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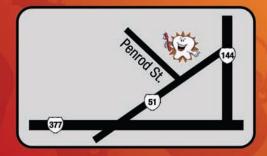
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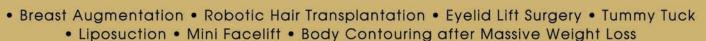
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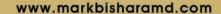
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ON THE COVER



Ben and Margret Fields operate Project-44 on the farm where they married 20 years ago.

Photo by Vanessa Polozola.

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Editor's Note

Hello, Friends!

Do you like to play golf? Eat Bavarian food? Rendezvous in New Orleans? Boot scoot in rodeo dirt? Drool over classic Corvettes? A quick glance at the calendar shows no less than seven benefits to raise funds for charities here in Granbury alone. This is the month, when our spirits are high, the weather's fine and opportunities to give are sublime.

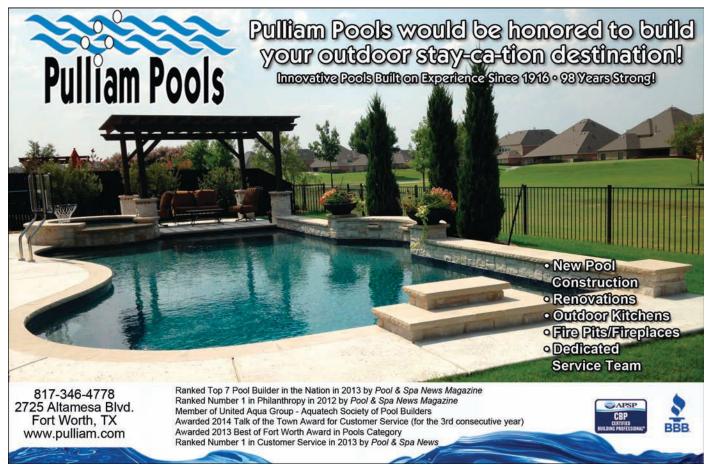
Our problems could be solved by focusing on where and how to help. At least that seems to be what happens in my life. My ways of helping are not calculable, but as I can discern the fit between my skills and another's mission, I am glad to try to share the load. May you be given clarity on how you can be of service to your neighbor, friends and family and then, may you enjoy innumerable rewards.

Happy fall!

Melissa

Melissa Rawlins Granbury/NOW Editor melissa.rawlins@nowmagazines.com (817) 629-3888











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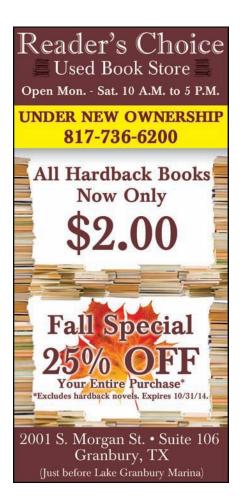
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Sharing(

— By Melissa Rawlins

Ben and Margret Fields have never been hungry.

Still, their hearts go out to people who are. So the Fields grow fields of fresh produce and give the harvest away to food banks. They also give away vehicles

— and counseling. Margret, a licensed professional counselor for over 10 years, is currently studying for her master's in divinity at Brite School of Divinity at Texas Christian University.

Ben runs an auto repair shop in Fort Worth.

They believe in using whatever resources, gifts and

talents come to them naturally to aid those in need.

Employing one experienced organic farmer, who offered his services when he discovered their mission, the Fields operate as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization called Project-44. The name is inspired by the 44th book in the Bible, and Ben and Margret endeavor to live their lives the way the early Christians did in the Book of Acts.

Acts 2:44 actually records that those believers sold their property and gave their possessions for the communal good.

On many levels, that is what Ben and Margret have done. What had begun unofficially years earlier as a car ministry with Ben continually giving away spiffed-up

 \mathcal{G} od walks up and kisses me right on the face every now and then."











said Ben, whose associate degrees in auto technology and diesel technology prepared him to run a successful business serving customers of every economic level, including the wealthy. But the benefit of those connections had not yet dawned on him.

Ben's faith grew through what happened next. "God walks up and kisses me right on the face every now



and then," he said, explaining that while sitting in a day-long class taught by Mary Fulbright, "an extremely stern retired nun," she made reference to a few specific people in Fort Worth. Ben's mouth fell open, because he happened to have a \$1,000 check from one of them in his drawer at the shop. "I wrote God Thing at the top of my handout."

Within days, he received an unsolicited call from a stranger, whose name he'd highlighted on that handout. She invited Ben to apply for a grant from Christ Chapel Church, whose pastor had a friend who was one of Ben's customers and had overheard him excitedly



brainstorming about the car ministry. "One of my friends and I had decided not to change or cut our hair until we changed the world. I showed up at Christ Chapel looking like that," Ben said, "and they gave us \$12,000 and made two videos for us!" Project-44's first donated car came from a man who was at that meeting. The Volvo needed quite a bit of work, but repairing cars is one of Ben's gifts.

