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ON THE COVER



*Roe and Marcia Walker
enjoy giving youth the
experience of flying.*

Photo by Vanessa Polozola.

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Editor's Note

Hello Friends,

This year more than any other I can, in all things, give thanks. I'm blessed with a job that makes good use of my skills. I find it fun to interview people everywhere I go. I also enjoy the time I spend focusing on the information gathered. This is a solitary activity in which I find special pleasure. I guess you could call me someone who has found her sweet spot.

This month, I met an amazing lady named Christi Sanders. Among her many talents is cooking, and from her family traditions she shared with us several Thanksgiving recipes. We did not have enough space

to print them all, so if you would like to try Christi's Famous Brined Turkey for your holiday table, just contact me, and I'll share her recipe.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Melissa

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Hangars of



Some people have narrow alleys behind their house. Roe and Marcia Walker have a concrete taxiway behind theirs. They live in a fly-in airpark community near Granbury and have access to an airstrip directly across the street. The hangar in their backyard houses a red, white and blue Piper Comanche 250, which they fly whenever possible to see family. "It's the family sedan. We fly when the weather is good," Roe said. Together, their passion for flying takes them to places like Phoenix, Cincinnati, Oshkosh, Florida, California, Canada and Alaska, to name a few. To foster their love for flying locally, Roe and Marcia are members of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA).

The EAA began in 1953 when 36 people with a love for flying developed by-laws, created the name and called themselves members. The headquarters is in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Since the planes these members flew were mostly built from scratch, they had to display the word *Experimental* on the cockpit door. The EAA includes a variety of planes, such as: antiques, classics, warbirds, aerobatic aircraft, ultralights, helicopters and certified manufactured aircraft. EAA members not only nurture their

passion for the air by constructing, maintaining and flying aircraft, but also nurture growing children's interest by sharing their passion with others.

As EAA members, Roe and Marcia participate in the Young Eagles program. This program provides youth, ages 8 through 17, the opportunity to experience firsthand what it is like to fly in an airplane. Since 1992, when the program began, 1.6 million youth have enjoyed a flight and instruction about aircraft. The lesson consists of a free 20-minute flight over the town as the pilot explains reference points, such as lakes and town squares. The pilot describes the instrument panel and parts of a plane, and they review charts and maps. When they complete the flight, the youth receive a certificate and a pair of "wings" from the EAA. The course can spark an interest in aviation that a child can take into adulthood and beyond.

In September, Roe and Marcia participated in a fly-in in their community. Forty-five young kids signed up to fly with experienced pilots and earn their wings. Fly-ins are open to the public, and several activities take place. Aircraft do flybys, a simulator is available and children can take the 20-minute course while their parents enjoy hot dogs, hamburgers and "hangar" prizes. "There weren't as many kids this year because of the weather, I think," Roe explained. "Last year we flew 109."

Roe's love for flying began right after high school in the 1950s. He attended the University of Illinois and was required to take ROTC. "I didn't think I'd like foxholes, so I went Air Force," Roe said. "This was the first time I became interested in airplanes. I had no previous experience." Roe advanced through basic pilot training and advanced pilot training and flew a

FUN

By Erin McEndree



The red, white and blue Piper Comanche 250 fulfills Roe and Marcia's love for flying.

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number of aircraft. He flew Piper PA-18s, T-6Gs, T-28s and T-33s — based on the first jet-powered fighter, the F-80. After graduation, he became an instructor in the T-33, flew in B-47s and B-52s for Strategic Air Command and EB-66s in Vietnam. He then returned to the classroom to finish graduate school in logistics.

Roe did not fly from 1972 to 1990. He worked at General Dynamics in Fort Worth; Hill Air Force Base in Ogden, Utah; and Lockheed Martin. "A fellow I worked with was a flight instructor, and he talked me into flying again," Roe said. He enjoyed it so much he made plans to buy his own plane.

"Roe came home from work one day and said he was going to buy a plane," Marcia said. "I decided to take a companion course that the EAA offered." The course teaches companions how to get the plane on the ground if anything goes wrong with the pilot. "When I took the course, I was hooked." Marcia continued to fly and obtained a pilot's license and instrument rating. Roe has a commercial license with instrument rating. Roe thinks it was very wise on Marcia's part to take the companion course. Now, their shared, unique hobby allows them to see the world.

Body by Vi CHALLENGE

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Recently, they saw Canada and Alaska in their Piper Comanche. "This was a really big excursion we set out on," Roe said. They were gone a month. They stopped in Arizona to see family before their rendezvous point in Olympia, Washington. The total trip had 23 stops along the way. It took 52 hours to fly the 8,000 mile journey.



Fourteen aircraft flew the trip. "There were all kinds of aircraft: Beechcraft Bonanzas, a homemade RV-8, Cirrus SR-22s, Cessna, Mooney, and an Aviat Husky," Roe explained.

"There were people from all over. They came from Australia, Florida, Cincinnati, California, Utah and Texas," Marcia said. "At some stops we rented a car and went sightseeing. We also went on a wildlife and glacier tour."

