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# CorsicanaNOW

M A G A Z I N E

November 2010

## *Called to Serve* **on Two Fronts**

### **ALSO INSIDE:**

**A Golfing State of Mind**

**"Digging" For Free**

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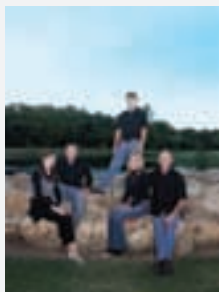
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## On The Cover



The Riley family offers true Texas hospitality to guests who visit their home.

Photo by Terri Ozymy.

# Editor's Note



Dear Readers,

People keep asking me how I like my job as editor. I suspect they are not entirely clear about what magazine editors actually do, so I mention interviews and writing assignments and the search for interesting people to write about. It is not easy to describe just what I like, however. Doing interviews is a pleasure, like sitting on your front porch with a new acquaintance who wants to tell you stories. As a newcomer to Corsicana, I feel welcomed into the life of the community by someone telling me, "Here is who I am, and here is what I love to do." As for writing the articles, I can only say, "You know if you have done it that it is a tooth-grinding, hand-wringing struggle best done in a quiet room." As for searching out interesting people, I know you are out there. Send me an e-mail at [joan.kilbourne@nowmagazines.com](mailto:joan.kilbourne@nowmagazines.com). Please invite me to sit on *your* front porch!

Happy Thanksgiving,  
Joan Kilbourne  
CorsicanaNOW Editor

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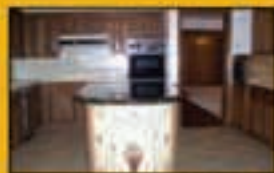


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---

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1 Thessalonians 5:18



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10601 FM 2930 - Gorgeous 3/2.5 home on 15+ acres. Fully fenced walls, tile & Silstone quartz in kitchen. Lrg utility/bedroom, built-in & sitting area in master bdrm. Julie 903-654-3970



863 Sailboat - Fabulous 3/2.5 home w/ open floor plan that offers huge living & dining areas. Granite, ceramic tile, crown molding & custom window treatments will make you fall in love. Julie 903-654-3970



608 Sunset Point - Amazing 3/2.2 open concept home on oversized lot features a wall of windows across the front overlooking RC Lake. Wood floors, ceramic tile & stone fireplace. Julie 903-654-3970



725 El Barco - Waterfront 4/3 with boatdock. Granite counters & walk-in pantry in kitchen, beautiful tile & trim work throughout. Julie 903-654-3970



123 SE CR 3147 - Stunning 4/5.7 on 2 beautiful acres! Too many extras to list! Must see to believe! Seller concessions up to \$0K. Julie 903-654-3970



2017 Hamilton Ln - Immaculate 3/2.5/2 home on 7 acres w/ all the extras! Sport pool, security system & covered deck! Julie 903-654-3970



311 Whitesell - Pristine 3/2.2 w/ unique layout featuring lg. closets, built-ins, fireplace, breakfast bar & great landscaping. Julie 903-654-3970



500 SW 2nd - Historic 5/2 home w/ wrap-around porch, hardwood floors, 12-ft. ceilings, 2 living areas w/ 4 fireplaces in Kerens! Julie 903-654-3970



708 Grandview - Enjoy the beauty of RC Lake in this 3/4.5/2 stone home w/ open floor plan, built-ins, hand-scraped wood floors & hand-painted concrete in kitchen! Julie 903-654-3970



633 SE CR 3040C - Newly remodeled 3/2 home! New wood, tile & carpet throughout the home! Wrap-around porch w/ 24x16 deck w/ built-in seating. Julie 903-654-3970



1485 NW CR 0145 - Secluded 5/2 manuf. log home on 14 fenced acres. Rolling hills, open pasture & lots of gorgeous trees. 5-stall horse barn w/ living quarters and storage. Julie 903-654-3970



418 Club House - Beautiful 5/5.2 in the Shores! Enjoy the fireplace, vaulted ceilings, walk-in closets & covered patio. Julie 903-654-3970



501 Dobbin - Great 3/2 home in a great neighborhood! Spacious rooms w/ formal living & dining room. Large corner fireplace, covered patio & sprinkler system. Julie 903-654-3970



2903 Williams - Great 3/1 with covered carport and separate utility room. Julie 903-654-3970



3025 View Ln - Wonderful 3/2 family home! Has lg. family room open to the kitchen! Large utility w/ play area! Great back yard w/ sprinklers, covered deck & storage building. Julie 903-654-3970



2058 SE CR 2320 - Beautiful property just minutes away from RC Lake! Open barn with concrete floors w/ living quarters at one end with wood deck. Julie 903-654-3970



1994 W 4th - Beautiful 3/2 updated home w/ plush carpet & hard woods. Open plan w/ lots of windows, high ceilings & detached 2-car garage on oversized lot! Julie 903-654-3970



1801 Woodlawn - Wonderful 3/2 home on corner lot in great neighborhood. Lrg. room w/ living & dining areas plus sunroom! Julie 903-654-3970