During 2008, Project-44's first official year, the Fields' goal was to give away 10 cars, and they ended up providing 12. Since then, they've given away 30 cars per year, totaling 200 to date.

By 2013, Margret had been appointed to ministry at Acton United Methodist Church. Her proximity positioned Project-44 to give away 25 cars in six weeks to people from Rancho Brazos Estates after the tornado. "Not just materially," she said, "but spiritually we lent to people knowledge that in the midst of something terrible, God does provide."

Ben sees everything as provision. He repurposed redwood planks, sitting in his father's garage for over 25 years, to build a tree house in a huge Live Oak in the midst of the Project-44 gardens. Here, children play while their parents volunteer to weed the fields and harvest huge amounts of organic produce.

"The thing that bothers me," Ben said, "is many times you'll see people struggling for food and all the kids are fat. People assume they're not missing meals, when in reality they're only able to get mostly starch and orange soda



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*J. Scott Smith, M.D., is an Independent Member of the Medical Staff at LGMC.







water. So those kids are having health problems and early onset diabetes. They're struggling in school and unable to do better. Those people don't have access to healthy produce." The 2.5-acre Project-44 farm in Granbury grows every seasonal vegetable you can think of. Summer harvests include burgundy okra, green peppers, cucumbers, squash, tomatoes, beets, chard, potatoes and onions. Fall harvests are providing sweet potatoes, butternut and acorn squash, as well as greens.

This winter, thanks to the hydroponic garden Guy Cameron created under a greenhouse canopy, Project-44 will give away lettuces and green leafy vegetables. They also raise and share alreadyprocessed pheasant, turkey and other fowl. "We give eggs away, too - 50 per day," Margret said.

Local people can get weekly supplies of nutritious food from Ruth's Place, the Christian Service Center at Granbury Church of Christ, Mission Granbury, People Helping People, First Methodist Church food distribution and Tolar United Methodist Church. Volunteers from those organizations come weekly to Project-44's walk-in cooler where daily harvests are stored. "They can take whatever they think they can distribute," Ben said. "Everything needs to be eaten. I don't want any to go to waste."

Life for Ben and Margret is extraordinary, now that they've acted on their desire to serve those in need. "I work about four times harder than my normal inclination to work, because I'm basically a lazy person, but I'm happier than I've ever been all my life," she said. "There are obviously days when it's hot and we're sweaty, but it's not drudgery."

"When you stand up and agree to do what God's asked you to do," Ben said, "then He does all the heavy lifting." **NOW**

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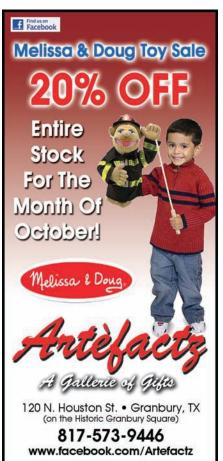
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AT HOME WITH

Marnye Diekerson



Paid Back Double

— By Erin McEndree

Marnye Dickerson did not know moving to Granbury in 1999 would turn into a roller coaster ride of emotional ups and downs. She became a single mom, she hurt her back and could no longer work, and her home became a tornado target. "I came here fighting. I did not want to move," Marnye admitted. "But now, I am so glad we did. My kids, Brandon and Jessi, have great schools, and I love the community." Faith and the community made up the glue that held Marnye together through all her trials.

When Marnye became a single mother eight years ago, she lived from day to day with many expenses. She had a nice enough mobile home, but admits it was falling apart. "My friend, Alicia Churchwell, urged me to apply for a home from Habitat for Humanity," Marnye said. "As I was waiting on the committee to make their decision, I acted as if we had already been selected. When a knock on the door finally came a month later, it was already dark. Someone handed me a hammer with a ribbon on it."

The process from start to finish was about a year. Habitat for Humanity's mission is to put God's love into action by coming alongside a community to build decent homes for people in need. Habitat uses volunteer labor and donations from individuals and organizations. For instance, at this month's car show on the Square, Brazos River Corvette Club will raise funds to benefit Habitat. Last month, BRCC members helped build a Habitat home in Rancho Brazos.

When the Dickerson home was built between 2012 and 2013, Brandon, Jessi and Marnye had to donate 300 hours of



from co-workers within the Bealls company. I felt like the king's daughter every morning. It was amazing!"

Ron Cullers provided Marnye with a vehicle while hers was being repaired. People at Stonewater Church, where Marnye attends, provided a car for Brandon. Habitat for Humanity requires homeowners to have insurance, which made it possible for Marnye to rebuild her home. She began the tedious process of hiring people to repair and replace what was damaged. She hired Will Steed to complete her entire remodel and replace the chain link fence with a tall,



wooden privacy fence. Grass was laid over the glass that could not be removed from the soil when all the windows were blown out. "We had to make the backyard safe for our dog," Marnye said.

