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M A G A Z I N E

MARCH 2015

# NOW

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Cecilia Scott wends the trails vintage style

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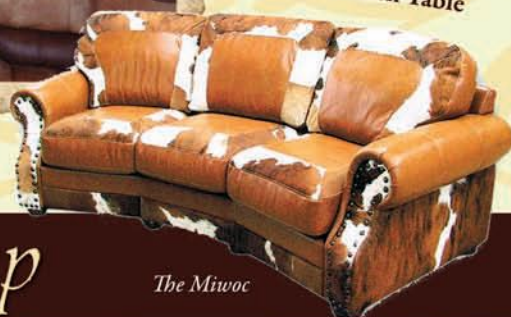


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## ON THE COVER



*Cecilia Scott and her "sisters" take in local sights and sounds as they travel across Texas with their trailers.*

*Photo by Sarah McVean.*

# CONTENTS

March 2015 • Volume 5, Issue 3



## 8 Sisterhood Like No Other

Texas women blend their passion for design and friendship.

## 16 Country Chic

At Home With Bruce and Jill Kirby.

## 24 Trust in Art

The Barrys bring the real world to life on canvas.

## 30 Growing Your Own Veggies

A little planning will help produce a bountiful harvest.



36 BusinessNOW

38 AroundTownNOW

40 FinanceNOW

44 CookingNOW

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## Editor's Note

*Greetings!*

As the month of March gets underway, community members are reminded to take care of their sight. This month marks Save Your Vision Month, aimed at encouraging people to get regular eye exams. The Weatherford Noon Lions Club is known for its mission to fight blindness by raising awareness and much more.

This month also includes a much-needed break for students. Many students and their families will embark on journeys for some fun in the sun for spring break. Whether you're traveling to your destination or enjoying entertainment a little closer to home, be safe out there!

Spring cleaning is in effect at my house this month. We start at the top and work our way down. Cleaning the ceiling fans and dusting the book shelves, window sills and door frames starts the process. Although it's a lot of work, the end result is satisfying.

Have fun!

*Amber*

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# Sisterhood

## Like

## No



*Interior design is a traveling career. Designers go where the blank slate resides to perform the multifaceted task of creating functional charm. Cecilia Scott has been an interior designer for nearly 50 years. During that time, she has traveled far and wide to help clients create working and living environments that are aesthetically pleasing, yet comfortable. Recently, Cecilia began traveling around Texas with other fashion-minded ladies to experience a sisterhood like no other. She is sister number 3,188 of The Sisters on the Fly, an outdoor adventure club for women. Events occur all over the country, and most members travel in glamorized trailers that express the personality of the owner.*

Cecilia fell in love with the creation process as a child. "I melted Crayola Crayons on the sidewalk and got into trouble," Cecilia said. "I was always making something colorful." She became totally hooked on design during a trip to Mexico City after high school. "Parents gave their kids money to buy some souvenirs like T-shirts, but I bought a balcony," Cecilia laughed. "It bent the church bus bringing it home." She also bought a colorful piece of Spanish-style fabric. In her dorm room at Texas Tech University, she made a bedspread and created a headboard using the iron balcony railing. Her daughter still has the headboard,



# Other

— By Erin McEndree

Wherever the future leads, Cecilia will focus on design and her petticoat will be blowing in the wind as she pulls her trailer to the next destination.

and Cecilia kept the Spanish bedspread, which adorns the bed in her silver Airstream trailer.

Cecilia's Bambi Airstream trailer showcases her unique personality and love for Mexican and Southwest styles. The Spanish-style fabric she bought in the '60s is the focal point. A sombrero from a friend and her mom's tambourines create nostalgia. The vintage horse ribbons Cecilia collects are displayed in several places. Turquoise, orange, red and green embellish the furnishings. The color and texture infused into the trailer reflect Cecilia's style and whimsy. "Now that I am slowing down with my design business, I still get to experiment with design in my trailer, Silver Serape," Cecilia said.

During college, Cecilia majored in design and home economics education.





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She taught home economics for three years until she established Cecilia Lee Scott Interiors. For nearly 50 years, Cecilia has coordinated the decor of homes and managed projects with homeowners, including work on a designer show house to benefit the Historic Preservation Council. "When I work with a client, they may not know what to do with their current furnishings," Cecilia said. "I enjoy repurposing something they already have because it means more to them."

Cecilia is semi-retired from the demands of residential design but found the perfect outlet to continue to use her knowledge and skill to promote other artist's skills. Cecilia and two friends, Mary Smith and Cat Geiger, created Petticoats on the Prairie, a vintage traveling market. The market offers unique pieces, hip fashions and repurposed wood furniture, among other things. "Round Top had a vintage market twice a year," Cecilia said. "My friends and I had a vision to create a traveling market that was more accessible to West Texas, and we wanted to showcase artisans' talents. We co-produce a whole shopping experience full of fellowship, fun, exploring and shopping."

