

# Weatherford

# NOW

M A G A Z I N E

FEBRUARY 2017

## Mixture of Influence

At Home With  
Patti Lankford

## Best-kept Secret

Wally Jones plays a  
big part at Theatre  
Off The Square

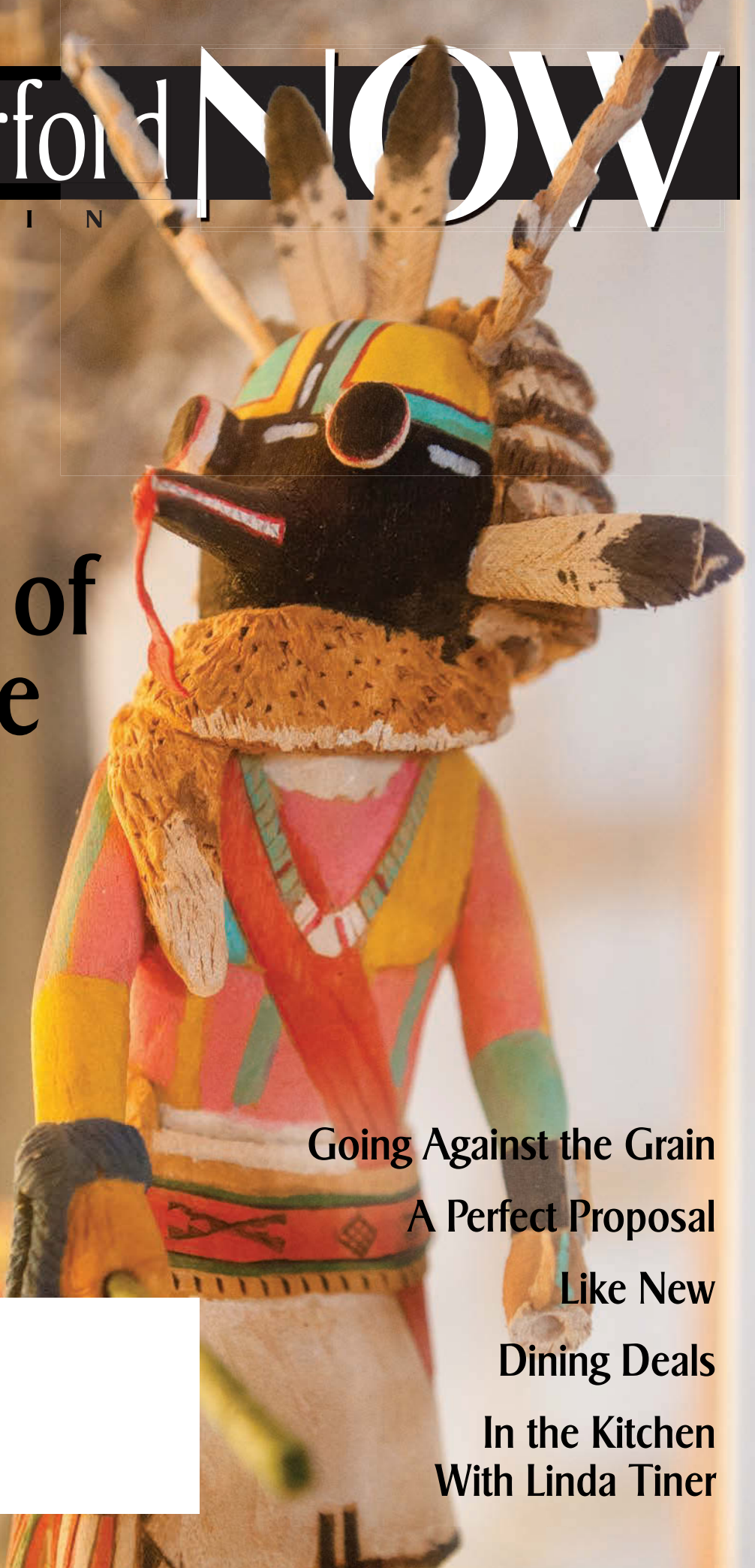
Going Against the Grain

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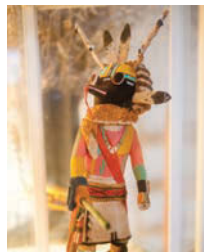
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*Southwest style is only one influence on Patti Lankford's decor.*

*Photo by Amanda Olson.*

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## Editor's Note

*Hello, Weatherford Friends,*

Long ago, February became the month of love. The history of Valentine's Day is questionable, with different stories about its beginning. Some speculate that perhaps Christians created it to draw attention away from February 15 and Lupercalia, a Roman fertility festival. Do origins matter? Maybe the answer depends on how much you enjoy history. I've had different feelings about Valentine's Day over the years — usually related to circumstances at the time.

I believe love doesn't belong to one day a year. Each day we can share the precious gifts of love and friendship in many different ways. Maybe our expression comes as a simple gesture shown to a stranger — a smile, paying for a meal or groceries, or helping them with directions or a flat tire. In deeper relationships, perhaps we do something extraordinary or unexpected — a phone call or card, taking a meal to a sick friend, an elaborate meal for your beloved. Expressing love all year long means more than roses and chocolate on a single day.

Happy Valentine's Day!

*Lisa*

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# BEST- SEC



*As a little boy, Wally Jones lived in Fort Worth, and he became involved in theater through the beloved Casa Mañana. Somewhere between the ages of 4 and 6, Wally took part in a play. "My mom made me," he divulged. "My sister wanted to do it, so I had to." After his initial performances, Wally discontinued his affiliation with the theater.*

Some 13 or 14 years later, he entered college at The University of Texas at Arlington. To his surprise, the woman who led him during the preschool playhouse years showed up as his speech teacher. She remembered him, but even that didn't renew any desire to become part of any theater again. Wally graduated and went on with life as an accountant.