Marnye picked stainless steel appliances to replace the white appliances. The walls are barn red. The granite

countertops, a gift from Richard and D'anne, are black with flecks of chestnut that match the cabinetry. A black, counter-height dining table with four black chairs is anchored on a red and tan rug in the middle of the kitchen. A large window looks over the backyard.

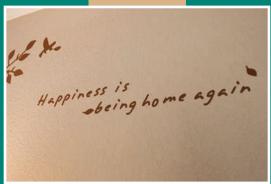
A similar large window is in the living room. Two tan couches with large wooden feet make a comfortable sitting area. Against the wall a buffet holds





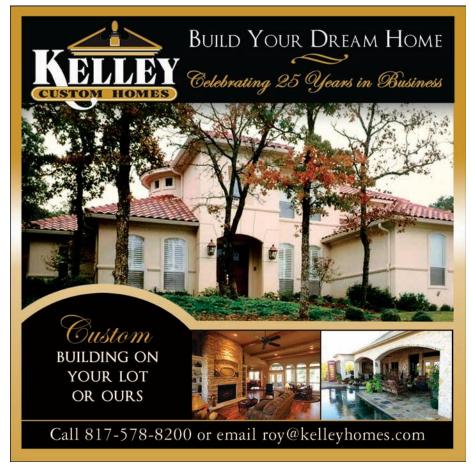






"God had taken what the enemy intended for bad and used it for good. He saved us for a reason and blessed us with a neighborhood built on love."













many family pictures. Marnye sanded, buffed and repainted the dresser that once belonged to her grandmother. "My grandmother was my rock. She was a strong Christian woman who helped raise me," Marnye said. "I took care of her in my home until she passed away."

The master bedroom is filled with black furnishings and pops of color like the red lamp on the side table. "This is the first time in my life I have had furniture this nice," Marnye said. Red and orange throw pillows accent the bed. A large decorative cross that D'anne made is proudly displayed on the side table.

Across the hall is Jessi's room. An accent wall is painted in bittersweet chocolate. The other walls are a creamy color called lamb's ear. A tree branch silhouette reaches across the wall and birds fly from its branches. Jessi chose teal to accentuate her room. A large teal bird sits in a black tree beside Jessi's bed. "I have the room I have always wanted," Jessi said. The black and white bed spread has cities like New York, London and Amsterdam printed on it and ties in well with her black furniture.

Marnye found strength as she built her home alongside Habitat. "They really



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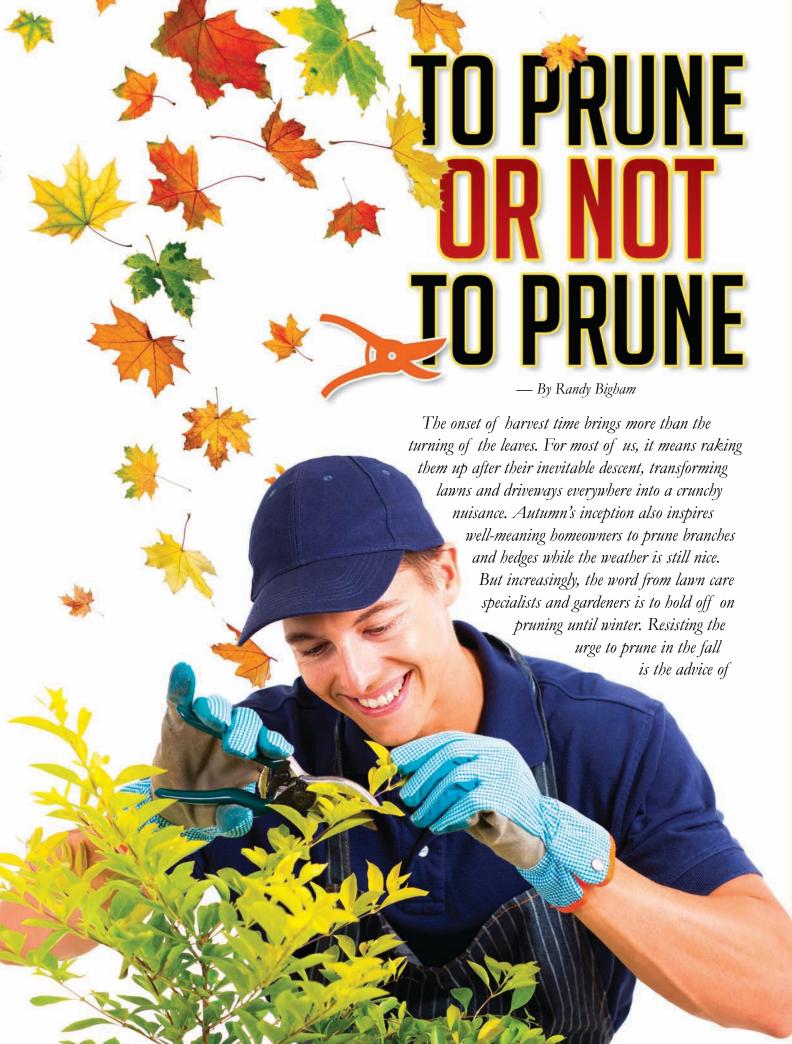




stick by you in your time of need," she said. In turn, Marnye tries to encourage other single moms in their trials, and she dreams of one day working alongside the elderly to ease their struggles. "God had taken what the enemy intended for bad and used it for good. He saved us for a reason and blessed us with a neighborhood built on love."