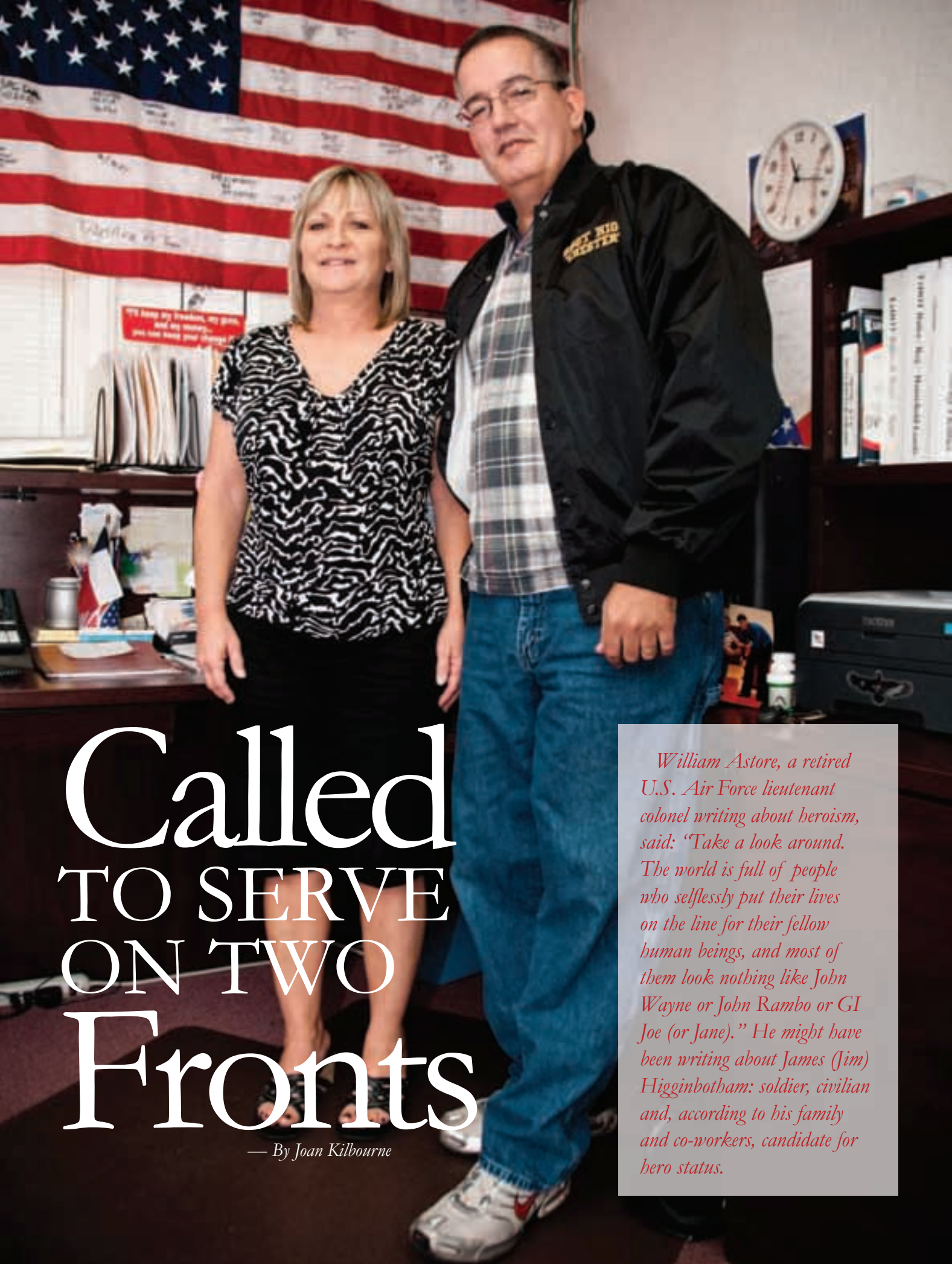
225 September Dr - Priced to sell! Tri-level 3/2.5 lake home on 2 lots. Property is landscaped w/ lake-fol sprinkler system. Boat house has concrete sun deck & Jerki lift. Improved waterfront w/ sidewalk & patio. Julie 903-654-3970



3883 FM 1603 - 4/2 one of a kind! Escape from city life to this incredible backyard on 8 ac w/ party barn, complete w/ loft, pool & hot tub! Tammy 903-641-5243

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# Called TO SERVE ON TWO Fronts

— By Joan Kilbourne

*William Astore, a retired U.S. Air Force lieutenant colonel writing about heroism, said: "Take a look around. The world is full of people who selflessly put their lives on the line for their fellow human beings, and most of them look nothing like John Wayne or John Rambo or GI Joe (or Jane)." He might have been writing about James (Jim) Higginbotham: soldier, civilian and, according to his family and co-workers, candidate for hero status.*





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Jim was in fourth grade when his dad moved the family from Corsicana to Mexia. He grew up helping out at his parents' insurance agency there. "Dad, [H. Weldon], was the PR guy who did the sales part," Jim said. "Mom, [Lynette], did the actual work of the business. Back then she had to type up the policies on forms with four or five carbon copies. She kept all the records on 3 x 5 cards in a file case like the one in a library. She had to look up rate tables in manuals and do the complicated calculations on

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Volunteer For Your Future



a calculator. My job was to sweep up at the end of the day." After high school, Jim found it difficult to be serious about attending Texas A&M University so, on an impulse, he talked to a Marine Corps recruiter and, "Shortly afterward," he said, "I turned 21 in boot camp."

Jim's first duty station was at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Later assignments took him to California and Okinawa. James served aboard the *Bon Homme Richard* LPH (landing platform for helicopters). "Training exercises in Okinawa meant climbing up and down hills. We moved at night under a dense tree canopy that didn't admit any light. It was like being in a dark room with the door closed. We had to navigate with luminescent compasses." His next assignment was better suited to his talents. When he was assigned to duty as





“I’ve always wanted to go to A&M-Commerce and study photography. So many photographers have come here, and gone on to have amazing careers. I can’t wait to be one of them.”

*~Monica, Class of 2014*



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a recruiter in Norfolk, the training was all about computers and databases. "I am good with anything detailed like that," Jim said.

Jim's career goal was "20, gunny and gone." That statement translates to "serve 20 years, achieve the rank of gunnery sergeant and retire with pay and benefits." In 2001, Jim was only four years short of completing 20 years of service, and he was on the selection list for promotion to gunnery sergeant when his mother passed and his father was ill. Here was a new call to family duty, and Jim faced a difficult decision — the kind heroes have to make. He decided to leave a successful career in the Marine Corps and take up management of the family business, which had moved to Corsicana. Making this kind of change would be a little like returning to boot camp while he learned the ins and outs of the business.

The transition was not an easy one, especially since the business had declined during his father's illness. Jim approached the task at hand as an experienced military man would do it, utilizing the organizational skills he had learned in the Marine Corps. With the help of family and friends, he was successful in



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turning things around, and Jim enjoyed working in an environment surrounded by family treasures. There is an elaborate antique mantle clock near Jim's desk and a grandfather clock nearby. "My grandfather was a clock maker," Jim said, "and there were maybe 100 clocks all over his house. The four walls of his living room were lined with mantel clocks and grandfather clocks, and it was really loud when they all chimed the hour at the same time. When he passed, everyone in the family chose some of the clocks and parts of his collection of 50 pocket watches."



In 2007, Jim made a plan. "I wanted to complete the four years I needed to retire with 20 years' active duty without going anywhere, so I went back on active duty by joining the Army National Guard." He was told to get some experience in law enforcement so that he could be admitted at the top of the list. Jim chose to go to the police academy to train for the drug interdiction program. He was not there long before the National Guard called him out of that program and sent him to a training program in the intelligence service for assignment in Afghanistan. This time

**"If I had stayed in four more years, I would have been gone from my family most of that time. The business would not have survived, and I would have had to find something else to do after retirement from the Corps. It was worth it to come out and keep this business going."**

the Army changed his plan. "I studied Pashtoon language," Jim said, "but I never went to Afghanistan. Instead, we went to Georgia to do our training for Iraq," Jim said with a smile. "There was not much desert in Georgia and no one spoke Pashtoon," he added.

