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## ON THE COVER



Cutter and Cash Firm enjoy the family atmosphere at this month's Twenty Plus One races.

*Photo by Jennifer Spears.*

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## Editor's Note

*Hello Friends,*

Our *Farmer's Almanac* says this month is apt to be our snowiest. Amazingly, it is during this time, when colds are prevalent, our gardens can produce some of the best medicines for preventing sore throats. Green onions and leeks grow well in this type of weather, and once I discovered what's in them, I decided I wanted them handy to pick, so I could eat one every day. Thanks to their selenium, a cell antioxidant and allicin, a bactericidal, green onions have a preventive effect in combating respiratory infections in winter (and intestinal infectious in summer).

Well, wouldn't you know it — my fall preparations for a winter garden were destroyed by grasshoppers.

So I'll be getting my green onions at the grocery store — along with leeks and red potatoes. No way will I give up my comforting leek-potato soup this last month of winter!

Giving thanks for all things green,

*Melissa*

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# FUN ON

# DIRT

— By Amber D. Browne

*Some people may think racing motorcycles is all about the adrenaline rush the rider gets while speeding alongside other contestants and flying over jumps on the dirt track. That may be part of it, but for Cutter and Cash Firm, competing in the American Motorcyclist Association races is more about the fun of the sport and being part of an extended family.*

When Cutter was 5 years old, his father, John Firm, asked if he and Cash wanted to ride horses or race motorcycles. At the time, Cutter was really impressed with AMA professional rider Ricky Carmichael, so he chose motorcycles. His father bought the boys each a gas-powered 110, which is a four-stroke toy bike. "I was so excited! It was me and my brother, and he bought us a pair," Cutter explained. Even though Cutter and his younger brother were not quite big

enough to ride the bikes by themselves, they got enough practice with their father riding on the back, teaching them how to steer.

Cutter started competing two years after he got his first motorcycle. He is now a 17-year-old senior at Granbury High School, and last summer, he celebrated 10 years of racing. "It's been a great run," Cutter recalled. "I don't look at racing as a career, because I don't have the dedication to it that a lot of my friends have."

After graduation, Cutter plans to attend Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. He wants to use his knowledge in math and science to move





# TRACKS

into the engineering side of the sport. "I plan on helping develop after-market accessories or go to a manufacturer and make the machines more effective." When it comes to his high school graduation, Cutter has mixed feelings. "I'm going to college, and there are a lot of great things [ahead] for me. But, then again, I'm not







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going to be racing very much. It's almost to the point where I'm getting close to the end of my racing career."

Over the years, Cutter and Cash have competed against other riders on both outdoor and indoor dirt tracks. Cutter enjoys the race but stays away from performing tricks on the dirt bike. "I try to keep myself mainly concentrated on racing. I can go out there and throw a whip or a scrub," he said, "but I go out there to go fast and to win races.

"It's not quite as popular as football or soccer, mainly because of the capital required to get into the sport," Cutter explained. Besides the motorcycle and its maintenance, Cutter also wears \$3,000 worth of safety gear. The sport is growing, however, because more people have experienced the family atmosphere at the races. "We're friends going up to the starting line. We race until the end. After the end, most of the people in the sport are happy and had fun. That's what they're out there for," Cutter said.

Cash enjoys the fun of the race, too, and the adrenaline rush he gets out on the track. He is not as dedicated to racing after a crash last summer. Cash went over the bike's bars and was knocked out. He is now more leery about making the jumps on the track. "When you jump a bike, it just messes with you. You think, *Do I really want to do this? Am I this dedicated to get hurt like that again?* It just puts that in your head," Cash explained.

Cutter has been seriously injured twice. "It was all caused by a mistake on my part," he said. "I wasn't in control of the machine. I didn't have anyone else to blame." In his most recent crash, Cutter fell from 45 feet in the air and broke his





left ankle, his left wrist and shattered his right ankle. Amputation was considered, but with support from his family, the Motocross community and his physicians, Cutter pulled through. The RiderDown Foundation allowed the community to share their prayers and support. The nonprofit is a great tool for injured riders and their families by providing donations to help with medical expenses.

"It's a very dangerous sport," John said. Some riders have been seriously injured, others have died, but that happens in other sports, too. "They don't talk about all the bull riders who get hurt. They don't tell you about all the horse riders who get killed, stomped on," John explained. "Because we're on a piece of machinery, people love the action, and they talk about it."