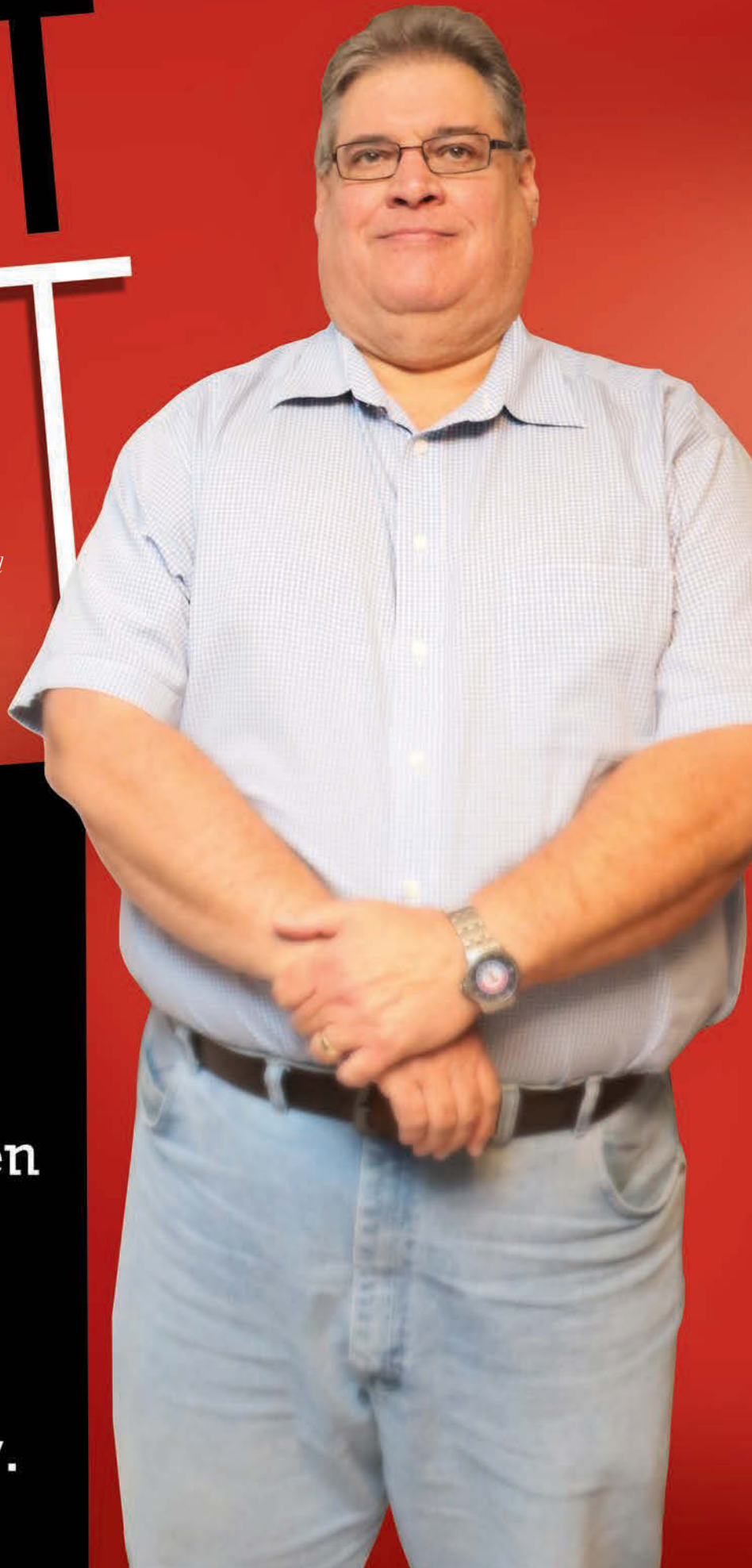
Way back in 1973, Wally went on a blind date with a lovely woman named Laurie. They dated for five years. Two children and more than 38 years later, they are still married. "She



# -KEPT SECRET

— By Lisa Bell

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still likes the guy that introduced us," he said with a grin. He claims he never officially proposed to her, but he did ask her father's permission to marry her. "We just fit." Just being together with lots of love gets much credit for the success of their marriage.

Wally started working in Weatherford in 1978, and they moved to town in 1979. More than a decade passed with life as usual. Then, 1993 rolled around and Laurie got involved with The Fort Worth Junior Woman's Club Spring Show. "They need men. You need to join next year," she told him. He dragged his feet, but in 1995, she made sure he joined the show.

"We had fun," he confessed. They participated with that group for about 10-11 years with him even helping write some of the shows. Wally learned about Theatre Off The Square, which was holding auditions for *Twelve Angry Men* at the time. He got some of his buddies together, and they auditioned. Five of them got parts, and thus he started working with Weatherford's little known theater company.

He and Laurie began with TOTS as actors, but Wally's friend eventually asked him to take the assistant director position on several shows. Later, a woman with extensive background in the theater was asked to direct a show. She insisted Wally act as her assistant director if she came. He agreed and, through more shows, gained experience for the directing side of live theater. Over the years, he also learned the technical side of productions.

Before long, Wally stepped into the director role. "Not really brain surgery. Not falling off a log either," he stated. Directing a live play has challenges. He tries to see the big picture before the play develops. His daughter, Jaclyn, teaches theater in Weatherford. She prefers to see the picture as the play develops. "It's a matter of style," Wally said. In his





opinion, filling the tech role can be a more beneficial route on the way to director than acting. Actors see a more limited view of the overall play. The technical resource has to

stay focused on everything that goes on during rehearsals and especially during the plays.

In addition, the director must block the play, directing movement and placement of actors, sets and props. Blocking can become boring for the cast, so Wally strives to avoid causing boredom as much as possible. Although he doesn't like to run tech while directing plays, he has, on occasion, done so out of necessity. He likes all the roles he holds. Each area has challenges, but perhaps that's what keeps him involved at different levels. "I like to do it all," he said.