Jim is back in Corsicana now, but he has been alerted that his seesaw civilian/military career is about to swing back into another assignment abroad. This time he may be called on to use his lessons in the Pashtoon language. At this time, he has only seven months of active duty to complete his 20-year enlistment so he can retire. Looking back at his decision to leave his military career to help out at home, Jim expresses satisfaction that he made a good choice. "If I had stayed in four more years, I would have been gone from my family most of that time. The business would not have survived, and I would have had to find something else to do after retirement from the Corps. It was worth it to come out and keep this business going." That sounds like something a true hero would say as he responds to the call for service, whether he is needed at home or away. **NOW**



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# Down Home TEXAS Hospitality

— By Virginia Riddle

*One turn from a city street onto a tree-shrouded, county road, then another turn into a brick-accented driveway brings family and friends to Bill and Judy Riley's Texas-style, two-story, Austin-stone home. A first-time visitor might not know, but in-the-know returning guests usually head past the home's side door for the barn, fire pit and spacious patio where Bill and Judy love to entertain. "Our niece calls the barn 'Uncle Bill's house,' while other guests call it the 'party barn' or the 'toy box,'" Judy stated laughingly.*

An executive with Oil City Iron Works, Bill hosts the annual company fish fry with Judy's help, and this couple enjoys hosting Super Bowl parties and gatherings for other special occasions, too. "We have a party almost every holiday and celebrate everyone's birthdays here," Judy said. "Sometimes, guys just drop in to watch TV with Bill," she added. It is a good thing "Miss Judy," as the guys call her, enjoys cooking for the multitudes. The fire pit and grill — and an outdoor patio kitchen in-the-making — augment the always-busy kitchen. "We cook weenie roasts and marshmallows for the kids in the fire pit," Judy added.

The party barn is the main attraction for any gathering. Used as stables by previous owners, Bill has transformed the barn into a space that is not only aesthetically pleasing, but useful. Weather-worn lumber, salvaged from a torn down corral, lines the interior wall and matches the well-stocked bar. Chaps and spurs reflect Bill's rodeo days, and soaring ceilings allow plenty of wall space for the large trophy heads of elk and other exotic animals from his hunts. "They all have horns," Judy reflected. Cooled by





## At Home With Bill and Judy Riley

# ality



ceiling fans, the barn also is a workout room complete with punching bag and TV. "Every time someone took a ceiling fan out of their house, I took it and hung it," Bill said.

The barn also provides storage space for Bill's "toys" for work and play: a tractor, hand tools, utility vehicle and two fishing boats. "I always have a project going," Bill stated. Judy added, "He likes to piddle." Part of Bill's "piddling" includes mowing the almost nine acres on which he enjoys shooting skeet and feeding the stocked fish in the one-acre pond. "They hear him coming and the water starts boiling with them," Judy said. Bill created the fire pit and the patio pond

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way to a front door featuring an etched glass Texas star hinting of the country charm and city sophistication that lie within the Riley home.

The open living room, dining room and kitchen area afford Judy the opportunity to entertain her guests while cooking and serving delectable treats. A stone fireplace



and fountain from rocks excavated from the creation of a larger pond. A private guest retreat bedroom and bath adjoin the carport and driveway, which flow smoothly into the Texas-sized beautifully landscaped flagstone patio.

Two pets take care of everything. Austin, the barn cat, came with the property and is a great mouser and snake killer, while Aspen is the resident guard dog. Life in the country, even so near the city limits, provides the couple with plenty

of wildlife. "Everything comes up," Bill exclaimed. "Everything" includes pot-bellied pigs, foxes and bobcats.

Judy is the "Queen" of the home, as stated on her regal decorative bed pillow, but the exotic animal prints and feather decor throughout the home make Bill feel right at home. The couple purchased their home four years ago and has been busy putting their unique stamp on this former builder's own custom home. The Texas-inspired front porch and landscaping give

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**Judy is the “Queen” of the home, as stated on her regal decorative bed pillow, but the exotic animal prints and feather decor throughout the home make Bill feel right at home.**



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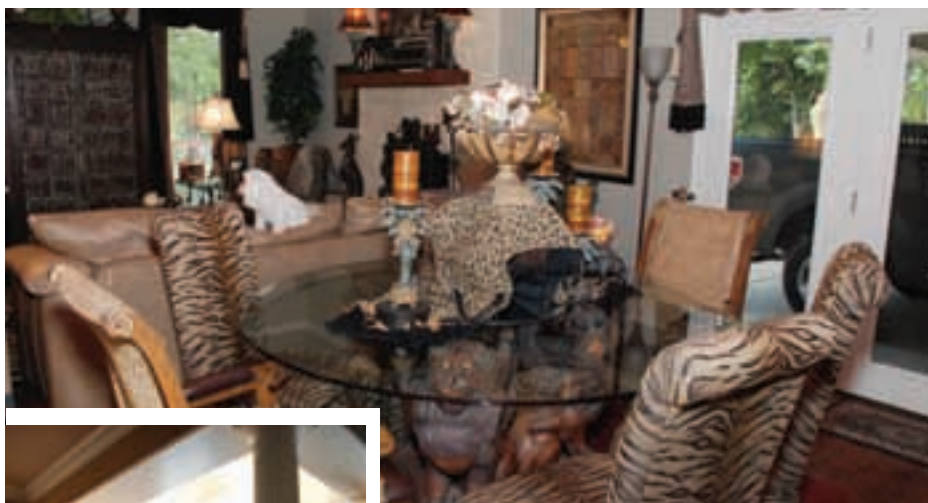
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in the living area is softened by feathered table arrangements and zebra-striped prints. Judy and Bill have updated the open living area with hardwood floors and have installed new hardware and granite countertops in the kitchen. The kitchen and breakfast bar are large enough to accommodate guests' appetites as well as large family holiday gatherings. A guest bath and the utility room are conveniently located near the back door and kitchen. Judy, a real estate agent, has created a home office space tucked neatly under the staircase.

