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ON THE COVER



Drury's Lady Grace is one of many amazing pieces in this collection.

Photo by SRC Photography.

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Editor's Note

Hello, Granbury Family and Friends!

March is a time of celebration in our town — General Granbury's birthday, Texas Independence Day and my personal favorite, the celebration of Jesus' resurrection. We never know what March brings with it. Cool or warm, peaceful or windy, and on rare occasions we might catch a late snowfall. Mostly, trees put on blooms and grass comes alive. We open windows and breathe deep, relishing a taste of spring. What a wonderful time of year!

I've learned one thing during this adventure we call life. We often bump up against unforeseen circumstances. Some produce incredible journeys we cherish, and others test the fortitude of our very soul. But in the end, if we face each situation with the right attitude, we can look back and see the growth in ourselves.


Celebrate this month, regardless of what life throws your way.

Lisa

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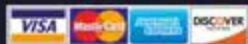
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Imagine a Victorian-style dollhouse, filled with dolls. Many little girls dream of receiving such an extravagant gift. Few ever consider making that dream life-size. Barbara Williams dreamed of filling a house with dolls. She joined forces with her sister, Jane Sharp, and Jane's best friend, Kathy White, to realize their dream. Jane and Barbara moved to Granbury, storing dolls in a closet. "It was a shame," the ladies said. "We had all these dolls and no one could see them." Adding Kathy's dolls, the three women had about 650 in their collections.

In December 2012, the three friends opened the doors to the Granbury Doll House. The historical home resembles an old-fashioned house for tiny inhabitants. Two stories with large rooms became home to all kinds of dolls, but the museum offers more. Within each room, the "doll ladies" share stories about some of the dolls and a wealth of history about others.



*The doll
ladies
simply love
their work
and make a
great team.*



Z E S E

— By Lisa Bell

The founders love celebrating holidays. In March, to honor Texas Independence from Mexico, they change displays and hang the Texas flag. To commemorate General Granbury's birthday, also in March, the Confederate battle flag comes out in his honor.

The front porch may display a few dolls or seasonal decor. Step inside and be immediately transported to a peaceful world of 2,500 dolls. That doesn't include

ones temporarily stored upstairs or in the shed. A collection of dolls, dressed for the season, lines the stairway, representing different eras and styles.

One of the front rooms hosts several interesting pieces, including a favorite: Dolly Reckord, made in 1922, and given to them. "She was all peeled and scarred," Barbara remembered. So Jane went to work, restoring the rare treasure. Wearing the original dress, her wind up record player still works and sounds like an old Victrola.

A woman called one day and offered two dolls she made and had in her attic. The two ballerinas were portraits of her nieces. In another room, a reproduction of Drury's Lady Grace stands several feet tall, displayed with a small child holding tight to Mom.

The celebrity room features famous war heroes, movie stars and political figures. Various Shirley Temple dolls fill one case. Revlon dolls live nearby, with tiny painted fingernails and toenails. A foreign doll collection contains dolls from all over the world and a display of original GI Joe action figures. Of course, they have a vast Barbie collection, as well.



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They have some dolls donated by the families of women who made them, beautifully decorated with dancing eyes and detailed characteristics. These special additions appear throughout the museum. Madame Alexander dolls wait for viewing in one area. Nearby, a host of Nancy Ann Storybook Dolls from the 1930s and 1940s reach out to even small children with classic stories and nursery rhymes. In one case, the founders offer a tribute to Princess Diana.



Two dollhouses adorn a small area. One of them was built in 1897. The other features working lights and sits on a turntable. The donor also provided decorations for different seasons. So, the doll ladies change decor for different seasons. Two more houses are currently in storage, waiting for space.

One of the sweetest displays centers on an antique hospital crib. Several dolls sit or lie in the bed, while an older child-sized doll with a stethoscope cares for them. Pillowcase dolls from the Civil War period grace a shelf. Dolls even live in the kitchen cabinets, on the countertops and at the top of the refrigerator. "One gentleman told his wife, 'Open the refrigerator. They probably have dolls in there, too!'" the sisters shared, chuckling.