When filling an actor role, remembering lines remains the biggest challenge. During one play, he had the role of a professor losing his mind. A whole page of a rambling monologue gave him some problems, but he conquered the part. Dialogue can be difficult, too, especially if the lines repeat or don't flow together neatly. Still, he keeps acting, as does his wife.

As an accountant, Wally limits his involvement with TOTS in the first few months of the year. Taking part in a live production requires a considerable amount of time and commitment. Yet in January 2017, he served as director for *Doublewide, Texas* with the help of two assistant directors. Until after April 15, he won't do much more. The theater will present *Anne of Green Gables* in March.

The theater celebrates its 18th year of existence with the 2017 lineup of eight shows, plus a musical. They are the only regularly scheduled theater in Weatherford. As a 501(c)(3) organization, TOTS depends on donations, ticket sales and fundraisers to remain open. Everyone involved donates his or her time out of love for live theater. From taking tickets to serving concessions, everyone, even the director, offers time without receiving pay. A person who does

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deep cleaning before new shows open might be the one exception.

The theater has been in the current location on N. Denton Street since 2004, but purchased the building in 2006. Eventually, they want to acquire a new theater. For now, they perform in their small building, enjoying the camaraderie of working together on productions. Both Wally and Laurie sit on the board with others and work hard to protect the freshness of all the people involved with the organization. "Every show, we try to bring someone new to our stage," Wally said. The group interacts much like a family, often getting together outside of the theater for dinner. The actors branch out to other venues, and some of them go as a group to support their fellow thespians.

Wally likes working with younger actors, although these days anything below 40 seems like a youngster. "I learn from them," he said. His daughter set up an intern program with the high school, so while the students learn about running the technical side, Wally learns new things from them, too. His other daughter, Jessica, is a hair stylist and stays involved with the theater as much as she can as well.

Laurie retired to be a full-time grandmother. She continues acting and currently serves as the president of the TOTS board of directors. Wally loves baseball and hockey, yet gave up season tickets to the Rangers and Stars, although he enjoys going to games sometimes. His commitment to TOTS is worth the time and effort he gives and the surrender of baseball — a true love of his. "The theater is the best-kept secret in town. I wish more people knew about it," he said. And now they do. **NOW**

*Editor's Note: For more information, visit [www.theatreoffthesquare.org](http://www.theatreoffthesquare.org).*



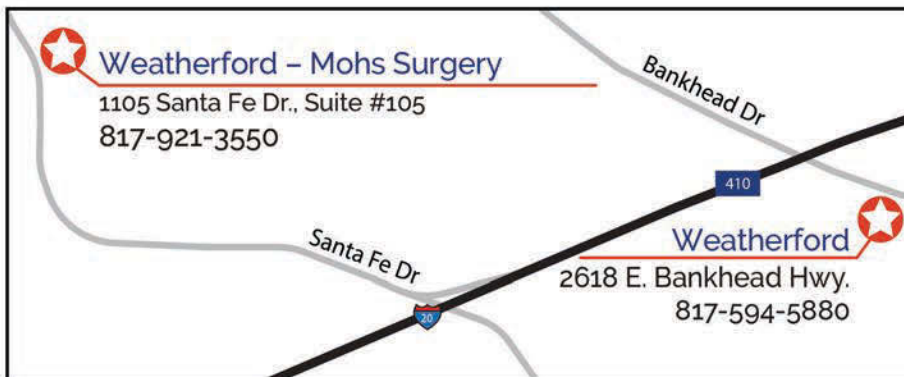
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# Mixture of Influence

— By Amber D. Browne

## AT HOME WITH PATTI LANKFORD



*Patti Lankford lives on a quiet cul-de-sac in Weatherford. "It's just a wonderful place," she said. "Everybody is just really close." In 2004, Patti had recently retired from the oil industry and was looking for a place to settle near family, away from the hustle and bustle of Dallas. At first, historic homes near downtown Weatherford were on her to-see list. "I couldn't take care of one of those," she explained. She decided on the purchase of a cozy, two-bedroom duplex. The convenience of I-20 and nearby medical facilities added to the appeal of the area. "It's one of the best choices I've made — to buy here, to be here."*





She is no stranger to resettling. Born and reared in Dallas, after stops in Austin, Louisiana and Oklahoma, she moved to Midland, where she lived for more than 30 years before returning to Big D and then Weatherford. Influences from West Texas have remained apparent in her home through Native American decor. "That's one byproduct of living in West Texas. It's close enough to New Mexico that you get the influence," Patti explained. "I really love the influence, the art — everything you find in Albuquerque and Santa Fe."

A portrait of a Native American Chief, painted by her granddaughter,



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Stephanie Williams, is displayed in her living room. Dream catchers, Kokopelli pots and hand-carved kachinas add to the Native American feel of the room. One kachina, made entirely of wood, is proudly displayed in a clear case. Patti purchased it at a balloon festival in Albuquerque. Other kachinas — a wolf man, hoop dancer and more, sit atop shelves in the living room.

"I used to have it scattered around the house," she explained. "As much as I enjoyed it, I thought, *Why don't I just use that as the theme for this room?*" Patti likes the natural feel of the wooden figurines, hand-painted pottery and woven baskets.

Patti's love of nature is apparent in her landscaping. As a Master Gardener, she is knowledgeable about what plants, trees and flowers will thrive in the Weatherford soil. Past president of Parker County Master Gardeners, Patti remains on the board. She also currently serves as president of the Gardeners' Club of Parker County.

Patti's gardening experience influenced her to purchase her current homestead. Abundant trees and a creek on the property behind her house appealed to her. Her backyard has just enough room to implement one recommendation of a Master Gardener — the one-third rule. Patti has tried to execute this rule, one-third lawn, one-third beds and one-third hardscape, into her landscaping. A small, wooden



bridge sits in the middle of the yard. Patti had a stone walkway installed, enticing guests from her covered patio through the yard and over the bridge. Beds that include shrubs, crepe myrtles and perennials surround the bridge. The lawn itself is at a minimum, with more beds, including grasses, Indian hawthorns and colorful asters, near the fence line. "It's nice and calm," Patti shared. "It's just real comfortable." A patio, adjacent to the covered porch, provides additional seating for guests to enjoy the colorful view.