Marcia has other hobbies she spends time on when she is not in the air. She paints, makes Teddy bears out of mohair and creates brilliantly colored, stained-glass wall hangings. Several of them depict airplanes Roe has flown. Roe also

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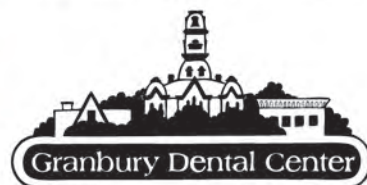
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has interests tied into flying. He proudly displays his collection of model aircraft, all of which he has flown. In addition to his model aircraft, he has a collection of red, International Harvester tractors that reminds him of growing up on a farm in Illinois.

The couple met while in college at the University of Illinois. "We met on a blind date," Roe laughed, "and we have been married 58 years." For 22 of those years, they have shared a love for flying. Their son lives in Dallas. They also have two daughters who followed their dad's military route. The older is active-duty Air Force and is on the Colonel's list. The younger retired as a lieutenant colonel.

Roe and Marcia love their community and surroundings. Deer and other wildlife quietly roam the yards of their neighborhood unharmed. "We are more like a squadron or military unit here," Marcia said. "We have hangar parties like other people have pool parties or tailgate parties."

"This is a great way to live," Roe said. "Airline pilots and retired military pilots live here. One of my neighbors holds the speed record for a 4-cylinder airplane. And the neighbors over there," Roe pointed, "they think they moved and landed in heaven."

The red, white and blue Piper Comanche 250 fulfills Roe and Marcia's love for flying. Their hobby takes them far and wide, but best of all, they share their love for aviation with generations to come. **NOW**



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FROM THE GROUND UP

By Amber D. Browne

AT HOME WITH *Jimmy and Patricia Mills*

Home is where the heart is. That certainly holds true for Jimmy and Patricia Mills' new home in Granbury. Patricia had lived on the one-and-a-half acre property in a large mobile home with her two daughters, Tricia and Victoria, for 15 years before meeting Jimmy. The couple met while working for the city of Granbury four years ago. They were married in November 2010 and began talking about building a home from the ground up just steps away from the trailer.

At first, the thought of taking on a mortgage was scary for Patricia. "That mobile home was like buying a car. This is four times the mortgage as the mobile home," she explained. "I just couldn't see it." It took some convincing from Jimmy. He wrote out all of their expenses and found the money for the mortgage already in their budget. Patricia was then ready to explore the idea.





The first step was to find a builder and choose a house plan. They broke ground in February. "I've always liked an open concept." So, Patricia decided to make one change to the plans. The builder complied with her request and added an arched window and bar on the kitchen/living room wall. The window gives her a panoramic view of the living area and a chance to visit with guests. "I can do the cooking, and I can see everything that's going on," she smiled. Patricia added new metal barstools in the kitchen, creating additional seating space to the area.

The kitchen has plenty of cabinet and counter space. Patricia bought a rustic pot rack for the island that will eventually be added to the center of the kitchen. The kitchen features a large walk-in pantry to store dry goods. A new dishwasher was purchased to match the white appliances in the new house.

A fall-inspired flower arrangement brings color to a large wooden dining table. Patricia now has the room for a cabinet to proudly display her china. "She had her grandmother's china in a box," Jimmy shared. "She just never had a place to put it."

The oversized couch, love seat and recliner provide comfortable places to lounge in the living room. Jimmy enjoys spending time in that space, where he and his 15-year-old stepdaughter, Victoria, like to horse around. "I can chase her around all over the place," he said. "We don't have to worry about knocking furniture over." The living room also boasts enough space for the entire family to play Wii games, Xbox or just watch movies as a family.

Once the builder completed their home in April, the Mills received an allowance for paint and flooring. Jimmy takes credit for the paint colors for the exterior and interior of the home. "I just let her think she picked the inside. I was going with this color anyway," he joked. The inside of the home is painted a soothing sandy-beige color. "We painted it. I got a crick in my neck while doing it, but it was all done with love," Patricia explained.

The man cave in the shop out back is another place Jimmy enjoys spending his free time. The entire family likes riding



their jet skis out on the lake. In her spare time, Patricia reads horror stories. Lately, her time is spent mostly shopping to finish up the decor inside the home.

In addition to reading, Patricia has gathered various collections, a few of which are displayed inside a glass cabinet in the living room. She has procured shot glasses over the years, with her first purchased in Galveston at the age of 18. She even picked up a few seashells while vacationing in Hawaii and some dolphin-



themed wax candles handmade on the islands. Her lighthouses remind her of South Padre Island, where some of her family members live.

The first of three bedrooms belongs to Victoria. She keeps warm with a zebra comforter in her sturdy four poster wooden bed. Framed photos of African

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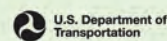
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cats line the walls. Across the hall Tricia and Bobbie share the second bedroom with the puppy which sleeps in a kennel near the bed.

On the other side of the house is the master bedroom. Patricia recently purchased a full-length antique mirror for one corner. Eventually, they want to buy a sofa lounge for the seating space in front of the king-size bed. An attached master bathroom, brightened with metal fish artwork, includes a large walk-in closet. Above the sink hang the moon and sun decor Patricia bought in Mexico. "I just like the celestial," she said. "I've always looked up in the sky." And, the new house out in the country gives her plenty of space to sit back, relax and look up at the stars.