Despite the danger aspect, racing has been in the Firm family for decades. John used to race when he was younger. "It kept my head screwed on straight. It kept me focused on something, and it kept my positive energy flowing in the right direction," he said. "I never really cared whether they raced for the competition, but I wanted them to race for the fun of the ride *and* the adrenaline flow. That's what I pushed. Fun first, and everything will fall into place," John said. "I just let them ride and have fun." Their mother, Kim Firm, is always at the track cheering on the boys.

The boys' father has now partnered with track designer, Audie Davis, and kicked off a series of amateur races in Granbury, Nocona and Graham. Cutter and Cash ride in the Twenty Plus One races alongside other amateur riders and even a few professional riders. The

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public is always invited to the local races to root on their favorite rider. The tracks, designed for amateur riders, lessen the chance of injury. The action is fast, with as many as 200 riders participating in three-minute races over four hours. Arena Cross involves a maximum of 16 riders, while Motocross can have up to 40 riders. The races are broken down by age, class and the size of the bike.

Cutter and Cash have traveled the country for races, but as they get older, their racing time is starting to dwindle. "When I get out of high school, it will probably start slowing down a lot more, but I'll still own a dirt bike, that's for sure," Cash said. Besides riding, Cash loves the outdoors, hunting, fishing and playing a little golf with his dad. Cutter enjoys playing video games, riding bicycles and helping friends with car audio.

Even when the boys have graduated and moved out, the sport will stay in the Firm family for many years to come, as it has been for decades. John plans to stay involved in Motocross. "I love the people," John said. To the Firm family, Motocross is not only a sport, but a way of life. "It's a love, a passion." **NOW**

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# OPEN Hearts, OPEN Doors

— By Melissa Rawlins

*When Bill met Mary, something about her held him tight. Next month, they will celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary — sandwiched between both their birthdays — with a little romance on their own private dance floor. Ballroom dancing was not Bill's first love. But when he went out of town for work three years ago, Mary began dance lessons with a girlfriend and became spellbound. After reconstructing their garden home in DeCordova, he joined Mary in lessons at Shall We*

*Dance. They practice their sways and sashays in their living room, underneath the tiered ceiling Bill designed and built.*

"Bill is quite the engineer," beamed Mary, who met him in 1992. The former naval submarine specialist turned nuclear engineer had come to Granbury to complete construction of Comanche Peak Unit Two and found the woman of his dreams. Marrying a six-time entrepreneur propelled Bill into wearing many hats in the service of his try-anything wife. He has helped her design, build, clean, operate, grow and then sell a variety of businesses in Granbury, from a beauty shop to a Laundromat to a car wash.

When she started a locksmith company, Bill became her certified locksmith — which fit his personality to a T. "Thank God Bill's a genius!" Mary recalled. "One day we got a call to go down to First National Bank. The big vault was built in the 1890s, and there is no training for *that*, but Bill figured it out." While in the vault, Bill's engineer mind noticed how beautiful the antique equipment was, and that even the clock was jeweled with rubies.

He used his eye for beauty in redesigning this home, which he and Mary inherited from her former client-turned-friend. They have lived here for







## At Home With BILL & MARY PIKE

five years. The original 10-foot ceiling gave the living room a cavernous feel, especially since only three tiny windows looked out onto the lake.

“To add dimension to the room and for the eye not to be offended by square corners, I dropped the ceiling in three tiers, approximately six inches each, with rounded symmetry and a sculpted look, and rearranged the lighting to accent it,” said Bill, the quintessential engineer. He built an arch between the entry hallway and the living room’s new lower ceiling, and also dropped the kitchen ceiling to match. Bill removed 1970-era imitation marble from the walls and lined the





room with rich wood cabinetry that Mary stained. He knocked out the exterior wall of short windows and replaced them with a one-ton unit of Anderson windows with French doors that open now onto a 20x40-foot Trex deck.

Here, earth-toned, all-weather settees and couches invite lounging to enjoy watching cranes, geese and other wildlife



on the lake. And whether hosting family, friends or business partners, Bill happily commands the Jenn-Air grill from a spot overlooking the boat dock. As often as possible they open the verandah doors to enjoy the ever-present breeze bring the gentle sound of waves lapping the shore into the house.

Before she drifts off to sleep, while they are discussing their day, Mary sometimes says to Bill, "You know, if somebody would do this or that, their

business would go like hotcakes." But after years of trying to improve local services, Mary is taking time to pamper herself. And after 27 years of giving manicures six days a week, Mary's oldest daughter Jeanne is now the second-generation matriarch at Blushes Salon and Spa. Mary focuses on only one business: promoting nutrition and wellness through Isagenix, and she goes to the salon purely as a customer.