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The trees she has added include a Chinese pistache, a yaupon holly and a pecan tree. The pecan tree was transported from Dallas. A squirrel at her previous home planted a pecan in a flower pot. The pot moved with Patti, and the tree grew, eventually being transplanted into her backyard landscape. Although sun was abundant when she moved to the duplex, the mature trees have transformed the backyard into a shade garden. In the front yard, perennials surround the large red oak tree. Potted plants add to the natural feel of the yard.

Lighting inside the home isn't as conducive to plant growth. A spath plant sits on a metallic storage chest in the living room near the large front window. Several plants thrive from natural light in her back office. This is where she spends most of her days reading gardening books and planning for her volunteer work of updating flower beds at the Weatherford Public Library, weekdays at Chandor Gardens and training future Master Gardeners. A small Christmas tree decorated with vintage spools of thread is displayed year-round in Patti's office. Her office is full of red, white and blue decor, including a round robin quilt that includes 11 squares. One was created by Patti, and the others by different quilters. The theme of ladybugs is apparent in the quilt, and bug tracks take the eye to each unique square.

In the master bedroom hangs a second quilt, Grandma's Flower Garden, originally created by Patti's paternal grandmother. Her grandmother sewed all of the flower-shaped patterns from 1930s pastel prints. Patti took apart the original quilt, added a border around each piece and sewed it back together. "That's the reason it hangs well," she explained. "It's really special." The quilt brightens






the dark, sage green walls painted by her children as a 70th birthday present. Patti's childhood toy box, handmade by her father, now serves as a cushioned reading bench in front of the master bed. White lights brighten the mantel above the electric fireplace in her bedroom. A second Christmas tree adds cheer to the master bedroom until it's moved to the living room during the holidays.

As a member of the Parker County Women's and Newcomers' Club, Patti enjoys reading with the group's book club. Although she's not scrambling to find space to store books now that she has a Kindle, Patti has filled a wooden bookcase with hardbacks in the living room. The bookcase belonged to her son, B.B. Lankford III. "There is a story behind everything," she stated. A stacking lawyer's bookcase rescued from an Austin attic holds more books. The television stand is a dresser that was once part of a girl's bedroom set. Her mother's white rocking chair invites guests to sit near the fireplace in the living room. Patti wants to preserve the history of each piece in a journal to pass down to her four adult children.

Two of her children live in other parts of the state, and her son lives internationally, but her youngest daughter lives in Weatherford. Although she doesn't see her children and adult grandchildren as often as she would like, she enjoys spending time with them during the holidays and antique shopping with her girls. "Shopping with my oldest, Penni, and youngest, Layna, is an event," she said, grinning.

Weatherford has become Patti's home. She spends her days gardening, reading with her book club and chatting about the latest news with her neighborhood of close friends. With gratitude, she stated, "It's a marvelous place to live." **NOW**





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# GOING GAINST THE GRAIN

— By Lindsay L. Allen

*Navigating high school is hard enough without adding the pressures of drugs and alcohol. And this is the age when most decide if they will use these substances in their life, making it even harder. Saying “no” just wasn’t enough for one young Weatherford High School student. Abbey Pollok wanted to find a way to prevent her peers from using drugs and alcohol, and thus, Parker County Leaders Against Drugs was formed.*

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During a leadership class at school in the fall of 2015, Abbey and her group were assigned a project regarding drugs and alcohol. After learning more about the damage they are doing, Abbey saw a need and wanted to get involved. "I realized after my presentation in the class, due to the negative attention, as well as some positive attention, regarding the stance I took on prevention, that this was a real problem," she said. "I didn't fully grasp beforehand just how many of my peers were involved in drugs and alcohol."

"She came home and told her father and me that she wanted to prevent drug and alcohol use in her school. I thought that was a lofty goal, but started helping her look for organizations where she could volunteer and work toward her goal," remembered Abbey's mom, Britney. "What we found was that there were no organizations in the county where teens could get involved, but thanks to Abbey, we now have one."

With the help of a few friends and supporters, Abbey formed Weatherford Leaders Against Drugs in the spring of 2016, but after interest in the club spread to other schools in the county, the name quickly changed. In the fall of 2016, the club gained its nonprofit status through the help of Abbey's mom, who also serves as the executive director of the club and Tracy Broomes, who serves as the president.

The club operates under the mission of preventing the use of drugs and alcohol in the lives of youth by providing awareness to the community. With that in mind, the club meets during school hours for the student leaders and members to share ideas and converse with the school resource officer, and then again at night, every other week, so adults and community members can be part of the discussions and prevention.



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"The community has been so supportive of this club — from the school officials, police department, volunteers and other ISDs who have adopted or shown interest in starting a chapter. We have been very thankful," Tracy said. "We know we can't eliminate the problem in all areas, but if we can save even one life or make a difference in just one, it will be worth all the effort and time of our members."

Already, the members are seeing changes in their peers. Jasmine Delgado, a senior at Weatherford High School and member of PCLAD, said she knew her friends were drinking under age and always wanted to talk to them about it or help them quit all of it. "With PCLAD, I have a conversation starter for the topic. People respect the club, even if they don't agree with it. But it's been a great way to bring up the topic and educate friends and tell them my stance on the issue," she explained. "I've already had two friends who verbally told me they will change their habits as a result of the conversations we've shared."

Safe Night Out is one way the club seeks to provide teens with alternatives. By planning an evening, be it a bonfire or pool party, like PCLAD has already done, teens and their parents know they can come to these events and drugs and alcohol will not be present or an issue. The club has also hosted an appreciation tailgate dinner for the Weatherford Police Department as a thank you to them for their efforts in preventing drugs and alcohol abuse.