At the first Petticoats on the Prairie show in Ira, Texas, two ladies arrived in their tricked-out, vintage fifth wheel trailers and set up in the parking lot. "They were quite a conversation piece at the show and generated a great deal of interest," Cecilia said. "They were amazing. We had never seen any trailers like this and Mary, Cat and I decided we wanted to be a part of it." This is when the ladies learned



about Sisters on the Fly, a group of ladies who gets away from everyday life. Their motto is: *No men, no pets, no kids ... and be nice.*

The sisterhood started in 1999 with two sisters who wanted to share their adventures with other women. Now there are over 5,000 women who participate. They go to locations like state parks, RV camps or attend events. Activities include



camping, fishing or taking in the local fare. Cecilia, Mary and Cat have a joint 1964 DeCamp trailer. They painted it metallic gold and embellished it with black diamonds. The inside is adorned with cheetah carpet and faux leather upholstery. Accent pieces are red and turquoise. "It came from the depths, and we call her Fancy," Cecilia laughed. "It reflects our personalities."

"Teachers, doctors, nurses, professors, retirees and chefs take part in Sisters on the Fly," Cecilia said. "People from all walks of life, who are passionate about trailers, events and each other, attend the event." Members in the club are close and take care of one another, if there is a need. "I've done everything I've wanted to in life. The vintage market allows me to keep my interest in design, and my trailer helps me get away from everyday life to see new sights."

Merging Petticoats on the Prairie and Sisters on the Fly was a natural transition. "Mary, Cat and I were in both, so integrating them together seemed logical. Fifty trailers came last year to the traveling market, and people get to tour inside," Cecilia said. A member of Sisters on the Fly also provided the entertainment for the vendor dinner last year. Several



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common threads make them a good fit. Both are mobile and design-oriented, and both utilize the assets of the towns they descend upon.

Petticoats on the Prairie and Sisters on the Fly, together, have made their way to Waxahachie, Decatur, Ballinger, Levelland and Colorado City. "There are over 100 vendors and between 200-300 booths. It has doubled every year," Cecilia said. "We



choose small towns and use every local entity we can to promote their economy." The vendors come from near and far. Cecilia, Mary and Cat schedule brunches, guest speakers and a Friday night party for the vendors.

The next show is in Levelland on the third weekend in October. This year's theme is Up, Up and Away and incorporates the Steampunk style. "We like to give a different theme to each show," Cecilia said. "Vendors decorate their booths according to the theme and even dress up, too." Petticoats on the Prairie was named one of the top 50 vintage markets in the nation by *Flea Market Style* magazine.

Who knows where the road winds? Cecilia plans on traveling part way with the Sisters on the Fly during the spring Route 66 tour. Cecilia would love for Weatherford to be introduced to the Sisters on the Fly and the trailers she has come to love. Wherever the future leads, Cecilia will focus on design, and her petticoat will be blowing in the wind as she pulls her trailer to the next destination. **NOW**





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Bruce and Jill Kirby



*While searching for some peace and quiet from the big city, Bruce and Jill Kirby found a 9-acre piece of paradise tucked between mature trees and two creeks. The search took months, but they finally decided on the location close to both sets of parents, jobs and the schools attended by their children, Brooks and Grace. The country dwelling took on a style of its own, somewhat reminiscent of Cape Cod. “I like to think of it as country, shabby chic, but my friends call it beachy,” Jill laughed. The two-story, pewter-gray home surrounded in white trim is nestled at the end of a cul-de-sac and not visible from the road. Bruce and Jill love the privacy and plan to stay here for years to come.*

“Being out of the city was important to us,” Bruce said. “We are both school teachers in Fort Worth, so we didn’t want to be far from Fort Worth or family.” The location and amenities suit 9-year-old Grace perfectly. She loves the outdoors. Grace explores and comes home muddy. She finds treasures such as fossils, bones, turtle shells and unique rocks. The prize would be an Indian arrowhead,





but it has not surfaced yet. "There are two spring-fed creeks on the property," Bruce remarked. The creek closest to the house had a steep cliff, so Bruce cleared all the vegetation and changed the slope. The family can now fish from the bank, kick back and relax.

"There is so much wildlife," Jill said. "Deer, barred owls, bobcats, coyotes, rabbits and birds can be seen from the back porch." Bruce plans to stock the creek with bass and catfish and build a dock. They also want to get cows and

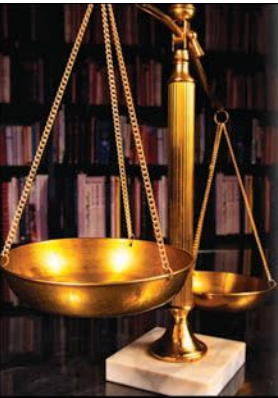


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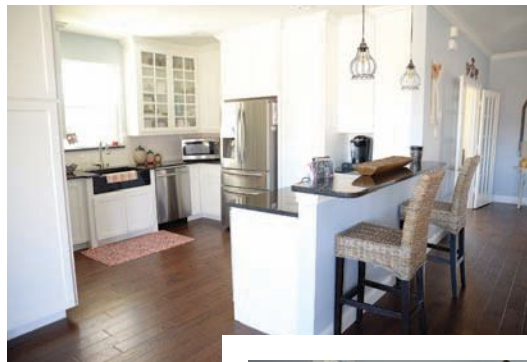




goats. "My daughter and I want a horse," Jill said. "Grace took lessons, and she pets the neighbor's horses through the fence."