One trip to the Doll House isn't enough. People visit repeatedly even

after spending hours there. The doll ladies simply love their work and make a great team. Barbara primarily takes care of the business side. Kathy does a great job of marketing, inventory tracking and communicating. Jane is the official restoration expert. Jane also refurbishes dolls for others.

People from all over the world come to visit the Granbury museum. Two girls who live in Dallas came one day with their mother who visited from Thailand. She didn't speak English, but when



they entered the foreign doll room, she became animated. Some of the dolls came from Thailand. The ecstatic woman told them the regions and eras of each doll, providing history and culture to share with others.

Another time, a family visited. The dad, apparently with a fill of doll museums, reluctantly came with his family. He left early to go get the car but turned back. He told the founders that with all of the places he'd seen dolls, theirs was by far the best. He enjoyed it as much as the females in his family did.

Jane and Barbara have two brothers. One of them, who recently passed, shared their love of dolls and had a collection of his own. The other never collected dolls, but he understood and appreciated their passion. Both brothers always watched for dolls they knew their sisters would love and want to add to the museum.

The nonprofit museum is open Fridays and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and on Sundays from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. However, they often work on dolls and displays during the week and try to accommodate those who want to visit on weekdays. If the flag is flying, visitors are welcome.

The doll ladies keep the place open through donations and their own money.



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They choose not to charge admission, so anyone can come and visit their collection, which keeps growing. Many are displayed with the dolls. Everything they bring in financially helps keep the museum open and any extra goes toward future plans.

Almost every week, someone donates dolls — often a collection from a mother who passed. Some arrive in pristine shape. Others need immediate surgery. They never know what they may find on the front or back doorstep. “It’s like running an orphanage,” the women said.

“We just get to play with dolls,” Jane added.

“We’ve never grown up, and it’s like Christmas morning when we get a box,” Barbara shared. “We ooh and aah at the contents.”

In 2015, the doll ladies entered some of their collection at the State Fair of Texas and won 24 ribbons. They hope, in the future, to do some remodeling, close in the back porch and open the upstairs for more displays and, perhaps, a place for tea parties. Visiting the Doll House feels amazing, mostly because Barbara, Jane and Kathy share such a love and passion for the occupants of the life-size dollhouse. They all love playing dolls. **NOW**



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Like a Jewelry Box

— By Carolyn Wills

Their house was built in 1948. Despite layers of beige paint, faded paneling and worn carpets, Cindy Dennis saw the makings of her dream from the start. "I wanted a house with sparkle and charm like a jewelry box," she said with a smile. "When Rick found it, I knew we were home."

Rick and Cindy met at a party in Fort Worth in 1994, and though neither could have guessed they would someday marry and live in a magical house, by 1997, they were newlyweds settling into one of Granbury's historic neighborhoods.

Today, 18 years later, every cranny, nook and crevice in their home has been touched by Cindy's creative wand, and the transformation is truly a work of art. From the outside, the house looks to be a small frame home with a front porch and peaked roof. "It's actually bigger than it looks," Rick said. "Eight years ago, we added a laundry and craft room by enclosing the garage, and then we also enlarged the master bath." Today, the house spans 1,600 square feet plus a backyard patio, pergola, heart-shaped pond and two storage units.

While the front porch is always charming, the jaw-dropping magic





awaits inside. Particularly for the first-time visitor, sensory overload is possible, thanks to Cindy's compelling use of pattern, texture and color. "Cindy has done 90 percent of the work herself," Rick said. "In the beginning, I would come home from work to find rolls of carpet in the yard."

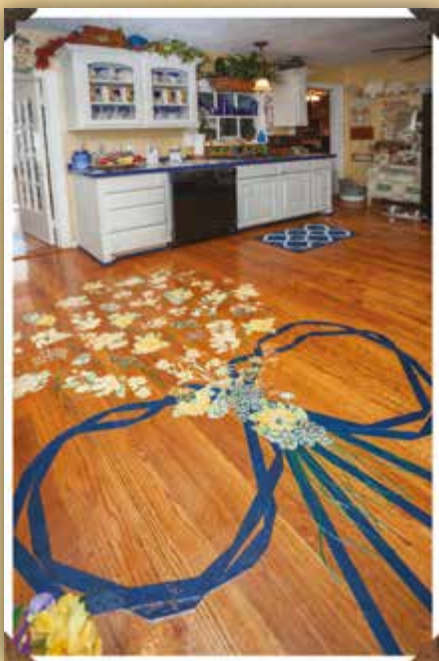
"There were wood floors under those carpets," she said. Cindy proceeded to coat the floors with polyurethane until polished to perfection, and then she attended to the paneled walls. "I covered the paneling with wrinkled paper sacks, for texture, and then painted," she explained. For the central hallway, she made her own wallpaper using metallic paint and glued the paper to the wall.