Red Ribbon Week, a nationally observed tobacco, drug and alcohol prevention awareness week, proved to be a big week for PCLAD, as well. By being able to leverage the popularity of the Red Ribbon campaign combined with their similar missions, PCLAD passed out ribbons and helped with those who wished to sign a drug-free pledge during the October campaign. They also hosted a talent night for teens at Shep's Place in Weatherford, with a portion of the proceeds going to the club.

"We have had so many in the community and schools thank us for what the club is

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doing,” Tracy shared. “They all tell us that they know there is a problem. They just needed someone to step up to the plate and address it, so I’m so glad we have been able to help form this club and, hopefully, prevent use in the county.”

Sophomore Ashton Ross remembers a time in eighth grade when he and a friend had to be up front at a party, warning the guests that if anything drug or alcohol related were introduced, they would be leaving the party. “I joined this club because I know too many friends and peers who are using these substances,” Ashton said, “and it’s not something I want to be part of. I’m glad I can, hopefully, be part of the solution as a member of PCLAD.”

Abbey has already been recognized and rewarded for her efforts. The Tarrant County Challenge, Inc., a nonprofit community anti-drug coalition, hosted the 10th Annual Leo C. Benavides Awards ceremony in May 2016 and honored more than 50 students in the area for their exceptional volunteerism and contributions in helping peers in their schools and communities, with Abbey being one of those honored.

“Since the formation of the club, I have become more and more aware of just how many of my school friends are involved in drugs and alcohol. It’s been a bit hard going against the grain and taking a stand on the issues,” Abbey said. “I never want to judge anyone, but I do want to express my concern and prevent damage and danger. I hope that with PCLAD we are making a difference, creating change and providing alternatives for teenagers.”

With only one year under their belt and already so many positive events and feedback, PCLAD is anticipating more to come. With many partnerships forming and interest increasing, this Weatherford High student may see her dream come true. **NOW**

*Editor’s Note: For those who wish to volunteer, donate or start their own chapter in the county, please contact Britney Pollok at b.pollok@yahoo.com.*

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# *A Perfect Proposal*

— By Carolyn Wills

*Somewhere between the magic of falling in love and the union of “I do” comes the all-important question of, “Will you marry me?” It’s the marriage proposal — that thrilling, risky, sometimes awkward hope — asked and answered throughout time. Today, the occasion of becoming engaged remains a special, celebrated passage. In fact, the world is “awhirl” with ideas, options and resources on how to plan the perfect moment.*

Wedding-related websites, magazines, consultants, bloggers, florists, jewelers and churches have long provided in-depth information. And, now, specialized companies actually design marriage proposal packages.

There’s even a National Marriage Proposal Day. Who knew? It happens on March 20, coinciding with the first day of spring and the Vernal Equinox. The year it was first observed is unknown, but its origin is credited to ... wait for it ... a fellow Texan named John Michael O’Loughlin.

Has, then, the occasion of getting engaged been elevated to a new art form? In recent years, the important question has been delivered via flash mobs, Skyping, skywriting, texts, Facebook posts, Twitter, YouTube videos, live TV and stadium Jumbotrons, and all while new digital and virtual options keep emerging. According to statistics, though, there’s still something to say about good ole tradition.

A 2013 Engagement Ring and Jewelry survey commissioned by The Knot, a multiplatform wedding resource, suggested that tradition still prevails when it comes to the engaging moment. Overwhelmingly, 91 percent of suitors say they planned their







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proposal, while 47 percent planned it meticulously. Nearly 60 percent “popped” the question privately (between the beloveds), while the remaining 40 percent went public. A whopping 88 percent actually used the words, “Will you marry me?” And 81 percent proposed on bended knee.

Additionally, a 2014 Associated Press-WE tv Poll found that while 75 percent of Americans would be fine with the woman proposing, only about 5 percent of currently married couples polled confirmed that that’s what actually happened. Also, according to David’s Bridal’s “What’s on Brides’ Minds” survey, brides strongly prefer personal, low-key proposals to elaborate public displays.

While it’s comforting to learn that tradition has held value, and it’s exciting to hear about new options, ultimately and importantly, isn’t the unique, meaningful and memorable meeting of two loving people all that really matters? Creating the marriage proposal that adds a happy chapter to a romance and a forever story for the couple and their family throughout the years, starts with two people knowing each other, understanding they are moving in the same direction and, then, paying attention to what is special to both parties, as in the following scenarios:

### *Sweet and Simple:*

Amy, a mother in Burleson, Texas, with two teenagers, had been single for six years. “I asked God, if it was in His plan, to bring someone into my life,” she said with a smile. Not long after, church friends introduced her to Billy. “His wife had passed away,” she shared. “By the second date, we ‘knew’ we were right for each other.” For alone time, they would take daily walks and, on one of those walks, they happened onto a new street



waiting for houses to be built. It was the beginnings of a new neighborhood and, as it happened, the perfect moment for Billy to propose. "We met in August and married in October," Amy added. "I wasn't expecting a proposal on our walk, but it couldn't have been more perfect."

### *The Asked/He Answered:*

Then, there's Kate and Aaron in Wickenburg, Arizona, who had been together for 13 years. "I told him it was time he proposed," Kate said with a grin. She added that it should happen by Christmas Eve, and she wanted to be surprised. As time passed, she would announce that Christmas had come and gone and she was fine with things as they were. Fast forward to April, her birthday and an invitation from Aaron for a morning ride at the ranch, where he is head wrangler. As they headed into the desert, he sidled his horse next to hers. "I could get off and kneel?" he smiled. For Kate, it was a complete surprise.

### *Bell's Tweet:*

Kristen Bell is proof that it works for the woman to propose. Disney's *Frozen* star asked her longtime boyfriend, Dax Shepard, for his hand in marriage via a Tweet!

### *Two Best Ever Proposals:*

Excerpts from "Best Wedding Proposals Ever" by Kate Store, *New York Post*, March 20, 2015 (National Proposal Day):

A prospective groom devoted a year to preparing his proposal. While vacationing in Aruba with his beloved, friends and family, he surprised her with a video of him proposing 365 times.