The Kirbys moved into their home in June 2014. "I was collecting everything before we moved in," Jill said. She gets ideas from Pinterest, shops at Pier 1 Imports, Kirkland's and HomeGoods, but her favorite place to shop is Canton. Bruce joked that Canton is the reason he does not have a barn yet.

The foyer, living room, dining room and kitchen area are one open living space. White trim and crown molding frame the sky blue walls. The oversized couch facing the television is white with large white pillows. "I love the blue because it's calming," Jill said. "I like my house simple, with lots of windows where I can see what is going on outside." Tin buckets hold outside accessories next to the outside doors. Brown wicker baskets are scattered throughout the rooms to hold personal items like remote controls and magazines. The light fixtures are made of wire and hover over the bar and large wooden dining table.



Wall-to-wall windows face the back of the property and the pool. "We sometimes watch TV on the back porch and drink our morning coffee there," Bruce said. "We spend a lot of time in the back. It is like we are bringing the indoors out and the outdoors in." Dark brown, rattan furniture with navy blue

cushions surrounds the outdoor fireplace. "During our first 4th of July, we realized we were in the perfect location for fireworks," Bruce said. "We could literally see them 360 degrees."

The deep brown, distressed hardwood floors throughout the home contrast with the white furnishings and hues of blue. Jill chose the same color scheme throughout the home in the kitchen and bathrooms. "I love the look of black granite countertops with white cabinetry," Jill said. In the kitchen, the upper cabinets are glass. Peeking through is the good stuff used at holidays, or when visitors come over. Jill picked out a black farmhouse sink big enough to wash a cookie sheet. The







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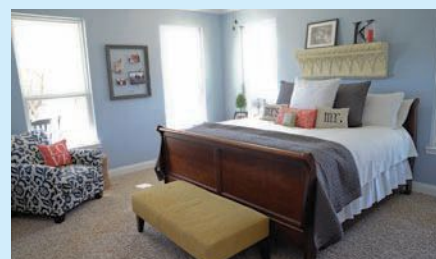
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stainless steel appliances make the space look sleek and polished. Pops of color are in the accessories such as the yellow, red and green striped towels.

A black granite bar with two stools divides the kitchen and the living room. Two blue-gray shutters flank the TV cabinet. The cabinet is a large white dresser distressed to look shabby chic. A smaller matching cabinet is in the adjacent yellow room. An oversized chair covered in bold colorful patterns faces another wall of windows overlooking the pool and the creek. The fan blades look like palm leaves. "I thought I would sit out here more and read, but it has turned into the dogs' room," Jill said. Pee Wee and Chloe have a great view from their little beds.

A large, dark sleigh bed with matching dressers resides in the master bedroom. Jill bought a cream-colored mantel at Canton, which serves as the focal point in the room. A tall K and a black and white photo of the family sit on the mantel above the bed. By the large windows sits their navy and white armchair. A blue frame with chicken wire hangs on the wall with photos clipped on the wire. It's easy to switch photos as the family grows and changes.

In Bruce's office, a large table serves


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as his desk. He is a former math and science teacher. Currently, he teaches PE at Daggett Elementary in Fort Worth. He also scouts for talented baseball players and helps them get noticed by



scouts. He has helped the New York Yankees and the Texas Rangers find fresh players to check out. He attends eight to 10 games a week during baseball season. The office has two built-in shelves, where Bruce displays keepsakes and sports memorabilia. A small football helmet is signed by three NFL players: Archie, Eli and Peyton Manning.

Upstairs, the khaki walls are a backdrop for a red leather sectional. A large, aged popcorn sign hangs by the windows that overlook the pool and creek. The vintage English armoire still has labels that read, *Hats, Collars and Socks*. "There is not much decoration up here. I like it simple," Jill said. Brooks' walls are called greige, a term referring to something unfinished. Two distressed black dressers match the bed. A large leather chair is a comfy place to sit and watch TV or play a game. Grace's room is full of pink accessories and stuffed animals. Grace has white furniture passed down from Bruce's grandmother.

The shabby chic farmhouse fits the Kirbys' eclectic style. They love being surrounded by tall trees, water and wildlife. "It is a great place for the kids to grow up," Jill said. Being in the county is important, so they can relax from their busy schedules and enjoy the simple things life has to offer. **NOW**

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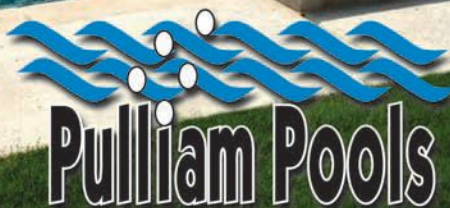
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# Trust in Art

— By Amber D. Browne

became an ambassador. At 10 years old, Juanita and her family moved to New York, so she could study dance. As a young adult, she attended Juilliard and performed with the Martha Graham Dance Company.

