co-management
- Glaucoma Evaluations
- Diabetic Evaluations
- Eye Emergencies
- Contact Lens Fittings



- LASIK Consultations
- Large Frame Selection
- On-Site Lab for Fast Repairs
- Insurance Welcome

*Complete Eye Care  
Your Entire Family Can Trust.*

1101 Water's Edge Drive | Granbury  
817.579.7933  
[granburyeyecare.com](http://granburyeyecare.com)

THE  
**Best** of ★ 2013 ★ 2012 ★ 2011  
**HoodCounty**



106 N Lambert St  
*A block off the  
historic Granbury Square*

11-9, Tues & Thurs  
11-11 Fri & Sat  
10-2 Sunday Brunch  
Closed Monday

*Cafe*



**PATIO OPEN**  
*Booking private parties now!*



Summer Saturday Sidewalk Bake Sales  
Sunday Brunch • Wine Bar • Organic Menu Options



REMEMBRANCE  
AND HONOR:

*A  
Field of Flags*

..... AND .....

**THE GRANBURY AREA  
MILITARY OFFICERS  
OF AMERICA ASSOCIATION**

.....  
BY PEGGY PURSER FREEMAN  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAWN SKINNER  
AND PROVIDED BY GAIL JOYCE  
.....



*Fluttering in a May breeze, these flags symbolize liberty, freedom and pride.*

Old glory grows patriotism in the hearts of everyone who drives by the annual Field of Flags. The colors stir the hearts of those who have seen oppression and tasted freedom. Fluttering in a May breeze, these flags symbolize liberty, freedom and pride. As the signature of our nation, the American flag stands guard at schools, flies on the moon, sits on the highest of buildings and hurtles through outer space. Iconic images wave through our mind of the flag held by President George Washington in the Revolutionary War and American soldiers raising the flag at Iwo Jima.



Front Row left to right: Larry DeYoung Capt (FRMR) USAF; Romeo Bachand Lt Col (R) USA; Alice Karr, Surviving Spouse; Karen Isliker1/LT \FRMR) ANC; Gail Joyce, Surviving Spouse; Gordon Johnson, COL (R) USAF; Huck Huchel Lt. Col (r) USMC. Back Row, left to right: Bill Curry COL (R) USAF; John Hannum Cpt (R) ARN; Phil Newsom LtCol (R) AF; Greg Engel Cdr (R) Navy

The flag celebrates victories of our nation and mourns the loss of individuals, local boys like James Casey Joyce and Riley Stephens, and all those who didn't make it home from war. It honors those who returned such as locals, Jack Edward Williams, Lenward H. Wood, Jr., Cordell Hall and the 8,000 more Hood County residents who bought our freedom with their service. It is honor to first responders here at home, who put themselves at risk daily in order to protect and save us when disaster strikes.

The Field of Flags in Hood County is one function of the Military Officers of Association of America (MOAA). As the name implies, MOAA is a group for military

officers, whether active, reserve or retired. Flags for this year are available for purchase via [granburyfieldofflags.com](http://granburyfieldofflags.com) or at the Granbury Visitors Center. The idea is to honor a specific family member or friend, or simply to support and remember the sacrifice made by many in this community and beyond. This year's remembrance takes place Memorial Day Week at 3850 E Hwy 377, just across the highway from Kroger.

Phil Newsom Lt Col recalls how the local group started, "Sometime in 2011, another member of my Sunday School class and I discussed the formation of a MOAA chapter in Granbury. After enlisting the help



of other retired and former officers, the chapter was chartered. Our goal was to form a social organization allowing us to meet monthly with others with similar careers. Personally, my wife and I enjoy being with our fellow officers and their spouses, as well as surviving spouses of our fallen brothers and sisters in uniform.”

Pilot and Naval War College Instructor and former president of MOAA, Gregg Engel, shared his reasons for being a member, "On a national level, MOAA has a mission to maintain a strong national defense for our country and to support the military veterans and their families through advocacy programs in Washington.

The association plays an active role in military personnel matters, especially in proposed legislation affecting the career forces, the retired community, and veterans of the uniformed services.” The National Military Officers Association of America has grown to more than 390,000 members and is the country's largest military officers association.