A wedding portrait of Courtney Riley Long, the couple's daughter, is prominently featured on the dining room wall. While Judy is "Queen," Courtney's regal pillow says "Princess." "Courtney is my Cinderella," Judy reflected. Both mother and daughter enjoy collecting and giving each other Sid Dickens Memory Blocks. Judy's collection is arranged around the portrait of Courtney, who in a strange twist of fate, married into the family of her parent's home builder, David Long, last year. "We had a wedding fit for a princess," Judy remembered.

The master bedroom and bath

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complete the first story and have received extensive remodeling. The original bath was enlarged to create a walk-in closet while a new bath was created, complete with Roman columns that surround the spa tub and are topped with a recessed ceiling and lighting. A television and separate shower make this master bath a luxurious haven. The renovation of the kitchen and bath was challenging, but it was not a deterrent to entertaining family during a past Christmas. "We didn't have a kitchen so we washed the potatoes in the guest bathroom and cooked on the grill," Judy remembered with a smile.

The landing at the top of the stairs has become the western-themed "Man Cave" where deep couches and wild game trophies welcome visitors to watch a game or reminisce about the hunts. Ben, the couple's grown son who has followed his dad into a related professional field, returns home often to enjoy hunting and fishing with his dad. Both grown children have bedrooms with a shared bath on the second story. "We're proud of both of our kids," Judy stated.

Trips to Reno, Lake Tahoe and New Orleans may take Judy and Bill far from Corsicana occasionally, but the country breezes



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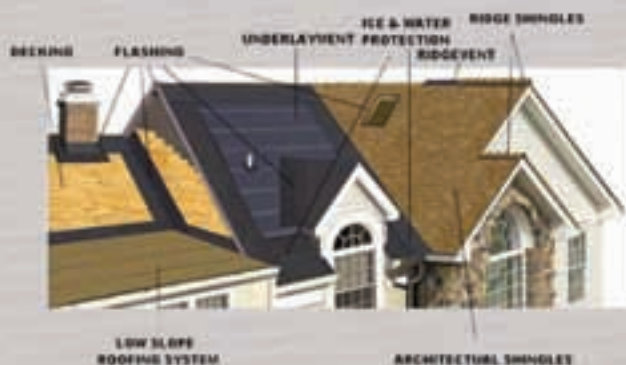
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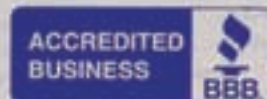
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always bring the pair back home. They enjoy morning coffee sitting on the covered patio listening to the combined symphonic sounds of city church chimes and country roosters and frogs. When these high school sweethearts — who have been married for 33 years — were transplanted from their hometown



of Tyler so Bill could take on his new professional challenge, they quickly made Corsicana their new hometown and cannot see themselves ever leaving the area. The Rileys look forward to sharing their harmonious home with family and friends in true, grand Texas style on many more special occasions in the coming years. **NOW**



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*Aron Peterson and Justin Stipe enjoy the nice fall weather.*



*John Ward, Amy Ward, Bill Pate and Jennifer Neyland visit during lunch.*



*Syerra Morales and Aydian and Maisy Sheffield take advantage of warm, fall days on the merry-go-round at Bunert Park.*



*Wiley Evans waits for a ride at College Park Mall.*



*Regina Young takes a break from hard work to smile for the camera.*



*Cindy Powell is ready to help at Advance America Cash Advance.*



*On his way to class, Navarro student, Nicholas Cleversy, poses for the camera.*



# Holiday Shopping Guide 2010

A quick look at the gift items and discounts available locally.



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*A quick look at the gift items and discounts available locally.*



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*Janine Bain, Robbi Miller and Shamryn Bain don Halloween garb.*



*Chad Clark does inventory on an ice machine.*



*Ethel and Elijah Baptist happily pose while filling the tank.*



*Cathy Permentor gets in a little shoe shopping.*



*Eugenio Medrano inspects the grounds at Navarro College.*



*Navy Recruiter, Clay Bayes, is hard at work looking for new recruits.*





# Drive Away Paintings

— By Joan Kilbourne

**“Doing a detailed painting can take 25 to 40 hours to do, from primer and tape to a finished design.”**

The work of an artist is most often displayed in a gallery or an art museum, and you must go to that place to see it. To see the work of artist Steve Slater, a custom painter of motorcycles, you have only to drive your car down the street, and his work will go flying by you. To really appreciate the quality of his designs, however, you will need to stop by a motorcycle rally and look for bikes painted in Steve's signature tattoo-style art. Uncomfortable with the idea that he is an artist, Steve said, “I am just a bike painter. The real artists are the tattoo artists. They paint on the ultimate canvas — human skin.”

With the skillful use of masking tape, Steve can airbrush multilayered designs. If you look closely under a bright red and black spider web with a black spider on it, you will see a shadowy layer of grey and white skulls. “Doing a detailed painting can take 25 to 40 hours to do, from primer and tape to a finished design,” Steve said. “Once in a while someone will wait in order to have just what they want. One man wanted a bike covered with Latino art. There was Pancho Villa on one side and Zapata on the other, with Aztec warriors all around. What people want is a design that draws attention at a stop light, or people will walk over in the parking lot of a restaurant to look at your bike. They want the band to stop playing and waitresses to turn their heads to look.”

“[Motorcycle] shops do not make money on a 40-hour job,” Steve said, “and I like having the work they send me, so I learned to do things quickly. Steve describes his work space as “the dungeon.” It is a long, shed-like room with no windows, lighted only by a garage-type door at one end and warmed, in the center, by a pot-bellied stove. Long tables covered in paint-splashed cloth hold paint, pieces of unfinished bikes and a curled-up,

sleeping calico cat named Changa. “It is kind of a haunted house that is open year-round,” Steve added, looking content to be in his lair. “I like to be alone while I paint, so I can focus on the design I have in my head. There is no way to erase mistakes.”



Describing his tattoo-style art, Steve said, “There is another painter who does Texas designs and pretty landscapes. My specialty is tattoo art: skulls and spider webs and daggers. More people are buying expensive bikes and, now that tattoos are



becoming respectable because movie stars and celebrities are wearing them, they want their bikes to be decorated with tattoos as well. Still, one professional woman surprised me when she chose a skull for her bike. I painted it in bright pink, but I couldn't resist adding pink bows on the skull. She was happy with it that way, so I drew a black widow spider for her husband and put earrings on it. He liked that, too."

"I always liked to draw," Steve said. "So, when I got my first bike, I took mine apart and painted a design on it. I told people that even if it broke down, I wanted it to look good pushing it home. When people saw my bike, they would ask me to paint theirs."

