

LAKE

COMPLIMENTARY | SPRING 2017

GRANBURY

Living

Bundles of Joy

Join us in
welcoming
Abby Winters.

Fixing Pegasus

Giving up is not
an option.

Granbury's Secret Garden

Unplug without
completely going
off the grid.

HOMETOWN LIVING AT ITS BEST





**One more reason
to love your
neighborhood...**

Peace of Mind is just around the corner

OFFERING

3D

MAMMOGRAPHY



21 LOCATIONS IN NORTH TEXAS

Including Granbury at:
1310B Paluxy Road. Suite 1000

SOLIS
Mammography

A Department of



**LAKE GRANBURY
MEDICAL CENTER**

Easy, “real-time”, online scheduling, 24/7
SolisMammo.com | (866) 717.2551



Wagon Yard
Est. 1977

Furniture • Lighting • Decor

Unique **FINDS**
FOR YOUR HOME

213 N Crockett Street | Downtown Granbury

Monday - Saturday 8:30 - 5:30

817.573.5321 | www.wagonyard.com

GRANBURY'S
OLD-FASHIONED

4th
of
July

CELEBRATION



SOMETHING
FOR EVERYONE

— *at this* —

ONE-OF-A-KIND,
FAMILY-FRIENDLY
— EVENT! —

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ JULY 2-4, 2017 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

ARTS & CRAFTS VENDORS ★ D&D ROCKIN' RODS CLASSIC CAR SHOW
FESTIVAL & STATE FAIR FOODS ★ HOMETOWN PARADE
DECORATED BIKE CONTEST ★ TOP-RANKED FIREWORKS SHOW
BUCKING BULLS RODEO ★ KIWANIS 5K ★ FREE LIVE CONCERT

PRESENTED BY:



In Kind Sponsor



SERVING GRANBURY AND HOOD COUNTY SINCE 1952.

GRANBURYCHAMBER.COM | 817.573.1622 | 3408 EAST HWY. 377 | GRANBURY, TEXAS



Moms specialize in babies, and so do we.

Lake Granbury Medical Center is a Perinatal Care-certified hospital.

Bringing a new baby into the world is one of the most special moments in your life. This is why Lake Granbury Medical Center is proud to be awarded the Perinatal Care Certification by the Joint Commission in recognition of our ongoing dedication to making your birth experience the experience of a lifetime.

Perinatal Care Certification means we are dedicated to providing:

- Safe, quality care
- Integrated patient-centered care that is tailored to patients' needs and preferences
- Early identification of high-risk pregnancies and births
- Management of mothers' and newborns' risks
- Patient education and information, such as free childbirth classes and a breastfeeding class and support group

We are among 27 hospitals in the United States to currently hold this designation, and we are the second hospital in Texas to receive the certification.*

Are you expecting? To learn more about free childbirth classes, visit LakeGranburyMedicalCenter.com.



1310 Paluxy Road • Granbury, TX 76048

*As of October 18, 2016

Sweet Bundles of Joy

All things spring tend to come in the most adorable packages. The abundance of sun, rain, and new energy are some of the reasons many of us love this season. Bundles of fresh fruit, veggies and blooming flowers fill the shelves of local markets and kitchen tables everywhere. Easter baskets full of sweet treats and colored eggs sprout up in window displays. And finally, the very best kind of bundle, mother nature’s newborns make their much anticipated debut.

It seems that nothing in the world is more motivating than a fresh start. This beautiful, blooming time of year gives birth to new life in many ways. For our spring issue, we welcome these sweet bundles as they are evidence of the opportunity for peace and love all around us.





Melissa McGavock
MANAGING EDITOR



FROM OUR READERS

Let us know how we’re doing:

info@lglmagazine.com
or
201 East Pearl Street,
Suite B - 102
Granbury, Texas 76048

FOLLOW US  

I just wanted you all to know that the article about the adult literacy program was wonderful! Julie did such an amazing job telling our story. And Dawn’s photos enhanced the story so well. Thank you all for helping us spread the word that there is help available for adults in Hood County who struggle with reading. I’m sure we’ll have students reach out to us because of your article. Thank you so very much!

- Karen Haggard

Kudos to all of the talented folks behind the scenes @ Lake Granbury Living Magazine. I wanted to personally thank Melissa McGavock for the beautiful from the editor message in the winter 2016 issue. Well said and a nice way to help me reflect on 2016. All the best for an amazing new year. Thanks for doing what you do.

- Cheryle Vadeboncoeur

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



FOSSILRIM.ORG

GLEN ROSE, TX

254.897.2960

10

Happily Ever Laughter

▶ BY PEGGY PURSER FREEMAN

The story behind Dena and Carey Dyer's new book, *Love at First Fight*.

16

A Legacy of Love

▶ BY JAN BRAND

Sara Miskovic celebrates the joy of sitting around the table with those you love.

22

Memorial Lane

▶ BY JONATHAN HOOPER

Community memorial for our heroes, past, present, future.

28

Heavenhill Guesthouse: Granbury's Secret Garden

▶ BY TUI SNIDER

Heavenhill Guesthouse allows you to unplug without going completely off the grid.

34

City of Granbury Parks & Rec

▶ BY CLAY MASSEY

Recreational and athletic activities available youth and adults in Hood County.

42

Bringing Up Babies in an App Wonderland

▶ BY ANDRA MAYBERRY

Sifting through the some 100,000 educational apps available to our children and families.

50

Fixing Pegasus

▶ BY LM JOHNSON

State of the art equine sports medicine right here in Hood County.



42



28

21

Hometown Happenings

Granbury High School
Grease Musical

48

Bundles Of Joy

Welcoming the newest
additions to Hood County

55

Hometown Happenings

Hank FM's Valentine's Party
at the Granbury Resort
Conference Center

56

How to Get Involved

Philanthropic happenings to
look forward to this season



16



10

A Spring Celebration



Dawn Skinner | Rachelle Pritchard | Melissa McGavock | Lindsey Haase

Spring is a time of rebirth and excitement. It's easy to celebrate during this season of bright colors, happiness and growth.

At Lake Granbury Living, we're enthusiastic about sharing the great spirit of this community. The fresh breath of spring arrives, bringing the simple joys of families and friends gathering, Easter egg hunts, and festivals. Families are those that you share precious moments in life with, we are grateful to be part of a community that feels like a large extended family.

The collection of stories and images in this issue speak to the beauty of renewal, preservation,

and remembrance. We hope you cherish these pages as much as we do.

Please support our advertisers, without whom this reflection of the town we love would not be possible.

Join us in celebrating our wonderful community during this beautiful season.

Rachelle Pritchard

Rachelle Pritchard, CEO

LAKE GRANBURY *Living*

PUBLISHER enVision Publishing, LLC

CEO Rachelle Pritchard

MANAGING EDITOR Melissa McGavock

ART DIRECTION Amy Winters

LEAD DESIGNER Dawn Skinner

ADS + MARKETING Lindsey Haase

BUSINESS OFFICE Rena Reese

CREATIVE | DESIGN enVision Creative Services

CONTRIBUTING Andra Mayberry

WRITERS Clay Massey

Jan Brand

Jonathan Hooper

LM Johnson

Peggy Purser Freeman

Tui Snider

PHOTOGRAPHERS Amy Pennington Photography

Dawn Skinner

Debbi McDonough

Lindsey Powell

Misti White Photography

M. Magee Photography

Shad Ramsey Photography

Stephanie Fisher

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.

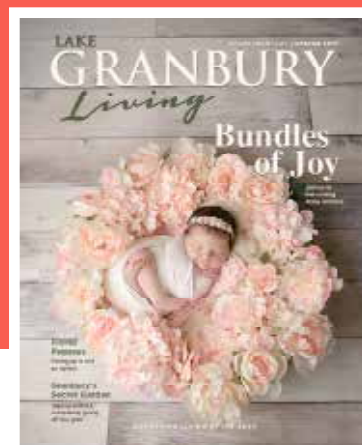


CAN'T GET ENOUGH?

Visit us online for bonus content,
photos and a full article archive.

Visit us Online

WWW.LGLMAGAZINE.COM



ABOUT THE COVER

Welcome Abby Winters
born March 13, 2017.

Photo By: Misti White Photography

LIKE WHAT YOU SEE?

Purchase a print of your favorite photograph
or let us know what you think of our work.

EMAIL US **INFO@LGLMAGAZINE.COM**



Words by [Peggy Purser Freeman](#) | Photography by [Shad Ramsey Photography and Dawn Skinner](#)

Happily Ever Laughter

“If marriage were a font, ours would be ‘wing-ding.’”
Carey and Dena Dyer share their Happily Ever Laughter.

When you’ve been married to Mo of “Mo and Bro” fame (AKA Carey Dyer) for 23 years, you can probably write a book on marriage. If you’re Dena Dyer, award winning Christian author, speaker, and entertainer, you do just that. I recently sat down with Granbury’s own family of fun to find the love story behind their new book, *Love at First Fight*.

A gifted professional singer, speaker, comedian and one of the first performers at Granbury Live, under the direction of founder Tom McRay, Carey rose to be one of the top entertainers in Texas. With the change of a hat, his family-friendly humor and high-octane energy can bring Elvis, Roy Orbison, Bob Willis, Eddie Arnold and more to life. While being entertained by the legendary Mo, I often won-

der what it’s like to be married to that shade of crazy. Dena Dyer’s face lights up when she answers that question. “Humor has always been a big part of our relationship. Laughing helps us de-stress and find common ground in the midst of life’s craziness.”