"I had not had a pedicure, ever, until

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maybe six months ago. I never had time," Mary said. These days, she enjoys getting shellac pedicures and massages. When at home, she indulges in long, soaking baths in the dramatic and restful bathroom Bill designed for her — complete with cathedral ceilings held up by pillars, a romantic Greco-Roman mural painted by a local artist and, of course, a window looking onto the lake.

"Sometimes we'll look outside, and there will be 30-40 pelicans outside the window," said Mary, who has also seen a fox and asked for screens on the windows to keep raccoons out of the bedroom. Bill agreed, preferring not to defend her with the antique Sioux Indian war arrow and hunting knife he keeps on his dresser.

His cheer and calm is reflected in the earthy colors throughout this room and the whole house. Mary's daughters, Dawn and Jeanne, chose most of the colors. The bedroom's outside wall is dark chocolate brown, at Dawn's suggestion, as a backdrop for the window view. The blues in the bedspread and pillows, which hearken to the antiqued look in the bathroom and the vases that dot the living room, were chosen and placed by Jeanne. They all agreed about combining the coral and the blue in the kitchen. And up the stairs, they chose sage and brown for the guest bedroom where family and friends stay.

"Ours is not a huge house, but it's a good family home," said Mary, who



decorated the hallway between the guest room and the living room with a silver sword placed next to her photo. "I am such an odd duck. I've been fortunate enough to be included with 39 others in a wonderful coffee table book called *Fearless Women, Fearless Wisdom* by photographer Mary Ann Halpin. I really love the law of attraction, which states that what you believe is what you attract into your life. Believing you are beautiful means you are. Your mind is like a magnet, so what you think and what you put out there is what is true. Think yourself successful, and you will achieve it."

Bill thought himself successful when he found Mary. They blended their families, and while his children and grandchildren all live out of state, he has been fortunate to be there for their granddaughter, Falan, a student at Texas



Christian University, who often visits to study or just hang out. One of the Pikes' favorite things is hosting Falan and her mother, Jeanne, to quiet afternoons eating and watching good movies.

The living room couch makes a fun nest, since it is conducive to family gathering. They enjoy their meals — usually salads, steaks and sautéed squash, zucchini and corn prepared by Bill — while watching TV or movies in high definition. Always the engineer, Bill has installed surround sound and, for the right flick, provides everyone with 3-D glasses.

Bill stays busy, working out of town as a nuclear project consultant. He also builds custom 1911 pistols for target shooting competitions and plans to retire, so he will have more time at home to concentrate on his passion for guns. Yet they still make time to open their doors for friends and family, giving comfort and refuge from two hearts that inspire. **NOW**

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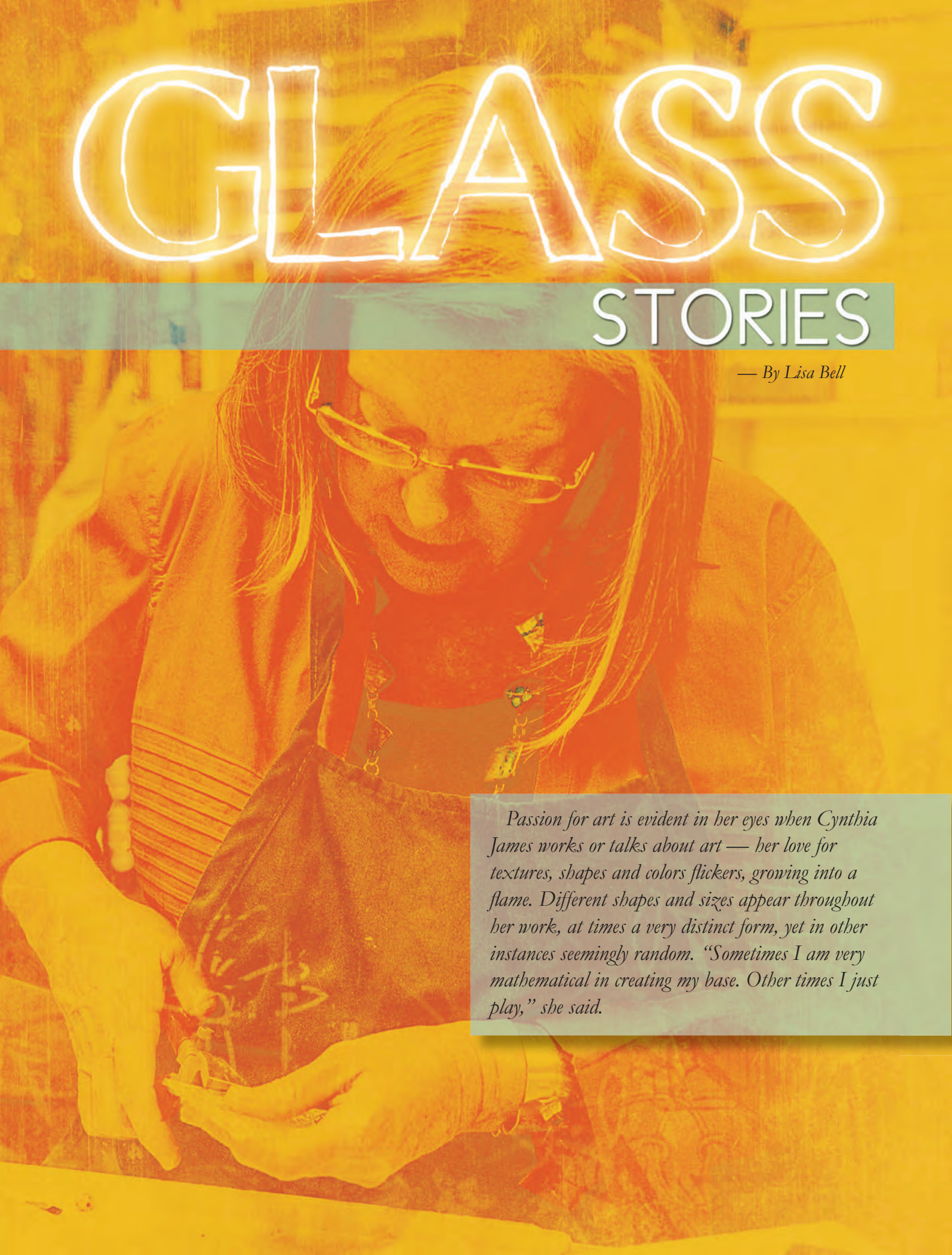
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# GLASS