The two-bedroom, two-bath home features a spacious living room, large kitchen, dining room, TV room, and laundry/craft room. Thanks to Cindy, every room is a visual treat with at least one unique art piece. One example is the spectacular birdcage in the living room. "I used wreath-forms to build the frame," she said. The majestic cage, filled with brightly colored materials and tropical foliage stands just inside the front door, the first sign that this home, in many ways, is also an art gallery.

At the center of the home is a simply amazing kitchen. "We completely remodeled and reconfigured it," Cindy said. By removing a wall, they were able to add space and light, giving the whole home a larger feel. Renovation brought new appliances, including a dishwasher and garbage disposal, as well as a stunning white-crackled finish for the cabinetry.

Once again, though, the *pièces de résistance* are courtesy of Cindy. Between the kitchen's two main doors and beneath a thick coat of polyurethane,





the wood floor features a big, floral bouquet. "I drew the branches, and the designs are cut from wallpaper," Cindy said.

On the upper wall next to the floor bouquet is a painted rainbow mural. "I have three daughters from my first marriage, and when they were little, I would tell them, 'When you see a rainbow, know that I love you,'" she said.



"They each still call me every time they see a rainbow."

In addition to the kitchen's mural and floor design, there's a remarkable mirror with porcelain dolls embedded in the frame. "The dolls were broken," she explained. "I didn't want to throw them away, so I embedded them and then painted the frame."

A material Cindy is especially fond of is tile. Besides scavenging stores for samples



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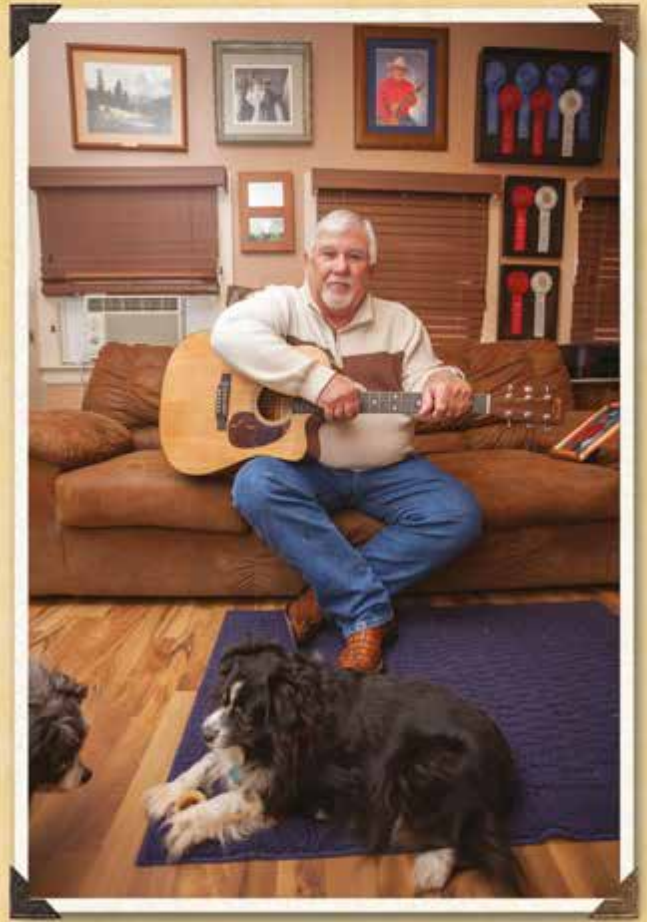
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and/or rejected pieces, she makes her own. "I make tiles from clay powder and water and Playdough to form molds," she said. Tiling can be found throughout the house, but two prime examples are a table covered in a mosaic of handmade tiles and the bed in the master bedroom with its intricately tiled headboard and sideboards.