In their show, “Happily Ever Laughter” Dena explains how they met. “You see, I had a thing for short guys who lived with their mother.” After twenty-three years of marriage, Carey says he has learned not to tell Dena “the way his mother did it.” Their first book together was birthed from their experiences.

In *Love at First Fight*, they share their heart in 52 devotionals for couples. Carey adds, “Instead of just writing for other characters, it’s nice to share some of our own stories. It’s scary and a bit vulnerable, but it’s rewarding.” By sharing humorous, personal stories



from both the male and female perspective with the “He says, She says” format, the Dyers hope readers discover that a resilient and fulfilling marriage can be realized through hard work, forgiveness, God’s grace—and a sense of humor.

As a teen, Dena had devotionals, short stories and poems published in a variety of magazines including *Listen*, *Teen*, *Seventeen*, *Young Ambassador* and *EC*. Dena’s books include: *Grace for the Race: Meditations for Busy Moms*; *Mothers of the Bible*; and *Let the Laugh Lines and Wrinkles Come*. She co-authored *The Groovy Chicks’ Road Trip to Peace* and *The Groovy Chicks’ Road Trip to Love*; and *Wounded Women of the Bible* which won a Golden Scroll Award for Non-Fiction Book of the Year in 2014.

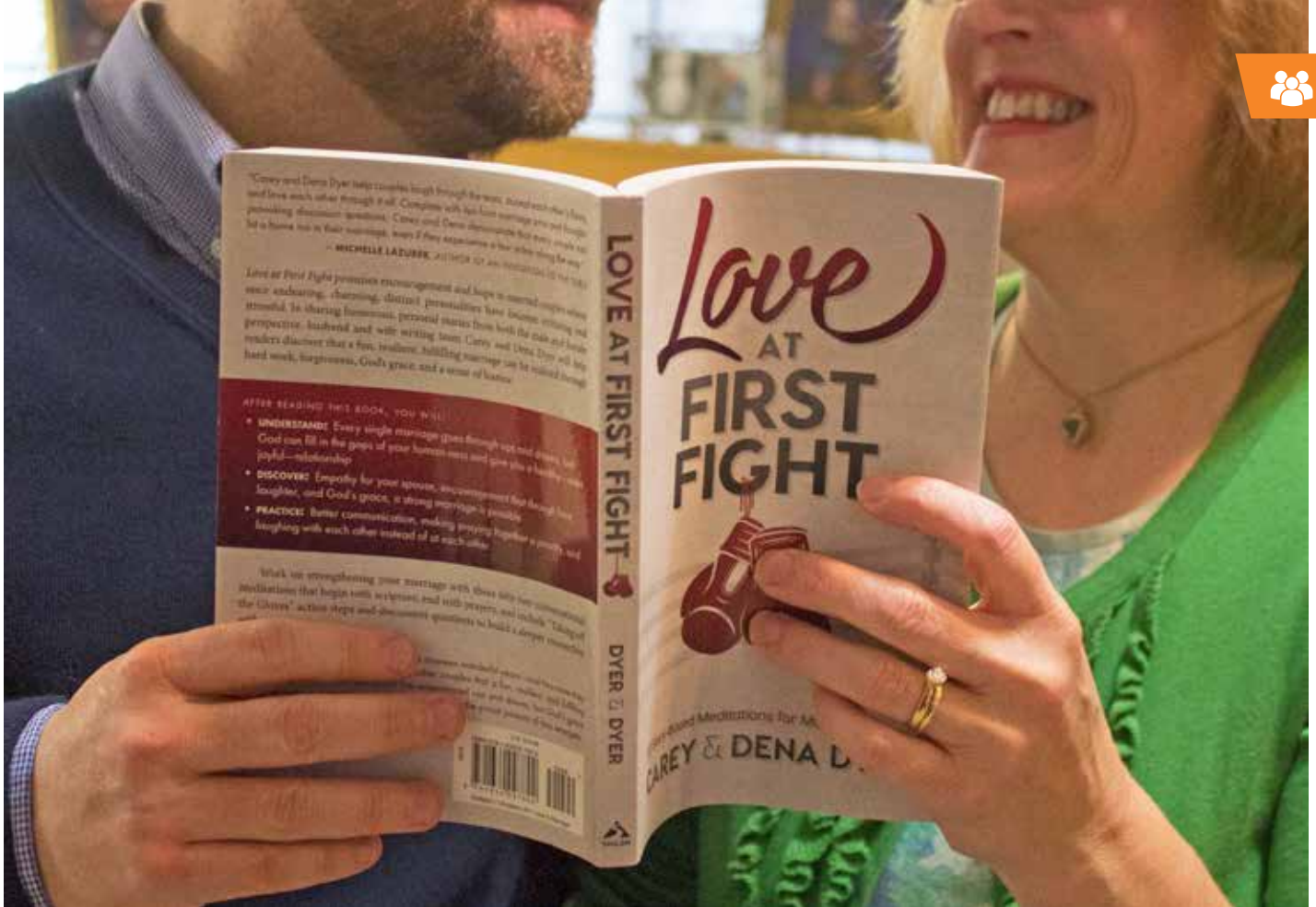
Carey has performed in 46 states—solidifying

his role on stage as a professional entertainer, and his writing has appeared in several periodicals and drama collections. As a featured arranger and songwriter, his creative arrangements have been performed by vocal groups all over the country. Awarded “Best Vocalist of the Month,” by *Singer Universe Magazine*, he is also a member of the Christian Comedy Association. However, his favorite role is hubby and daddy.

I ask Carey what keeps him motivated in his high-energy performances. “You mean besides Mountain Dew?” he answers. “Seriously, besides trying to keep ourselves vocally and physically healthy for performing, we also rely on the Lord to keep us spiritually and emotionally healthy. Some people don’t understand this, but it really does take a lot out of you to share yourself on stage.”

Dena and Carey pictured together in their home.





No one can make me laugh like Jordan, Jackson and Carey. Also, no one can make me as mad.

“I’m an introvert, so I really feel that,” Dena adds. “I don’t perform as much as Carey because my strength and calling is writing. When he performs, I cheer him on and he does the same for my writing and speaking.” Carey and Dena met in a singing group and became best friends. “He would tell me about all his girlfriends. This would just kill me because I was secretly crazy about him. He finally noticed me. From the start, I loved being married to Carey, but it really added another dimension of fulfillment when we had the boys. No one can make me laugh like Jordan, Jackson and Carey. Also, no one can make me as mad.”

To those who know Carey as Worship Leader and Dena as Praise Team member at Lakeside Baptist, it’s easy to see how authentic they are. “It isn’t something we set out to do,” Dena shares. “I learned, after struggling with perfectionism and depression, that it’s the only way to be healthy emotionally. If we try to be something we’re not, it’s exhausting. To have

real, deep, unconditional relationships with friends and loved ones takes honesty and a willingness to be vulnerable.”

Carey calls it “A ‘warts and all’ approach to life. “It’s really the only way to truly connect with people.” “Flaws are universal, and when we recognize that and admit we need help—that’s when we can look up and find our strength in God.”

Dena shares the importance of a hard time in a marriage. “After a miscarriage and other personal losses, I went through a pretty severe depression. It lasted (and deepened) after having our first son, which surprised me because I’d wanted to be a mother since I was a little girl. Carey was supportive, but didn’t really understand what was going on. And I wish I’d been more open with my friends. I did seek counseling and medical attention, and that was life-changing.”

Dena’s strength is in her writing. Carey’s creativity shines in events such as the Granbury

Following Valentine's Day 2017, Dena and Carey introduce their new book in a performance at the Granbury Opera House.



Living Christmas Cards, presented to hundreds at Christmas time on the Historic Square. However, he confesses a new joy while working on their book. “Believe it or not, writing a book together was really fun. The devotions are based on stories from our marriage, so it was like a walk down memory lane. We shared lots of laughs and even a few tears. It’s actually pretty therapeutic.”

“Carey came into my writing world for the first time, and I was a little apprehensive about how it would go.” Dena laughs. “Writing a book is a marathon, and it’s not for the faint of heart. But we both enjoyed the process. Also, we loved the time we spent putting our ‘Happily Ever Laughter’ show together. It combines songs and stories from our life together, as well as many of the things we love—family, laughter, music, comedy, and storytelling.”

Summing up his tips for marriage, Carey adds, “Every marriage goes through ups and downs, but God’s love can fill in the gaps of our human-ness and give us healthy—even joyful—union.”

Together and separately, Carey and Dena often

We loved the time we spent putting our ‘Happily Ever Laughter’ show together. It combines songs and stories from our life together, as well as many of the things we love—family, laughter, music, comedy, and storytelling.

perform for marriage and women’s events, fundraisers, and conferences. Love at First Fight is available at Lifeway Christian Stores, Barnes & Noble Booksellers, and many online vendors. To find out more about the Dyers and their ministry, visit www.carey-anddena.com. ■LGL

Creating Beautiful Smiles for All Ages in Granbury!