A surprised prospective bride was greeted by a town car after work and taken to a Los Angeles theater where her boyfriend had arranged for their love story to be performed



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as a musical. For the final act, he appeared on stage, kneeling toward her with a beautiful engagement ring and a hopeful, "Will you marry me?"

### *A Royal Proposal:*

According to Britain's *Daily Mail Reporter* (November 2010), Prince William proposed to Kate Middleton in an isolated log cabin (no electricity and accessible only by air or horseback) while on a stopover during a Kenyan holiday. Kate reportedly said, "It was a wonderful 24 hours ... so romantic!"

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### **Sources:**

1. National Marriage Proposal Day: [www.dates.about/travelingthe.world.com/special-holidays/national-proposal-day](http://www.dates.about/travelingthe.world.com/special-holidays/national-proposal-day)
2. The Knot 2013 Engagement Ring and Jewelry Survey Infographic by Hearts on Fire: [www.heartsonfire.com](http://www.heartsonfire.com)
3. 2014 Associated Press and WE tv Poll: [ap-gfkpoll.com/uncategorized/our-latest-poll-3](http://ap-gfkpoll.com/uncategorized/our-latest-poll-3)
4. David's Bridal's "What's on Brides' Minds" survey: "Most Brides Don't Want An Elaborate Marriage Proposal" [www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/02/06/marriage-proposals](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/02/06/marriage-proposals)
5. *New York Post*, March 20, 2015: "Best Wedding Proposals Ever," Kate Store
6. *Daily Mail Reporter*, November 2010: [www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1331191/Prince-William-proposed-Kate-Middleton-remote-Kenyan-hut](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1331191/Prince-William-proposed-Kate-Middleton-remote-Kenyan-hut)

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# LIKE NEW

*John Craig takes pride in transforming cars with thorough detailing. — By Lisa Bell*

Born and raised in Weatherford, John Craig detailed cars as a teenager. After graduating, he joined the Navy and remained enlisted until retirement. He met his wife, Deborah, in San Francisco. After retirement, he still had lots of life in him, so they moved to St. Louis where he taught school. In 1994, they moved back to Weatherford.

For a while he ran a barbecue place, but grew tired of burning up meat and staying warm when the weather turned cold. In February 2007, John opened the car detailing shop known as Jon & John Auto Detailers. Although his son, Jonathan, currently lives in Seattle and isn't actively involved, the short version of his name remains part of the business.

When Jon & John details a car, they include hand washing and waxing, but that is only the beginning. They vacuum the inside,

plus shampoo the carpets, seats and trunk. They will clean the motor for an additional charge. "We make it as new as possible," John said.

Often, individuals bring a car in when they decide to sell it. John loves seeing the look on someone's face when he or she decides not to sell the car. His motto is, "Don't trade it — detail it." After seeing the transformation, many times the individual becomes a regular customer, not only returning for service, but also recommending Jon & John to friends and family members. Approximately 70 percent of their business comes from return customers. Word of mouth keeps the shop busy.

During the winter, they get around four cars each day. John keeps four workers there when it turns cold outside. But in the summer, the number of cars per day doubles to an average of



eight. He adds three workers to cover the additional cars.

John strives to put out the best product. The staff welcomes old cars, very aware of the need for patience and a gentle touch. He seldom has complaints from customers, but on the rare occasion when he does, the top priority is to get on it immediately. Keeping customers happy means repeat business and the important word of mouth references. He strives not to allow a bad experience to fester and cause unhappy people.

**The staff welcomes old cars, very aware of the need for patience and a gentle touch.**

Although they won't necessarily turn down a walk-in customer, they work by appointment. Scheduling a specific time for detailing your car works best to get it finished quickly. A Christian man, and proud of it, John wants to run his business under Christian principles. He claims great customers as the reason for their success. "They trust us with their investment," he stated.

Jon & John supports the community with donations of gift certificates for raffles. John believes in the kids, and gladly provides donations to Weatherford High School and their Blue Belles, as well as to Peaster High School and Peaster Elementary. In addition, he supports Courts Methodist Church and other churches and schools.

Married for 35 years, John doesn't plan to retire anytime soon. From old VWs to Ferraris, John has fun at his job. "Detailing cars is my mistress," he said. He also feels an obligation to his employees, who are like his adopted kids. "If I retire, they don't have a job," he shared. Someday, he will retire, so he can fish and travel. Until then, John Craig will keep right on making cars like new. **NOW**

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*Caches Gonzales starts the year off right by working out at Anytime Fitness.*



*Ashley Saydler, Nicole Parrish and Michelle Anguiano focus on training at Claire's.*



*Kim Barnard and Donnell Payne go in search of a warm place to enjoy lunch.*



*Haleigh Perkins meets customers with a big smile at Hope Boutique.*



*Jesse Blume smiles and greets library patrons while shelving DVD's.*



*Tammy and Hershel Jones from Eastland visit Weatherford on her birthday.*



*Tom and Darlene Patty wait for hot drinks on a cold day.*



*Diana Hays and Kay Mallory have big smiles for antique seekers.*



*River, Stone and Storm Perlungher enjoy a fun afternoon inside.*



## Important Bank Card Fee Information

Bank card fees vary from account to account. Before opening one, it's important to understand which fees you might expect. Here are some to consider:

**1. ATM transactions.** If you use an ATM outside your bank's network, you may be charged a few dollars per transaction. Try to locate an ATM for your bank or a surcharge-free machine. If you plan to travel, withdraw cash at your bank ahead of time.

**2. Low minimum balance.** Some accounts require you to maintain a certain amount. If you dip below — even temporarily — you could be charged. Avoid this by keeping sufficient funds in your account, or switch to an account that doesn't require a minimum balance.