*For Stephen and Juanita Barry, works of art are created one brush stroke at a time. Stephen has been painting for about 50 years, and Juanita, with a background in dance, picked up the craft quickly about five years ago. Their painting styles may differ, but the end results are impressive.*

Stephen has had a passion for drawing and painting since he was a child. His father, Leo Barry, was also talented with a paint brush. “Although he didn’t do much with it, maybe it was inherited. The propensity perhaps,” Stephen shared. Stephen grew up in New York and attended Boston University.

Dance has been part of Juanita’s life since she was a little girl growing up in Colombia. Her father, Antonino Olano, worked for an airline, was counsel general to several European countries and later



Juanita and Stephen met while interning at an arts camp in Massachusetts when they were both 22. She was in the dance program, and he was in the painting program. They’ve been together ever since, now in their 47th year of marriage. They reared their two children, Alec Barry and Ona Seaney, in New York, while Stephen worked in advertising, and Juanita danced with several companies.

They later uprooted themselves to settle in another



of the country's largest art meccas — Santa Fe, New Mexico. Both began teaching at the Institute of American Indian Arts. "I was painting portraits on commission while I was teaching," he explained. Juanita taught dance at the Institute and worked in the theater department at the College of Santa Fe.

Teaching was Juanita's life, but after 30 years, it took a toll on her. "My hips went. Now I have two new hips," she shared. She was forced to give up dance, and the two of them decided to make the move to Weatherford. Working as a salesperson at the Milan Gallery in Fort Worth, Juanita took a few painting lessons from Rome Milan and began painting under her maiden name, Olano.

Stephen painted for the gallery up until about three years ago, when he decided to focus more on himself and



his own style of painting. "People and living things are what I'm attracted to," he said. "Landscapes are a secondary interest. I don't do any landscapes without something in them like a horse or a donkey."

Starting with brightly colored landscapes, Juanita has progressed into paintings that have more symbolism.

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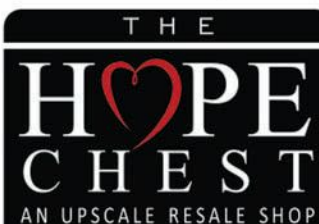


They enjoy traveling, and the scenery and people they come across are often depicted in their work.

Although Stephen has been painting for nearly five decades, his artwork has evolved over the past few years. "I have learned a lot from my wife, because she was a very creative person in dance," he shared. "She's taught me a lot of things about the creative process that sometimes takes me a long time to understand," he laughed.

Juanita often transfers her knowledge of choreography into her paintings. In choreography, she would create a

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three-dimensional performance inside a two-dimensional proscenium stage. "You can transfer that concept exactly into painting — what you call negative space and personal movement," she explained. "You develop an eye for composition in painting."

The two of them share a studio at their home. Each has an easel, canvases



and plenty of paints and brushes to share their visions with the world. Most of their work is created with oil paints, but Stephen paints with water colors, too. He prefers handmade paints, which are ordered online.

When it comes to the support on which they paint, several are used. They paint on canvas, canvas board or



even Masonite, as long as it is primed beforehand. Juanita likes to paint with a palette knife, which can create highlights and edges on the canvas.

Choosing a brush is determined by the brush stroke the painter wants to create, how much space is available and what type of detail is needed on the piece. Stephen prefers Silver Brush Grand Prix brushes, which are made of hog's hair. "It's a coarser type of brush stroke," he explained.

Before even picking up a brush, both Stephen and Juanita usually create a very loose drawing of the painting on the canvas. She is inspired by photographs from their travels or from travel books. Currently, she is working on an Asian-inspired painting for her daughter's house. It resembles a photograph she took while traveling in Tangier.

Their studio is filled with their paintings, and Stephen's side also includes portrait drawings. When painting a portrait, Stephen draws a color sketch and then photographs the subject. "Photographs don't really show the actual complexion of the person," he said. Throughout their home, visitors will find family portraits he has created over the years. Juanita's favorite painting is a self-portrait, the only portrait she's ever

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painted. Someone purchased it from her, but she keeps a photograph of it as a keepsake.

Painting may be relaxing for some, but for Stephen and Juanita, it's both physically and mentally demanding. Standing at her easel, Juanita blocks out any problems she may be having that day and lives in the present moment. "I just completely forget whatever is out there. That used to happen when I went in to teach dance class. I would say to my students, 'You leave your problems and everything at the door with your bag.'"

Over the past few years, Stephen has learned to trust himself and the painting process more. "I overthink things, and I over criticize myself. My wife has taught me not to do that at this point and to trust whatever happens, because I've



already internalized all the technique," he said. He's noticed a difference in his painting style. "It's become looser. It's become more expressive. And I'm enjoying myself more."

When they're not creating beautiful pieces of artwork in their studio, they enjoy gardening and spending time with their grandchildren. Their artistic ways are often bestowed upon their talented and creative grandchildren. "We don't try to teach them but encourage them to have fun. The teaching comes later," Stephen explained.