With a little extra spending money, they have added a Sycamore tree to the yard. Plans to landscape the property are in the works. The front door allows the outside light in through an oval-shaped, frosted-glass window. They want to extend the front porch the length of the home and add a porte cochère. A carport on one side of the house and a circular driveway are also somewhere in the future plans.

They took chronological photographs of the house being built. The photos preserve their memories of the project from the dirt and the slab, to the framing and the finishing touches. The house is now decorated for fall with scarecrows and pumpkins displayed throughout. Members from both Patricia and Jimmy's families will share food and time together at the new house over Thanksgiving. Patricia is looking forward to hosting the holiday this year. "My mother will come over and show me how to make her dressing. I can't make her dressing. It's just not the same," she grinned.

Patricia and Jimmy plan to stay in the Granbury community for years to come. "It's home," Patricia said. When she first moved to Granbury as a single mother of two, she received a lot of support from the local community. "It's always been good to me," she said thankfully.



"I've always wanted a big house," Jimmy confessed. "And, she deserves it. She raised two girls by herself. She did a dang good job."

"I'm very happy with my home. I'm very happy my husband did this for me," Patricia said. "I love it, because I have something now to leave for my children." **NOW**



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Higher PURPOSE

— By Melissa Rawlins

Not for the love of flying, but rather for progress, Wayne McKethan is excited about expanding the airport west of town. “I am a finance guy,” the Granbury city manager admitted. “I recognize the economic benefit of bringing in an airport.” Since becoming city manager in early 2011, Wayne has poured much personal energy into the development of Granbury Regional Airport. “The importance of expanding to a 5,250-foot runway is we’ll be able to land corporate jets and small transports, which will bring in a lot more economic activity and interest from businesspeople.”

It takes one to know one, so they say. And Wayne’s 29-year banking career not only took him out of Waco, where he was born, but also gave him great empathy for the businesspeople with whom he used to rub shoulders. He understands the attractiveness of easy access to Granbury’s quality of life. When he was offered early retirement after being in charge of planning and managing information for a large credit card company, he already owned a small ranch on Chalk Mountain in Glen Rose. “I fell in love with the area and decided I was a little young to be retired,” Wayne recalled. In 2005, the job for director of finance at the city of Granbury came open, and Wayne took it.

For the last one-and-a-half years, he has been both city manager and director of finance. “It’s been an enjoyable six years, because it was a different world than banking. There, I did a good job and got a raise. Here, I do a good job and get a new park for the community,” Wayne said. “I perceive this as a



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way to give back. We've been able to help the city manage through the economy. The city is financially strong right now. At this point, even without the Barnett Shale income, our sales tax and hotel tax is going to be back above the 2007 levels, prior to economic turmoil. Granbury has weathered the economic storm very well. It's a tribute to the community, the leaders and the council. Hopefully, I've had some impact on that as well."

Relying on Eva Gregory, acting as the assistant finance director, Wayne leaves day-to-day operations to the city's competent finance group. "I get involved in the projects and long-term planning and budgeting," he said. "With my CPA certificate, I'm able to have more impact on rating agencies and regulatory groups — plus saving some money for the taxpayers." Through his work as finance director, Wayne initially participated in the development of the City Beach Park and the Granbury Resort Conference Center. "Even the Hilton Hotel was a major accomplishment that has been a tremendous success for the community. Those attractions have brought a tremendous response from locals and outsiders."

The tiki-umbrellaed beach has given lake access to those who cannot live on the lake. For Wayne, helping others have this opportunity has become very important, since he moved lakeside after becoming city manager. He bought a home at Water's Edge and loves it. "I am very blessed to be able to own a property on the lake, which gives me the ability to have my family come to Jet Ski and boat.



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Getting on the lake is a family activity,” said Wayne, who used to watch football or travel with his wife, Betty, until finding their grandkids visit more often now that they can play with their grandparents on the water. “It keeps us young, to get out on the lake and go around in our boat instead of sitting on the couch watching TV. I understand now the value of the lake, the social impact of the lake, for family purposes.”

Opening avenues for fun within Granbury’s culture, Wayne and his team are currently improving the opera house. Owned since 2006 by Granbury Historical Properties, which is a subsidiary of the city, the expanded opera house will be completed by 2013. “Something neat about Granbury is that many of downtown’s buildings were built in the 1800s,” Wayne said. “Most Texas town squares have been knocked down. We were lucky in that ours was not made of wooden structures but of rock, by people who had more wealth than normal. That’s the only way you could explain it. Those stone buildings have survived now for almost 130 years, which is amazing!”

“It costs a lot of money to look old. It takes a lot to keep them up and maintain them. We have a group of owners here who have committed their lives to making Granbury what it is. The fact that we put a historical marker on the square in 1970 saved the square,” said Wayne, who considers the city a partner helping to support the work of the Granbury Chamber of Commerce and the Historic Downtown Merchants



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Association. "Thank goodness we have those people in the merchants association and the Chamber who want to do the work required to produce the events that supply tourists with things to do and to see unique items that maybe they didn't expect. Events, like last month's Harvest Moon Festival and the Fourth of July Celebration, also promote that small-town environment that we strive to maintain."