He continues, “On a local level, each chapter selects a mission. Our Greater Granbury Chapter primarily supports the Marine Corps Junior ROTC program at Granbury High School by contributing funds for scholarships or tuition assistance through our annual golf

*The colors stir the hearts  
of those who have seen  
oppression and tasted freedom.*



Phil Newsom Lt Col (R) USAF Granbury Chapter MOAA, Founder and First President; John Hannum Cpt (R) ARNG, Current President; Gordon Johnson COL (R) USAF, Chaplain; Gregg Engel, CDR (R) USN, Past President

tournament.” Last year, MOAA generated over \$15,000 toward this goal.

“Our second local mission is to support veterans of any rank or service needing assistance in order to cope with life’s crises that arise,” Gregg Engel continued. “The needs of the veterans in the surrounding area of Granbury have outpaced our chapter’s ability to support them adequately; which brings us to this year’s Field of Flags as a means to raise money for our Veterans Support Fund. For my wife and I personally, we enjoy the camaraderie of our monthly social dinners. This has given us the opportunity to support each other in times of joy and grief.”

Engel says, “...the most gratifying part for me has been watching the young men and women of the high school JROTC program grow over the past few years. I

have never seen better examples of proper conduct and citizenship. I was very proud to watch these cadets, all of them, in their stature, behavior and their admirable appearance at the JROTC award ceremony at the high school last year. I talked to parents of one of the award winners after the ceremony and they were so proud of their daughter’s accomplishments.”

A. Gordon Johnson, a retired Air Force Colonel and Chaplain, served two active duty tours in the Air Force as a pilot assigned to a Strategic Air Command and flew several missions in Vietnam carrying supplies, often returning with caskets containing those killed in war. He later returned to active duty as a chaplain. As a Life Member and Charter Member of the Granbury Area MOAA, Colonel Johnson explains, “One of my interests is keeping our politicians under a bit of scrutiny in

observing their votes and actions that affect us.”

John L. Hannum has been a national member of MOAA for years and since joined the local chapter here in Granbury. On the beneficiaries of their fundraising efforts he says, “...we will coordinate the Field of Flags so that all proceeds go toward veterans support. [For example], in the past we have joined with other organizations in paying for auto repairs, well pump repairs, building of wheel chair ramps, rent assistance and Christmas assistance. I have always felt that charity should begin at home, and through the efforts of our chapter we have helped members of our community in need. Now I am finding out what happens at the grassroots level.”

Gail Joyce enjoys her membership to MOAA as a surviving spouse and a mother. The support she and her late husband received when their son, Casey Joyce, gave his life in service to his country was tremendous. Gail spoke with me about this year’s Field of Flags. “Our goal is to have as many flags as possible, tagged with the names of those who have served or are serving, to honor or memorialize a veteran. The point is to remember our veterans and first responders on Memorial Day. Both veterans who fight abroad and first responders active here at home who steadfastly and faithfully protect our nation, our families and our homesteads.”

This request to give by purchasing a flag comes from Gail Joyce, a Gold Star Mom, a denotation no mother ever wants. Joyce works tirelessly to support, protect and honor our veterans. She calls us all to duty, to buy a flag or two, walk among the flags and read the tags with the names of those being remembered or honored.

Field of Flags will be located at Hwy 377 between First National Bank Mortgage Group and McDonald’s across from Kroger gas station, May 27-30, 2016, Memorial Day weekend.

Partners of this year’s event include American Legion Post 491, Blue Star Mothers and Granbury Brigade.

The Field of Flags will be open from 10:00 a.m. to dusk each day. Opening ceremony is scheduled for Saturday at 2:00 pm. Closing ceremony will be held at 2:00 pm on Monday.

For more information, call 817-776-7766 or visit [www.granburyfieldofflags.com](http://www.granburyfieldofflags.com) and [www.granburymoa.org](http://www.granburymoa.org).

■LGL

# A Field of Flags

REMEMBRANCE

AND

HONOR

**BUY A FLAG & HONOR OUR  
U.S. MILITARY & FIRST RESPONDERS**

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

**MAY 27 - 30, 2016**

3850 E. Highway 377  
Granbury, TX 76049

817-776-7766

[www.granburyfieldofflags.com](http://www.granburyfieldofflags.com)

All proceeds go to support veterans & their families of Hood County.