Lakeview Dental

Our Services

- INVISALIGN®
- COSMETIC DENTISTRY
- SAME DAY CROWNS
- DENTURES
- EMERGENCY DENTAL CARE
- DENTAL IMPLANTS
- PORCELAIN VENEERS
- WHITENING
- ORAL CANCER SCREENING
- PERIODONTAL THERAPY
- ROOT CANALS
- SEDATION FOR ANXIOUS PATIENTS
- SLEEP APNEA/ SNORING TREATMENT
- NIGHTGUARDS
- TOOTH COLORED FILLINGS
- LASER GUM THERAPY

Meet Our Caring Doctors



Dr. Jonathan Heizer



Dr. Wyatt O'Grady

Receive a Complimentary Teeth Whitening Kit

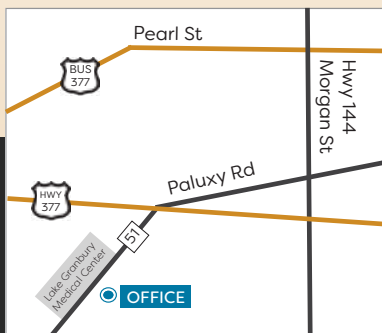
\$299 Value

with this coupon, new patients only
teeth whitening requires exam and x-rays

limit one certificate per household

This gift cannot be combined with any other offer

At Lakeview Dental our mission is to glorify God in our community by providing compassionate, quality dental care.



www.lakeview-dental.com

Call Us Today! **817-385-1925**

1309 Paluxy Road | Granbury, TX 76048



Follow us on Facebook!



 New owner of The Pan Handle, Sara Miskovic, pictured in the newly refreshed space.

A LEGACY OF LOVE

Words by [Jan Brand](#) | Photography by [Stephanie Fisher](#)



Sara is leaving her mark at *The Pan Handle* on Granbury Square so that others can share their hopes and dreams around the kitchen table in style.

Norman Rockwell, famous for depicting life in America, most often painted the American family. A favorite subject was the time spent around the kitchen table. It's been called "the heart of the home." The dinner table is a place where memories are made, dreams are conceived, confidence and courage are created, and people grow closer together. Perhaps, the most famous memory-maker is Sunday dinner, when grown children are drawn back year after year like homing pigeons, bringing their young to experience Mom's pot roast, or Dad's hamburgers on the grill. They don't come for the food, they come for the love.



Food is one of the love languages. We feed people we care about whether it's family, friends, or volunteering in a homeless shelter.

Sarah Miskovic, owner of The Pan Handle, 106 North Crockett Street, on the Square, was raised on a farm. Her roots run deep in Hood County. Her great-great grandfather, Davis Lafayette Monroe, trekked here from Log Cabin, Georgia, bringing his young family to be part of the big dreams emanating from the big state of Texas. The land where he planted those roots is still the home place for the Monroes and Miskovics. The first Monroe bought land in 1891.

The Monroe family did such a good job of knitting the family together, no one wants to leave the farm. There are five homes on the land, including the log house Sara's parents built that she grew up in. She and her husband and children have a home on the land, along with her siblings and grandparents.

Sara knows first-hand the importance of growing your own food and the joy of sitting around the family table with those you love, celebrating the results of your labor. Society has yet to find a bonding tool that equals that experience. Following the trail of farmers from time immemorial, Sara's family lived off the land. Raised on a dairy farm, she learned as a youngster how to milk cows. She fried her first egg when she was five-years old. When she was eight, her grandfather taught her how to drive the farm truck that pulled the gooseneck-trailer to haul hay. After school she fed animals.

Her favorite memories are of those in the kitchen cooking with her mother and grandmother. It was there, while canning, baking and preserving, that she learned wisdom, and gained knowledge. It was there she learned to love and build strong ties. They taught her patience and endurance, and demonstrated the traits to be a good wife and mother, as well as



Customers inquire and peruse Sara's newly stocked gourmet tool shop.

the basics of sewing, canning and farming.

Sara was inspired by the exceptional cooking talents of her mother and grandmothers. Her mother was an apprentice chef at the posh Mansion on Turtle Creek, in Dallas. As a child, Sara loved looking at cookbooks and took cooking classes. As a teenager, she loved making fancy gelatin molds, to give a box of Jell-o some extra zing. It seemed inevitable that she would pass on her love of food and hospitality.

The Pan Handle is a cook's paradise. She bought the store in May of 2016, and like any creative woman, she redecorated, putting her own touch into it. Sara's talent isn't limited to cooking, and when you walk into the store you see examples of her art scattered throughout.

Her husband, J Miskovic, constructs the displays for her artwork. He has a degree from Tarleton State University and lends a hand as a cost and pricing analyst. She calls him, "the brains and the brawn." He



When you walk through the door of The Pan Handle, you are transported into the wonderful world of cooking.



also serves as a volunteer firefighter for Cresson.

When you walk through the door of The Pan Handle, you are transported into the wonderful world of cooking. The smell of coffee assails the senses. What looks like an endless array of glass bins holds eighty-one blends of Texas roasted beans. Even a non-coffee drinker, like me, is tempted because the smell is almost irresistible. An assortment of bulk artisan teas is also available, as well as local resources from businesses and artists in the Hood County area.

On Wednesday and Thursday Sara unleashes her creativity to produce her own unique relishes, pickles, salsas, jams, jellies, preserves and chutneys—developing her label with delicious original foodstuff. She surprises the palate with innovative twists on conventional fare, like grape chutney.

For the cookie baker, she has the most extensive cookie-cutter selection in the area. If you're addicted to kitchen gadgets, you can find things you only dreamed of having to simplify a task.

The things she offers in the store are those she uses to create precious memories. Following in the footsteps of those who have gone before her, she is

passing along her knowledge to her own children.

Amy, her thirteen-year old daughter also loves to cook, and benefits from the same special time in the kitchen with her mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She won first prize in the Hood County 4-H Livestock Show for her peanut butter fudge. Graham, her ten-year old son loves animals. He's raising a pig and wants to continue with a litter. Six-year old Georgia loves to bake cookies with her mother. But her specialty is creating interesting and different fruit salads, leaving her own artistry in the bowl.

Like the early settlers who came to America to be free, then pushed into the vastness of the west to build lives, Sara Miskovic and her family have lived the American dream. From hard work and faith, they were the nation builders, not the politicians, not the scions of industry, but the family. They came and left their mark on the land and passed their values down for future generations. Sara is leaving her mark at The Pan Handle on Granbury Square so that others can share their hopes and dreams around the kitchen table in style. ■LGL



Granbury High School Grease Musical

January 20 - 22, 2017

Photography provided by Debbi McDonough

Rydell High came to life on the GHS stage this winter. The performance was a success and fun was had by all who attended. Ramalamadingdong!





MEMORIAL LANE

Words by **Jonathan Hooper** | Photography by **Shad Ramsey Photography**



*Heroes lost and fallen
Heroes and courage
Heroes saving drowning children
Heroes rescuing animals
Heroes on the battlefield
Heroes from days of yore*



Mayor Nin Hulett speaks to the crowd at the groundbreaking ceremonies.

That last one obviously does not belong in this list, but it serves to illustrate that the term “heroes” does get thrown around an awful lot today, from hit television shows to hockey players, as well as the humble sandwich.

“REMEMBRANCE AND HONOR”

We find heroes in nearly every corner of the world and from every age of history: ancient Greek mythology, a first century mathematician, (let’s skip ahead here), Queen Maeve, Abraham Lincoln, Helen Keller, Wright Brothers, Mahatma Gandhi, Lassie the Collie, Rosa Parks, Roger Staubach, and even a David Bowie song.

But none reverberate in our hearts and minds quite as richly as the everyday citizens who stand up, step forward, and are willing to pay the ultimate sacrifice. It is for these men and women that the Granbury Memorial Lane exists.

The cornerstone of the Granbury Memorial Lane

is the existing Jim Burks Firefighters Memorial Park is situated along the Hike & Bike Trail just a short walk from downtown Granbury. It is also accessible by North Travis Street. Established in 2007, it is special place dedicated to the firefighters lost in the line of duty. A unique firetruck playground greets the walkers and riders along the trail. Picnic tables in both sun and shade beckon nearby, providing not only a short respite for those on the trail, but a destination for everyone to visit.

Soon, the Jim Burks Firefighter Memorial Park will be joined by two new additions to complete the newly-established Memorial Lane honoring Law Enforcement and Military.

“WE NEED MORE OF THESE”

The idea for the Granbury Memorial Lane came from long-time Granbury resident Julia Pannell, who was also a driving force behind the establishment of the original park in 2007. Returning home from a



trip to Branson in late December 2015, she realized that it seems like every street corner in Branson had some sort of recognition of our heroes. She decided to take action, and created the idea of expanding the existing park to include tributes to additional heroes.

“They do so much for us,” said Julia. “We need more of these in Granbury. So I took the idea to the Parks Department, then to the City Council, and a few other people. Everyone was so supportive, and here we are. This is a one of a kind space, honoring all three entities. It’s for ALL of those who have served in any capacity. I am so excited!”

Julia became the Project Chair, and was joined on the committee by City of Granbury Parks Manager Aaron McLain, Assistant City Manager Sheri Campbell-Husband, Sheriff’s Department Chaplain Doug Pruitt, and Artist Mike Scovel. After they came up with an overall design, led by Aaron McLain as the Project Manager, they turned it over to local architect Terry Cone and engineer Chris Hayes to make the literal nuts and bolts--and rocks and stones--fit into the space.

... FOR OUR HEROES. PAST. PRESENT. FUTURE.

Nationally acclaimed Texas artist Mike Scovel has been commissioned to produce two new life-size sculptures for the park: “Tears For The Fallen” depicts a young girl bowing her head and holding a flag honoring Law Enforcement; and “Homage To A Compatriot” with a service dog bowing before a service cross in respect for our fallen military member.