Granbury's small-town values fascinate Wayne. "The normal Granbury-ite is interested in arts, ecology and nature. There's always been this interest, even from the onset of the pioneers who built Granbury. The lake wasn't created until the 1970s, when the Lake Granbury Dam was built," he said. "But we've always had the Granbury Opera House, for instance, and always the connection with

***"Granbury
is not an
apathetic
community."***

more of an arts and historic conservation approach. This is a higher level of purpose than just making a buck. It's not that we're just here trying to make money. We are trying to maintain an environment and a really unique part of Texas that is historic and beautiful. This did not accidentally happen. With our bed and breakfasts, lake and all the events we have it creates a total package that makes Granbury a little different."

This attraction holds true for natives as well, who get involved with community events and voice their opinions clearly in the process. "Granbury is not an apathetic community," Wayne said. "It's exciting to be city manager and running this city, as well as being a resident here. This is an interesting job, because there are people from all over coming to live here amongst the people who grew up here." Just like them, Wayne was smitten. For the love of Granbury and its people, Wayne takes his second career quite seriously. **NOW**

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BOOTS, BLING AND BOOGIE

By Amber D. Browne

Moving to a new town can be overwhelming for some at first. Linda Silver knows firsthand about moving to a new community, and the Lake Granbury Newcomers Club has helped make Granbury her home. The club has also eased her through the acclimation process.

The Newcomers Club opens its doors to new and longtime residents, giving them a place to belong and have a lot of fun while they're at it. Linda and her husband, Burr, bought a house on Lake Granbury in 2003. After months of renovations, they moved in and started a new chapter in life on the lake. She was invited to one of the club's meetings in 2004 and never looked back. "When I went, I was just blown away. These women are just the most fantastic people in the world," Linda said. "They are smart. They are ambitious. They've been in the workplace. They know how to run an organization, and they look gorgeous." Linda knew the group was where she wanted to be.

Linda has served as the club's president, currently serves on the board and puts together the monthly newsletter. Her grandson, Brandon, even stepped in when he was a freshman in high school to serve as the club's webmaster. Now a sophomore at Oklahoma State University, Brandon continues with webmaster duties and sends out the monthly newsletter to members.

After Linda retired from teaching high school English in Oklahoma, she and Burr moved to Granbury to be closer to their children. Their son, Ken Silver, has since moved from

Southlake back to Oklahoma with his family, including Brandon and his two younger brothers, Jackson and Clayton, who play football at Edmond North High School. Linda and Burr visit as much as possible to see them play.

The Burrs' daughter, Karil Rogers, lives in Dallas. Both of Karil's children attend college. Kali is finishing her master's at Southern Methodist University, and her brother, Eric, attends The University of Texas at Austin. "I am the luckiest person in the world," Linda said proudly. "It's a dream come true to see your grandchildren go to college." Their children and grandchildren do not get to visit the lake as often as Linda would like, but they travel to Granbury for weekend trips from time to time.

In their free time, Linda and Burr are writing a novel about a woman who is half Hopi and half Navajo. The book details the challenges she faces while living on the reservation and her attempts to overcome her past and live a normal life. "My husband writes the facts, and then I embellish," she said of using her English background. "It's a very powerful story. We want people to read it and get a glimpse of what it takes for some to get through life," she added.

Linda has plenty of activities with the Newcomers Club to keep her busy. The club encourages those in the local community to come to the luncheons, make friends and get involved. "You can stay busy all week if you want to. You just pick things you are interested in." From needlepoint and book club to line dancing and Mah Jongg tournaments, members have a variety of special interest activities to choose from each month. Members even invite their spouses to attend Evening Out, which involves dinner at a restaurant or one of the members' homes.

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Burr, who is a semiretired geologist, also enjoys some of the get-togethers. "He just says, 'OK, now where am I going this week?'" Linda joked. "He goes to



Evening Out and has met a lot of people that way."

The group has monthly luncheons where members purchase door prizes and sometimes raffle tickets for larger items donated by local businesses. The funds raised are distributed to local charities at the group's May meeting. About \$12,000 is donated each year to charities chosen by the Newcomers' members. "We feel so proud to have the kind of people who cater to charities and have fun doing it. That's what Newcomers is all about," Linda said.

One of their more elaborate luncheons will be held in November and includes





a style show. Linda took over the reins this year and started thinking about the perfect theme for the style show. "What is better than Southfork, because *Dallas* is back," she decided. So, Linda came up with the theme: Southfork Bling in a Granbury Fling.

She decided to include line dancing as part of the event this year. "It's the Texas style," Linda said. About 100 members began taking line dancing classes in September to prepare for




their performances. "It's just fun. We're looking at it as not only fun, but also good exercise," Linda explained. She plans to be out on the dance floor in her western boots and cowboy hat dancing to "Boot Scootin' Boogie."

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Local businesses donate the clothing for the models to wear during the style show. The models will carry placards to give the merchants some recognition for all they do for the group throughout the year. "We really want to thank them. The style show is part of that," Linda explained.

The style show is not just about thanking merchants that have made donations throughout the year, but also to honor some of the organization's members. A dozen members who have served in some sort of capacity in the Newcomers Club were selected to model both glitzy and casual outfits during the luncheon. "We have past presidents and other people who have served on the board," Linda explained. The models will also get to perform a line dance by themselves. "It's just a way to spotlight members who have contributed so much to make Newcomers what it is," Linda said. "It's going to be a really fun experience. That's the point. Have fun, make money and feel good."