When he started 17 years ago, Steve's customers were young bikers of questionable reputation. "I had a metal drum with a fire inside to heat the shop then," Steve said, "and some men would have to leave their guns near the door so the fire in the drum wouldn't set off the ammunition. Back then bikers and painters like me were seen as outlaws. Even then I did not look the type," he added. "I look like a cop. When I went into a biker bar that was a problem, until



they found out I painted bikes, and then it was OK." With his close-cut hair, neatly trimmed mustache and no tattoos, it is easy to see what the problem might

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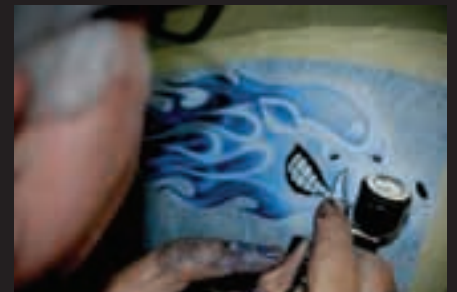


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have been. "Now I work with business men who are older, who can afford to buy the big "dressers" or "baggers," Steve said. Baggers are the motorcycles that have big compartments at the back to hold clothes and gear used on road trips, and they have big fairings in front with speedometers and radios on them. "I work from T-shirts or tattoos customers bring in," Steve explained, "or they look at my portfolio or pictures on the wall that I have drawn. My wife, Priss, helps sometimes. She is really good at cutting the [masking] tape without nicking the paint.

"I have turned down offers to work in some nice workshop with spray paint booths. For me, it is not about money but about making a bike look good. When people walk up to a bike to see the detail, whether they like it or not, they ask, 'Who painted that?' That's what it's about." **NOW**



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# A Golfing *State of Mind*

— By Joan Kilbourne

**“The goal is to do the same smooth swing every time.”**



Quindell Andrews grew up in Round Prairie, a place he describes as “only farms, ranches and a grocery store.” He lived on a ranch with his three brothers and three sisters. His enthusiasm for golf began the day his two left-handed cousins beat on his door. “[They] said they found a new game, and I had to come play with them. It was golf. I didn’t even know how to spell it,” Quindell said, “but I was hooked that day. It was the summer of 1965.” Asked if he is a good golfer, Quindell said, “Well, this year I shot my age (69). Can’t do that when you are in your 30s.” Maybe there is a connection with the fact that his birthday is the same day as Arnold Palmer’s birthday.

Quindell’s love of the game led to a fascination with the physics of the ball and club action, and he began to tinker with clubs. “The ball will follow the weight on the club head,” Quindell said. “You put tape on the edge of a wedge head and swing it. You look where the ground marks it on the forward or back part and then you know how to weight



## Sports**NOW**

it to set the lie to match your swing. The big manufacturers make clubs with built-in weights now. You can take out a screw on the bottom and move the head on the shaft to set the lie or the loft to work with your own swing. If I have a club, I'm going to do something to it.

"A shaft can be modified to be longer, shorter or bent if you want it that way. You can align the shaft by shining a laser light along the shaft as you pluck it," Quindell said. "You want it to pop straight up and down in a slow, flowing motion. Also, the grip on the shaft can be modified to fit. The shaft should allow the fingers just to touch the palm. You can tape the grip to fit a larger hand or use a narrower one for a small hand.

"I worked on clubs so long," Quindell said, "that when I was ready to build a shop of my own, I knew how to arrange the equipment: the machines, grinders, sanders and drills. I built it, frame, roof and all, with cabinets wall to wall. It has a satellite disk and a computer set up. My family calls it 'Dad's dog house.'"

Quindell pointed out that there is always some new kind of club being made to improve your game. "They design the grooves on the face of a club to provide more or less spin on the ball," he said. "For the pro golfers, the USGA also regulates the kind of grooves allowed because players at that level have all their clubs custom made for hundreds of dollars each. Golf balls have to be a standard size and weight. What you put inside can be a choice though," Quindell said. "A ball can have a soft liquid or a hard metal ball inside."

As a largely self-taught golfer, Quindell has some trouble advising that a new golfer should have lessons. "I learned by myself, and I learned some bad habits that are hard to break when I learn a better way to do something," he admitted. "It might be good to have someone show you how to grip the club and how to swing it and keep a good stance." After a little thought he added, "It would be good to know some rules of etiquette on the course. There are cart rules and time rules you should know."

Quindell has had recent experience teaching a beginner. He was married nine months ago to Debbie Andrews.



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"She plays piano at two churches in Emhouse," Quindell said proudly. "When she decided to learn to play golf, she got outfitted in new clubs, clothes, shoes — the whole thing." He added that her big achievement, so far, is sinking a 42-foot putt. Even Quindell was impressed with that. One of her first



Golf team, Quindell  
and Debbie Andrews.

lessons was about observing time limits spent on one hole. "When you have hit the ball 10 times and you are still not in the hole," he said, "quit and move on. You have had about as much fun as you are going to have on that hole.

"Beginners should probably use second-hand clubs at first," Quindell advised. "If you see that you like the game and you play more than a few times a year, you might want to get new clubs at a medium price. After a year or two, a serious golfer will want to buy clubs designed to match his or her own swing. The goal is to do the same smooth swing every time," he said.

"Success is up here," Quindell said, pointing to his head. "Never say, 'I can't.' If you think you can't chip or putt, you won't." He also suggested that when you play you must stay focused on the shot you are making, and then on the next one. "You do not want to be distracted by someone else's game. If you keep your head on right," he added, "You will enjoy the game for a long time." **NOW**

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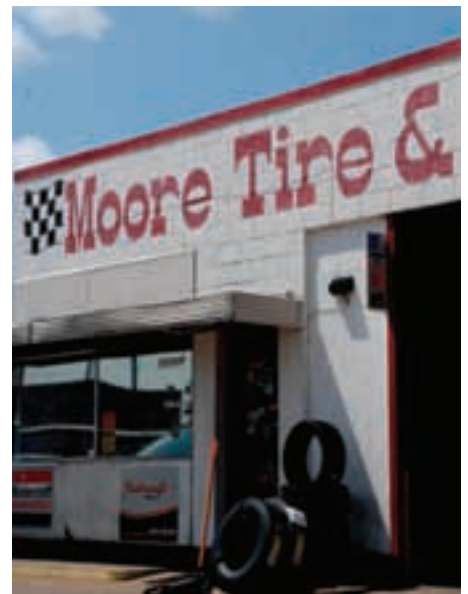
*Moore Tire and Auto has a 40-year-long tradition of service.*

— By Joan Kilbourne

Moore Tire and Auto shop has been on the corner of 7th and Beaton since the '70s. When you look out your window at the intersection of the two main streets in Corsicana, you see everyone in town go by, and everyone in town knows where you are. That kind of location is good for business. "Some days we are so busy you can't get in the driveway," Cheri Moore said. "Eddie's dad started the business, and we took it over in 1985, so we have lots of regular customers." One of "the regulars" came in as she spoke and made himself at home, taking a seat next to Cheri to chat for a while. The office is not

spacious, but it is furnished for customer comfort with a microwave, coffee maker and candy machine containing M&M's®.