**Visit Granbury at City Hall**

**(Houston St. Entrance)**

(Hours 10-5 Mon - Sat; Noon-4 Sunday)

-or-

order online at

**[www.granburyfieldofflags.com](http://www.granburyfieldofflags.com)**

**ORDER DEADLINE: MAY 20**

*Inquire for post deadline orders*



## COME GET THE PARTY ROLLING AT PINS!

### Bowling/Parties/Leagues

\$3.50 Shoe Rental

\$3.75 Per game weekdays before 5pm and \$4.75 5PM-Close

\$19 Per hour for weekend games up to six people per lane

### SPECIALS?

Check out upcoming specials at  
[pinsbowlingalley.com](http://pinsbowlingalley.com)

[Facebook.com/pinsbowlingalley](https://www.facebook.com/pinsbowlingalley)



- Bar and Grill open late every Friday & Saturday
- A fine assortment of beers & wines
- Handcrafted cocktails
- Great food
- Fun atmosphere
- Pool tables & your favorite arcade games

### Glow Bowl every Friday & Saturday

1st Session 8pm - 10pm,

2nd Session 10:30pm - 12:30am

\$15 per person

Call 817-579-PINS

to reserve your lane now

2016  
RISING STAR  
AWARD  
GRANBURY  
CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE

**FREE SHUTTLE \*BY SCHEDULED REQUESTS\***

## 2016 EVENTS

GENERAL GRANBURY'S BIRTHDAY  
MARCH 19-20

MEMORIAL DAY  
MAY 28-30

LABOR DAY LAKEFEST  
SEPT. 3-5

CARNIVAL / RODEO EVENT  
SEPT. 23 - OCT. 2

HARVEST MOON FESTIVAL  
OF THE ARTS  
OCT. 15-16

NIGHT OF LIGHTS PARADE  
NOV. 25

GRANBURY - A  
CANDLELIGHT TOUR  
DEC. 2-3

FOR MORE INFO VISIT:  
[WWW.GRANBURYSQUARE.COM](http://WWW.GRANBURYSQUARE.COM)



**HISTORIC  
GRANBURY**  
MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION  
[www.granburysquare.com](http://www.granburysquare.com)  
682-936-4450

DUETTE® ARCHITELLA® HONEYCOMB SHADES



KIM FANCHER DESIGN

**Kim Fancher**

Granbury, TX

970-389-4017

kimfancher@gmail.com | kimfancherdesign.com



**Stop by N Design and Decor to view  
Hunter Douglas products!**

1204 Waters Edge Dr. Granbury, TX

**HunterDouglas**

**ENERGY  
SMART  
STYLE** SAVINGS  
EVENT

**Make the smart choice today.  
Save energy year-round.**

Ask about rebates on energy-efficient Hunter Douglas window fashions.

**Save \$100\*** or more with rebates on qualifying purchases from January 30 – April 11, 2016

\*Manufacturer's mail-in rebate offer valid for qualifying purchases made 1/30/16–4/11/16 from participating dealers in the U.S. only. Rebate will be issued in the form of a prepaid reward card and mailed within 6 weeks of rebate claim receipt. Funds do not expire. Subject to applicable law, a \$2.00 monthly fee will be assessed against card balance 7 months after card issuance and each month thereafter. Additional limitations may apply. Ask participating dealer for details and rebate form. © 2016 Hunter Douglas. All rights reserved. All trademarks used herein are the property of Hunter Douglas.

**APPLIANCES**

- Refrigerators
- Washer / Dryers
- Dishwashers
- Cooktops
- Ranges
- Wall Ovens



**KitchenAid®**  
For The Way It's Made.



**FLOORING**

- Carpet
- Ceramic Tile
- Laminate
- Wood
- Vinyl



*Serving Builders, Remodelers and their Valued Clients*

**817-579-7440**

**100 CORPORATE DR • GRANBURY**

CORNER OF HWY 377 & CORPORATE DR.