The Newcomers Club has been a part of the local Granbury community for nearly four decades and now boasts about 450 members from Pecan Plantation, De Cordova and most neighborhoods in Granbury. "We love inviting new and established people to come to our meetings. Anybody is welcome, even though they may have been here 10 years," Linda explained. "It's just such a dynamic organization." And, Linda plans to continue her membership with the group for years to come. "The friendships developed through this club are special. I feel lucky to live here!" **NOW**

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Funding Your Child's College Education

A college education is a gift that most parents would love to give their children. But with higher education becoming pricier each year, it's important to use time to your advantage by starting to save early.

College education expenses grew an average of 5.6 percent per year beyond general inflation from the 2010-2011 academic year to the 2011-2012 academic year, according to the College Board. If costs continue to rise at that pace, the College Board estimates that today's high school students could expect to pay close to \$100,000 to attend a public, in-state university for four years, and more than twice that for a private institution.

Many families don't believe they can save enough to pay the continually rising college costs, especially given other important short- and long-term goals in their financial plan.

Start Saving Now

The sooner you begin saving for your child's education, the better. A head start will give your investment more time to grow, as well as more time to ride the market's ups and downs. Many students do receive financial aid. For the 2011-2012 academic year, more than \$178 billion in financial aid was awarded to undergraduate students, according to the College Board. Still, most colleges expect parents and students to contribute their share. In addition, typical financial aid packages also rely on loans.

Thankfully, the federal and state governments have made saving for college easier with tax-favored education funding options. But how do you decide which vehicle is right for you?

Options for College Funding

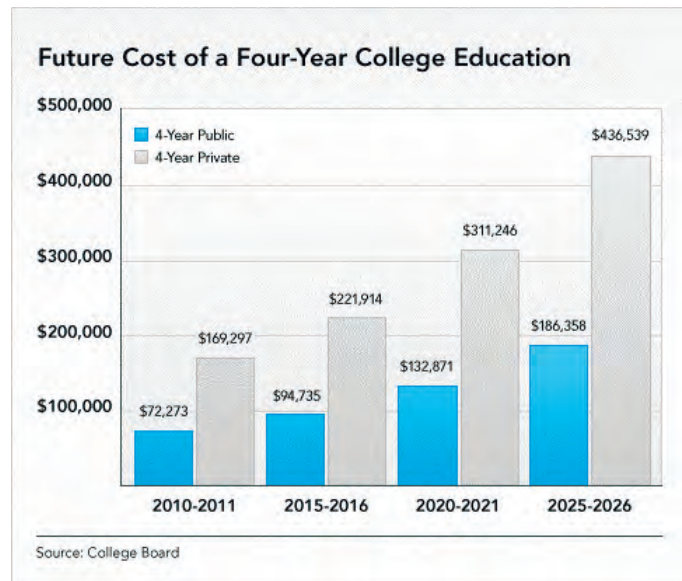
To determine how to best save for your child's college education, you may want to start by comparing the following popular investment alternatives:

• 529 Plans

Section 529 Plans are higher education saving and pre-paid tuition plans established under Section 529(b) of the Internal Revenue Code as qualified tuition programs. There are two types: the 529 college savings plan and the 529 prepaid tuition plan.

The 529 college savings plan is an investment program that allows you or other family members and friends to invest in an account designated for qualified higher education expenses. Contributions may be used at any eligible U.S. higher-education institution, as well as some abroad.

With a 529 prepaid tuition plan, you essentially buy all or part of a public in-state education at present-day prices. The program will then pay for future college tuition at any of your state's eligible colleges or universities (or a payment to private and out-of-state institutions). Most 529 prepaid tuition plans have residency requirements and are sponsored by state governments, which then guarantee the investments.



• Coverdell Education Savings Account

The Coverdell Education Savings Account (ESA) is a trust or custodial account that provides you with a tax-advantaged method to save up to \$2,000 per year for your child's education. Included is elementary and secondary education as well as post-secondary education, such as college, graduate school or vocational school.

An ESA may be established for the benefit of any child under age 18, with contributions beginning any time after birth and continuing until the 18th birthday. Contributions will only be accepted after the 18th birthday if your child is a special needs beneficiary as defined by federal tax law.

• Custodial Account (UGMA/UTMA)

You can establish an account for your child under the Uniform Gift to Minors Act (UGMA) or the Uniform Transfer to Minors Act (UTMA), depending on which law applies in your state. The UGMA/UTMA account allows you to make gifts to your child without setting up a trust. The contributions made to an account of this type are considered irrevocable gifts to the minor in whose name the account is registered.

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Jace Foreman is a State Farm agent based in Granbury.



Texas Emergency Medical Services

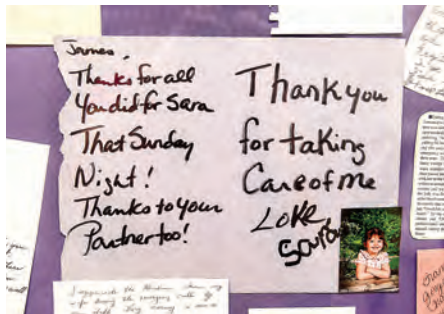
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Verne Walker, executive director, with several of the paramedics at Texas EMS, which runs ambulances on 4,000 calls per year. A staff member manipulates the EKG machine that Texas EMS takes on-site.