Scovel’s work has been featured in publications as diverse as Saturday Evening Post and Western Horseman. His works honoring veterans and the military are displayed across the country, along with numerous Christian sculptures.





“This project is especially meaningful to me because I have wanted to sculpt a service dog for a long time. Several of my other installations include a little boy honoring the fallen, so I welcomed the chance to sculpt a little girl for this one,” said the artist.

More on the art of Mike Scovel, including his sculptures for the Granbury Memorial Park, may be found at mikescovel.com.

There will be signs constructed to indicate that you are entering a special place. “It’s like you are on sacred ground,” says Pannell. “We want people to know that this is how our community honors those who serve.” The park will also include three special stones donated by committee member Doug Pruitt specifically honoring the Sheriff’s Department.

The Granbury Memorial Lane will be funded completely from public donations. After just six months of fundraising efforts, nearly 70% of the funds have been acquired.

“We are pleased that this will be paid for by the people who will actually come to visit, and not some far-away government office. Everyone will be able to take ownership of the park. It belongs to everyone. You can take your children and grandchildren there to learn, and to talk about what it really means. And it is the only park like this in the country.”

The Heroes Red Hot Concert is scheduled for May 26 and will be held at the Granbury Resort Confer-

ence Center in conjunction with Cruisin’ Granbury and the local Memorial Day activities. Additional activities include a Memorial Day festival on the Square (granburysquare.com) and Granbury Field of Flags (granburyfieldofflags.com). Tickets for the Heroes Red Hot Concert are available online (www.granburymemorillane.com). Throughout the year, additional benefit events will at local restaurants.

For more information about how individuals and groups can become involved in the Granbury Memorial Lane, please go to granburymemorillane.com. The green memorial benches are already sold out, but several more items are still available. They also accept donations.

Take a short a walk, or ride your bike down the Hike & Bike Trail. Sit in the shade of a towering oak tree, or enjoy the sunshine sitting on a bench in the park. Bring a picnic lunch to share with others. Watch your grandchildren play on the firetruck playground. Read the bronze plaque attached to the rock walls honoring and remembering the heroes and victims of September 11, 2001. Consider what those who serve have done for this community, and communities like this all over the country. But mostly, just take a moment in time, and remember our heroes.

After all, this is how our community honors those who serve. ■LGL



Shad Ramsey

Commercial & Lifestyle Photographer
Studio - Granbury Square Plaza

817.209.4852
shad@shadramsey.com
shadramsey.com



HEAVENHILL GUESTHOUSE: GRANBURY'S SECRET GARDEN



photo by Shad Ramsey

Words by **Tui Snider** | Photography by **Stephanie Fisher & provided by Tui Snider**

CONVENIENTLY LOCATED, YET SEEMINGLY HIDDEN, HEAVENHILL GUESTHOUSE ALLOWS YOU TO UNPLUG WITHOUT GOING COMPLETELY OFF THE GRID.

Strange as it sounds, one of my favorite things about Heavenhill Guesthouse (620 E Bridge St, Granbury, TX 76048) is how it hides in plain sight. Although the street and mailbox are clearly marked and my GPS found it easily, friends who visited during my stay inevitably drove right past this unique guest cottage their first time over, as if the property were shielded by a faerie spell.

The location, although seemingly hidden, is actually quite convenient. Heavenhill Guesthouse is in Granbury's historic district, just a few steps from Hewlett Park (650 E State Loop 426, Granbury, TX

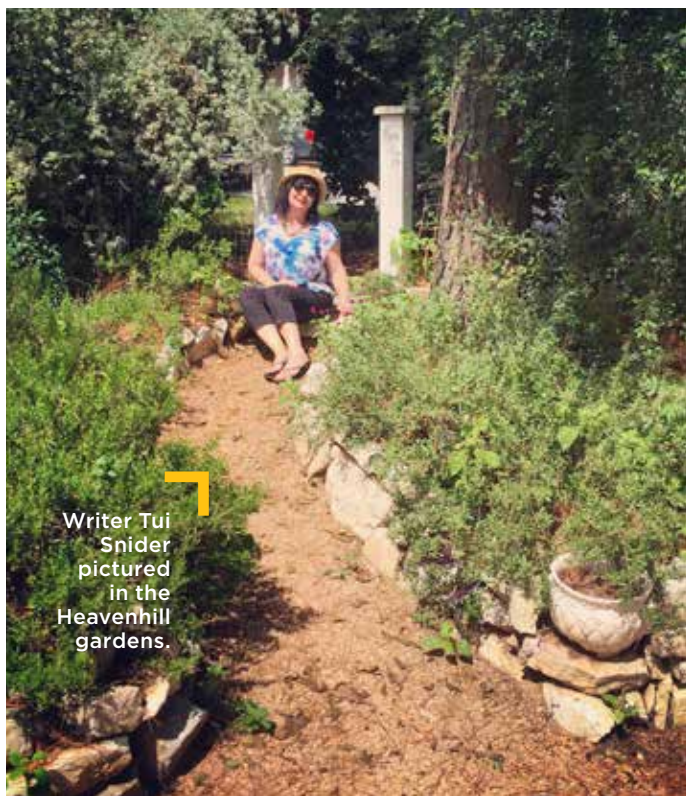
76048) and the Dollhouse Museum (421 E Bridge St, Granbury, TX 76048.) With restaurants, shops and the town square an easy 15 minute walk down the street, I was perfectly comfortable staying without a car. (Although during the Last Saturday Art Walk, a free shuttle picked me up on my stroll to the art galleries. Just one of many pleasant surprises during my stay in Granbury!)

While the location is ideal, let's make something clear. If you want to spend your days watching television and keeping up with social media, Heavenhill Guesthouse is not for you. For starters, there's no WIFI or cable TV. But if you are looking for a respite from the hectic pace of modern life, a chance to unplug without going completely off the grid, a stay here could be just the tonic you need.

Another important consideration is that Heavenhill is not a bed and breakfast. This means you are responsible for feeding yourself, whether you choose to dine out or make your own meals in the fully



Step back in time at Heavenhill Guesthouse with an eat-in kitchen perfectly preserved and historically significant.



Writer Tui Snider pictured in the Heavenhill gardens.

equipped kitchen. While I enjoy bed and breakfast inns, I'm always aware of being a guest in someone's home. At Heavenhill, you truly have the place to yourself, so before long, it actually feels like you live there. No one is going to pop in to change linens or tell you that breakfast is only available at a certain time. You can keep crazy hours and fry eggs at 3:00 a.m. if you wish.

Unlike some historic homes, with rooms so antique laden they feel like a museum, at Heavenhill Guesthouse I felt perfectly entitled to kick off my shoes and plop on the couch after a sweaty walk in the August sun, grab some iced tea and relax. In other words, I was right at home.

Heavenhill Guesthouse owes this cozy ambiance to the careful landscaping and interior design work of its current owner, Shelbie Miller-Gaddy. Shelbie was still in high school when her mother, Jennifer Miller, bought Heavenhill in 2002. It was a real fixer upper at the time, a rundown house on an overgrown lot. One day, while cleaning the attic, Shelbie discovered a handwritten message on the wall reading, "Josephine Heavenhill + Little Louise Miller Jan. 1, 1897. Cross of the Heart." Although not related by blood, the shared name "Miller" and the mysterious

19th century resident and the Guesthouse namesake, Josephine Heavenhill, pictured to the right.



inscription stirred something in Shelbie. From that point on she felt a bond to the house and a keen interest in its history.

Shelbie's experience at Heavenhill inspired her choices at Texas Tech, where she obtained a bachelor's degree in interior design with a minor in architecture. Throughout her college years, Heavenhill was never far from her mind and she often found pieces for the house at antique stores and estate sales. In 2011, Shelbie's mother gave her the property. It was little more than an empty shell at the point, but after several months of intensive remodeling Shelbie Miller-Gaddy was able to open it to guests.

While combining rustic charm with modern comforts, Shelbie's design choices keep Heavenhill's history on display. The window panes, for instance, are all original and if you look closely, you can find square nails and beadboard throughout the dwelling. Another deliberate choice is the panel labeled "O.G. Compton and Co." on the wall separating the kitchen from the living room. The builders most likely obtained this board from leftover railway packing crates, a common practice by settlers in the 1890's.

I've stayed at Heavenhill Guesthouse twice now.

My first time was as the writer-in-residence for Tarleton State University's literary conference, the Langdon Review Weekend. This annual event provides one lucky writer the opportunity to focus on their projects in a peaceful setting for two glorious weeks.

Not only did my writing residency at Heavenhill Guesthouse give me time and space to create, but it was the most unplugged I have been in years. Each morning, I had coffee and breakfast on the back porch, where I could watch squirrels and birds frolic in the bushes and pecan trees. I spent my evenings out there, too, either reading books or playing guitar in my favorite rocking chair. Texas summers being what they are, I spent the hottest hours of the day inside, and I'm happy to report that despite the many vintage touches throughout Heavenhill, its air conditioning is state of the art. It really was a wonderful stay. I got a lot of writing done, read several books and even wrote a couple of songs.

While Heavenhill Guesthouse is a wonderful space for creative retreats, I had no lofty ambitions during my second stay. This time, my husband and I shared the cottage with another couple during one of Granbury's many festivals. It was a fun weekend



DID YOU KNOW?