## STORIES

— By Lisa Bell

A woman with long blonde hair and glasses, wearing an apron, is working on a glass piece. She is smiling and looking down at her work. The background is a warm, orange-toned image of her working.

*Passion for art is evident in her eyes when Cynthia James works or talks about art — her love for textures, shapes and colors flickers, growing into a flame. Different shapes and sizes appear throughout her work, at times a very distinct form, yet in other instances seemingly random. “Sometimes I am very mathematical in creating my base. Other times I just play,” she said.*



## When Cynthia makes jewelry, she actually creates a visual story that shares tiny parts of her essence.

Beholders of her glass-fused jewelry always take a second look. Unique pieces of varying sizes, shapes and colors, some wrapped in wire or accented with beads, become an usual gift or favorite accessory. Yet for Cynthia, each small piece of jewelry means much more — a representation of what artists call a five-minute sketch.

She uses dichroic glass, pushing boundaries of creativity and making tiny sculptures. To the casual observer, the jewelry is a unique accessory, complementing various colors of clothing, but when Cynthia makes jewelry, she actually creates a visual story that shares tiny parts of her essence.

Looking closely, a recurrent shape graces her art — one that represents the things she loves most. From one direction, the abstract look of a Victorian lady appears, with a bead or lace-lined neck, a lovely shoulder line and cinched up waist. Cynthia explained her love of this particular shape. “I was a tomboy, but admired those girls with a smooth pony tail, and perfect clothes,” she admitted. “I just never wanted to put forth the effort to be one of them.”

Turning the piece, a mountain with a lake and reflection create an entirely different look. One more turn, and a sailboat brings a gentle reminder of the ocean. Cynthia’s three favorite things are rolled into one tiny sculpture that’s worn as a piece of jewelry. The coatings of dichroic glass transmit some wavelengths of light while reflecting others. When Cynthia looks at this art medium, she sees an effect similar to iridescent butterfly wings, hummingbirds or the fire in opals. The shifting colors create amazing pictures.

Living on Lake Granbury, Cynthia wakes every morning to inspiration. The gentle lap of water against the shore, a variety of birds and varying colors seen in nature provide a phenomenal amount of ideas for new artwork. In the beginning, she drew out designs. After 12 years of creating, she now looks at the world around her, envisions a sculpture and then makes it without drawings.