Quality Care

Always here for you, Texas EMS offers Emergency Care Transport Membership to cover the cost between your insurance and your pocket.

— By Melissa Rawlins

Saving lives starts somewhere. In the case of Texas Emergency Medical Services, the mission is based in a warehouse-style building near the Lake Granbury Medical Center, which houses more than 22 paramedics and a few administrators. Yet most of the business is accomplished off-site. Once in a while Executive Director Verne Walker sees somebody who comes to ask about a bill, but that is always after Texas Emergency Medical Services has visited the citizen when they needed help most.

As first responders to 9-1-1 calls for emergency medical services in Hood County, Verne and his staff are committed to helping our community when the stress is on. In order to save lives, the paramedics keep three things at the tops of

their minds: timing, quality and reliability. For over 10 years this private, nonprofit business has sent paramedics on 4,000 calls per year and kept the community safe. Verne plows every dollar possible into the business to make the service better for the community. Funded by grants, paramedic services are always available to every resident in Granbury. For customers of Acton Municipal Utility District (AMUD) and Granbury City Utilities, Texas EMS offers a program offsetting the cost of transportation to the hospital for \$1.00 per month.

Countywide, Verne instituted a similar cost-saving solution for people who need transportation to the hospital but do not want to spend the money for an ambulance. "Texas EMS Emergency Care Transport Membership covers the

cost between your insurance and your pocket,” Verne said. “Membership allows us to bill a patient’s insurance and then write the balance off, even if they put it toward the deductible. A normal bill for us is about \$2,000. If a person has no insurance, they will receive a greatly reduced bill — about 60 percent of what it would have been. Someone with private insurance has the most to gain from it. However, our members with Medicare also benefit greatly. After Medicare and secondary insurance companies pay, there is usually about \$100 left that a nonmember would have to pay, but our members are covered.”

The \$36 annual membership Texas EMS charges to a family extends to all members of a household, including loved ones dwelling in a long-term care facility. Membership supports high-quality care to patients, as well as maintenance costs for the six trucks operated by Texas EMS. “The reason we provide the membership is to remove what we believe were the two barriers to calling 9-1-1,” Verne explained. “First was money. A membership takes that barrier away. Secondly, people don’t want to bother us, especially the older population. It is never a bother for us to come out and make sure you’re OK.”

The staff at Texas EMS, which exists to serve the public, touches people’s lives day in and day out. “It is truly an honor to be able to provide this care to the public,” Verne said. As the holiday season and winter weather conditions approach, the licensed paramedics at Texas EMS want to remind the public, “Don’t drink and drive. It’s life-ruining.”

When someone is severely injured and trapped in a car at night, the conditions in which emergency technicians work are very difficult. “The fire department does a good job of putting the light to us, but it’s still dark out,” Verne said. “A lot of the time, we’ll start crawling up inside the car with the patient to care for them and reassure them until the metal can be cut away. We might even have to start life-critical interventions while they’re still stuck. My staff performs miracles.” As the 9-1-1 service, Texas EMS ensures life-saving care to citizens who are having the worst day of their lives. **NOW**



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Robert Novak and Judy King enjoy the beautiful weather.



Ladies in the Women in Networking - Granbury meeting at New2U Consignment.



From left: Judy Welsh, Janis Moore, Mary Ann Allen and Dottie Burrow enjoy shopping at St. Helen's in downtown Granbury.



Virginia Conner, Kathy Conner and Darrell Morgan enjoy a breakfast meeting at Granbury Optimist Club.



Karl (Rock Rooster Stone) Hoff and David (Doc) Moore are two of the Historic Granbury Gunslingers.



Jim Patterson of The Jeweler's Workshop shows off one of his many jewelry pieces.



Ana Rollins and Sharon Smith eat lunch at Lake Granbury Newcomers Club meeting.



Al Caravetta cooks out at Lakeshore Apartments of Granbury.



Katie Timms and Alexis Neathery reorganize the shelves at Rack Room Shoes.



Individuals prepare to work out at the BodyPUMP class at the YMCA.



KPIR 1420 Radio, *The Morning Gang*: Allen Newton, Lee Riza and Jerry Partlow.



What goes on behind the black hat in Granbury stays behind the black hat in Granbury.



Harold and June Clark display their first copy of GranburyNOW Magazine.



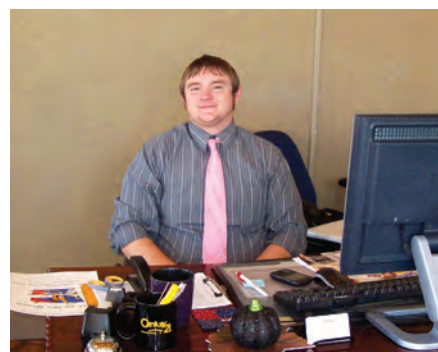
Josh Balthrop and his two children, Chloe, 2, and George, 1, shop at HEB.



Susan Gilliam, at Doug's Sports House, smiles for the camera.



Lenore Landry and Lydia Harris: friendly wait staff at Hoffbran Steaks.