The dining room, believed to have once been the back porch, is the creative space where many of Cindy's projects are born. A big table is bordered by tall, white Roman columns entwined with rope to look like grapevines. Along the walls are images of grapes accented with lights. Add two oriental-style screens, blue paint and green plants, and the room is a happy place for an ever-imaginative mind.

Next to the dining room is a 1942 gas stove that once belonged to Rick's grandmother. "Cindy and I used it until we couldn't find parts anymore," he said. "Now it holds jars of pickles."

"Every summer, we make 300 to 500 jars of pickles," Cindy explained. The pickling production involves daughters, grandchildren and anyone interested in joining the pickle party. Not surprisingly, these aren't your average pickles, pickled jalapeños, canned carrots, green beans or okra. In recent years, Cindy's art of pickling and canning, all with her own pickling recipe, has won five first-place awards at the State Fair of Texas.



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She's won other awards, too. In 2011, her cross-stitched portrait of Rick placed first at the State Fair, and year before last, she and her granddaughter, Jacy, placed second for their construction of a Christmas house. "It took 10 years to finish the portrait of Rick," she said. She's also done a cross-stitch of her granddaughter and is currently working on a daughter and grandson portrait.

During pickling this year, Cindy designed her own "pickle pluckers" by manipulating prongs on salad forks and, then, wrapping the handles with twine and embellishing them with brightly colored beads. Her latest and most popular project involves "bejeweling" glass bottles like those used for whiskey or wine. Each is a work of art.



Today, Rick and Cindy enjoy traveling, spending springtime on their patio or pergola and being with family. "My daughters, Carmen, Carrie and Casye, all live nearby with their families," she said. "We have two grandsons and a granddaughter." Other family members and Cindy's little shadows are Delilah and Dolly, tiny "fairy-like" Toy Australian Shepherds.

It's also important to note Rick's creativity. After a long career in criminal justice and law enforcement, he began performing in a country band called the Double JR Band. "We're three guitar players who sing a lot of harmony, and we've been together for 15 years," he said.

"They're very popular," Cindy beamed. "They play all over at events, restaurants, wineries and private parties." So, while Cindy's dream of decorating a home like a jewelry box did come true, thanks to Rick, decorating her home like a musical jewelry box was even better. **NOW**

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PREPARING KIDS FOR THE FUTURE

— By Erin McEndree

Kids are the future, and the future will be here faster than anticipated. As that time draws near, Jessica Bolin works tirelessly to prepare families of young children to face the future with confidence and success. Jessica is the center manager and education leader for Texas Neighborhood Services Head Start. This program, which started over 50 years ago, promotes school readiness of children ages birth to 5 from low-income families. The goal is to advance cognitive, social and emotional development through meaningful routines, positive interactions and development of strengths. Jessica has always worked with children by babysitting, working in the church nursery or helping with VBS. "I have loved children for a long time, and I love working with families in need," Jessica said. "I love getting kids ready for kindergarten."





Jessica graduated from Tarleton State University in Stephenville in 2011 with a human sciences degree that emphasized child and family studies. "I was driving by the Head Start in Stephenville and decided to stop," Jessica said. She took a sub position with infants as an Early Head Start teacher. This is not just babysitting. Even the infant class has lesson plans. Teachers focus on language, songs, rhythm and fine and gross motor skills. A study from Stanford psychologists found that the language development for children in a low-income family might be as much as six months behind in development. "Children hear fewer words, and there is an achievement gap with low-income kids," Jessica said. "We stress school readiness activities and parent education."

Typically, infant teachers transition with the kids until they reach the 2-year-old Early Head Start transition class. Then they return to the infant class and start again. After Jessica graduated from

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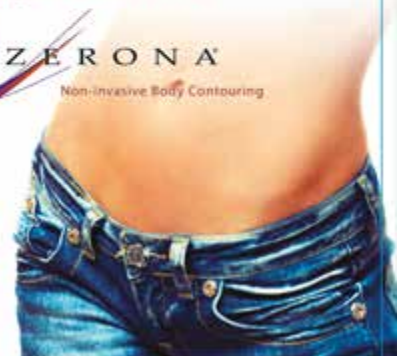
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college in 2012, she began teaching the 3-year-old class. The next year, the center manager position became available in Granbury. "Being a teacher helped me understand the program and curriculum and gain knowledge about Texas Neighborhood Services policies. That has helped me as the manager," Jessica said. Jessica taught the 3-year-olds for two years before transitioning into the role of center manager.