HOMETOWN  
**BUNDLES OF JOY**

WELCOMING GRANBURY'S NEWEST RESIDENTS

Photography courtesy of *Misti White Photography and A&C Photography*



**India Morse**  
Parents: Steven & Sarah (Jordan) Morse



**Hunter & Cooper Cole**  
Parents: Tyler & Jennifer Cole



**Harrison Roth**  
Parents: Matthew & Jessica Roth



**Tripp Lanzara**  
Parents: Jason & Chanel Lanzara



**Fielder Hooper**  
Parents: Larry & Chelsea Hooper



**Rylee Binford**  
Parents: John David & Sharon Binford



**Claire Harris**  
Parents: Matt & Molly Harris



**Laney Squires**  
Parents: James & Tami Squires



**Jonah Matthews**  
Parent: Garrett & Kate Matthews



**Miles McBroom**  
Parents: Shane & Randi McBroom



**Drew Vasquez**  
Parents: Justin & Lindsey Vasquez



**Ruby Walker**  
Parents: Jace & Leah Walker



**Cole Kirk**  
Parents: Mike & Stephanie Kirk

# AMS

## OUTDOOR LEARNING CLASSROOM



BY JONATHAN HOOPER

PHOTOGRAPHY BY

LANDI WHITEFIELD PHOTOGRAPHY

**W**hat can you do with 25 acres of school district property that cannot be used for construction, sits in a floodplain, cannot be farmed and is too small to hunt?

For Action Middle School, first, you dream a little. Then, you plan a lot. Then, you write grant after grant after grant. Finally, you find 200 local volunteers ranging from parents to JROTC and NHS students willing to cut trails, clear acres of briars, fight a snake or 30 and create academic excellence in a setting that cannot exist inside a classroom.

We have all spent seemingly endless hours inside a classroom setting, and we understand the important role of those classrooms in education. But what if we could take that knowledge gained inside the classroom to the outside, and study those issues literally “hands on” where it actually happens, rather than on the sterile pages of a textbook?





*"We learn by experiencing, and in this case, becoming a good steward of our world."*

Research has shown, time and time again, that being outdoors opens the mind, increases brain activity and improves creativity and motivation. It can also provide distraction. But when we focus on those distractions and turn them into benefits, we can enhance both social and technical skills—the very skills need not only today, but for years into the future.

Currently utilizing roughly ten acres of the existing acreage, the Outdoor Learning Center (OLC) is a unique and invaluable tool for the education of the next generation of scientists and environmental students, as well as mathematicians, physicists, historians, artists, physiologists, novelists, languages and practically every other academic discipline found in school today. It also bridges the gap between campuses and grade levels through project-based learning.

### *What does that all mean?*

It means that through the OLC Leadership organization, 8th graders are actively teaching kindergarteners how they can connect to the world through a study of woodlands ecosystems, and develop leadership and communications skills. It means that 5th graders learn about the vital role wetlands play in our sustainable living. It means 3rd graders connect emotionally and academically with 7th graders who serve as their mentors who improve student motivation and enhance academic prowess and creativity while reinforcing their own existing knowledge. It means this program works every day for everyone involved, creating



and developing teambuilding skills that will provide useful benefits for life. It also means that it works for those who are not involved, because all of these students will gain an understanding of themselves, their community and the world.

### *In a nutshell, this is education at its best.*

This kind of exceptional education doesn't just show up. It takes teachers and administrators to realize it. In 2012, a field trip to Camp Grady Spruce located at Possum Kingdom Lake, became the catalyst. Science teacher, Scott Carpenter, experienced the outdoor learning facilities at Camp Grady Spruce and said, "We can do this. We can do this at AMS." And so the seed was planted.

After a few informal conversations with leaders from the GISD, the community and local businesses, they all agreed: "We can do this." A grant from H-E-B in Granbury started the funding followed by other local businesses; additional grants were written; more business donations were lined up. But then some businesses backed out while others joined in, and the grant proposal came in second--second place does not receive money.

However, the OLC received a grant award from the Granbury ISD Education Foundation. A handicap ramp was made possible from the 50 Fella's Foodfest. The Hood County Bar Association provided a donation. Work on the site began in great earnest. Then Jeff Klier, the Plant Manager of the Wolf Hollow Generating Station of the Exelon Corporation asked AMS to write another grant, as they were very impressed with their previous "second





place finish.” This time, the OLC won, and became 100% community funded.

Carpenter stated with some amazement: “Schools and communities and industries working together is pretty rare. It simply doesn’t happen. But this time it did.”

Enter the 200 volunteers over ten months working 1,800 man hours with chainsaws and shovels and rakes to clear trails, build classrooms, construct a low ropes course and fashion an archery site. A skid-loader loaned from local business Molder Electric, plus mulch donated from PJ’s Lawn service were essential in the development of the undeveloped site.