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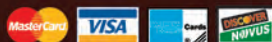
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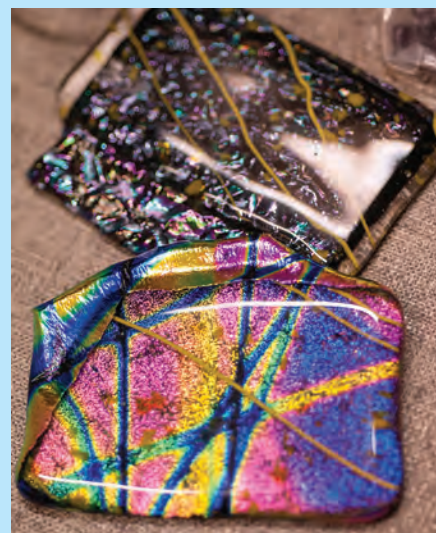
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Although she learned much about glass fusion during the last 12 or 13 years, every request for donating artwork changes into an opportunity to stretch her boundaries and learn more. Reading books and practicing techniques improve her abilities, allowing great works to break free from her mind into a beautiful sculpture. Although she enjoys creating jewelry, Cynthia insists on making larger sculptures to remind herself of the art aspect of her work. Her art hangs in many buildings locally, around the U.S. and in other countries. Visitors to the Granbury Square can find her art — big and small — at her shop, Artéfactz.

Like a rough draft, Cynthia begins by laying out her design. She typically uses about three layers of glass, carefully placing the pieces. For small art, such as jewelry, she makes several bases at the same time with limited colors and using a single tray. She then places the tray into a kiln. The temperature and time determine the outcome, fusing the layers of glass and perhaps bending it at the edges. After four or five hours, the bases are ready for cooling and additional artistry.

When working with larger pieces, she lays out the rough design and then transfers it into a large kiln, rebuilding and then tweaking the pieces, sometimes waiting for a shift in light to capture the best images, much like a photographer does. Adding other components, such as copper, creates an amazing three-dimensional piece of art. One of her newest works, designed for Christmas 2012, contains pieces of copper mesh



and tubing, which turn black during the fusing process. She pointed out the copper pieces not only represent the cross, but they also remind her of the trees near her home.

In 1911, Arthur Brisbane told a group of advertisers, “Use a picture. It’s worth a thousand words.” Cynthia saw the truth of that statement early in life. A beautiful painting of a violin hangs in the living room bearing her grandmother’s signature, a love of music apparent to even the casual observer. Cynthia painted during her younger years, trying to mimic the artistry of her grandmother. “I never could get it to look that good,” she confessed.

Although her mother, Jo James, didn’t paint, she always enjoyed making things, continuing the heritage of artistry. As part of a military family that moved frequently, Cynthia found comfort in



the texture of walls and seeing shapes in them, mountains being among her favorites. Cynthia learned art in classes and from reading, but her inspiration came from something deeper. Her family lived in England during her early teen years. Because her mom loved art, they often visited museums and cathedrals.

With such a rich heritage, Cynthia needed a way to express herself. An art degree in hand, she pursued painting, pottery and other ways to bring her art to life. However, the need for secure income drove her to a job at a newspaper for 20 years. Fortunately, that job gave her a background to run a business successfully, which helped overcome a weakness of many artists.

In the 1970s, her parents moved to Granbury. She visited on weekends, sometimes just for the day, and loved going to the square. "At that time the square was filled with artisan shops like pottery and all types of handmade gifts."

Eventually, love and adventure took her to Australia for eight months. Walking along the beaches and with the influence of a book, *The Artist's Way*, Cynthia discovered a way to marry her

"I love making things  
that tell a story.  
I have to do that."

loves of texture and painting — fused glass. On September 11, 2001, she left Australia, and after a few days of layover, came home to Granbury.

She began working for a local jeweler, Jim Patterson, and at night pursued the art of fused glass, learning how temperatures and time changed the way glass looked. Three years ago she opened her own shop, where she displays her artwork. Working with glass gives Cynthia a unique way to express her love of art. "I love making things that tell a story. I have to do that," she explained. "I'm still as excited about this medium as I was 12 years ago." Whether small or large, each piece of Cynthia's art carries part of her personality — a signature of stories in glass. **NOW**



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Customer compliments inspired Jeanette Black to give Donyce the Coldwell Banker Outstanding Customer Service Award in 2012.



## *Dreams Come True*

*Negotiating and solving problems creatively, Realtor Donyce Parish goes to bat for her clients' every need.*

— By Melissa Rawlins

Perched above the desk in the office where Donyce Parish manages her real estate business are several awards, including a large glass angel inscribed with the word SPIRIT. The award was presented to Donyce in January by the Granbury Association of Realtors. It represents professionalism, friendliness, positive thinking and an attitude of cooperative problem solving. Donyce has consistently offered such spirit to the community since joining Broker/Owner Jeannette Black's 31-year-old Coldwell Banker United Realty Professionals two years ago.

Donyce arrived here from Reno, Nevada, where she had conducted high-end real estate transactions. For 25 years prior to that, she earned a proven track record in contract management on high-visibility government aerospace programs. "My

experience as a negotiator, creative problem solver and team player has been a direct benefit in meeting my real estate clients' needs," Donyce said. In Reno she was named a Top Producer in 2005 and 2006. "I like helping make people's dreams come true when they want to buy a home," Donyce said.