Children who qualify have to meet certain guidelines. "The program works on a point system based on income, disabilities and family needs," Jessica said. "The children with the highest points based on those needs are accepted first." Children are assessed in many areas including physical, dental and mental health, as well as nutrition, education and parent involvement. "Assessments can identify whether a child needs occupational therapy, physical therapy or speech therapy," Jessica said. "The earlier a child is screened, the earlier the child can be diagnosed and helped before school starts." Many kids in the Head Start program need to catch up developmentally with their peers before school. Assessments gauge developmental levels. Children are assessed four times a year to track improvement and establish ongoing goals. Lesson plans are personalized with each child in mind. This tool helps parents see what their child needs to master. Teachers are also evaluated twice a year to track teaching skills. "I can coach a teacher based on the evaluation to help them improve," Jessica said.

Play is essential for children to learn developmental milestones. "The point of play is to encourage social and emotional growth," Jessica said. "For example, if a child is playing in the dramatic play area and is rough with a baby doll, the teacher



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can explain to the child a different way to engage. The child may not have ever had difficult situations explained to them before. Teachers show children positive ways to handle situations and how to use their words to explain feelings.”

Children have many opportunities to learn and discover in different teacher-guided centers, such as science and math, writing, blocks and puzzles. “Dramatic play brings all the centers together to bridge the gap,” Jessica said. “For example, we rotate toys often so math, science, music and language skills can be explored.”

There are many benefits to this program. The child receives important social interaction with other children before they enter a full-day kindergarten. They learn how to follow directions, walk in a line, listen and be patient. However, the program also goes beyond just the child. “This program helps the entire family, so they can work together,” Jessica said. “It is not just about the child. It is about the whole family and their needs, whether it be coats or extra food.”

Two family advocates help educate parents, listen to their concerns and meet their needs. A parent partnership is important to promote understanding, support and encouragement. Parents are encouraged to attend parent classes at Emma Roberson Elementary in the Parent Cafe. The topics range from positive discipline to stress in the family. “There is information out there for parents, but the parents have to want the information,” Jessica stressed. “We have a newsletter that communicates information, including parent sessions and other helpful announcements.”

“We have a large population of students who are non-English speaking,” Jessica continued. “The teachers also have to know the Spanish words for



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Charles Johnson takes pride in his business, keeping it clean and well organized.



Family Heart

Charles Johnson and sons focus on caring about customers, while repairing vehicles. — By Lisa Bell

Getting a car repaired isn't always a fun experience. But when entering C&S Auto Repair, you might find yourself joking around and enjoying the atmosphere. In a matter of minutes, you find a jovial group of guys, a lovely lady in the office and, possibly, an adorable little girl who will melt your heart and make you smile, in spite of car problems or necessary maintenance.

A family-owned and -operated business, C&S Auto Repair originally opened in Granbury during October 2014. Following a major renovation, they opened their current location in August 2015. Location is one of the unique things about the business. They chose Acton Highway near DeCordova and Pecan Plantation. When Charles and Renee Johnson moved to

Granbury in May 2003, he saw a need for quality auto repair on the outer edge of the Acton area. They offer oil changes, using Mobil 1 Oil, tune-ups, brake and A/C service. In addition, they do full-service detailing.

"We are the cheapest place in town to buy tires," Charles said. "We don't charge for mounting and balancing." They sell all major brands, including Treadmaxx.

Although the business name includes "auto" repair, don't let that fool you. The company repairs and details boats, golf carts and other vehicles, as well. They stock tires and batteries for golf carts, which also gives them distinction and meets the needs of nearby lake subdevelopments.

Business **NOW**

While some auto repair shops offer shuttle service to customers, Charles chooses an uncommon approach. He offers pickup and delivery of vehicles. As a responsible businessman, he maintains adequate insurance to cover any unforeseen incidents while a car remains in his possession.