**3. Account inactivity.** Idle accounts are sometimes subject to fees. If you don't use the account often, move your funds to one with less restriction. Or, avoid the fee by scheduling a regular monthly transaction to keep it active.

**4. Closing fees.** If you close an account, your bank may charge you a fee. Ask whether the bank can waive it, particularly if you open a new account with the same institution.<sup>1</sup>

**5. Debit card transactions.** Debit cards sometimes impose a fee on each transaction. Review your statements carefully and

determine if you can pay any expenses a different way.<sup>2</sup>

**6. Foreign transactions.** Check to see if your card charges a fee for each transaction you make overseas. (This might include an online purchase from an overseas-based company.) If so, consider using a credit card with no foreign transaction fees, or use cash or travelers checks.<sup>3</sup>

**7. Paper statements.** Some banks may charge if you request paper statements instead of getting them via email.<sup>4</sup> **NOW**

Sources:

<sup>1</sup>[www.bankmobile.com/watch-out-for-these-seven-sneaky-bank-fees/](http://www.bankmobile.com/watch-out-for-these-seven-sneaky-bank-fees/)

<sup>2</sup>[www.investopedia.com/articles/pf/07/bank\\_fees.asp](http://www.investopedia.com/articles/pf/07/bank_fees.asp)

<sup>3</sup>[www.aol.com/article/2015/07/15/financial-fees-you-should-never-pay/21209194/](http://www.aol.com/article/2015/07/15/financial-fees-you-should-never-pay/21209194/)

<sup>4</sup>[www.bankmobile.com/watch-out-for-these-seven-sneaky-bank-fees/](http://www.bankmobile.com/watch-out-for-these-seven-sneaky-bank-fees/)

*Article provided by The Mader-Bagley State Farm Agency.*

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## Gingivitis and Your Heart

— By Betty Tryon, BSN

Having a pretty smile is not the only reason for good dental health. For the last 20 years, researchers have been investigating the possibility that poor dental health may be a potential link to heart disease. Although there is a definite connection, the premise could not be definitively proven. One thing the researchers were clear about was good dental health does not prevent heart disease. Because the connection seems strong, it does warrant a deeper look into the possibility of a link and a more focused and consistent attitude toward care in maintaining good oral health.

Gingivitis or inflammation of the gums is a condition that should be treated as soon as possible. This could be a reason or link that may predispose one toward an increased risk of developing the complications of heart disease. Inflammation is a sign of gum disease. The bacteria that resides on the gums gets into the circulatory system and sets up the scenario for heart disease and other complications.

Normally, your mouth is full of many different types of bacteria that belong there. It's a certain type of pathogenic bacteria that finds its way into your mouth that will cause decay and gum inflammation. These types of bacteria will break down the barrier healthy gums provide and allow harmful bacteria to enter the circulatory system. Wherever the bacteria land and begin to colonize, they set up the process of inflammation that damage

tissue, including blood vessels in the heart. This disease process can not only predispose one to cardiac disease, it can also make existing heart problems worse. If you have a heart condition, you should check with your cardiologist to determine if antibiotics are necessary before any dental procedures.

More research is needed before anything definitive can be proven. The findings, so far, are very suggestive of a link, so good dental health is vital. Any gum disease or signs of a disease, such as sore and swollen gums, should be treated. Daily dental care is important in keeping the mouth as clean as possible. Your toothbrush can harbor a multitude of germs and should be rinsed thoroughly after each use and stored upright to air dry in between brushings. Replace it after three months or when the bristles start to turn up. Daily flossing is necessary to clean in between teeth. It's important to have regular dental checkups to make sure your mouth and all its parts are healthy. Keeping a clean, fresh mouth makes sense both aesthetically and medically. **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.*



### February 2

Trinity Christian Academy Preview Day: 9:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., 4954 E. I-20 Service Rd. S., Willow Park. For more info, contact Susie Henning at (817) 441-5897 or [henning@tcaeagles.org](mailto:henning@tcaeagles.org), or visit [www.tcaeagles.org](http://www.tcaeagles.org).

### February 7

Needlepoint in the Morning: 10:30 a.m.-noon, Weatherford Public Library. Any age, any hand work. Bring your own materials. For additional information, visit [www.ci.weatherford.tx.us/142/Library](http://www.ci.weatherford.tx.us/142/Library).

### February 9

Coloring for Grownups: 6:00-7:30 p.m., Weatherford Public Library. Coloring sheets, pencils and cookies provided, or bring your own supplies. For additional information, visit [www.ci.weatherford.tx.us/142/Library](http://www.ci.weatherford.tx.us/142/Library).

Cinderella's Ball, Father-Daughter Dance: 6:00-8:00 p.m., Clark Gardens, 567 Maddux Rd. Fathers and daughters (K-6th grade) can enjoy this special evening of memory-making fun. For details, visit [www.clarkgardens.org](http://www.clarkgardens.org).

### February 13

Trivia Night: 7:00 p.m., Antebellum Ale House, 321 E. Oak St. Presented by Weatherford Public

Library. Come alone or in teams up to four people. For additional information, visit [www.ci.weatherford.tx.us/142/Library](http://www.ci.weatherford.tx.us/142/Library).

### February 16

Book Club: 6:00-7:30 p.m., Weatherford Public Library. Adults of all ages; February selections *Year of Yes: How to Dance It Out, Stand in the Sun* and *Be Your Own Person* by Shonda Rhimes. Visit [www.ci.weatherford.tx.us/142/Library](http://www.ci.weatherford.tx.us/142/Library).

Quilters' Guild of Parker County: 6:30 p.m., Youth Center, Northside Baptist Church, 910 N. Main St. For information call Marsha Corley (817) 629-0632, or visit [www.quiltersguildofparkercounty.org](http://www.quiltersguildofparkercounty.org).

### February 18

Circus for a Cause: 6:00-10:00 p.m., Clark Gardens, 567 Maddux Rd. Proceeds benefit the Billie Y. Clark Fund through the Alzheimer's Association North Central Texas Chapter. For details, visit [www.clarkgardens.org](http://www.clarkgardens.org).