One of Marnye's favorite quotes is, "I'm thankful for my struggles because that is when I stumbled across my strengths." Whatever her future holds, Marnye counts her blessings every day and realizes she has been paid back double good for her troubles. NOW





famous green thumb Paul James, host of HGTV's Gardening by the Yard. "The tender new growth that would result may not have a chance to harden sufficiently before cold weather arrives," Paul explained, "and that can lead to damage."

Horticulturalist Deborah Brown agreed. "Pruning in late winter, just before spring growth starts," she said, "leaves fresh wounds exposed for only a short time before new growth begins the wound-sealing process."

Gardening author Mike McGrath is more adamant in his advice. "The rules of fall pruning are simple," he maintained. "Prune nothing in the fall! Nada! Zilch! Ladies, hide the pruners from helpful husbands!"

But we yard lovers needn't fret. There's plenty of lawn and garden maintenance for us to accomplish long before winter wields its icy claws.



Lawn cleanup and maintenance

Keeping lawns free of leaves is the main objective in the fall, so let the raking begin. And we may as well do it the right way. Yes, there's a method to leaf-free madness, as Barbara Pleasant outlines in her book *Compost Gardening*. She recommends raking with the wind (and downhill when possible). Matching your rake to the kind of leaves in your yard and to your body type is also suggested. Your favorite mom-and-pop garden



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centers, as well as your local big box stores, offer a range of sizes and weights.

Most importantly, use your shredded leaves as mulch. "Leaves contain some of the nutrients that trees and shrubs have taken out of the soil," Barbara wrote, "and it's in keeping with nature's plan that you should give back some of those purloined nutrients by mowing over part of your annual leaf fall, thus returning organic matter to the soil." Ellis County Master Gardeners are in favor of this form of organic recycling, advising a 3- to 6-inch layer of leaves as mulch in vegetable and flower beds and around trees and bushes.

Writer and avid gardener Lisa Kaplan Gordon suggests patching bare or thin spots of grass during the fall. Remove dead grass and replace with an inch of compost and an appropriate grass seed suited to shade or sun. "You'll want to keep the patch moist," Lisa said, "so lightly water once a day until the seed germinates, and the new grass gets about 1-inch tall."

Planting and transplanting

Fall is a good time for planting vines and ground covers from containers. Cool-season annuals like pansies, daffodils, dianthus and ornamental kale or cabbage are ripe for autumnal planting, as are leeks, garlic and onions, especially



those "from bulbs in soil enriched with organic matter."

Paul James believes container plants deserve more attention from fall gardeners than they receive. "You can take cuttings of various annuals and root them in either water or a potting medium such as vermiculite, perlite or soil-less potting mix," he instructed. Paul also recommends transplanting potted perennials into the garden.

Fertilizing

Roger Cook of *This Old House* magazine reminds his readers fall is the optimum time for fertilizing their lawns. "Taking the time to fertilize in the fall will strengthen your plants' and lawn's roots, giving them a strong base on which to thrive next spring," he pointed out. He recommends a formula of 20-8-8 (nitrogen-phosphorus-potassium) for the best blade, foliage and root growth and trace element absorption. Check with your local Master Gardeners for the ideal time for lawn fertilization. Roger also suggests fertilizing shrubs and trees in the fall. "I recommend applying one to three







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pounds of slow-release nitrogen per 1,000 square feet of bed and cultivating lightly," he shared.

Pruning

While fall pruning isn't advocated by most professionals, there are some basics to remember and apply to the task when trimming is safer for the plants. Mike McGrath expounded on why it's advisable not to prune until winter. "As I try to stress every year at this time, pruning now stimulates new growth just when the plants are trying to go dormant, and this severely weakens the plants."

Once winter has arrived, pruning is recommended to promote overall plant health, encourage flower and fruit development, control size and eliminate broken, hazardous branches. For large, established trees, pruning is best left to qualified professionals. A number of knowledgeable, reputable tree trimming services provide care programs and fertilization. Some employ certified arborists to assist clients and offer tree trimming along with traditional lawn and garden packages.

Among shrubs to prune in winter are hydrangeas and camellias. Trees to be pruned at the same time include: juniper, spruce, Bradford pear, honey locust and poplar. Trees *not* to prune in winter are maple, birch, dogwood, walnut and elm.