C&S Auto Repair charges less for labor rates and works with customers when needed. Although they depend on their business to meet financial needs, they understand the difficulty of paying for unexpected car repairs. Charles and Renee have six kids ranging in age from a 2-year-old daughter to a 21-year-old. They also have two grandchildren.

Charles' sons help work on cars when they aren't in school. His dad, also a mechanic, works around the shop. Renee monitors the office area and back end of the business. While they keep regular hours six days a week, their answering machine message includes cell phone numbers for both Charles and Renee. They won't leave someone stranded after hours or on a weekend.

Charles has 23 years of mechanic experience, after graduating from Lincoln Tech. He also works in the oilfield as a mechanic. "We take pride in what we do," he said. As they work to establish their business, building relationships with customers is equally as important. "We focus on caring about customers," Charles said.

In the future, they plan to work through a local bank so customers can have a credit card to use at C&S for repairs and maintenance. Each customer will go through a standard approval process, but then he or she will have credit for unexpected repairs.

Charles suggests preparing all vehicles for winter and summer weather extremes. Making sure to change the oil every 3,000 miles, performing regularly scheduled maintenance and getting tune-ups all keep a car running longer.

If you're looking for a good, honest and reliable mechanic who won't overcharge or try to repair something that isn't broken, stop by and see Charles and his family. **NOW**

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Chamber president Mike Scott enjoys singing with Patsy Cline (Julie Johnson) during the chamber luncheon.



Rhonda Clark encourages Women in Business to identify and pursue dreams.



Debbie Sanders enjoys the ducks and other birds wintering on Lake Granbury.



Ridge Roberts, 12, entertains with fiddling and a great sense of humor.



Dazed and confused, Cleta Nicholson and Lisa Bell enjoy the 70's theme at the Granbury Chamber Best of Business Banquet.



Jackie Novelli, Sarah Belknap and Kayla Krause (not pictured) take first place in one of the categories for the district history fair and will compete at the regional level.

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The Indiana Dunes is actually two parks — the Indiana

Dunes National Lakeshore and Indiana Dunes State Park. The national lakeshore is home to great beach sites and the historic Bailly Homestead, Chellberg Farm and the Century of Progress Homes, which were futuristic homes built for the 1933 Chicago World's Fair. People can drive or walk past the homes year-round or arrange to tour them annually in October. The national lakeshore is also home to Pinhook Bog, which is believed to be the only true bog in Indiana.

The state park features The 3 Dune Challenge trail, which can be tackled any day of the year. To conquer it, a person must hike a special 1.5-mile course, climbing Mount Jackson (elevation 176 feet), Mount Holden (184 feet) and Mount Tom (192 feet). These are the three highest dunes in the park. Some parts of The 3 Dune Challenge trail feature 40-degree slopes. In the sand, it's common to take two steps forward and slide one step back.



In the nearby town of Beverly Shores, be sure to stop at Bartlett's Gourmet Grill & Tavern or The Rolling Stonebaker, a pizza truck that parks in Beverly Shores and at the European Market, which is an open-air market open from May to October in the town of Chesterton. Chesterton is home to the gourmet burger restaurant, Octave Grill, and the Italian restaurant, Lucrezia.

A 20-minute drive gets you to downtown Valparaiso, with a park featuring a summer splash pad and an irresistible tourist trap — a bronze statue of popcorn king Orville Redenbacher. Valparaiso's downtown is also home to shops, art galleries and great dining spots like Don Quijote Restaurant, one of only a few Spanish restaurants in the state. Be sure to get an ice cream cone from Valpo Velvet or a cupcake from Designer Desserts.

Just outside of Valparaiso is Taltree Arboretum Railway Garden

and Broken Wagon Bison Farm. At Taltree, the trains run daily from April to October, but the arboretum trails are open year-round. At Broken Wagon, people can arrange or take part in a tour at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Saturdays from June through September. Visitors can see bison up close, learn about them and purchase bison jerky and other products in the farm store.

A lot of visitors stay in Indiana Dunes Country and take side trips to places like Chicago, 50 minutes away, or Northern Indiana's Amish country. For more information about the Indiana Dunes, visit www.indianadunes.com, or call (800) 283-8687 to request the official Indiana Dunes Country Activities Guide. **NOW**

By Ken Kosky. Photos courtesy of Indiana Dunes Tourism.