Owned and renovated by local interior designer, Shelbie Miller-Gaddy. Heavenhill was constructed as two separate homes in the 1880s. They were most likely "married" in the early 1900s.



Owner and
operator
Shelbie
Miller-Gaddy



*THANKS AGAIN TO SHELBIE
MILLER-GADDY'S LANDSCAPING
AND DESIGN, HEAVENHILL
GUESTHOUSE IS A PHOTOGENIC
LOCATION, BOTH INSIDE AND OUT.*

getaway. We arranged for a late check out and spent the morning on the porch, chatting and drinking coffee.

While there are separate bath and shower facilities, and two couples can easily share Heavenhill Guesthouse, I would only want to stay there with people I know. It's perfectly cozy and fun to share the living room and kitchen with friends, but I wouldn't have felt as comfortable doing so with strangers. That said, Heavenhill is ideal for a family or group of friends who want a memorable weekend together.

Thanks again to Shelbie Miller-Gaddy's landscap-

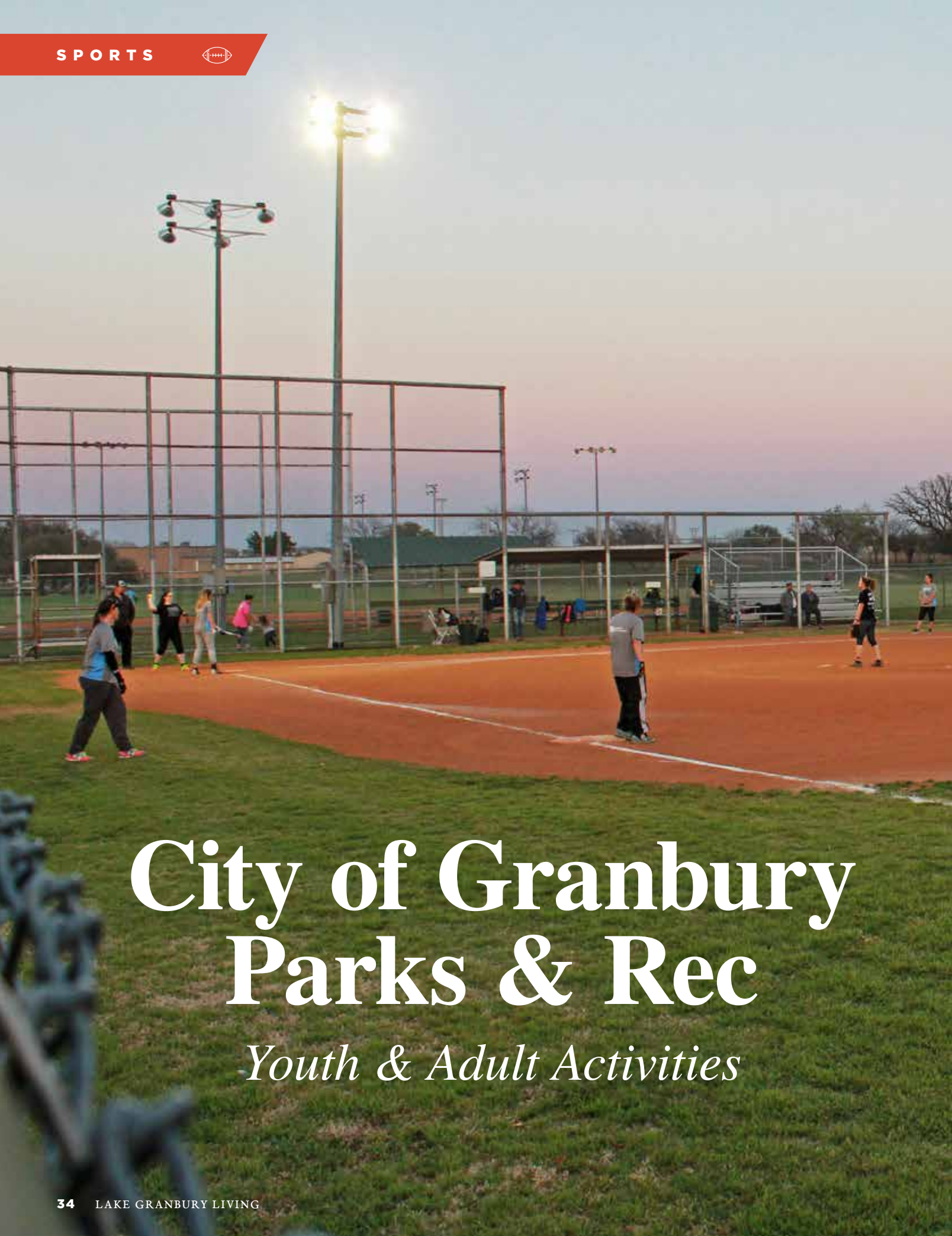
ing and design, Heavenhill Guesthouse is a photogenic location, both inside and out. For those in need of charming backdrops for graduation or engagement photos, the historic home is available for day use. In fact, some of my favorite photos from last year are ones I took of my husband and his family by the chicken coop in the backyard. I only wish I had taken more!

To plan your stay at Heavenhill Guesthouse, visit its Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/heavenhillguesthouse/> and website: <http://oldfashioned-kitty.blogspot.com/p/heavenhill-guesthouse.html> ■LGL



Stephanie Fisher

stephaniefisher.com



City of Granbury Parks & Rec

Youth & Adult Activities



Words by **Clay Massey** | Photography by **Dawn Skinner**

Under bright lights in the chilly Texas air, the crack of a bat sends players to the infield scurrying.

But in typical softball this would be considered a foul ball – this one is live. This is Arenaball and it's played in the Granbury Adult Softball rec leagues. Each batter only faces one pitch, so the action moves fast. Any ball within the confines of the fence is a fair ball, which drives the scoring up.

One team, however, will never be able to take full control of the game, keeping the action close. Any ball that is a home run causes the batter to be an out.

One night on field five, the feature under the lights is team Down for Whatever against the Masterbatters. But not only is it game night, it's date night for Gwendolyn Sanders and her husband.

Most of her team is made up of couples.

“You go spend money to go out to eat

ADULT LEAGUES OFFERED:

(Men's, Women's and Co-ed Available)

- BASKETBALL
- FLAG FOOTBALL
- KICKBALL
- ADULT SOFTBALL



2017 Winter Flag Football Champs



2016 Fall Women's League Softball Champs



2016 Fall Mens Basketball Champions

TO REGISTER:

See www.quickscores.com/granbury

or
Call the Office
(817) 573-7030

Recreational Coordinator
Maggie Wylie at mwyllie@granbury.org



Blain Walker is ready for a great game with team Express.



or go to the movies," Sanders said. "Out here you come out and you're hanging out with your friends and you're not spending money. You're just hanging out and exercising."

For Sanders who has lived in Granbury for 38 years, it is also special to get to play with her kids sometimes.

"I grew up playing ball on these fields," Sanders said. "It's very special."

Arenaball and regular softball is one of the many sport leagues offered by the Granbury Parks and Recreation department for adults to play in. The department also offers basketball and the very popular flag football.

Kickball is offered on the stipulation of

Women's softball team huddles after a Tuesday night game.



enough teams registering. Maggie Wylie of the parks and recreation department helps in getting teams registered for the leagues. She understands the challenges of making the leagues happen, especially when not enough teams register.

Those who do sign up are a wide range of people from all walks of life. Sanders is a student at Texas Christian University, HEB has its own team to use as team building, there are doctors and lawyers who come out to play.

With the growing population of Granbury, the parks and recreation department has taken to social media to get more involved. Wylie feels as if this has helped get more participants involved.

“We try to post it on all the surrounding buy, sell, trade sites and softball sites,” Wylie said. “We use Facebook. We hope that friends will tell friends.”

The fee to register for softball is 300 dollars for each team by the second week of the season. The arenaball season had five co-ed teams.

The Pop Outs who are 2-6 in regular season play have played together for a while now according to Jay Johnson. Johnson is on the team to spend time with his daughter and get some exercise.

Johnson has been playing for a couple of seasons now after living in Granbury for eight years. Being originally from New York, he’s developed a bit of a repu-

“I love coming out here and working as a team and getting that good, friendly competitive spirit between us and the other team.”

- Jay Johnson



Teammate
Ricky Barrett
congratulates
players.

“There’s anybody and everybody out here. You would be surprised to see who plays...”

- Maggie Wylie, Parks & Rec Coordinator

tation around the fields. It’s all in good fun however.

“I’m the mouth,” Johnson said. “Sometimes my New Yorker comes out.”

At 55-years old, Johnson said he could always use the exercise he gets. At night when he’s off from working in shipping for Sony, Microsoft and Intel, he enjoys the time he gets to spend on the field with his daughter and the others.

“I love the comradery,” Johnson said. “I love coming out here and working as a team and getting that good, friendly competitive spirit between us and the

other team. I’ve enjoyed every minute out here.”

For a growing community like Granbury, people from all walks of life will come in to play in the leagues, even more-so in the future, especially in the bigger sports such as flag football.

Winter flag football had nine teams registered. It is one signal of the growing adult rec leagues in Granbury.

“It doesn’t really go in the paper so it’s nice to see it growing,” Wylie said. “There’s anybody and everybody out here. You would be surprised to see who plays...” ■LGL

GET MORE OUT OF YOUR WORKOUT

CALL FOR YOUR
COMPLIMENTARY CONSULTATION



817-683-8347
www.teamtwenty4fitness.com

SugarTree Golf Club



PLANNING A GOLF OUTING?

LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT PLACE TO STAY & PLAY?

THE COTTAGE AT SUGAR TREE has everything you need. The beautifully restored 5 bed/2.5 bath Cottage is surrounded by the exclusive “Cottage Course” which includes 5 greens, 20 tee boxes, and a private driving range. Cottage guests enjoy unlimited private play on the “Cottage Course” during their stay. Also included in the package is one round of play per day on the award winning championship 18 hole course at SugarTree Golf Club.

For more information, please call the SugarTree Golf Club pro-shop at **817-341-1111**.



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



Membership Opportunities available now!!

251 SUGAR TREE DRIVE | LIPAN, TX 76462 | 817-341-1111

VISIT US AT WWW.SUGARTREEGOLF.COM

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

Bringing Up Babies in an App Wonderland

Words by **Andra Mayberry** | Photography by **M. Magee Photography**

While good old-fashioned research and hands-on experience will always be the best teacher, one thing is certain: technology is here to stay, so let's learn how best to use it.

As we all know, the year is now 2017 and at this very moment, there are some 100,000 educational apps available for download on the iTunes app store and the number is always increasing. Even the word "app" - which is the abbreviated word for applications used on smartphones and tablets - didn't exist until 2007. With all the new technology out there, how do we as parents, grandparents and teachers decipher what is useful and do these advances actually make our day-to-day parenting any easier?

Sorting through the labyrinth of technology, there is no hard and fast rule about what is right for your situation. We asked area parents to tell us what they use for their families and what local teachers find useful for their students. While good old-fashioned research and hands-on experience will always be the best teacher, one thing is certain: technology is here to stay, so let's learn how best to use it.

There is an app for just about anything you can think of, but when it comes to apps for managing our households, there are some clear winners, some just ok apps and some will just receive a ribbon for participation. Just as you're mindful of your children on the playground, we should also be mindful of what they are viewing during their screen time.

Parents of younger children are entering a brave new world regarding screen time and their toddlers.

In November of 2016, the American Academy of Pediatrics shifted its position from no screens for children aged 18 months and younger to an allowance of apps like Skype and FaceTime. For children 15 months to two years, it's said that some screen time is acceptable, as long as there is parental involvement or co-viewing. For children two to five years old, some studies have shown that this group is able to understand basic reading and math concepts introduced through apps, as well as social and emotional understanding. The AAP even went as far as endorsing the family of Sesame Street apps which are directed toward family dynamics such as divorce, incarceration and autism. Furthermore, the Breathe, Think, Do with the Sesame app teaches children "skills such as problem solving, self-control, planning, and task persistence."



DID YOU KNOW?

The vast majority (80%) of educational apps are for children—and within that group, the bulk of the apps are aimed at pre-school or elementary aged children and cover general learning goals.



Tolar kindergarten teacher Elise Greer pictured with her children, Kenna and Cash.



"My principal does a really good job of keeping us abreast of technology and we always talk about it during the summer. We do use technology in the classroom."

- Elise Greer

Let's consider this for a second: the first iPhone is older than your 10 year old. iPhones and other smartphones have now been a part of our everyday-life for an entire decade. This means our younger children have no frame of reference for what our lives were like before we turned to our devices for everything. Some children don't even know what a phone book is. We look at our phones while we rock our babies to sleep. We read books on our tablets before we go to sleep with white noise from our "Sleep Machine" apps. We prop up our iPads in the kitchen while trying out a new recipe. While some people still struggle with this being the new norm, most children only know life this way. For those of us who have embraced technology, we understand that the world is literally at our fingertips, but it can still be an overwhelming place.

What are we looking for?

It seems these days, parents of secondary-aged students, grades 7 through 12, leave the educational apps up to the teachers. Most parents we talked to faithfully use the Remind101 app to keep up with their kids' activities, while the apps students use in education are primarily

used by the students themselves.

Apps like PhotoMath are great for homework. For example, when an 8th-grade geometry assignment is giving you and your student a fit, simply place a problem in the brackets provided and the app goes to work solving the equation and more importantly, it breaks down the steps to the solution one by one. For a parent who truly struggled in all forms of math as a student, this app has reinvigorated a love of learning in my home. Parents praise the breakdown of the math problems they learned so long ago, review after review on the iTunes store claim it is the "best app ever" and that it "saved my life." Students learn how to solve the problems they may be struggling with and parents don't have to scribble through textbooks to no avail.

Parents of younger children, Pre-K through 6th grade, are primarily concerned with exposing their children to the best education apps available. The only problem is there are literally tens of thousands of apps to choose from. There are apps to teach children how to tie their shoes (Tie Your Shoes!), develop good bathroom and hygiene habits (Pepi Bath) and even an app that teaches Muslim



children how to properly pray and have good manners. The possibilities are literally endless. So what is a parent to do?

First, you know your child better than anyone else. Some children respond to games or apps that include space or dinosaurs. Some children prefer the ever-popular Disney-themed apps. And some children bounce from app to app like we shop in the Target Dollar Spot section. Apps that interest your child are out there. You just have to sift through the pixels to find them.

Educational apps

For toddlers to kindergartners, apps like Starfall, ABC Mouse and the Eggy series are fun, challenging and enhance your child's reading, writing and basic math skills. If your 7 to 10-year-old is looking for something different, Dino Chess, Dragonbox Algebra, Sushi Math and Cosmolander teaches kids how to play chess, advanced math concepts and all about the solar system, respectively. If you have an 11 to 18-year-old, you might be surprised how many apps overlap and can benefit students in the classroom and can prepare them for more advanced studies into college. Apps like Quizlet and Brain-Rush can help students study for a specific section of study materials. Poplet helps students study with mind-mapping technology and My Study Life keeps assignments in one convenient location on their tablet or smartphone.

Apps that interest your child are out there. You just have to sift through the pixels to find them.

Mrs. Greer's favorite apps

Tolar kindergarten teacher, Elise Greer is in her third year of teaching. She lives in Granbury with her husband, Eric, two children, Makenna, 11 and Cash, 9 and their two dogs. She was born to be an educator and considers it a calling. Hood County is blessed to have Mrs. Greer in the classroom and her students are even more blessed. Have one conversation with her and it's clear she is passionate about her job and bringing out the best in her students. Honestly, as parents, this woman is who you want on the frontlines of education and technology with our most precious assets.

While there are some school districts that claim to embrace technology, Tolar ISD clearly does. When asked if Tolar Elementary promotes and implements

technology in the classroom, Mrs. Greer replied, “Yes. Absolutely!” She adds, “my principal does a really good job of keeping us abreast of technology and we always talk about it during the summer. We do use technology in the classroom.”

Speaking of technology in the classroom, Mrs. Greer explains, “Our librarian has created folders for each grade level on the mini iPads and my kids know during English/Language Arts, you go into that folder and these are the reading apps you have to choose from. That’s what we do on a daily basis during our English/Language Arts block. Then, they use them during our math block and we use them for everything for reading.” One thing Mrs. Greer has strongly embraced is the use of the QR Code - those odd, jumbled, square icons we see on everything from cereal boxes to magazines. A Quick Response Code, or QR Code is simply a symbol created to be read by a QR scanner to obtain information; any kind of information. We’ve all seen them in marketing techniques, but to see them used in the classroom is truly a great use of this technology. “My kids can take their mini iPad and scan a QR code. It reads them the book, shows them the book and then asks them a question and they can respond on that page,” Mrs. Greer explains. “In Kindergarten, the biggest thing that we use besides Starfall and iStation and the Eggy (mentioned before) apps, is the QR scanner.”

This new QR code technology even moves with them to first grade where they continue to use the

software to learn social studies lessons. “I’ve seen the first-grade teachers use the QR codes in the hallway especially in science and social studies when we introduce a new concept. The students were actually learning about arctic animals so what they did was post facts all around the school and it’s like a scavenger hunt. They had a question and they scan the QR code to search for the right answer so they can fact check. This method just takes it to a next level.” Teachers like Mrs. Greer are truly at the forefront of the technology our young children were born into.