The continued partnership with Wolf Hollow will extend the classroom even further. Six years ago, GISD took field trips to Wolf Hollow. These field trips are now back in place. Students will tour the generating plant and learn about the importance of water quality, how emissions affect air quality, and to discover career options available to them ranging from chemist to welder.

Another science teacher, Brandon Duncan, answers that question without hesitation: “Learning is not contained to the classroom—learning is everywhere. We learn by experiencing, and in this case, becoming a good steward of our world.”

The outdoor setting provides new experiences, all of which are designed and implemented by the OLC committee of teachers, building a curriculum around the TEKS (the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills).

Included in the four outdoor areas are two classrooms: The Grand Oak and the Cross Timbers. Each classroom contains bench seating for about 20 students, and a teacher’s chair. This outdoor furniture was built by the GHS geometry class, studying angles and measurements, implementing them into solid objects, constructed from donated wood. Additionally, each classroom has a whiteboard and a teacher station, plus the comforts of a water cooler and trash can.

The “Low Ropes/Challenge Area” provides ample



study of this unusual tree, and its ancient medicinal uses, students can study past cultures and how their ancestors used natural resources.

## *What Will the Future Bring?*

For the Outdoor Learning Center there are plans to build more hiking trails, construct a frisbee golf course, develop orienteering programs, study soil profiles, explore erosion studies, investigate river formation and plant raised garden beds.

What do the students get out of all this? An education. And isn't that the point? ■LGL

opportunity for team building. A smaller Texas Wetlands area provides study of ecological changes that take place within a freshwater habitat so the students can learn about the interrelationships of weather, erosion, deposition, and pollution.

Finally, there is an Archery Area, an idea borrowed from the nearby Camp El Tesoro that also provides group activity, and a unique opportunity to study physics through forces in motion activities.

Running through the OLC are about a half mile of trails connecting all the areas together (while researching the article the writer saw first-hand a classroom of students moving along the trails in a scavenger hunt to identify assorted woodlands items: oak leaves, cedar bark, decaying logs, small animals, deer, etc.). Motion sensor cameras have been set up to observe the wildlife: deer, raccoons, squirrels, turkey, snakes, bobcats, coyotes, possum, rabbits, turtles, armadillos, skunks, geese and a human or two have all been on this candid camera!

The Rio Brazos chapter of Texas Master Naturalists have identified more than 16 different species of trees, including everything from the expected local red cedars and burr oaks to the *Zanthoxylum clava-herculis*, also known as the Southern Prickly ash, or the "tooth-ache tree." What is so special about this tree? Through the





# SENIORS

Landi Whitefield Photography  
[landiwhitefieldphotography.com](http://landiwhitefieldphotography.com)  
817.550.3186

**G&G**  
**Electric, Inc.**  
 Residential | Commercial | Industrial

THE **Best** of ★ 2015 ★ 2014 ★ 2013 ★ 2012 ★ 2011  
**HoodCounty**

Locally Owned And Operated Since 1986

**817-279-7777**  
 www.ggelectricservice.com



*Celebrating 30 years in Granbury*

3805 Weatherford Hwy. (hwy51north), Granbury, Texas  
 Danny Garrett • Terry L Taylor email: gg@ggelectricservice.com

Why pay  
**MORE?**

**DENTAL IMPLANTS**  
*starting at*

**\$1,400**  
**PER IMPLANT**  
*Restoration Not Included*

Call Dentures & Dental Services® today!  
**817-573-3033**

**Dentures**  
 & Dental Services

Thomas John Kennedy of Texas, DDS, PLLC and Associates - General Dentistry

**GRANBURY, TX**  
 DENTALSERVICE.NET  
 Robert Crosser, DDS • Niklas Resla, DDS

The Paluxy River Children's Advocacy Center's mission is to promote the healing of child abuse victims - one child at a time.

**Please help us in this mission  
by donating at [paluxyrivercac.org](http://paluxyrivercac.org).**

Your support helps children begin the healing process.