Like many businesses in Corsicana, the whole family is involved in the operation. Back when they had a full-service gas-filling station, the Moores' son, Jarrod, could pump gas when he was just 5 years old. He works full time now with his father and two other mechanics. "For two years," Cheri said, "we had my grandson here in his playpen every day." When Cheri finished college, she worked as a teacher's aide spending some time helping out at the shop, but she works full time



## **From left:**

Eddie and Cheri Moore work side-by-side to bring the best service to their customers. Jarrod Moore works alongside his parents in the family business.

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now. "People ask me how it is to work with your husband all day," she said with a smile. "We've been together 30 years, so I guess it is working all right."

When the Moores added tire sales and service to the business, Cheri said, "I used to know all the brands and sizes of tires; now there are so many I have to search around the six to eight warehouses and the Internet for tires to fit the many models of automobiles." Asked how many days they leave the shop at 5:00 p.m. closing time, Cheri said, "Almost never. We eat lunch in the shop or in town because we live in the country, about 20 miles out of town. When we do get

**"People ask me how it is to work with your husband all day," she said with a smile. "We've been together 30 years, so I guess it is working all right."**

home, we have more work to do. We have cattle, and we grow our own hay."

On the wall are pictures of Cheri and Eddie's daughter, Alison, who is in college now working on a degree in occupational therapy. She and Jarrod were both active in 4H and FFA, and the pictures show them with their prize-winning cattle. "They worked hard," Cheri said, "but then parents work, too, because they fill when the young people are busy with sports. We only had one week off all year — after the show during spring break." The family spent the holiday skiing in Colorado, and last year, the 5-year-old grandson went skiing with them for the first time. For their 30th anniversary, Eddie and Cheri took off for 30 days. "We have good employees, and Jarrod took over the shop," Cheri said. The couple did a tour of eight national parks, starting in the Grand Tetons and ending in Big Bend in Texas. One highlight of the trip was a stay in Alaska, where they took a flight over the glaciers and went white-water rafting. "I am ready to move to Alaska now," Cheri said. "It is beautiful there." Meanwhile, she and Eddie will continue to welcome the driveway full of vehicles. **NOW**

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From left to right: Ann Ricker, Cynthia Beasley and Barb Honea.

# “Diggin’ for Free

— By Virginia Riddle



Explorers of the unknown know where to go in Corsicana for the answers to all their questions: the Corsicana Public Library. A wealth of information is available, and helpful library staff and volunteers are ready to aid students of all ages in their quests for knowledge. “We are a little treasure; come dig for free,” Library Director Chad Freeze said.

As library director, Chad works with area schools, teachers, parents and students. With a parent’s signature and proof of Texas residency, students can gain access to the library’s approximately 77,000 volumes, the computer lab’s 14 computers with full Internet services and other shared media resources and programs designed just for children. Movies on DVD, music CDs and recorded books can be checked out for three weeks just like printed books. “If all the kids knew about these we wouldn’t be able to keep them on the shelves,” Chad exclaimed. “It’s free, and it’s all available to everyone.”

Library staff and volunteers are ready to help children throughout the day, but after school hours are the busiest when students arrive to use the lab. “In any community,

if you can’t get the Internet at home, your first thought is your public library,” Chad stated. With databases, such as the Ebsco Student Research Center, Kids Search, ERIC and Searchasaurus, students can find the information they need to complete even the most demanding assignments. Some of the databases are delineated by reading and grade levels, and several can be accessed from home computers with a password provided by the library, upon request. “Students can also access some of the same databases that their schools have,” Chad added. Through TexShare, students can request publications to be sent from other member libraries to the Corsicana library.

Students can belong to on-line book clubs, such as Teen, AuthorBuzz and KidsBuzz, and receive five minute “reads” daily from selected books and enter reading contests. “Kids can communicate with the authors of the books they are reading,” Chad said. Books used in public school reading-incentive programs, such as Accelerated Reading (AR), are available for students to check out to help them earn coveted reading rewards. Book titles can be set aside for school projects. “We

love for schools to contact us and make requests,” Chad indicated. Schools can also call and schedule tours of the library and field trips when special programs are presented.

If a student needs information on the history of Corsicana or the surrounding area, the genealogy section of the library is the place to go. Special resources such as a collection of phone books dating to the original installation of service in the area and compiled histories of homes, families, events and economic times are all available for the asking. “If you want to find out about a community go to the library,” Chad said. Staffed mostly with volunteers, some of whom have volunteered for decades, this section of the library is truly a labor of love for the Corsicana area.

Library staff members have attended back-to-school rallies, school open houses and parent/teacher nights at area schools in order to publicize available services. Hundreds of parents have signed up for library cards at these meetings or visited the library at a later date to get a card.

The Summer Reading Program is available to all students, whether they are on vacation and just reading for fun or



## Education **NOW**

in school. Weekly presentations, always informative and fun, are available to parents as well as summer school students and day care children. Children earn certificates and prizes for reading books. Volunteers from the Foster Grandparent Program help with the large number of children who flow into the library during the summer months. "Someone is always ready to help. We are blessed with the volunteers that we have. They are the unsung heroes, many of whom have put in over 100 hours of service. We honor them a lot," Chad remarked. Programs and special reading times continue throughout the school year especially for preschool age children.

"Some say that libraries are dead or dying, but that's just not true. Librarianship is a cross now between library science and computer science. Web design and



Internet skills are needed now," Chad stated. That will really be true when the library implements a Wi-Fi system to go with the table that has electrical connections for laptops. NetLibrary, a free service, already offers books to be read on-line, and eBooks are coming soon.