Cells Gone Awry

— By Betty Tryon, BSN

Doubling over in pain, the young woman knew this would be another day she would not be able to work. Suffering from endometriosis, she had come to expect the debilitating pain every month during her menstrual cycle. Endometriosis is the abnormal growth of endometrial tissue growing outside the uterus. Endometrial cells are similar to those that grow in the endometrium, which is the lining of the uterus. They can be found on the Fallopian tubes, ovaries, intestines, cervix and bladder, and on the uterus itself. Even though the cells are located outside the uterus, they will still thicken and shed every month, as if they were inside the uterus. The problem is there is no good way for the blood to exit the body, so it remains trapped. It can cause irritation to surrounding organs, which sets up an inflammation process and can cause scarring.

Some women who have endometriosis experience no symptoms. But for others, the pain level can vary from mild to severe. The pain can occur with menstrual periods, bowel movements, during ovulation or sexual intercourse. Endometriosis can cause heavy menstrual bleeding or bleeding between periods. It can also be a significant contributor to infertility. Some women don't even know they have endometriosis until they try, and fail, to get pregnant and undergo a diagnostic workup.

There is no definitive cause for endometriosis, but certain risk factors have been identified. Women between ages 25 to 40 face a higher risk, although teenagers and older women can also be

affected. If your mother or sister had endometriosis, your risk is higher. Estrogen plays an important part in the development of the disorder. The timing of your menstrual periods can lead to the possibility of endometriosis: If menstrual cycles are less than 28 days, if periods last longer than seven days and if you started your periods before the age of 12. Women who have never had children are at greater risk. Uterine abnormalities can set the stage for endometriosis.

Your treatment plan for endometriosis depends upon the severity of your symptoms and whether or not your fertility has been impaired. Your doctor will probably take a conservative treatment approach first. Treatment modalities will range from medication to lessen the pain and/or treat the endometriosis, all the way to surgery.

Endometriosis could be very devastating, emotionally. Women may find help in a support group that provides information, help, encouragement and advice. Online groups and chat forums are helpful also. Talking about it will not heal endometriosis, but discussing it may give one an emotional lift that aids the medical relief. **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.

March 1

Opera Guild of Granbury meeting: 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., DeCordova Bend Country Club, 5301 Country Club Dr. The meeting starts with 30 minutes of social time. The noon buffet is optional at a cost of \$13. If dining, please RSVP to (682) 936-9572 or email granburyog@gmail.com.

Primary Voting Day: 7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. The March 1 Primary will be the second time Hood County will use Voting Center on Election Day. Registered voters do not have to vote in a particular precinct. A registered Hood County voter may go to any one of the 10 polling locations and vote. For more information and polling locations, visit www.elections.hcnews.com/.

March 2

Texas Independence Day Celebration: 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Acton Baptist Church, 3500 Fall Creek Hwy. Stroll through Texas History. Meet Texas heroes and participate in the Elizabeth Crockett Memorial Ceremony at 1:00 p.m. Period crafts, music, demonstrations and much more. Event is free, but large groups must register in advance. Contact (214) 675-5752. To learn more, visit www.march2texas.com/schedule/.

Fresh Starts, Divorce Recovery Group: 6:30 p.m., Granbury FUMC Room No. 119, 301 Loop 567. This group is for people in all stages of separation or divorce. All faiths, denominations, beliefs and ages are welcome to attend. There is no cost and no pre-registration is required. The group meets every **Wednesday**. Childcare is provided. All are welcome. For more information, call (817) 573-5573.

March 3

Granbury Newcomers Club monthly luncheon: 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Pecan Plantation Country Club. Come and see the "Silver Lady" Bonny Edmonds' beautiful jewelry and hear her "Tales of Mexico." Learn more at granburynewcomers.org or call Pat Hendricks (817) 579-2637.

March 6

GHS Student Council Color Run: 1:00 p.m. registration, 2:00 p.m. race. Granbury Middle School. Limited quantity of T-shirts available on race day for \$10. Entry fee \$15 for individuals and \$10 each for a team of 10 or more. For registration form, sponsorship packet, and other information visit the band website, www.granburyisd.org/ghsstuco or contact sponsor Kathleen McLaurin (817) 408-4600 or kathleen.mclaurin@granbury.org.