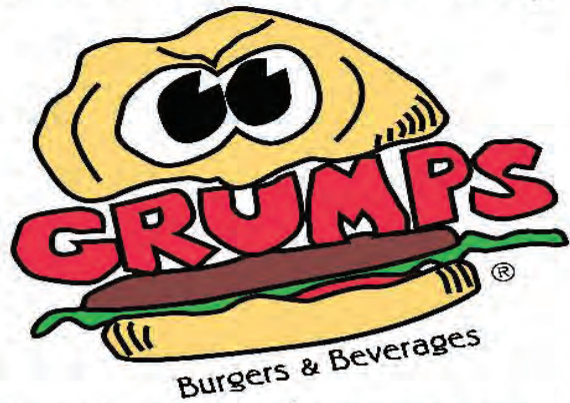


**PALUXY RIVER**  
CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER



1540 Southtown Drive Ste 102&103 • Granbury, TX 76048  
817-573-0292 • [paluxyrivercac.org](http://paluxyrivercac.org)

**Voted Best Burgers in Hood County**



[www.grumpsburgers.com](http://www.grumpsburgers.com)

**Family & Group Friendly**

**COLD Beer  
Happy Hour**

Mon - Fri 3-7pm

3505 E. Hwy 377 817-573-5000



**RED DRAGON**  
MARTIAL ARTS SCHOOL

**GRAND MASTER**  
Da Shifu Jim Clark  
April 9-10, 2016

**SIGN UP TODAY!**

**Comprehensive Self Defense Training  
for the Real World**



**GRANBURY**  
226 S. Morgan St.  
682-936-2304

**STEPHENVILLE**  
1660 W. Lingleville Suite 102  
512-426-9754

Visit Facebook or [RedDragonShouShu.com](http://RedDragonShouShu.com) for more information 

**SPRING  
"Junkin' In The Hood!"**  
at



**April 22 -24**

**Location:** Warrens Backyard  
51 North 2901 Weatherford Hwy.  
Granbury, TX 76049 (Hood County)  
[warrensbackyard@gmail.com](mailto:warrensbackyard@gmail.com)

**For details contact:**  
Joni Berry - 817-219-4869  
or Steve Berry - 817-408-7050





**MADISON FORREST**  
GRANBURY PRE-NURSING STUDENT

**WEATHERFORD COLLEGE**  
1869

EDUCATION CENTER AT  
**GRANBURY**

**WWW.WC.EDU | 817-598-6339**  
**210 N. JONES | GRANBURY, TEXAS**

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/EQUAL ACCESS INSTITUTION



Creating opportunities to invest, encourage, and support educational excellence in Granbury ISD



[www.granburyisd.org/foundation](http://www.granburyisd.org/foundation)



**WE WILL COACH & INSPIRE YOU!**

Strengthen & transform your body, reach your health and fitness goals the natural way.

**PERSONAL TRAINING**  
**EXPERIENCED, DEDICATED**  
**& KNOWLEDGEABLE STAFF**

*Weight Management*  
*Nutritional consultation & supplements*

**OPEN 24 HOURS!**

1200 Waters Edge Dr. Granbury, TX  
**817 964 3671**



*Learning to use oils can be*  
**LIFE CHANGING and EMPOWERING!**



**dōTERRA**  
Independent Product Consultant



*Stacey Dolan*  
Master QNRT Practitioner

Personal Wellness Consults  
Ongoing Support for Oil Users

**817.326.4040**

View our classes on our website

[healingworkstx.com](http://healingworkstx.com)

610 Fall Creek Hwy • Granbury, TX 76049

**FREE OIL FOR FIRST-TIME CLASS ATTENDEES**

# WHAT is your VISION ?

WE CAN HELP.  
design • print • web

*enVision*

CREATIVE SERVICES

[www.envisionrocks.com](http://www.envisionrocks.com)



## Christian Brothers

AUTOMOTIVE

Complete automotive repair and service  
2 year / 24,000 mile nationwide warranty

Service all makes and models

Domestic and import vehicles

Most extended warranties honored

State inspections offered

Free courtesy shuttle service

**Nice difference.®**

THE  
**Best** of  
HoodCounty  
★ 2015



Mon – Fri: 7am – 6pm Sat & Sun: Closed  
3809 E US Highway 377 (Across from HEB), Granbury, TX  
(817) 573-3911 / [ChristianBrothersAuto.com](http://ChristianBrothersAuto.com)

# D Vine Wine



- OVER 20 VARIETIES OF WINE
- WINE TASTINGS
- CUSTOM LABELS
- GIFT BASKETS
- SPECIAL EVENTS

107 E Bridge Street  
Granbury, Texas  
**ON THE HISTORIC  
SQUARE**

follow us on facebook  
for events and news.