These modern times afford us all so much convenience and opportunity to see the world and learn about things we didn’t have access to before. For example, having the ability to sit in your living room and see the man-made islands off the coast of Dubai using Google Earth is truly mesmerizing. As mentioned, there is an app for anything you may want to teach your children. There is no magic solution to the screen time vortex, but this much we know is true: there is no substitute for what we parents can provide for our children. They will always ultimately choose us over any app. ■LGL



**SCAN THE QR CODE
TO ACCESS THE
FULL INTERVIEW**





Dr. Bruce Wadley
Dr. Timothy Bowers

Therapeutic Optometrists

- 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

THE **Best** of 2013 2012 2011
HoodCounty



www.annwhitecottonhomes.com



817-219-2030

"The sweetness of a low price fades quickly, the bitterness of poor quality lasts as long as you own the home"



2



1



3

Spring Bundles of Joy

Photography provided by Misti White Photography

- 1. **Jett Powell** | Parents: Jeff & Chasity Powell
- 2. **Olivia Herrin** | Parents: Josh & Roxie Herrin
- 3. **Blakely Lipoma** | Parents: Mike & Jessica Lipoma
- 4. **Henry Borders** | Parents: Brian & Mollie Borders
- 5. **Adeline Snodgrass** | Parents: Will & Jalyn Snodgrass
- 6. **Avery Rist** | Parents: Acie & Kate Rist
- 7. **Jacob Guerrero** | Parents: Jeffrey & Emily Guerrero
- 8. **Eden White** | Parents: Marcus & Courtleigh White
- 9. **Luke Wilcoxon** | Parents: Chase & Laura Wilcoxon
- 10. **Abby Winters** | Parents: Josh & Amy Winters
- 11. **Taryn Armontrout** | Parent: Shauna Briley
- 12. **Brighton Lawson** | Parents: Shane & Bailey Lawson
- 13. **Stetson Tierce** | Parents: Ashley & Lindsey Tierce



4



5



6



7



8



9



10



11



12

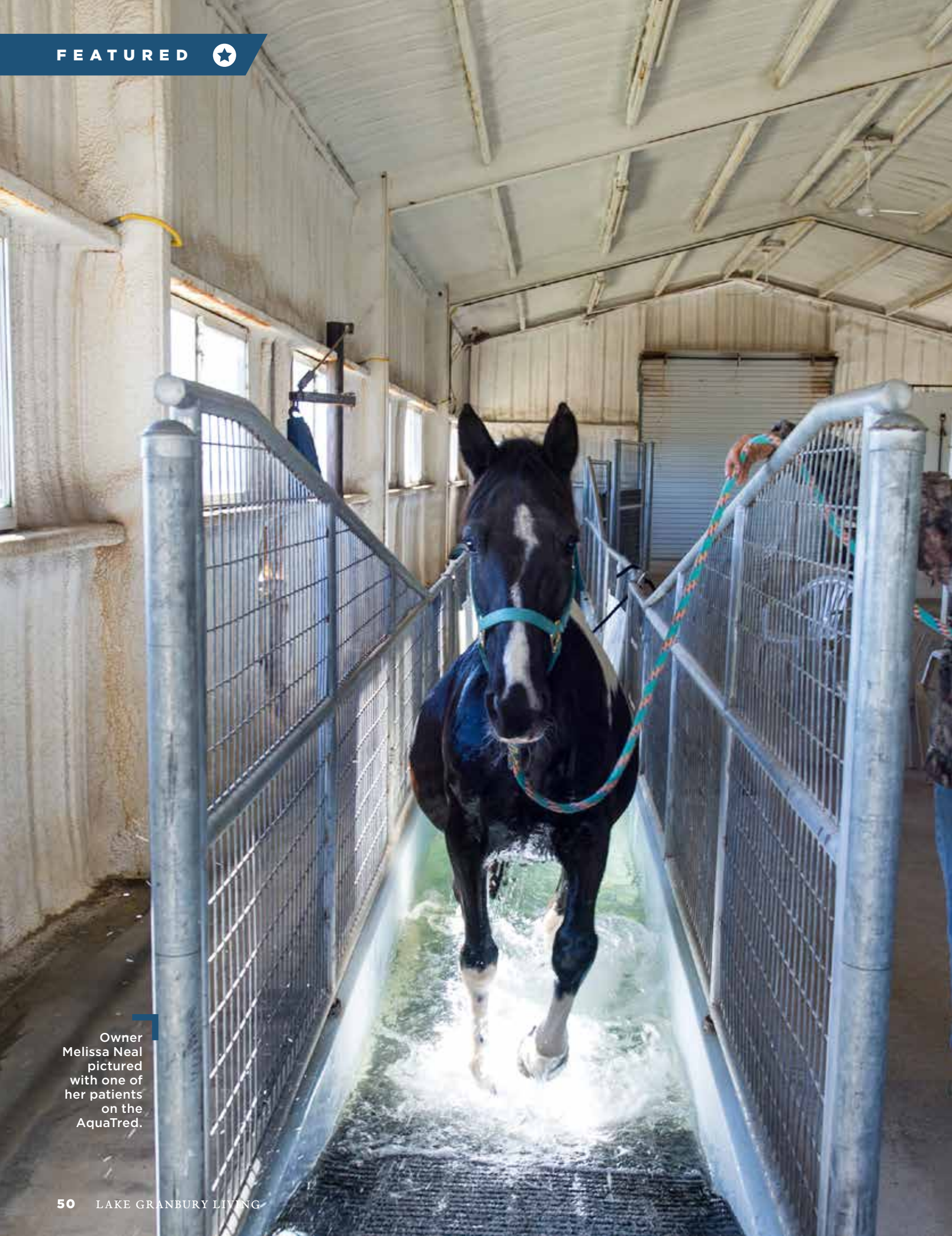


13

Misti White
photography
www.MistiWhitePhotography.com 817-559-1010

Specializing in newborn & high school senior portraiture





Owner
Melissa Neal
pictured
with one of
her patients
on the
AquaTred.



Fixing Pegasus

Words by **LM Johnson** | Photography by **Stephanie Fisher**

The patient eyes me momentarily, then concentrates again on the task at hand. He is chest deep in running water, beneath the water his feet like a treadmill are also running.

This is state of the art sports medicine; 15 minutes on the AquaTred is the equivalent of an hour of running on dry land. Running being perhaps the operative word, since the patient is a speckled grey quarter horse named Laredo, and he's getting an early morning fitness workout at Cold River Equine Sports Medicine & Rehab.

Horses in all conditions of need and injury have been coming to Cold River for 13 years, their owners seeking services and help that is often not available elsewhere. The issue may be a simple matter of ramping up conditioning prior to a long trail ride, or the more complicated and serious one of healing a potentially fatal injury. It's all to be had on the 15 acres with its 100 X 200 arena, located at 5901 Monroe Hwy, off the Weatherford Hwy, just north past the intersection in Cresson of 171 and 377.

Cold River is the brainchild and passion of owner and founder Melissa Neal, a native of San Antonio (b. 1969), and it began with a life-changing tragedy. "I'd always wanted to work doing something with horses. Then my own horse, Kenya, got hurt." The hurt was one of the worst possible. "We got T-boned by another horse when we were riding in competition. Broke my horse's leg, and it was like my whole world disappeared from under me."



(Middle photo)
Owner of Cold
River Equine,
Melissa Neal

But giving up was not an option. “I decided to see what I could do myself. So I just kept looking until I found a vet brave enough and smart enough to operate on him. Then there was rehab, and that took so long and was so intense that it inspired me.”

Kenya survived (he is now 18 years old), and his owner had found her calling. Fourteen years as a dental hygienist gave way to an internship at KESMARC (Kentucky Equine Sports Medicine and Rehab Clinic. “Sort of a Cold River on Steroids.”), classes in Oregon for electrical stimulation therapy, and certification as an animal care specialist. The eventual result was a full-service center dedicated to restoring healthy horses to grateful and delighted owners. “Nothing’s more rewarding than seeing that smile on the owner’s face, and a horse that’s just shiny and healthy and ready to go. That’s just great.”

Services and treatments offered include not only the AquaTred, but the EquiCizer (a huge enclosed horizontal exercise wheel with individual compartments for up to six patients), ultrasound, and electrical stimulation therapy—a therapy familiar to

plenty of humans who have spent time in the hands of a competent chiropractor.

This is not a coincidence. Horses, it seems, can also benefit from getting an adjustment—as well as acupuncture and Asian herbal remedies. Among the many veterinary health specialists who work with Melissa and Cold River are equine chiropractors like Dr. Joseph Parish, and their collective ministrations have, over the years, saved many horses otherwise doomed to premature retirement—or worse. As Melissa notes, “We get a lot of last ditch cases. And we’ll try anything that works.”

Patients range from the saddle horses that provide weekend pleasure to so many in the North Texas horse culture to the top athletes of the equine world. “We get cutters, 3-day eventers, ropers, lots of barrel racers. About 50/50 are racing horses.”

Horses with other, more esoteric histories come as well. Chip and Dale, a pair of black Percherons, spent their early lives as a coaching team before coming to Cold River for treatment of work related injuries, afterwards going on to a different employ-



ment with an Amish farmer. A beautiful, half draft, half thoroughbred bay mare is the likely offspring of one of those unfortunate mares kept permanently pregnant in order to serve as a source of the hormones used by the pharmaceutical industry for hormone replacement in human females. She boards at Cold River, enjoying a leisure only occasionally punctuated by time under a saddle.

When asked, Ms. Neal confirms that Cold River's 30 stalls have also hosted more than a few equine rock stars— mega-pricey beauties whose identities and presence are as closely guarded while in rehab as that of any human celebrity. "No names, please." She points to a young thoroughbred stallion, adding, "He sold for a quarter million as a colt."

But whether the patient is a young girl's first horse bought with babysitting money, or a six figure, 4-legged investment owned by a multinational consortium, the focus is always on the patient. "Horses are individuals just like we are. That stallion I just showed you is as gentle and sweet as he could be. He'll walk right past any other horse, even a mare,

and he doesn't even turn his head. But that gelding over there by himself is a bully. He tries to beat up everyone, but now that we've put him off by himself, he's started to behave. After a bit, we can try putting him back with some of the other horses."

There have been memorable cases. Monet, a black Friesian mare, suffered a rare and potentially fatal case of whiplash, possibly after being startled by a storm and wheeling into a tree. The resulting damage was horrific: "Basically, it just destroyed the nerves in her neck on one side and down her back. The whole side of her body was just withering. She'd been to all these vets who all did the same thing and none of it was working." As for many other horses, Cold River and its multiple therapies was the court of last appeal and eventual salvation. "It took us four and a half or five months, but we got her fixed. The muscles came back. She went back to the show ring."