Back in the studio, they're planning a collaborative piece. They want to combine both of their styles. It will be a leap of trust for both of them. "If you're doing some kind of art form," she said, "there is a connection with the soul, the creative part of you." And for Stephen and Juanita, their souls have been linked for nearly five decades. Although the process may be a challenge, the end result will, no doubt, be a work of art. **NOW**



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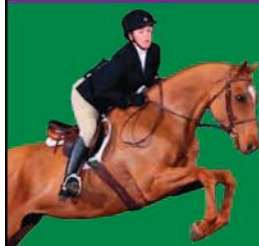
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# Growing Your Own Veggies

— By Virginia Riddle

*Fresh takes on a new meaning when vegetables are homegrown and harvested. No matter where you live, you can enjoy the epicurean and nutritional benefits with even a small investment of time, effort and money. March is the perfect month to begin planning your gardening project that will produce veggies well into the fall. Let's get started by answering a few easy, but important questions!*

## Who?

Gardening can be beneficial exercise for all ages and abilities. Because it's family- and neighborhood-friendly, everyone can get involved. Children who are picky veggie eaters may be willing to try new choices they have grown themselves.

Older gardeners, who have valuable gardening knowledge, may appreciate raised beds that eliminate stooping and kneeling.

Opportunities abound for all ages to enjoy this pastime. Consider coordinating gardens with neighbors to enlarge your vegetable choices and share the harvest.



## What?

Endless vegetables are easy to grow depending on the season of the year. If you are a first-time veggie gardener, keep things simple. Plant easy-to-grow vegetables or your favorites that have been recommended by neighbors or nurseries in the area. Spring and summer plant choices include all varieties of tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, summer



squash, peas, beans, okra and nearly all herbs. Swiss chard is a green that will survive the Texas summer heat.

## Where?

Most veggies require a sunny, well-drained area, but if that's not possible, try a potted garden or a hydroponic system in a sunny patio or balcony area. One patio tomato plant can produce a plentiful and continuous supply when planted in a pot. Local garden centers have a large range of pots. You can also create your own pot by cutting drainage holes into the bottom of a potted soil bag, splitting open the top of the bag, removing about half the soil, rolling the bag's sides down, and finally, planting a vegetable inside. Hydroponic systems are pricier but can yield produce for years to come. And since most vegetable

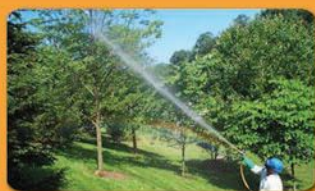
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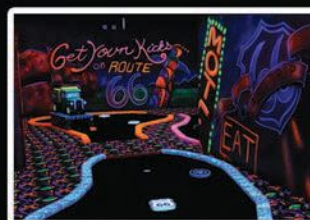


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plants blossom, they are attractive when incorporated into favorite sunny flower beds.

If you are carving a vegetable plot out of your backyard, have your soil tested. Use either a commercial kit or ask your county extension agent for advice. Almost any type of soil can be amended to give good plant growth. Your choice of mulch and fertilizer depends on soil type and available supplies.

What kind of watering system is available for your location? For small gardens or potted veggies, a watering can or diffused sprayer may work well. However, for larger plots, you may wish to lay soaker hoses on timers.

Invest in great time-saving gardening tools and keep them sharpened, cleaned and organized throughout the years to come. Simple hand tools are available, as well as powered tools.

## When?

Planning begins now. However, planting out-of-doors needs to wait until the danger of a late frost or freeze is over. One of the best indicators of that date is when you notice buds on native-to-Texas pecan or mesquite trees. Vegetables, even tomatoes, can be started from seeds planted in starter trays purchased, along with quality potting soil, at your local nursery. Just follow the directions on the seed packet. The trays





are easy to set outside during warm days and nights but move them to a heated location when temperatures dip down below 40 F.

## How?

Now is the time to choose between organic or nonorganic vegetable gardens. Start a compost pile and investigate appropriate choices for fertilizer and pesticides that work best in your area. Your local garden nurseries, county extension agents and Master Gardeners are great resources for information that will help you whether you decide to go organic or not.

If your veggie garden is going to encompass more than a few square feet, rent or purchase a tiller from an area garden center or hardware store. Break the soil and turn the subsoil at a depth of about 6 inches. Remove rocks, make furrows for proper drainage, plant seeds or seedlings and lay down a 3-inch layer of mulch for weed control and water retention.

Plan your plantings so mature, larger plants will not shade smaller ones. Larger plants, like tomatoes, may need to be staked as they grow. To save space, beans, peas, melons and squash can be grown on easy-to-construct trellises, cages or A-frames.

Check your garden daily for insects

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and pull weeds that crowd your plants, taking water and nutrients from the soil. Water when moisture cannot be felt 1-inch deep into the soil and fertilize on recommended cycles. Harvest veggies when they are at their ripest point or before damaging weather, such as hail is predicted.

## Handling the Harvest!

Pick, wash, eat and enjoy your produce each day, but if your bounty exceeds your gastronomic limits, here are some easy tips:

- **Most veggies can be frozen, canned or dehydrated for future use.** Research methods online or with your county extension agents. Follow food-handling safety tips exactly.
- **Donate produce to a local food bank.** Their clients love to see fresh vegetable offerings. Your charitable donations may be tax deductible — check with your income tax specialist.
- **Share with friends and family.** They will know it is a gift from your heart!