Whether raking and mulching or planting and fertilizing, remember to pace yourself. As Barbara Pleasant wrote in *Compost Gardening*, "Leaf season will last for several weeks, so you have plenty of time to let yourself enjoy the weather and the work!"



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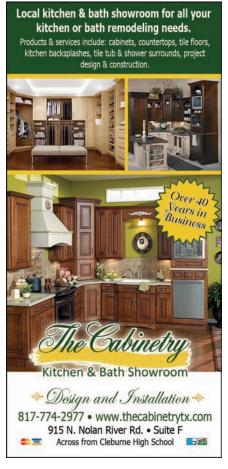
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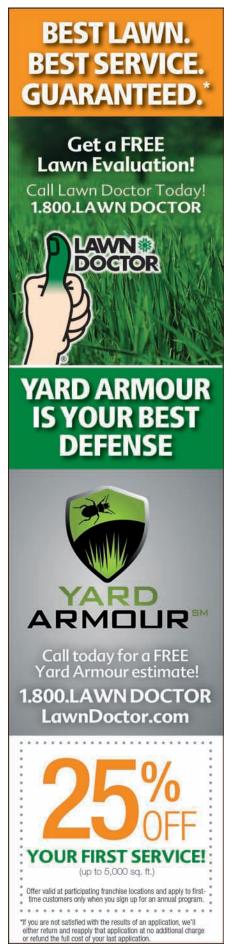




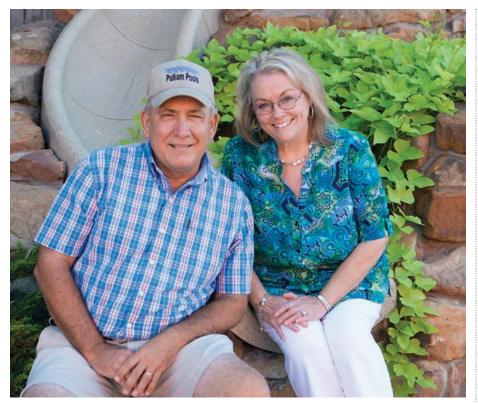








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Mike Clark and Debra Smith worked for a combined 44 years before purchasing the company in 2009. Year by year they expand customers' options for astounding backyards.

Something for Everyone

Pulliam Pools would be honored to build your outdoor staycation destination! — By Melissa Rawlins

Bring your dreams of a fantastic backyard to life by partnering with Pulliam Pools. Having built pools in North Central Texas rock and dirt since 1916, they are qualified to answer your every question and pre-empt every conceivable construction challenge. Their staff designs, schedules and supervises the construction of custom in-ground swimming pools, quality pergolas, decking, fireplaces and outdoor kitchens that stand the test of time.

Touring Pulliam Pools' naturalized showroom reveals endless possibilities for creating an outdoor space to delight your senses 24/7. A myriad of subtle enhancements — from jetted fountains to colored LED lighting — will allow many options for backyard ambience throughout fall and winter and into the spring and summer swim seasons.

Pulliam Pools' substantial substructures incorporate aesthetics such as LED lighting, to make the water glow in a variety of colors to light up the holidays, and fire pitts, so when it is chilly outside people can enjoy Texas skies while listening to sounds of water. Even in smaller pools, technology like tiny misting jets makes water flow. Of course, larger settings might include a fountain, deck jets, waterfalls, fire features, tanning ledge bubbler fountains or sheer descent streams. An iAquaLink by Zodiac will allow you to turn on your spa, so it will be hot and ready when you get home from work.

Is star-gazing from your heated spa part of your dream? "We developed the rounded edge spa, so you can lay your head back," President Debra Smith said. She is accredited as a Certified Building Professional through the Association of Pool and Spa Professionals

Business NOW

(APSP). Around her pool, Debra landscapes with plants that stay green or bloom through the winter.

At the Fort Worth showroom, designers talk with you beside life-size slides, functioning waterfalls, installed roofing and a full-size fire pit. Their goal is to educate customers, so they will be happy with their decisions after installation. Nearly 20 samples of flagstone and Sundek finishes surround the building, complementing two planters showing the difference between river rock and moss rock. "We tell them up front that moss rock will be hard to walk on." Debra said.