[DVINEWINEGRANBURY.COM](http://DVINEWINEGRANBURY.COM) • 817-573-7200

Medicine • Laser • Surgery • Dentistry • Radiology • Ultrasound • Boarding • Grooming



*"Dr. Marczak has always gone above and beyond  
for the care of our family's pets for several years."*

- Richard W. / Granbury, TX

**24 HOUR EMERGENCY**

House Calls Available



**817.326.6262**

Like us on Facebook

5700 East HWY 377, Granbury | [allcreaturesgranbury.com](http://allcreaturesgranbury.com)

*Brenda  
Massingill:*

PRESERVING THE  
**BLACK DIAMOND  
RANCH  
HERITAGE**

BY CONNIE LEWIS LEONARD  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY STEVO TORRES



At five foot four, Brenda Massingill is a power-packed, real live, working cowgirl, reminiscent of Li'l Miss Annie Oakley, the first female superstar of the 1800's. After the death of her father, Annie Oakley used her shooting skills to kill and sell game to provide for her family. By age fifteen, she earned enough money to pay off the family mortgage. Brenda, quiet and unpretentious, but like Annie Oakley, her hard work keeps her family heritage and working ranch in tact.



---

*Rich history lies beneath the soil of  
the Black Diamond Ranch.*

---





Although Brenda grew up in Dallas, she spent most weekends, holidays and summers at her grandparents' J. R. Black Ranch. The ten grandchildren would ride horses, search for arrowheads and Indian artifacts, fish and hunt. Their grandmother practiced propriety, with the girls staying in the upstairs rooms, and the boys staying in the cabana. When they turned 12, they earned the right of passage of driving a jeep around the rough terrain of the ranch.

“God intended women to be outside as well as men, and they do not know what they are missing when they stay cooped up in the house.” - Annie Oakley

Brenda's grandfather, John Roy Black, began buying land and putting the ranch together in the 30's while investing in oil and gas wells around the country. His father John H. Black assisted with the ranch operations in the beginning. At one time, the ranch had 26,000 acres, making it the largest in Hood County and the largest between Fort Worth and San Angelo. Thirty-one water storage reservoirs were constructed with a storage capacity of 638,600 gallons. Thirty-six windmills and

twelve water pumps helped supply daily water needs. Sixty-eight earthen reservoirs furnished water for livestock use, recreation and irrigation. Twelve sets of livestock pens were located where three or more pastures could be served. They even had a chuck wagon, so the cook could take food to the hands out in the pastures. The ranch manager's home completed in 1962, is now occupied by Adolfo and his wife, Louisa, who serves as Headquarters cook.

Rich history lies beneath the soil of the Black Ranch. A fence now protects the grave plot marking the death of a one-year-old by westward travelers in the 1800's. Former slaves established The Colony, forging a life of freedom on the vast grasslands of Black Ranch. Although the school, church and dwellings are long gone, the Colony Cemetery remains, with between 75 and 100 graves, many unmarked.

As a working cow calf operation, Black Ranch used to raise Purebred and Commercial Hereford cattle, Angora Goats, Rambouillet Sheep and white turkeys. Brenda's grandfather showed cattle, winning awards in Chicago,

Denver, the SW Expo Stock Show, the Champion Pen with Twenty Heifers and the Grand Champion Steer at the Hereford Stock Feeder Sale. Today, the ranch raises Black Angus bulls with Black Angus and Black Angus cross cows.

In 1987, after the death of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Black, the ranch was divided between the descendants. Brenda, her daughter Carol Lin, and her sister Carol's three children, kept their share and all have an interest in the 5,000 acres that make up the Black Diamond Ranch. To continue the family legacy, Brenda has been running the ranch since 2000 when her foreman, J. D. Bird, passed away while working cattle. At 7:00 each morning, after a personal workout, Brenda meets with the hands, Adolfo, Jimmy Ables and Mike Duncan for breakfast in the saloon to plan the day's work.

"For me, sitting still is harder than any kind of work."  
- Annie Oakley

Carrying on the routine of the working ranch, Brenda works cattle, including castrating, dehorning, inoculating and rolling out 800-1,000 pound round bales of hay. In addition to cattle, she also raises Boer and Spanish goats. She rides a ranch horse, operates a tractor, a dozer and other farm equipment. She climbs windmills, works on machinery, and is learning to weld.