Growing your own vegetables can be a fun, educational experience for family, friends and neighbors, and the physical exercise and healthy eating can elevate your spirits after our cold winter days. Welcome spring by enjoying watching your new veggie garden thrive! **NOW**

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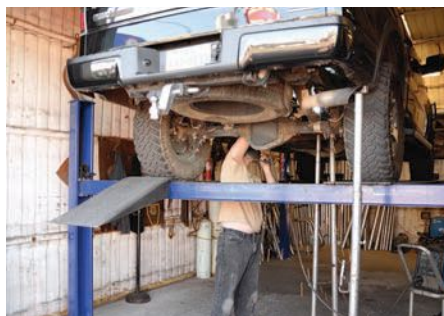


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Services at Chris' Service Muffler Shop include exhaust and emissions repairs, catalytic converters, brakes and more.

## 25 in 2015

*Chris' Service Muffler Shop offers extensive automotive undercar services, both in repairs and custom work. — By Amber D. Browne*

As Chris' Service Muffler Shop, Inc. celebrates 25 years in business, owner Chris Newton attributes his success to God and the Weatherford community. While employed as a strategic planner at General Dynamics, Chris became aware of future layoffs within the company. "My father-in-law and I prayed about what I should do," Chris shared. His father-in-law, Blanton Jones, a career mechanic, recommended opening a muffler shop. The Lord started opening doors, even as others were closing. "In a matter of months, we opened the shop. The Lord blessed it, and it's been great ever since," he added.

Chris' experience with cars began when he was young. He learned a lot about cars through his drag-racing hobby. Chris has always been involved in restoring classic cars and building street rods and track cars. He's currently restoring the Mustang, Pray

Hard, once parked outside his shop. Chris plans to return it to the original spot.

Chris' Service Muffler Shop offers automotive undercar services. "We do complete exhaust, including custom exhaust. Our guys have over 100 years' combined experience working on exhaust systems," Chris stated. Custom exhaust is probably the least expensive way to increase fuel mileage and horsepower on a combustion motor, short of spending lots of money redoing the motor. "Basically, it increases the exhaust flow, which increases motor efficiency," he added.

Chris' team also services shocks and struts, brakes, front ends, emissions and catalytic converters. They work on imports, domestics, motorcycles and classic cars, including complete renovations. "I'm thankful to have a great team here," Chris said.



"The guys who work here are honest and highly experienced."

Customers will find fair pricing for services at Chris' Service Muffler Shop. "My efforts are focused on saving customers money, providing high quality, as well as taking care of our employees." Chris spends most of his time working with customers and suppliers. "Occasionally, I get out there in the shop and have fun," he laughed.

**"We do complete exhaust, including custom exhaust. Our guys have over 100 years' combined experience working on exhaust systems."**

Inside Chris' office are photographs of his time spent hunting and fishing with his family, including his grandsons, Ashton and Zayden. He's a family-oriented man. Chris and his wife, Cindy, moved to the Weatherford area from Fort Worth in 1988. He gives back to the community through both his work at the muffler shop and through volunteer efforts in the community. He's a member of the Parker County Executive Association, Weatherford Chamber of Commerce, Gideons International and serves in his church. Chris was one of the founding members of Grace House and has served as president of the Brock ISD board. He's thankful to be an involved father to his three children, Jessica Cleere, Alex Newton and Allison Newton.

"Weatherford, Parker County has just been a great place to live and raise a family. It's been a great place to do business. I'm just blessed," Chris shared. He is thankful the community has played a part in keeping his business thriving all these years. To mark their 25th anniversary, Chris is remodeling the shop and will host several celebrations. "I want to give God the glory and express my appreciation to the community and to our great customers for using us and allowing us to have a business here." **NOW**

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*Aledo High School's Symphonic Band competes at the Texas Music Educators Association Region VII Band concert.*



*Weatherford High School students perform Shrek! The Musical.*



*Big Burger offers a great meal for Michelle and Hannah Clark to enjoy.*



*Melanie Allen and Mickenly Hamilton grab a bite to eat at Fish Creek Restaurant and Bar.*



*Students in Mrs. Karen Sams' second grade class donate items for the Weatherford Parker County Animal Shelter as part of the class' social studies citizenship unit.*



*An Aledo volunteer firefighter shares safety tips at Impact Athletic Training Center's grand opening, which raised several thousand dollars for Cameron Hudson, who suffered burns in a November fire.*



*Preston Jefferis fills up in Willow Park.*



*At David's Stove Shop, Bert Marsh shows off some merchandise.*



*Cathy Ross, diagnostic imaging manager for Cook Children's Medical Center, donates a digital radiographic mobile x-ray system to Weatherford College's Radiologic Technology Program director Barbara Baker-Morrison.*



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# What Do Low Oil Prices Mean for Investors?

As you've no doubt noticed, your trips to the gas station have been a lot more pleasant these past several months. There's not much doubt that low oil prices have been welcome to you as a driver. But when oil is cheap, is that good for you as an investor?

There's no clear-cut answer. But consider the following effects of low oil prices:

- *Positive impact on economy* — When you spend less at the gas pump, relative to recent years, what will you do with your savings? Like most people, you'll probably spend most of it on goods and services. If you multiply the amount of your increased spending by the millions of other Americans who are also saving money on gas, you can see that you and your fellow consumers are likely adding billions of dollars to the economy. Typically, a strong economy is also good for the financial markets — and for the people who invest in them.