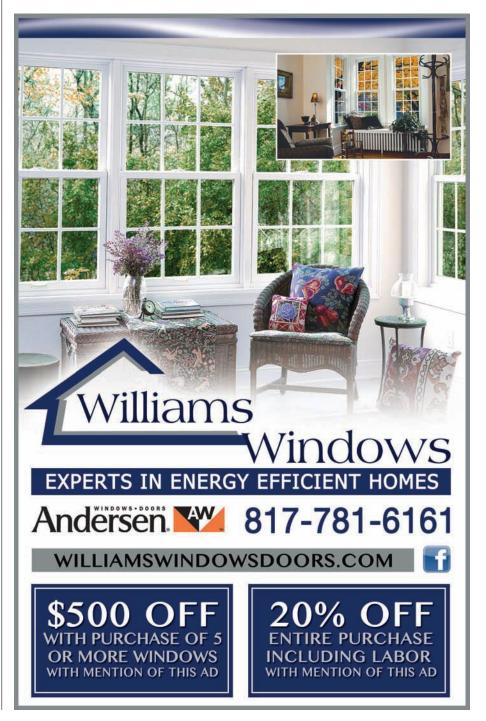
The indoor showroom displays kitchens, pool edges and tiles. Be sure to experience two marvelous showcases, one filled with artifacts from Pulliam Pools' nearly 100-year history and another showing the many awards they have accumulated throughout the years. Designers can describe what their experience has shown them will work for you and your backyard.

"Our customer is everyone," Debra said. Although families with children still top the list of who buys pools, they find more and more grandparents are buying for their grandchildren, and more parents are buying for their kids.

Debra and her business partner, Mike Clark, worked for the third-generation owner, Barry Pulliam, a combined 44 years before purchasing the company in 2009. Debra and Mike are already planning celebrations for the 100th anniversary in February 2016. Every day they are grateful to be able to provide employment for a large staff that stays very busy making happy memories for families in and around Granbury.

Last year, their stellar reputation for building dream pools in one to two months earned Pulliam Pools "Best of Fort Worth" in the pool category. "Pool and Spa News surveyed our customers and rated us No. 1 in customer service in the nation for 2014," Debra said, "and in the top 10 for philanthropy in 2014, as well." Hosting an annual golf tournament, Pulliam Pools raises considerable money for charities, including the Texas Pythian Home for Children. No wonder Customer Care News gave them the Talk of the Town Award for the third consecutive year. Pulliam Pools brings joy to Texans year-round. NOW





Around Town NOW



April Brenning, left, and her Strings 4 All Seasons quartet debut a composition by her brother, Larry O'Neal, pictured with his wife Terry, and their sister, Lecia O'Neal.



Brice Koerner, Revolver's assistant brewer, grains out a batch of Blood & Honey.



Meren Marciniak, CAP director, with the puppy auctioned off during the BRPC gala.



Just a few of the 18 members of the Brazos River Corvette Club work on a Habitat for Humanity home.



Stan Wasielewski, Granbury Chamber Ambassador, welcomes Jace, Jessica and Jett Foreman to the community.



Cynthia James and Glenda Ramsey celebrate the newly painted walls at Decor and More within Artefactz.



Marty Haggard (son of Merle Haggard) performs in the Granbury Ol Opry at the Cowboy Triple Cross Church.



Kay Kidwell looks at all the bargains at 7 Crofton Place.













What is Joint Universal Life Insurance?

Joint Universal Life insurance covers two individuals with one policy — often at a lower cost than two separate policies. Learn more about Joint Universal Life insurance and whether it's right for you.

What Is It?

Joint Universal Life provides a lifetime of protection¹ while building a tax-deferred cash value. The policy offers coverage for two individuals, and an income tax-free death benefit is paid to beneficiaries upon the death of the first insured.

Who Is It For?

Joint Universal Life is available to eligible individuals ages 20 to 85. It can be a good option for:

- **Couples** Joint Universal Life can help assure you that loved ones could be provided for after your, or your partner's, death.
- Business partners You and your co-owner can purchase a Joint Universal Life policy, and the surviving partner can use the death benefit to help cover business expenses.

Why Choose It?

Besides the convenience of insuring two individuals under one policy, Joint Universal Life offers additional benefits:

• Flexible — Joint Universal Life allows you to increase or decrease the amount of your premium payment.

- **Growth** Your policy builds a tax-deferred cash value over time.
- Accessible You can access this cash value², via policy loans or withdrawals to pay for your child's education, make major home improvements, grow your business and more.
- Accommodating A Survivor Purchase Option allows you to purchase a new permanent policy after the death of the first insured without evidence of insurability so long as it's been fewer than 90 days since his or her passing and you're younger than 75 or whatever age is stated on the policy.
- Affordable Because Joint Universal Life pays a death benefit on the first insured, it's typically more affordable than purchasing two separate policies.
- **Customizable** Talk to your insurance agent about optional riders that can add benefits to your policy.
- Coverage will expire when either no premiums are paid following the initial premium or subsequent premiums are insufficient to continue coverage.
 Only four withdrawals are allowed per year (\$500 minimum per withdrawal).
 Surrenders may be subject to a surrender charge. Unpaid loans and withdrawals will reduce the death benefit and the policy cash value. Withdrawals also will reduce the policy account value/cash surrender value. Loans accrue interest.

Jace Foreman is a State Farm agent based in Granbury.









Point Venture is a gorgeous small town in the Texas Hill Country found on the north shore of Lake Travis.