Chad, a Corsicana High School and Navarro College alumni, has been an enthusiastic librarian for Corsicana since 2008 when he and his wife, the former Kim Green, also a Corsicana native, moved back home. Chad was "bitten by the bug" while working in the University of Texas at Arlington library during his tenure at the University of North Texas, where he completed his master's degree in library science. Chad quickly emphasized, "The library belongs to the people; librarians are just stewards of the library." People of all ages are encouraged to come dig for information in the Corsicana Public Library: a true treasure. **NOW**

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# In The Kitchen With Sarah Keele

— By Adam Walker

Sarah Keele is a busy mother to Hunter, Travis and Jaycee and to wonderful stepdaughter Jayme. She is an RN at Cedar Lake Home Health and Hospice where she serves as director and hospice coordinator. Sarah said, "I have fond memories of my grandmother's kitchen. My earliest memory is waking to the smell of her homemade biscuits before the sun even

rose. I can remember her making biscuits and even dumplings from scratch." She regrets never getting that recipe, and advised, "If you have a wonderful cook in your family, don't let the opportunity to write down recipes to pass down through the years escape." She and her mother, also a great cook, enjoy trying new recipes and helping each other make family occasions special. **NOW**



## BANANA NUT BREAD

**3/4 cup butter**  
**1 1/2 cups sugar**  
**1 1/2 cups mashed bananas (3 medium)**  
**2 eggs, well-beaten**  
**1 tsp. vanilla**  
**2 cups flour**  
**1 tsp. baking soda**  
**3/4 tsp. salt**  
**1/2 cup buttermilk**  
**3/4 cup nuts**

1. Cream butter and sugar thoroughly and blend in bananas, eggs and vanilla.
2. Sift flour, baking soda and salt.
3. Add banana mixture alternately with buttermilk to dry ingredients mixing after each addition.
4. Add nuts and mix well. Pour batter into greased and floured loaf pan. Bake at 375 F for 1 1/2 hours.

## BREAD PUDDING

**4 cups dry bread, cubed**  
**2 eggs**  
**2 cups milk**  
**1/2 cup sugar**  
**Dash of nutmeg or cinnamon**  
**1/4 cup raisins (optional)**

## ORANGE SAUCE

**2 Tbsp. butter**  
**2 egg yolks**  
**3 Tbsp. sugar**  
**4 Tbsp. cream**  
**1/4 cup orange juice**

1. Place dry bread in a baking dish.
2. Beat eggs, add milk and sugar. Add

dash of nutmeg.

3. Pour over bread and let stand until soaked. Top with raisins, if desired.
4. Bake at 350 F for about 20 minutes or until firm.
5. Make Orange Sauce by creaming first 4 ingredients together in a double boiler.
6. When thickened add orange juice. Serve over bread pudding.

## HAMBURGER SOUP

**1 lb. ground meat**  
**1 onion chopped**  
**1 pkg. buttermilk ranch dressing**  
**2 cans stewed tomatoes**  
**2 cans pinto beans**  
**1 can corn**  
**1 can Ro\*Tel tomatoes**  
**1 pkg. mild taco seasoning**  
**Grated cheese**  
**Flour tortillas**

1. Brown meat and onion together.
2. Transfer to a large pot. Add next 6 ingredients and simmer for 30-60 minutes.
3. Serve in bowls, topped with grated cheese and torn flour tortillas.

## CHEESE BALL

**1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese**  
**2 cups grated cheese**  
**1 lb. Velveeta**  
**1 tsp. Tabasco**  
**1 1/2 tsp. garlic powder**  
**1 Tbsp. minced onions**  
**1 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce**

## 1/2 cup finely chopped pecans

1. Let cream cheese stand until at room temperature.
2. Mix all cheeses together.
3. Add rest of ingredients except pecans and mix well.
4. Shape into a ball or logs and roll in pecans.

## PUMPKIN GINGERBREAD TRIFLE

**2 14-oz. pkgs. gingerbread mix**  
**1 5.1-oz. box cook-and-serve vanilla pudding mix**  
**1 30-oz. can pumpkin pie filling**  
**1/2 cup packed brown sugar**  
**1/3 tsp. ground cinnamon**  
**1 12-oz. tub Cool Whip**  
**1/2 cup gingersnaps, crumbled**

1. Bake gingerbread according to the package directions; cool completely.
2. Meanwhile, prepare the pudding and set aside to cool.
3. Stir the pumpkin pie filling, sugar and cinnamon into the pudding.
4. Crumble 1 batch of the gingerbread into the bottom of a large bowl. Pour 1/2 the pudding mixture over the gingerbread. Add layer of whipped topping.
5. Repeat layers with the remaining gingerbread, pudding and whipped topping.
6. Sprinkle the crushed gingersnaps on top. Refrigerate overnight before serving.

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# Don't Rely on Others for Your Retirement

— By *Lynda Housley*



Recent debates about Social Security and the increasing number of employers reducing or eliminating employee pensions have underscored the need for a sound retirement plan. Gone are the days when employees were guaranteed a percentage of their salaries once they leave a company. While Social Security may or may not change, it was never intended to be the sole source of retirement income.

Retirement planning is something everyone needs regardless of their existing situations. If the current financial debates tell us anything it's this: the only funding you can count on is that which you do yourself.

Some of the options you have are individual retirement accounts (IRAs) or an employer sponsored plan such as a 401(k). Contributions you make to a 401(k) can reduce your federal income

tax burden and the contribution limits are higher than those of an IRA. Plans are available for any size of business, be it a large corporation or a small mom and pop operation.

Contributions to Traditional IRAs may be income-tax deductible. While Roth IRA contributions are not deductible, qualified distributions are received free from federal income taxes. An IRA is something you can set up with the help of a financial professional. There are a number of options available when choosing how you want to fund your IRA.

No one can be sure what the future holds in store. Making preparations for a number of possibilities can begin with careful planning. You can start by contacting a financial professional to discuss your goals and how to reach them. **NOW**

*Lynda Housley is a State Farm agent based in Corsicana.*



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# Protect Your Sight

— By Betty Tryon

Having diabetes may be difficult enough, but having complications from a disease that threatens your vision is far worse. People with diabetes face the possibility of having to manage complications resulting from that disease. One set of complications comes in the form of diabetic eye diseases. The most common one is diabetic retinopathy. Retinopathy refers to damage to the blood vessels in the retina. In diabetic retinopathy, those blood vessels become damaged because of high levels of glucose or sugar in the blood. Because the integrity of the blood vessels is no longer intact, they can leak fluid or bleed. In advanced cases, there is an abnormal growth of weak and fragile blood vessels on the retina. As the symptoms increase, light is prevented from reaching the retina; it is no longer able to function properly, and a healthy retina is necessary for you to see normally.