"In this market, we have less new-home construction and more resale homes," explained Donyce, who devotes her energy to meeting her customers' needs through staying in touch throughout the process, from inspection to getting repairs done to the closing. "I make sure my clients are getting what they have paid for."

Providing results for every category of buyer and seller, Donyce sometimes works with new homebuilders and



## Business **NOW**

sometimes with retired customers. Having retired twice, first from her initial real estate career in Texas, secondly from her aerospace career, she can relate to the mindset of retirees. She and her husband moved to Granbury two years ago to be closer to their family. "We have four daughters, and three out of the four live in Texas," Donyce said. She and her husband are active members in the Pecan Recreational Vehicles Club and use their RV frequently to visit their 11 grandchildren.

Donyce is always a phone call away for her customers. Her exceptional attention to customer service starts with active listening and pure positivity. Her professional network is vast, and she knows just who to call to resolve any situation that might arise throughout each real estate transaction.

"I take this position seriously, since I am handling most people's largest investment," Donyce said. She believes this year will be a better year in real estate, benefitting both buyer and seller. "With banks lending at lower interest rates, buyers have more confidence in the way the market is going."

With the power of the worldwide system available through Coldwell Banker, Donyce recommends buyers use their Web site, which enables buyers to see every available home, including those from every member of the Granbury Association of Realtors. Coldwell Banker's new site, CBMobile.com, allows buyers to call for more information about any intriguing listing.

Donyce serves all of Granbury and specializes in Pecan Plantation properties. She currently offers homes to please every buyer. "I have homes listed that have hangars for pilots. I also have equestrian property and golf course properties," she said. Beyond her work as secretary to the Granbury Association of Realtors, Donyce is heavily involved in community and charity work through the Pecan Plantation Women's Club and Lake Granbury Newcomers Club. Her contacts, experience and reputation keep referrals coming in to her office at Coldwell Banker United Realty Professionals. If you are considering resizing, add Donyce to your team. **NOW**



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# Retirement Planning — Changing Jobs

Changing jobs can be stressful, between wrapping up tasks with your former employer and adjusting to your new position and responsibilities. But when you pack your personal belongings to move on to your new place of employment, don't forget about your retirement plan.

The money in your 401(k) may be one of your largest assets. While these funds are valuable now, they're invaluable for your future — so making an informed decision about what to do with them is important. Thankfully, you have several options, although some may be more financially advantageous than others.

### Rollover to a Traditional IRA

You can take control of your funds with a rollover to a Traditional IRA. This is a lump-sum distribution from your previous employer's 401(k) that is deposited directly into a Traditional IRA.

The amount you rollover to a Traditional IRA isn't subject to income taxes, nor does it trigger a 10-percent penalty tax for early withdrawal. Plus, with a Traditional IRA, your assets remain in a deferred plan.

You may opt for a Traditional IRA if you like greater control over your retirement assets. After all, employer plans are designed to meet the needs of many people, not just yours, and you may have different investing ideals. In addition, you may want to simplify your retirement planning by having all of your investments with one financial provider.

### Leave Your Money With Your Previous Employer

Quite possibly, you can do nothing. The easiest action may be leaving your assets in your previous employer's retirement plan, but keep in mind that you'll remain limited to that plan's investment choices and payout options. If you do this, be sure to keep your contact information up-to-date, so you'll continue to receive statements and other pertinent information.

Generally, you're only able to leave your money in your previous employer's plan if your account balance is over \$5,000. Review your current plan carefully for its

specific conditions.

### Rollover to Your New Employer's Plan

You may be able to transfer your assets from your former employer's plan directly into your new employer's plan. This direct rollover allows your money to remain invested in a tax-deferred plan, and you incur no taxes or penalties for the move.

You'll want to review the new investment choices and flexibility in your new employer's plan. Investment choices and withdrawals may be more limited than your previous employer's plan. In addition, you may have to wait a year or more to be eligible to participate.

### Cash Out of Your Old Plan

You don't have to wait until you retire to access the money in your retirement plan. It's yours, and cashing out will provide you with a lump-sum cash distribution in the form of a check payable directly to you.

Be forewarned: There are many caveats to this option, mainly that you'll have depleted your retirement savings account and will need to start over again. Also, you won't receive the balance of your account — that amount will be taxed significantly. Not only will you pay income tax on the distribution, your employer will be required to withhold 20 percent for federal income tax purposes. You may also be assessed a 10-percent penalty tax for making a withdrawal from a 401(k) before the age of 59 1/2.