### February 21

Needlework in the Evening: 6:00-7:30 p.m., Weatherford Public Library. Any age, any hand work. Bring your own materials. For additional information, visit [www.ci.weatherford.tx.us/142/Library](http://www.ci.weatherford.tx.us/142/Library).

### February 24

EPiC Library Talent Show: 7:00 p.m., East Parker County Library, 201 N. FM Rd. 1187, Aledo. All talent welcome, Fifth grade through adult. For details visit [www.epclibrary.com](http://www.epclibrary.com) or call (817) 441-6545.

### February 24, 25

Twin W Shuffle 42 Tournament: Midnight-midnight, Doss Heritage Center, 1400 Texas Dr. The Doss is partnering with the National 42 Players Association. Visit [www.dosscenter.org](http://www.dosscenter.org) for information. Or call Rachel Stack (817) 599-6168.

### March 18

Art in Action: 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Weatherford Farmer's Market, 217 Fort Worth Hwy. Working artists all day, a children's area, contests for artists. Applications for artists' deadline is **March 3**. Details at [www.weatherford-chamber.com](http://www.weatherford-chamber.com).

*Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your event details to [lisa.bell@nowmagazines.com](mailto:lisa.bell@nowmagazines.com).*



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## In the Kitchen With Linda Tiner

— *By Lisa Bell*

“My dad was a wonderful cook. He prepared most of the family meals in my early childhood. Mother had many talents, but cooking was not one of them,” Linda Tiner said. She was 12 when her dad died. “I started cooking out of a need for self-preservation.” After school, she chose random ingredients and composed a meal, and then she discovered recipe books.

Linda raised a family while building a career in law enforcement. She retired in 2012, made a culture shock move from Dallas to Springtown and cared for her new granddaughter during the day. “Since babies sleep a lot, I became bored,” she remembered. With a heavily loaded peach tree in the yard, Linda taught herself to make peach preserves. The obsession grew. **NOW**

### Honey Bourbon Peach Jam

**3 lbs. fresh, ripe peaches**  
**7 cups sugar**  
**1/4 cup lemon juice**  
**1/4 cup honey bourbon**  
**1 3-oz. foil pouch of liquid fruit pectin**  
**1/2 pint jars, sterilized and hot, lids and rings**

- 1.** Blanch and peel peaches. Remove pits and puree in a blender. (Should yield about 4 cups of puree.)
- 2.** Combine the first 4 ingredients in a heavy pot over medium heat, stirring to melt sugar.
- 3.** When boiling quickly, stir in pectin; return to a full rolling boil, stirring constantly for 1 minute, or until mixture sheets from a spoon.
- 4.** Remove from heat; skim off foam with a metal spoon.
- 5.** Ladle into jars, leaving 1/4-inch headspace.
- 6.** Remove excess air from jars by using a non-metal utensil to gently press the jam. Wipe

rims, place lids and hand-tighten the rings.

**7.** Process filled jars in a water bath canner for 5 minutes at a hard boil. Then transfer processed jars from the canner to a cooling rack; jars will ping as they seal.

### Texas-style Jalapeño Jelly

**Mild heat: 2 jalapeños and 3 green bell peppers, seeded and chopped**

**Medium heat: 3 jalapeños and 3 yellow bell peppers, seeded and chopped**

**Hot heat: 4 jalapeños and 3 orange or red bell peppers, seeded and chopped**

**Atomic heat: 4 jalapeños and 3 red bell peppers, seeded and chopped along with red pepper flakes or habaneros to taste**

**1 1/2 cups white vinegar**

**6 1/2 to 7 cups white sugar**

**1/2 to 1 tsp. cayenne pepper**

**2 3-oz. foil pouches liquid fruit pectin**

**4 to 6 drops of the appropriate**

**food-coloring, if desired. (I don't use it; instead, I count on the color of the bell peppers to color code my jelly.)**

**1/2 pint jars, sterilized and hot, lids and rings**

- 1.** Puree the number of jalapeños and bell peppers for the heat you choose with vinegar in a blender or food processor.
- 2.** Transfer pepper puree to a large, heavy pot.
- 3.** Add sugar and cayenne, stirring to melt the sugar.
- 4.** Bring to a hard boil over high heat and quickly add pectin.
- 5.** Return to rolling boil for another minute, or until mixture sheets from a spoon.
- 6.** Remove from heat; skim off foam with a metal spoon.
- 7.** Ladle into jars, leaving 1/4-inch headspace.
- 8.** Remove excess air from jars by using a non-metal utensil to gently press the jam. Wipe rims, place lids and hand-tighten rings.
- 9.** Process filled jars in a water bath canner for 10 minutes at a hard boil. Then transfer processed jars from the canner to a cooling rack; jars will ping as they seal.

### Apple Pie Jam

**6 large apples, peeled and sliced (any variety or mixed)**

**1 cup water**

**6 cups sugar**

**1/2 stick butter**

**1 1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon**

**1 tsp. ground nutmeg**

**1/2 tsp. ground cloves**

**1/4 tsp. ground mace**

**1 3-oz. foil pouch liquid fruit pectin**

**1/2 pint jars, sterilized and hot, lids and rings**

- 1.** Place apples, water, sugar, butter and spices in a large, heavy pot. Cook on medium heat until apples are soft.
- 2.** Bring the mixture to a rolling boil, stirring constantly. Quickly stir in pectin, and boil 1 minute, or until mixture sheets off a spoon.
- 3.** Remove from heat; skim off foam with a metal spoon.
- 4.** Ladle into jars, leaving 1/4-inch headspace.
- 5.** Remove excess air from jars by using a non-metal utensil to gently press the jam. Wipe rims, place lids and hand-tighten rings.
- 6.** Process filled jars in a water bath canner for 10 minutes at a hard boil. Then transfer processed jars from the canner to a cooling rack; jars will ping as they seal.



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