- *Different results for different sectors* — Different sectors within the financial markets may respond in different ways to low oil prices, even if the overall effect is generally positive. For example, businesses such as consumer goods companies and auto manufacturers may respond favorably to cheaper oil and gas. But the picture might be quite a bit different for energy companies.

You could spend a lot of time and effort trying to adjust your investment portfolio in response to low oil prices. In fact, you may well want to consult with your financial professional to determine which moves might make sense for your individual situation. Yet there's actually a bigger lesson to be learned here: Don't overreact to temporary developments. The recent decline in oil prices

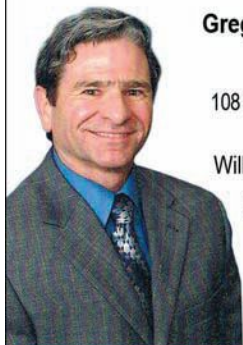
has certainly had an economic impact, but no one can predict how long these prices will stay low or what other factors may arise that would affect the financial markets. That's why you can't reconfigure your portfolio based on particular events, whatever they may be — oil price drops, interest rate fluctuations, political squabbles at home, natural disasters in faraway lands and so on.

If you can keep from being overly influenced by specific events, you may be able to gain at least two key benefits: First, by not making trades constantly in reaction to the headlines of the day, you can avoid piling up heavy fees and commissions — costs that can reduce the return rate on your investments. Second, you'll find that if you aren't always thinking about what's going on in the world today, you can focus your investment efforts more intensely on where you want to be tomorrow. The most successful investors set long-term goals and don't focus on factors they cannot control, such as oil prices, interest-rate changes or other economic events. Instead, these investors make adjustments, as necessary, to accommodate changes in their goals, as well as other changes, such as revisions in tax laws — but they basically stick to their same approach for the long term.

So be aware of low oil prices, but don't get so pumped about them that you sludge up your consistent investment strategy. That strategy has the energy to keep you moving toward your important objectives. **NOW**

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Gregg Davis is an Edward Jones representative based in Willow Park.*

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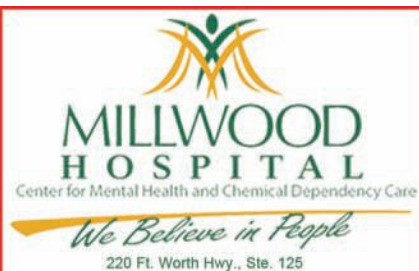


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### March 5

Little Black Dress Luncheon and Fashion Show: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Parker County Sheriff's Posse, 2251 Mineral Wells Hwy. The United Way of Parker County event includes lunch catered by Sundance Club and local celebrities modeling fashions from Parker County boutiques. Proceeds benefit 19 community investment programs that partner with UWPC. For more information, visit [www.unitedwayofparkercounty.org](http://www.unitedwayofparkercounty.org) or call (817) 596-5986.

### March 7, 14, 21, 28

Parker Paws Adoption Events: 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., PetSmart, 138 E. Interstate 20. Stop by and add another member to your family. Furry friends will be available for adoption. Visit [www.parkerpaws.org](http://www.parkerpaws.org) or call (817) 694-5718 for more information.

### March 13 — 29

*Barefoot in the Park: Fridays and Saturdays:* 8:00 p.m., *Sundays:* 2:00 p.m., Theatre Off The Square, 114 N. Denton St. For ticket prices and additional information, visit [www.theatreoffthesquare.org](http://www.theatreoffthesquare.org).

### March 14

Art in Action Art Show: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Weatherford Farmer's Market, 217 Fort Worth

Hwy. Artists will work on a piece of art at their booths throughout the day. Awards will be given for categories, including wood, glass and ceramics, as well as Best in Show. For more information, visit [www.weatherford-chamber.com](http://www.weatherford-chamber.com).

### March 19

Quilter's Guild of Parker County Monthly Meeting: 7:00 p.m., Grace First Presbyterian Church, 606 Mockingbird Ln. Museum licensed pattern writer and quilt miniaturist Froncie Quinn will speak at the meeting. For more information, visit [www.quiltersguildofparkercounty.org](http://www.quiltersguildofparkercounty.org).

### March 21

2015 Lions Gala: Faith, Family, and Freedom: 6:30-10:00 p.m., North Side Baptist Church, 910 N. Main St. LTG (Ret) William G. "Jerry" Boykin will be the keynote speaker at the fun-filled event that features a meal catered by Reata Restaurant and silent and live auctions. The gala will raise funds for Weatherford Christian School. Call (817) 596-7807 or visit [www.wcsliions.org](http://www.wcsliions.org) for more information.

### March 24

Weatherford Regional Medical Center's Senior Circle Program Eighth Anniversary Celebration: 4:00 p.m., First United Methodist

Church, 301 S. Main St. Area men and women age 50 or better can attend the free event and enjoy a barbecue dinner, hula and costume contests and more. Reservations are required. For more information, call the Senior Circle office at (682) 582-1751.