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Slowly Into Darkness

— By Betty Tryon, BSN

The thief was very thorough. Insidiously and stealthily striking in such a way that what was lost could never be returned. Glaucoma is the thief. The tragedy in this disease is not just the blindness but also in how it happens. It has no symptoms until vision is lost. However, if it is caught early enough, it can be treated and its ultimate tragedy kept at bay.

Glaucoma is a disease that damages the optic nerve and progressively compromises vision. The damage is irreversible. There is a buildup of pressure called the intraocular pressure in the eye. It is this pressure that damages the nerve. The increased pressure can come from various conditions affecting the aqueous fluid in the eye. The aqueous is a clear fluid produced by the eye. When it can no longer flow properly, because of too much production of fluid or by inadequate drainage, the potential for high intraocular pressure increases and can set up conditions for glaucoma. Some medications can increase eye pressure. Other eye disorders and injuries to the eye can also set up these adverse conditions.

One can have glaucoma for years without any symptoms. Only when there is noticeable vision loss and the person seeks professional help can the diagnosis be made. The most common type of glaucoma is open-angle glaucoma or wide-angle glaucoma. With open-angle glaucoma, there are no symptoms except the gradual loss of vision

beginning with peripheral vision. The peripheral loss is at first unnoticeable, because most people simply turn their heads to see. However, as the loss increases, it becomes very apparent the visual field is narrowing. Eventually, the person's visual field is just a frontal tunnel. If glaucoma is not treated to slow down or arrest the progression of the disease, total blindness will occur.

There is no cure, and everyone should have a comprehensive eye exam every one to two years to rule out issues that may be detrimental to their eye health. A portion of the population is more susceptible to glaucoma — a family history of glaucoma, a person who is African-American, Hispanic and/or over the age of 60. For African-Americans, the concern begins around age 40. If you are treated with medication for your condition, take it exactly the way it is prescribed and follow up with all doctor appointments. Your eyesight depends on it. As the second leading cause of blindness according to the World Health Organization, early diagnosis and proper treatment is crucial and irreplaceable.

Source: www.who.int/blindness/causes/en/.

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





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Through November 1

The Promise: **Fridays** and **Saturdays**, 7:00-10:00 p.m. Texas Ampitheatre, 500 Texas Dr., Glen Rose. Enjoy the famous production's 26th year! www.thepromiseglenrose.com.

October 4

Granbury Gunslingers: 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., historic downtown square. Meet reenactors, entertainers and living educators dedicated to presenting the American Old West, circa 1860-1885. Call Doc Moore, (817) 371-4979.

United Way Goes Country: 6:30 p.m., Hood County Reunion Grounds. Ticket sales benefit United Way of Hood County. Entertainment by Cory Morrow and the Rankin Twins. Call (817) 579-5100.

October 10 — 12

Oktoberfest Granbury: **Friday**, Noon-midnight; **Saturday**, 9:00 a.m.-midnight; **Sunday**, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., Langdon Center. Live polka music, dancing, contests and great German food and beer. Produced by German Heritage Association of Hood County, (682) 500-0355.

October 11

Brazos River Corvette Club Ninth Annual Car Show: 7:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., historic courthouse square. Over 100 classic cars spanning the history of the American Corvette are being judged. Proceeds from this event support our local Habitat for Humanity. Visit www.brazosrivercc.com.

Monarch Tagging: 9:00 a.m.-noon, Acton Nature Center. Learn the life cycle of the amazing Monarch butterfly! Call (817) 326-6005.

October 17 — 19

Balloons in Granbury: 6:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m., Granbury Regional Airport, 400 Howard Clemmons Rd. Rides every morning at sunrise, with advance reservations. Tethered rides, both Friday and Saturday evenings, cost \$10 and do not require registration. Free admission for bystanders. Food, entertainment and vendors in abundance. www.balloonsingranbury.com.

October 18, 19

Harvest Moon Festival of the Arts: **Saturday**, 9:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.; **Sunday**, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Historic Downtown Square. HGMA celebrates the season with a gathering of artists, craftspeople, chefs

and entertainers — and YOU! www.granburysquare.com.

October 25

Bow Wow Trick-or-Treat: Noon-4:00 p.m., Shanley Park. Bring your pets and dressed-up dogs for pet photography, costume contest and more. Pet adoptions on site! Benefiting homeless and special needs animals through the efforts of HALO and Second Chance Farm. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/HoodCoAnimalLoversOrganization.

October 31

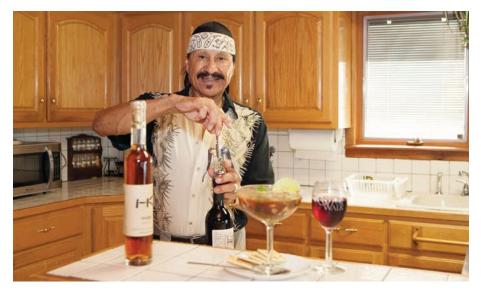
Community Wide Trunk R Treat: 5:30-7:30 p.m., Granbury City Park. Contact Kim Howard, Acton United Methodist Church, (817) 675-6565.