Cashing out of your plan is typically the last option you should choose. In most cases, you'll receive far less than if you'd left the money invested for withdrawal upon your retirement.

### Keep an Eye on the Future

Remember, saving and planning is key to a comfortable retirement. Whatever you choose to do with your 401(k) when you change jobs, be sure your decision is in line with your retirement goals. **NOW**

*Jace Foreman is a State Farm agent based in Granbury.*





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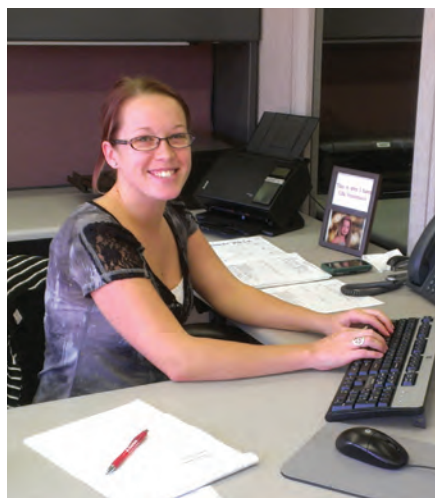
On her lunch break from Lakefront Apartments, Lynsey Tate enjoys her favorite barbecue sandwich on jalapeno cheese bread at Pearl Street Station.



Thanks to another grant from Target, Mambrino School's Children's Opera Theater presents Three Little Pigs.



Tamey and W.T. Kelly view a painting now hanging at the U.S. Veterans Museum, and originally created by a South Vietnamese while training at Mineral Wells between 1973-1976.



Ashley Davis works at her desk at State Farm Jace Foreman Insurance Agency.



Christian Women's Job Corp Birthday Party: Lisa Faye Purvis, Amber Lett, Trisha Peters, Katherine Hall, Terri Staats, Laura Puckett, LaDonna Lecoq.



Members of the Granbury Lions Club flip pancakes for the Hood County Junior Livestock Association 4-H pancake breakfast fundraiser.



The TCU Horned Frogs were in the house to pump up Granbury Middle School students during a pep rally.



Dana Gonzalez with her daughter, Alexandra, who is named Young Tex-Anne by the Granbury Optimist Club.



### March 2

Celebration of the Art of Cynthia Body: 2:00-5:00 p.m., Shanley House, 224 N. Travis. This is a tribute to Cynthia Body, recently killed in an automobile accident. Her work, as well as the work of her students and those of artist Jo Shaffer, will be on display. (817) 579-7656.

### March 5

The Opera Guild of Granbury meeting: 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., DeCordova Bend Country Club. The organization promotes interest and support for the Granbury Opera House. Randy Clements performs Cabaret music. Lunch, not mandatory, is \$13. Please RSVP to JJ Mainord, (817) 279-1969.

Cake Decorating Contest & Auction: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Granbury Association of Realtors (GAR) building on James Rd. Hosted by the GAR on behalf of TREPAC (Texas Real Estate Political Action Committee). Funds from the auction of cakes decorated according to the theme "Texas Water" will help both Republican and Democratic candidates who support

the real estate market and help protect homebuyers from additional taxes. For details, contact Emily Burks, (817) 326-2530.

### March 8 — March 30

12 Angry Men: **Thursday, Friday and Saturday** 7:30-9:00 p.m.; **Saturday** matinees at 3:30-5:30 p.m., Granbury Live, 110 N. Crockett St. Gripping drama with same script as the movie. Ticket prices: \$20 adults; \$17 students and seniors; \$15 children. Contact the box office at (817) 579-0952 or visit [www.granburytheatrecompany.org](http://www.granburytheatrecompany.org).

### March 11

Lake Granbury Art Association's March meeting: 7:00 p.m., The Shanley House, 224 N. Travis. Doug Prine, painter and pencil artist from Nemo, will be the guest speaker and demonstrator. (817) 579-7656.

### March 16

General Granbury's Birthday: All day! historic Granbury square. This community-wide party, complete with a birthday cake in honor of General Granbury, is hosted by

Historic Granbury Merchants Association. For more information, call (817) 573-5299 or e-mail [granburyhgma@gmail.com](mailto:granburyhgma@gmail.com).

### March 22

Chamber Luncheon: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., DeCordova Bend Country Club. Sponsored by Best Homes and Bill and Shirley Hooks, this luncheon features guest speaker, Amber Tinsley, on networking to become a successful business professional. \$15. To RSVP, please call the Granbury Chamber of Commerce, (817) 573-1622, or e-mail [pam@granburychamber.com](mailto:pam@granburychamber.com).