### March 27, 28, 29

Capernaum Passover Experience: 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Capernaum First Century Village and Majestic Statue Garden, 10700 FM 920. Attendees will experience an interactive walk-through event. For ticket information, visit [www.tammylaneproductions.com](http://www.tammylaneproductions.com) or call 1 (800) 489-1950.

### April 4

Clark Gardens Easter Celebration: 10:00 a.m.-Noon, Clark Gardens, 567 Maddux Rd. Families can celebrate the season at the event, which includes an Easter egg hunt, a visit with the Easter Bunny, crafts for children and other entertainment. Tickets go on sale **March 9** through **April 1**. All tickets must be pre-purchased. For more information, visit [www.clarkgardens.org](http://www.clarkgardens.org) or call (940) 682-4856.

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

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## In the Kitchen With Cliff Mackenzie

— By Amber D. Browne

Cooking allows Cliff Mackenzie to bring tastes from across the world into his kitchen. Before he became an attorney, Cliff spent several years traveling abroad and in the U.S. while serving in the Army. “I have always enjoyed traveling to different places and trying new things,” he shared. His love of travel is not only apparent in his cooking, it’s also seen through his collection of books — mostly travel and leather-bound classic literature books.

Busy practicing family law at his private practice, Cliff finds relaxation through cooking. He enjoys the delicious outcomes with friends and family. Cliff’s 10-year-old son, Sam, often helps him create dishes. “He likes to help me do the shopping and to crack the eggs and stir things.” **NOW**

### Pistachio-crust Rack of Lamb

**2 racks of lamb, trimmed**  
**1 tsp. Herbes de Provence**  
**Salt and ground black pepper, to taste**  
 (divided use)  
**1 Tbsp. vegetable oil**  
**2/3 cup pistachio nuts, chopped**  
**2 Tbsp. dry breadcrumbs**  
**1 Tbsp. butter, melted**  
**1 tsp. olive oil**  
**3 Tbsp. Dijon mustard**

**1.** Preheat oven to 400 F; line baking sheet with aluminum foil. Season racks of lamb with next 3 ingredients.  
**2.** Heat oil in a large skillet over high heat. Brown lamb on all sides. Transfer to baking sheet; set aside.

**3.** Stir next 4 ingredients in a bowl. Spread mustard on the fat-side of each rack of lamb; pat pistachio mixture on top. Bake 20-25 minutes; allow to set 10 minutes before slicing.

### Megan’s Granola

**8 cups rolled oats**  
**1 1/2 cups wheat germ**  
**1 1/2 cups oat bran**  
**1 cup sunflower seeds**  
**1 cup each almonds, pecans and walnuts, finely chopped**  
**1 1/2 tsp. salt**  
**1/2 cup brown sugar**  
**1/4 cup maple syrup**  
**3/4 cup honey**  
**1 cup vegetable oil**  
**1 Tbsp. ground cinnamon**

**1 Tbsp. vanilla extract**  
**2 cups raisins or sweetened dried cranberries**

**1.** Preheat oven to 325 F; line two large baking sheets with parchment or aluminum foil.  
**2.** Combine first 7 ingredients in a large bowl. In a saucepan, bring next 7 ingredients to a boil over medium heat. Pour over dry ingredients and stir to coat. Spread mixture evenly on baking sheets.  
**3.** Bake about 20 minutes, until crispy and toasted. Once cooled, stir in raisins or cranberries. Store in airtight container.

### Peach Cobbler Trifle

*Crumb mixture:*

**1 cup graham cracker crumbs**  
**3/4 cup sugar**  
**1/4 cup quick oats**  
**1 tsp. cinnamon**  
**1/4 tsp. nutmeg**  
**Dash of clove**  
**6 Tbsp. butter, melted**

*Trifle:*

**2 cups heavy whipping cream**  
**2 3.4-oz. pkgs. vanilla instant pudding**  
**1 1/2 cups milk**  
**1/2 tsp. orange zest**  
**1 cup sour cream**  
**1 Tbsp. lemon juice**  
**1 Tbsp. sugar**  
**1/2 cup powdered sugar**  
**4 cups fresh peaches, washed and diced**  
**1 1/2 loaves pound cake, cubed**

**1.** *For crumb mixture:* Stir together all ingredients; spread on cookie sheet and bake at 350 F, until lightly golden.  
**2.** *For trifle:* Whip cream into peaks. In a separate bowl, whip pudding, milk and orange zest, until thick; fold in sour cream. Once smooth, fold in whipping cream.  
**3.** Add lemon juice and sugars to peaches. Set aside.  
**4.** In a trifle dish (or glass serving bowl), layer cake, pudding, crumb mixture and peaches; repeat and top with fresh peaches. Chill before serving.

To view recipes from current and previous issues, visit [www.nowmagazines.com](http://www.nowmagazines.com).



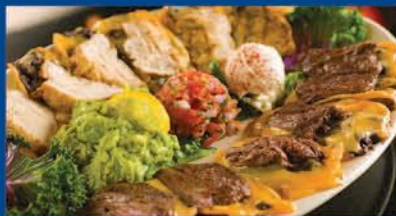
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