Halloween Alternative: 6:00-8:00 p.m., Southside Baptist Church, 910 Paluxy Rd. Bring your family to visit the Garden of Eden, Jonah and the Whale, Noah's Ark, Live Nativity, Crucifixion/Resurrection plus Carnival Fun for all ages. Contact (817) 573-1462 for more information.

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



Cooking NOW



In the Kitchen With Chuy Cordova

— By Melissa Rawlins

Years ago in El Paso, Chuy Cordova began cooking as a short order chef preparing Mexican food. Later, he attended school to learn Mongolian cuisine. Now, after careers with the U.S. Navy, MacDonnell-Douglas and, finally, General Motors, he cooks at home on Lake Granbury, where he retired 10 years ago. His wife, Elvira, loves his newest style of cooking, which he has dubbed "diet food for diabetes." The healthy food, mostly every variety of greens, can be supplemented with meat or fish. "I am crazy about seafood," Chuy said, "and like to serve it with white wine." He also enjoys cooking in large quantities, to please the guests he and Elvira host for festive occasions. Here, Chuy shares easily prepared crowd-pleasing recipes which deliver delicious flavor.

Shrimp & Octopus Cocktail *Serves up to 12.*

I pkg. whole octopus (optional)
8 cups water
I lb. raw, large, wild-caught shrimp
I pinch sea salt
I/2 cup ketchup
Tabasco sauce, to taste
I/2 cup white onion, chopped
I/2 cup tomato, chopped and seeded
I/2 cup cucumber, peeled and seeded
I bunch fresh cilantro, chopped
I/2 cup lime juice, freshly squeezed
I box crackers

1. Octopus may be purchased in Mexican grocery stores. Boil octopus in a large pot for an hour or until soft. Cool octopus, cut into bite-size pieces and set aside in refrigerator. **2.** Put deveined shrimp in water, add salt to taste and boil for 3 minutes or until shrimp turns pink. Neither overcook nor peel. Save water for cocktail juice. Place

shrimp in refrigerator.

- **3.** Place cocktail glasses on table. To each, add 6 shrimp and 6 pieces of octopus or, should you prefer not to use octopus, fill the glass with 12 shrimp.
- **4.** Top each off with 4-5 tablespoons of shrimp water, a squeeze of ketchup, a dash of Tabasco, 1 Tbsp. each of chopped onion, tomato, cucumber and cilantro.
- **5.** Sprinkle each cocktail with a dash of lime juice. Stir each cocktail in the glass, and adjust flavor with salt to taste. Enjoy with crackers.

Chuy's Special Baby Back Ribs

I slab baby back ribs

- 1 10-oz. jar Lone Star Jerky Company meat rub
- 1 15-oz. bottle barbecue sauce
- **1.** To prepare ribs: wash and dry. Massage ribs with meat rub and smoke for 30 to 45 minutes.

- 2. Turn oven to 250 F.
- **3.** Place rib meat face down on double foiled paper on a large baking sheet; cook for 2 1/2 hours.
- **4.** Remove ribs from oven, coat with barbecue sauce, raise oven temp to 350 F and cook an additional 15 minutes with foil open for barbecue sauce to settle.
- **5.** Take out of oven, cool, and then coat with more sauce before serving.

Delicious Beans

Serves up to 12.

3 ham hocks
8 cups water
1 lb. dry pinto beans
1 10-oz. can Ro-Tel
1 10-oz. can chicken broth
Salt, to taste

- **1.** Place ham hocks in a pot; cover with water and simmer several hours, usually 6 hours or until the hocks become soft and fall apart. Remove meat and set aside to cool.
- **2.** Put pinto beans in same pot. Cook 2 hours, or until tender, making sure to add water, if necessary, so there is enough to use as soup.
- **3.** Once ham has cooled, cut into little pieces and return to pot with beans.
- **4.** Add Ro-Tel, broth and salt; bring to simmer before serving.

Sesame-Soy-Green Beans

3 cups water

I lb. green beans, trimmed

3 cups ice

3 cups coldest tap water

1 Tbsp. sesame oil

2 garlic cloves, minced

1/4 tsp. crushed red pepper

1 Tbsp. soy sauce

1/8 tsp. salt

1 Tbsp. sesame seeds, toasted

- **I.** Bring water to boil in a large saucepan. Add beans and cook for 5 minutes. Plunge beans into ice water to cool. Drain.
- **2.** Heat sesame oil in a skillet over medium high heat. Add garlic and red pepper; sauté 30 seconds. Add beans, soy sauce and salt. Cook 2 minutes, tossing frequently.
- 3. Sprinkle with sesame seeds before serving.

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

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