Besides Ms. Neal, there are three part-time employees at Cold River, and their work extends to not only the ailing, but those in need of some chill time. "When a horse is about to go into the ring for roping,



For a moment, the three horses wait while vacuuming stray bits of alfalfa off an otherwise immaculate floor. Then they fall in behind their leader, following her into the sunlight like so many giant puppies.

they'll be waiting and moving for hours, then they get that one minute with the calf. That gets to them the same way it gets to us. They get stressed out." Arguably, a stay at Cold River is spa time—at least for the ultimate clients.

Not so the owner, who routinely, cheerfully, pulls fifteen hour days ("Getting to do what you love isn't a job."). But there is still time for the hard fun of competition. Melissa finished second in her class at the 2016 Ft. Worth Stock Show. The event? Mounted shooting with pistol and rifle. "It was good! Yes, yes, yes! I shot well." Her mount was Laredo, who spent eight months training to deal with the sound and smell of gunfire.

There is the future to consider. Among the four to six interns (many of them from the cowboy campus of Tarleton State University in Stephenville)

who come yearly to study and learn at Cold Water there may be a successor. "It's something I learned from my grandparents, who were Depression kids. You've got to give back to the community. Maybe one of these interns will finally come back to me and say, "Hey, the work was hard but I loved it here. Wanna sell?"

But not now. This morning, rain has slowed the daily routine, keeping everyone in their stall. But the weather is lifting, and it's time to go outside, where horses are happiest. The lane between the two sides of the barn fills quickly as Melissa opens each stall and snaps a lead on the occupant. For a moment, the three horses wait while vacuuming stray bits of alfalfa off an otherwise immaculate floor. Then they fall in behind their leader, following her into the sunlight like so many giant puppies. ■LGL.



Hank FM's Valentine's Party

Granbury Resort Conference Center

Sat., February 11, 2017

Photography provided by Hank FM

92.1 Hank invited residents of Granbury to listen to Andy Meadows and his Big Band, and to enjoy a night of dinner and dancing with their significant other.





How to Get Involved

Words by **Melissa McGavock** | Photography courtesy of **Lindsey Powell**

FEATURE EVENT:

Ruth's Place Handsome Hunks of Hood County
February 9, 2017

The evening is an annual favorite for the community and this year, nearly \$100,000 was raised for Ruth's Place.

Handsome Hunks was a great success and equally fun for the audience and the 12 gentlemen competing for the title of Handsome Hunk of Hood County 2017.

Results as features on ruthsplace.wixsite.com:

Gary Folger of Christina's Bistro was named the Handsome Hunk winner and Cody Trahern of Sight Glass Flights was the runner-up. Aaron Lemons of Grumps gave the audience a great show in the first ever "Tragic Mic" lip sync contest and was the hands down winner. Dr. Romeo Bachand won the People's Choice award by raising the most money.

Special thanks to all those participating: Dr. Romeo Bachand, Marcus Chavez, David Cowley, Cooper Dodd, Gary Folger, Kevin Greene, Aaron Lemons, Cameron Hooper, Ty Roberts, Leslie Tackitt, Cody Trahern and Chris Vandenberg.





LOOKING FORWARD:

Philanthropic Happenings this Spring

April 7

Major League's Baseball Pitch, Hit and Run

Boys and Girls Club of Hood County STARS Clubhouse

3000 Acton School Road

3:00pm - 5:00pm

Major League Baseball Pitch Hit & Run (PHR) is a FREE, 1-day event for boys and girls ages 7-14*. Participants compete in either the Baseball or Softball division and have the opportunity to advance through four levels of competition including Locals, Sectionals, Team Championships and the National Finals at the MLB All-Star Game.

www.bgchoodcounty.org/mlbs-pitch-hit--run-2017.html

April 8

5th Annual Blue Bolt Color 10K/5K

Paluxy River Children's Advocacy Center Hewlett Park

8:00am - 12:00pm

Fifth annual Blue Bolt Color 5K / 10K Run / Walk Family Fun Run Online registration available. The vision of the PRCAC is to reduce the trauma to child abuse victims and their non-offending family members and to work toward improving the justice system's response to child abuse by uniting the efforts of public agencies and enlisting community support.

paluxyrivercac.org

April 29

Healthy Kids Day

YMCA

Hood County YMCA

8:30am - 10:30am

This national event is one that all YMCA's participate in. For Hood County, the YMCA is partnering with Project Graduation, an event part-

nership that works well. Available at the event will be community vendors, crafts for kids and families, Paluxy River CAC will also be in attendance, dental health awareness, daycamp information, swim lesson registration, and various upcoming activities' info.

ymcafw.org/healthy-kids-day

May 26 - 29

A Field of Flags: Remembrance and Honor

Field of Flags Granbury, Texas

Presented by Greater Granbury Military Officers Association of America

3602 E. Highway 377

This is a wonderful opportunity to visibly honor and remember all of our military and first responders-present and past-all of those currently serving, those who have served in the past and those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. Hundreds of flags will fly on Highway 377 during Memorial Day weekend. Each 3' x 5' flag in our field will have a tag that will identify the person or unit being honored.

granburyfieldofflags.com

October 6

Annual Golf Tournament

Boys and Girls Club of Hood County Squaw Creek Golf Course

The core belief of our local Boys and Girls Club is to provide "a safe place to learn and grow, ongoing relationships with caring, adult professionals, life-enhancing programs and character development experiences, hope and opportunity."

Golf Tournament registration and scholarships available online.

bcghoodcounty.org

Don't see your upcoming event listed?

Email the Editor

melissa@envisionrocks.com

We'd be glad to add

your event to our

website and Facebook page.

LAKE
GRANBURY
Living

Photo courtesy by Shad Ramsey



#granburysquare
granburysquare.com



FIND YOUR NEW **FAVORITE** WEEKEND
On Texas' Most Vibrant Downtown Square

HISTORIC
GRANBURY
MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION



LAW OFFICE OF
Daniel P. Webb

danielpwebb.com | 106 S. Jones Street | Granbury, Texas 76048

ATTORNEYS:

Daniel Webb  BOARD CERTIFIED
From Board of Legal Specialization

Board Certified in Family Law
Thompson Reuters Super Lawyer
Rising Star from 2012- Present

Katie Williams

**TESTED.
TRUSTED.
EXPERIENCED.**

CALL TODAY
817.408.3541

FAMILY LAW • CIVIL LITIGATION • CRIMINAL DEFENSE


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



Now offering Acupuncture and Chiropractics

24 HOUR EMERGENCY
House Calls Available



817.326.6262  Like us on Facebook

5700 East HWY 377, Granbury | allcreaturesgranbury.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.®



Mon - Fri: 7am - 6pm Sat & Sun: Closed

3809 E US Highway 377 (Across from HEB), Granbury, TX

(817) 573-3911 / ChristianBrothersAuto.com



Residential | Commercial | Industrial

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



M.M

SEATTLE (i) DALLAS

WWW.MMAGEEPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

WHAT
is your
VISION
?

WE CAN HELP.
design • print • web

enVision
CREATIVE SERVICES

www.envisionrocks.com

Sometimes We All Need a Little Extra "Help"...

IN-HOME SENIOR CARE

- Bathing, Grooming & Hygiene Assistance
- Companionship
- Transportation Assistance
- Grocery Shopping & Errand Assistance
- Meal Preparation & Meal Delivery
- Light Housekeeping
- Medication Reminders
- Continued Exercise & Strength Building Programs

817-773-5818
www.TheHelpPrivateCare.com

201 E. Pearl Street | Suite C-106 | Granbury, Texas 76048

MOTHERS DAY
SHOW MOM SHE IS LOVED

Mothers Rings
(Order by April 25)

TROY VINSON
JEWELERS

troyvinsonjewelers.com
401 E. Hwy 377
Granbury, TX 76048
(In front of Home Depot)

817-573-7881



**Quail
Park**
of Granbury



A Senior Lifestyle Community

Always making new friends
and celebrating each day...

Welcome to Quail Park

817.953.0913

Independent Living | Assisted Living | Memory Care

Quail Park of Granbury

Simply Your Best Choice in Senior Lifestyle Communities 

www.QuailParkofGranbury.com/Showcase

2300 Paluxy Highway | Granbury, TX 76048 |  

FNB

Your Hometown Bank

CONNECT WITH US



817.573.2655

www.fnbgranbury.com



James Hodges
President / CEO

Matt Bufkin
VP / CFO

Mark Webb
SVP / CLO

Greg Warren
VP / CRO

MAIN BANK

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

PECAN PLANTATION

9205 Plantation Road
Suite 101
817-579-5677

TOLAR BANKING CENTER

8401 Highway 377 West
254-835-4338

ACTON BANK

3000 Fall Creek Highway
817-326-3000

HWY 144 BANK

1905 Morgan Street
817-579-1980

FNB MORTGAGE GROUP

4062 E. Highway 377
817-279-6655

HWY 377 BANK

4064 E. Highway 377
817-579-2655

COMING SOON

NOLAN RIVER BANKING CENTER

1705 N. Nolan River Road
Cleburne, TX 76033
817-526-7031

COME SEE
WHY WE
HAVE BEEN
VOTED THE
BEST LENDING
TEAM IN HOOD
COUNTY FOR
7 YEARS



Larry Wilkins

Ron Hampton

Deborah Bartram

Mike Moore

817.279.6655

www.mgfnb.com

4062 E. Highway 377 | Granbury, TX 76049