Nathan Smothermon enjoys his work day at Century 21 Shirley Hooks, Inc.



Granbury Business Alliance holds a meeting at Buffalo Gap Steakhouse.

Fall is a Good Time for Planting Trees

— By Nancy Fenton

Was the long hot summer as hard on your trees as it was on mine? If you have to replace or just add a bit of color, fall is really one of the very best times for planting trees or shrubs of any size. The cooler weather gives the tree a much better chance to develop strong roots. Container-grown plants, including trees, can be planted any time of year, but the fall is still a much better time since they won't require as much watering. Trees, like most plants, shock easily when moved around. The roots start to dry out the minute the soil is pulled away. This makes careful planting a must.

For careful planting, the tree guys at Texas A&M University tell us the width of the planting hole is vitally important. Three times the width of the pot is essential, as is digging the hole no deeper than the container in which the tree is planted. If you are looking at a tree that is bare-rooted (no soil), just make sure that the hole is good and wide. Lots of room is needed for the roots to spread out. Good looking trees in containers often have lots of roots in a very small space. A

good soaking will often loosen the container and the soil around the roots. If that doesn't work, try a good, sharp knife to cut through and loosen the roots.

The depth issue is one that has changed over the years. The crown of the tree should be just above the level of the surrounding soil with the roots spread around it. The main issues in North Central Texas are our alkaline soils, plus the uneven moisture levels. Refilling the hole with the same soil that came out and topping with two to three inches of course mulch is recommended. Less air exposure to the roots means less of a chance the tree will be shocked. Regular watering after the fact (even after the temperature drops) will also help. **NOW**

Nancy Fenton is a Master Gardener.



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November 30-December 2

29th Annual Candlelight Tour of Homes: **Friday**, 6:00-10:00 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, Bridge St.; **Saturday**, 11:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m., County Courthouse; **Sunday**, 1:00-8:00 p.m., Granbury Theatre Company, Crockett St. Concerts, carriage rides, caroling, story times, nativity display and tours of historic homes. Reserve tickets at The Nutt House Hotel or call (817) 573-5299 for more information.

November 3

Apple and Pumpkin Canning Class: 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Clark Gardens, 567 Maddux Rd., Weatherford. Learn to can apples and pumpkins this fall with Mennonite teacher Mary Otto in the gourmet kitchen of one of the private Clark Gardens family homes. Each student will enjoy a taste of each recipe. Deadline to register is the **Thursday** prior to the class. Cost is \$50/nonmembers or \$45/members. For more information, go to www.clarkgardens.com or call Beverly at (940) 682-4856.

Sixth Annual Healthy Woman Anniversary Event & Expo: 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Granbury High School, 2000 W. Pearl St. \$15 for luncheon and speaker or \$10 for speaker only. Guest Speaker, Abby Rike, discusses how health and wellness promotes spiritual, emotional and physical healing. For more information, contact Shannon Kostecka at the Lake Granbury Medical Center at (817) 579-2955.

November 10

Girls Night Out: 5:30-8:00 p.m., historic downtown square. Drawing for \$100 downtown dollars, drinks and food for ladies who come to shop in the boutiques and galleries surrounding the courthouse. For more information, call (817) 573-5299 or visit facebook.com/GNOgranburytx.

Third Annual Marine Corps Ball: 5:30 p.m., Granbury Resort Conference Center, 621 E. Pearl St. Join the Marine Corps JROTC at Granbury High School and Crossland Ninth Grade Center as they raise funds for the JROTC program. For more information, contact Jeff Meador, public information officer for Granbury ISD, at (817) 408-4006.

November 11

Veteran's Day Observance: 2:00-3:30 p.m., Travis Street and City Beach. Motorcade to City Beach goes up Travis Street. At 2:30 p.m. the flag ceremony begins this solemn recognition of all men and women who have served in the United States armed forces. For more information, visit www.usveteransmuseum.com or contact Tom Green at (817) 683-4513.

November 12

Metro Beekeepers Meeting: 6:30-8:30 p.m., United Cooperative Services Building, 3309 I-35 West, Burleson. Novice and expert beekeepers in Texas will enjoy learning from each other at all Metro Beekeepers meetings. Those that bring snacks to share with those attending the meeting will receive a free ticket for prize drawings. Contact Stan Key at (817) 888-0470 or visit www.metrobeekeepers.net.

Weekends

Hood County Museum: 1:00-4:00 p.m., Old Hood County Jail, 208 N. Crockett. Admission is \$2 for adults, \$1 for children 6-12. For more information, call (817) 573-5135.

Granbury Trolley: **Fridays** and **Saturdays**, 10:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.; **Sundays**, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. The Trolley starts on the historic courthouse square at the intersection of Crockett and Pearl Streets and runs every hour on the hour. For more information, call Granbury Convention & Visitors Bureau at (817) 573-5548.

Second Sundays

Low-Cost Pet Vaccination Clinic: 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Arrow Feed & Ranch, 2031 E. Hwy 377. Call (817) 573-8808.

Second Mondays

Granbury Showcase meeting: 6:30 p.m., Big Cup in Acton. Volunteers keep our community healthy by helping museums, festivals and events. Call Donna at (817) 219-3246.