Ranch life is filled with adventures. In 1989, a tornado took down a windmill and some fences, ripped roofing off buildings, but didn't harm any animals. Brenda said, "If tornados come through the area, they seem to go through the ranch. The tornado that struck OTS several years ago took tree tops off, knocked trees down, went over the house tearing the chimney off a bedroom."

"I would like to see every woman know how to handle [firearms] as naturally as they know how to handle babies." - Annie Oakley

Brenda's not afraid of anything. She carries a pistol everywhere she goes and a rifle in the truck to take care of snakes and other varmints that roam the range of the ranch. Brenda also has a firing range set up for use by friends and family. The property is not open for public hunting, but the family hunts Whitetail deer, dove, duck and turkey. A Granbury Police officer and a member of the Hood County Sheriff's Department also live on the ranch to discourage trespassers or poachers.



"I ain't afraid to love a man, I ain't afraid to shoot him either" - Annie Oakley

Annie Oakley met her husband when she beat him in a marksmanship contest. Brenda met her husband Ron in April 1988, through a mutual friend. They went on a blind date, and Brenda said, "He made the list because he could ride a horse and work cattle. He had even raised a Grand Champion Steer in Houston 4-H." Since the Black Diamond is a family trust, Ron jokes that he doesn't own a rock on the place. However, Ron and Brenda own adjoining property they call 'R (Apostrophe R).

Brenda recounts a story about Ron disappearing while they were working cattle. When he reappeared, she asked, "Where were you? We needed your help."

He said, "A steer rammed my horse, and we went down. The steer came after me, and I almost got killed." Brenda and the hands laughed at his story, but he failed to see the humor.

Annie Oakley made a lot of money, and gave much of it to orphan charities and helped support family members.



*Brenda's grandmother, Thelma Morred Black, received awards and recognition for her dedicated community and political contributions. In 1957, she had the Ranch Headquarters built on the site of the original ranch house. Patterned after the Ponderosa on Bonanza, the large great room provides an impressive entrance. The formal dining table seats 18, and was built in the room. Nine bedrooms with nine full baths occupy the upstairs, with powder rooms scattered throughout the downstairs. The game room contains a pool table, and the card room accommodates 12-15. A large kitchen boasts a professional stove, two ovens, and walk-in freezer. The saloon, Brenda's favorite room in the house, contains murals of her grandmother and her three children dancing. Her grandmother and the artist had some kind of conflict, so he painted a meat cleaver in her hand and ran. Even with such a grand home, Brenda prefers to be outside.*

---

*Ranch life is filled with adventures, and Brenda Massingill isn't afraid of anything.*

---



Brenda is a giving, generous individual, also. She supports many community charity events including the Hood County Livestock Show, the 4th of July Ranch Rodeo and the Fort Worth Scramble for youth scholarships. She also serves as Captain of the Hood County Sherriff's Posse.

Carrying on the family tradition, she hosts the entire family at Headquarters for Thanksgiving and New Year's. Her sister Carol comes to the ranch most weekends. The nieces and nephews come often, inviting their friends for birthdays and other celebrations. The family gets along well, and they work together on scheduling events at Headquarters.

Brenda's newest interest is her granddaughter, Simone. She travels to Alabama at least once a month to see her daughter Carol Lin and the baby. Brenda has a home ready for Carol Lin and Simone whenever they choose to continue the legacy of The Black Diamond Ranch.

"Aim at a high mark and you will hit it. Not the first time, not the second and maybe not the third. But keep on aiming." - Annie Oakley ■LGL



YOUR DONATION MATTERS TO HER



[www.missiongranbury.org](http://www.missiongranbury.org)

Ada Carey Shelter  
for Women & Children

C.A.S.A.  
Children's Advocacy

Weekly Food Pantry

Emergency Assistance

Victims Assistance

ReSale Shop &  
Voucher Program

MISSION  
GRANBURY

Volunteer or Donate today and help us continue to help those in need.

24 Hour Domestic Violence Hotline 1-844-579-6848

3611 Plaza East Court Granbury, TX 76049 817-579-6866

Leaders in  
3D Mammography

“I don't just want  
a Mammogram,  
I want  
Peace of Mind.”

**SOLIS**  
*Mammography*

*A Department of*

**LAKE GRANBURY  
MEDICAL CENTER**



Schedule at [SolisMammo.com](http://SolisMammo.com) or call (866) 717.2551

Visit us in Granbury at 1310B Paluxy Road, Suite 1000