In the early stages, symptoms are mild, or they may not be noticeable at all. Some of the symptoms you may experience as the disease progresses are spots or floaters in the eye. As soon as you notice them in your vision, see your eye care specialist as quickly as possible. Blurred vision, a shadow in the visual field and poor night vision are all signs that the condition is progressing. If left untreated to advance to proliferative

retinopathy [advanced stage], blindness can result.

If you have diabetes, awareness of any abnormal symptoms and a comprehensive dilated eye exam at least once a year is crucial to your visual health. A dilated eye exam allows the practitioner to have a closer inspection of the inside of your eyes. They can examine your retina and optic nerve for any problem areas. Other tests common to a yearly eye exam are, a test to measure your visual acuity at near and far distances using an eye chart and a tonometry test, which uses an instrument to measure pressure inside the eye.

Anyone with diabetes is at risk for eye disease. If you have uncontrolled blood sugar levels, hypertension, high cholesterol, smoke or if you are pregnant, your risk is increased. The best way to treat this is to monitor your blood sugar level closely, watch your diet and eat healthy. Do not smoke and be sure to control your blood pressure. If you have diabetic retinopathy, there are a number of solutions to prevent blindness. Your eye care specialist can help. Seek their assistance early. Inaction may have dire consequences. Make sure you make decisions that you can live with. **NOW**

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



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# Ready to Put Those Perennials to Bed?

— By Nancy Fenton



Now is the time to seriously think about fall and cooler weather. Central Texas usually gets its first freeze between the 15th of November and Thanksgiving. Those great perennials (plants that come back each year) will be even better next year with a little care now. Those that bloom in the spring need to be checked to make sure they are not too crowded. If so, they need to be thinned so they can grow to be large and luscious again.

Our most common perennial is the iris. Although it is tough, it can always benefit from a little care. Three to four years is about the longest they can just sit without care if you want them to thrive and bloom heavily. They do not die, but have to struggle for every drop of water

and food. A small handful of slow-release nitrogen on the irises will feed them through the winter and make them ready to “burst out” come spring. Be sure to pull the dead leaves and mulch back from the iris rhizomes to avoid rot and/or disease, which are typical for irises.

Brown “sticks” of much-loved blooming plants that freeze at the first cold snap need to be cut back severely — like into the ground. Leaving the dead foliage encourages disease, and you do not want that! Daisies, phlox and salvias can all be cut back without fear. A little balanced fertilizer and a light covering of mulch will protect the roots from cold and stimulate great growth next spring.

Crepe myrtles and other blooming

shrubs should have been trimmed just for shaping in late September. They can also benefit from a check on their mulches. Make sure your sprinkler system is winterized or drained and turned off. You may need to water just a little bit in the driest winters, but not enough to merit the chance of frozen systems. The ice fountains are lovely, but only if they are in someone else’s yard!

Enjoy the cooler weather! Get your cameras ready and start taking pictures now — the Master Gardener photo contest is coming. More information will be provided next month on how to enter. **NOW**

*Nancy Fenton is a Master Gardener.*



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## Happening **NOW** —

### All Month

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### Every Saturday

The Corsicana Brick Street Farmers Market: 8:00 a.m.-noon. The farmers of the Brick Street Farmers Market gather at the corner of N.12th Street and W. 5th Ave. on the Bank of America parking lot across from the Corsicana Library. For information, contact Tony or Jackie at <http://www.farmerranchernetwork.org> or (903) 229-7505.

### Second Saturday

Big C Jamboree: 7:00 p.m., Martin's Music Hall, 201 S. Beaton. Country music show. For information, e-mail Jody Thomas at [bigcjamboree@yahoo.com](mailto:bigcjamboree@yahoo.com) or Marilyn McConnell at [serenitygal@msn.com](mailto:serenitygal@msn.com).

### November 2

Election Day Chili will be served from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Cook Education Center at Navarro College, 3200 W. 7th Ave. Tickets are \$6.00. Come have a great bowl of chili on Election Day and support the Corsicana Rotary Club's efforts in our community. Local officials and candidates have been invited to drop by. What could be better than a bowl of chili before or after you vote?

### November 11-13

*Hello Dolly!* Presented at the Palace Theatre at 7:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. by the Warehouse Living Arts Center. Call (903) 872-5421 for reserved seating.

### November 11, 13, 18 and 20

Theater Production: *Lost Art: a Sonata of Three Lives*: 7:00 p.m. in Dawson Auditorium on the Corsicana campus. For information call (903) 875-7381.

### November 13

Day in November Arts and Crafts Show: 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. at the College Park Mall.

### November 15

Student Art Show all day on the Corsicana campus. For information, call (903) 875-7381.





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## Happening **NOW**

### November 17

Student Music Recital in the Choir Room of the Fine Arts Building, Corsicana campus. For information call (903) 875-7381.

### November 17

The Navarro College Small Business Development Center (SBDC) will sponsor a seminar, "Funding Your Small Business," 10:00 a.m.-noon, at the Corsicana Chamber of Commerce, 120 N. 12th Street, Corsicana. Information will be presented that covers what lenders want to see when making a business loan, the myths and realities of grant funding and alternative lending sources to consider. Topics cover financing options such as: bank loans, SBA guaranteed loans, non-bank lenders and private investors. The cost of this workshop is \$20. To register, call the Navarro College SBDC at (903) 875-7667 or e-mail sbdc@navarrocollege.edu.

### November 20

Twogether in Texas, in the Waller Classroom Building (WCB) on the Navarro College Campus: 8:45 a.m.-5:00 p.m. A free interactive class on building healthy communication and conflict resolution skills presented by Marriage Management. Register at (903) 874-0077 or register online at [www.marriagemanagement.org](http://www.marriagemanagement.org).

### December 4

Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder at The Palace Theatre. This 14-time Grammy Award winner continues to do his part to lead the recent roots revival in music. Known affectionately today as bluegrass music's official ambassador, Ricky is joined by the all-star lineup of Kentucky Thunder: Andy Leftwich (fiddle), Cody Kilby (lead guitar), Mark Fain (bass), Paul Brewster (tenor vocals, rhythm guitar), Jim Mills (banjo) and Eddie Farris (baritone vocals, guitar, mandolin). One of the country's true musical treasures and icons, Skaggs won last year's Grammy for Best Bluegrass Album. For more information, e-mail [corpalace@sbcglobal.net](mailto:corpalace@sbcglobal.net) or call (903) 874-7792.

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