Wednesdays

Church on the Rock: 6:00 p.m., 322 S. Morgan St. Dinner and Bible study. Learn more at www.cotrgranbury.com.

Second Tuesdays

Salvation Army Women's Service League meetings: 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., DeCordova Bend Country Club. Join with other women interested in helping with the many projects undertaken by the Salvation Army Women's Service League of Hood County. Projects include new shoes, new clothing, hygiene kits, summer camp programs for children, assistance for those in most need in Hood County and more. For further information, please contact Donna Noyes at (817) 736-2999.

Fridays and Saturdays

Granbury Ghosts & Legends Tour: 7:00 p.m. and 9:15 p.m., Wagon Yard Courtyard on Bridge St., next to the Nutt House Hotel. Two tours nightly draw you into a spooky evening with the Lady in Red, the Faceless Girl and Indian Joe and maybe even John Wilkes Booth. Tour guides wearing Civil War period attire tell ghost stories and legends as they take you around Granbury's historic square. For reservations, contact (817) 559-0849 or GranburyGhosts@gmail.com.

Second and Fourth Saturdays

HALO Pet Adoption Days: Second Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Tractor Supply; Fourth Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Arrow Feed & Ranch, 2031 E. Hwy 377. For more information, contact Pam Fine, executive director of HALO (Hood County Animal Lovers Organization) at (817) 559-7309.

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



In The Kitchen With Christi Sanders

— *By Melissa Rawlins*

When she was invited to join her grandmother in the kitchen, Christi Sanders learned the joys of helping — and serving her grandpa excellent biscuits. During her early 20s, she started noticing that other people really liked her recipes. As she educated herself about food and cooking techniques, she willingly tried almost anything, usually with good results. Christi now cooks for her children and extended family. “My kids’ friends like to hang out at our house because I love to grill, so we often have a house full,” said Christi, who mentors youth from her church. Every month, the kids help her prepare and serve a meal for their congregation — often making a variety of desserts. Christi’s Eggnog Brûlée Cheesecake adds to the atmosphere at every Thanksgiving gathering. **NOW**

Eggnog Brûlée Cheesecake

Crust:

2 cups cinnamon graham cracker crumbs
2 Tbsp. sugar
Ground cinnamon, to taste
Ground nutmeg, to taste
1 1/2 sticks unsalted sweet cream butter, melted

Filling:

4 8-oz. pkgs. of cream cheese, softened
2 cups plus 4 Tbsp. sugar (divided use)
1 tsp. vanilla
1/3 cup sour cream
1/3 cup Promised Land eggnog
1/8 cup heavy whipping cream
4 eggs

1. Preheat oven to 350 F
2. For crust: wrap outside of 8-inch spring

form pan with foil to prevent seepage. Spray pan with nonstick spray.

3. Combine all dry ingredients. Add butter to dry ingredients; mix by hand until everything is moist. Use fingers to press mixture into pan until bottom and 1/4-inch of sides are covered.

4. Bake for 10-12 minutes until crust is golden brown. Cool completely.

5. Reduce oven temperature to 300 F

6. For filling: Blend cream cheese in food processor, 1 pkg. at a time, scraping bowl frequently, until creamy and smooth. Do not over-blend. Add 2 cups sugar, vanilla, and sour cream; scrape bowl between each ingredient. Add eggnog and heavy cream, blending just enough to mix. Do not whip too much!

7. With processor on lowest setting, add eggs one at a time, until completely smooth without adding too much air. Scrape sides;

mix once more until completely smooth.

8. Pour mixture into cooled crust; place pan in water bath that comes 1/3 to 1/2 up sides of spring form pan. Place pan in oven, as far from heat source as possible. Bake until slightly jiggly in center, about 2 hours. If cheesecake starts to brown during baking, reduce heat and cover lightly with foil. Turn oven off, leaving cheesecake in oven until pan is cool to the touch.

9. Remove cheesecake from water bath; remove foil. Place cheesecake on cooling rack; invert a large plastic bowl over the top. Let cool 4 hours. Refrigerate cheesecake for 12 hours. Cheesecake can be frozen for up to two months.

10. To serve: place on serving platter; spread 2-3 tablespoons of raw sugar around top of cheesecake. Using a culinary torch, carefully caramelize sugar starting in the middle and working outward.

Grandma Sanders’ Waldorf Salad

1/2 pint whipping cream
1/2 cup marshmallow creme
1 Tbsp. mayonnaise
6 large apples
6 bananas
1 lb. grapes
1 lb. celery
1 cup pecans
8 oz. miniature marshmallows

1. Mix first three ingredients to make dressing, adjusting amounts depending on how much you require.

2. Chop fruits, celery and nuts into bite-sized pieces; combine with marshmallows.

3. Combine with dressing; chill before serving.

Mom’s Baked Corn Casserole

3 cans cream style corn
1 lb. crackers
3 eggs, slightly beaten
1/2 cup evaporated milk
Salt, pepper and garlic, to taste

1. Add all ingredients together; mix well.

2. Pour into a greased, glass baking pan and bake at 425 F for 15 minutes, then turn the oven down to 350 F, bake for 45 minutes or until golden brown.

To view previous recipes, visit
www.nowmagazines.com.

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Historic Downtown Weatherford • Free Admission

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