### March 28

Talent Show: 7:00 p.m., Granbury High School Auditorium. Donations help fund Project Graduation, which is raising \$60,000 to throw an outrageously fun, safe, drug-free and alcohol-free party for this year's graduating seniors on **May 31**, after their graduation ceremony. For more information contact Pam Wallace, (817) 243-8117.

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



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## In The Kitchen With Angela Logozzo

— By *Melissa Rawlins*

At the age of 5 in her mother's kitchen in Godley, Texas, Angela Logozzo brought smiles to many faces by cracking eggs and sifting flour for chocolate layer cakes with chocolate icing. "I thought, *This is what I want to do all my life!*" In fourth grade, she made a family dinner of roast with potatoes and carrots, gravy, homemade yeast rolls and chocolate mousse for dessert — and her father loved it!

Since then, she has expanded her audience to those who are less fortunate than her immediate family. Once a month, she cooks a gourmet meal at the Community Kitchen in Granbury. "I prayed God would show me how to use my talents and love for Him, and this is where He put me." **NOW**

### Poor Man's Beef Wellington

- 1 lb. ground beef**
- 1 1/2 cups yellow onions, chopped**
- 2 Tbsp. garlic, minced**
- 2 tsp. Emeril's Original Essence**
- 1/2 tsp. crushed red pepper flakes**
- 2/3 tsp. salt (divided use)**
- 2 Tbsp. tomato paste**
- 1/4 cup heavy cream**
- 2 Tbsp. unsalted butter**
- 1/2 lb. button mushrooms**
- 1/4 tsp. dried thyme**
- 1 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce**
- 1 large egg**
- 2 Tbsp. water**
- 2 sheets puff pastry**
- 2 cups mashed potatoes**
- 3/4 cup smoked Gouda cheese, diced**
- 1 cup sharp cheddar, grated**

- 1.** Preheat oven to 400 F.
- 2.** In large skillet, cook beef over high

heat until no longer pink. Add onions, garlic, Essence, crushed red pepper and 1/3 tsp. salt. Cook until onions are lightly caramelized. Add tomato paste and heavy cream. Cook until cream is evaporated. Remove from the heat; spread on plate to cool.

**3.** In a large skillet, melt butter over medium-high heat. Add mushrooms, thyme, Worcestershire sauce and remaining salt. Cook, stirring often, until most of the liquid has evaporated. Remove from heat; spread on plate to cool.

**4.** In a small bowl beat the egg and water to make an egg wash.

**5.** On a lightly floured surface, roll the puff pastry sheet to 1/8-inch thickness, about 11 inches square. Cut each sheet in 2 rectangles. Spread 1/4 of the cooled mashed potatoes along the lower 1/3 of the pastry, leaving a 1-inch border on 3 sides. Top with beef and mushrooms, then sprinkle with Gouda cubes over the top. Brush the sides with egg wash

and fold pastry over filling to completely enclose. Press with the tines of a fork to seal the edges. Transfer to a large baking sheet and paint with the egg wash. Cut 5 small steam vents in the top of pastry. Repeat with remaining ingredients.

**6.** Bake until begins to turn golden brown, 15-16 minutes. Sprinkle with cheddar cheese and bake another 4 minutes or until cheese is melted. Remove from oven and let rest for 5 minutes. Slice and serve hot.

### Bacon and Tomato Cups

- 8 slices bacon**
- 1 tomato, chopped**
- 1/2 onion, chopped**
- 3 oz. Swiss cheese, shredded**
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise**
- 1 tsp. dried basil**
- 1 can buttermilk biscuits, chilled**

**1.** Preheat oven to 375 F. Lightly grease a mini muffin pan.

**2.** In a skillet over medium heat, cook bacon until evenly brown. Drain on paper towels. Crumble bacon into a medium mixing bowl; mix with tomato, onion, Swiss cheese, mayonnaise and basil.

**3.** Half each biscuit horizontally; place one half biscuit in each muffin cup; top with the bacon mixture. Bake for 10 to 12 minutes or until golden brown.

### Buttermilk Pie

- 3 eggs**
- 1 1/2 cups white sugar**
- 1/2 cup butter, softened**
- 3 Tbsp. flour**
- 1/2 cup buttermilk**
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract**
- 1 9-inch unbaked pie shell**
- Cinnamon, to taste**

**1.** Preheat oven to 350 F.

**2.** Beat eggs until frothy; add butter, sugar and flour. Beat until smooth.

**3.** Stir in buttermilk and vanilla. Pour into pie shell. Sprinkle pie with cinnamon.

**4.** Bake for 40-60 minutes or until center is firm.

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