March 7

North Texas Civil War Roundtable: 5:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m., Spring Creek BBQ, 317 E.

Hwy 377. Dr. Richard Sommers, Senior Historian, Army Heritage & Education Center and Instructor, U.S. Army War College will discuss the "Fury at Fort Harrison." Visitors welcome. For more information, visit the website: www.ncentexcwrt.com or call any officer listed on the website.

March 12

Hood County Home & Garden Expo: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Granbury Resort Conference Center. Free admission and lots of door prizes. To learn more, visit www.921hankfm.com/.

March 13

A Tribute to Love – Bridal Showcase: 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., 621 E. Pearl St., Granbury Resort Conference Center. Hosted by the Center, the show features wedding related vendors and more. For details about winning a free wedding, visit www.facebook.com/GranburyResortConferenceCenter/. For more information, contact Cleo Brown (817) 894-1117 or (682) 936-1200.

March 16

Free Cardiac and Diabetes Screening: 7:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. 1310 Paluxy Rd., Lake Granbury Medical Center. Screenings include height and weight, blood pressure, BMI, glucose and cholesterol. A snack will be provided after the screenings. To get best results, please fast the night before — no food after midnight. For more information, contact Amanda (817) 579-2979 or by email at AMANDA_MAIKRANZ@CHS.NET.

March 17

Opera Guild St Patrick's Day Event: *Precious Heart* by Ted Karber, Jr. "A One-Woman Comedy by an All-Male Cast" featuring Greg Smith as Miss Fleeta Mae Bryte. \$25 per person. Tickets available through the Granbury Opera House box office (817) 579-0952.

March 19, 20

Bulls, Beans and Bar-b-que, 38th Annual General Granbury Birthday: all day event, Granbury Town Square. Events include cake during opening ceremonies, bean, rib and brisket Cook-offs, bull riding on the City Beach, Arts and Craft and food vendors on the square. Parade celebrating Hood County Sesquicentennial starts at noon on the 19th. Contact (817) 573-5299, granburysquare@gmail.com or visit www.granburysquare.com.

April 23

Acton 8th Annual Nature Run: 10:00 a.m. with registration beginning at 8:30 a.m., start and end at 5600 Matlock Rd. 5K, runners, walkers, families and teams are welcome. Team with largest number of participants wins the Windmill Trophy. All proceeds are tax

deductible and benefit the Acton Nature Center. For entry fees and more information, visit www.actonnaturecenter.org/annual-run/

April 28

7th Annual Swirl, Sip and Stroll: 7:00 p.m. Address provided with ticket purchase. A night of savory hors d'oeuvres under the stars at a gorgeous private estate overlooking Lake Granbury. Patrons will enjoy both classic and contemporary cuisine pairings with Texas wines, featuring dishes from North Texas' most talented chefs. Must purchase tickets in advance www.granburywinewalk.com. Wine Walk tickets do not include this event.

April 29, 30

Seventh Annual Granbury Wine Walk: 2:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., **Friday**; 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., **Saturday**, Granbury Town Square. Casual venue with 20 Texas wineries, food purveyors, cheese makers, artists, musicians and related vendors surrounding the historic Square and Courthouse. Two-day tickets, \$25 online, \$30 after **April 15**. Advanced tickets available, www.granburywinewalk.com or at D'Vine Wine. Ticket booths open 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. each day. Under 21 and non-drinkers, free admission.

Ongoing :

Second Saturdays

Girls Night Out: 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., Granbury Town Square. Collect pink tickets for a \$100 Downtown Dollar Shopping Spree! The second Saturday of each month with specials, trunk shows, wine, snacks and tons of fun. Visit the Girls Night Out FB page for details and special sales and promotions.

Last Saturdays

Last Saturday Gallery Night: 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., Granbury Town Square. All participating galleries are open until 8:00 p.m. with "meet the artists," receptions, demonstrations, hors d'oeuvres, wine and music. A tram runs between galleries. Visit Galleries of Granbury FB page for more information.

Third Weekends

Saddle Bags Trade Daze: 8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., 3636 W. Hwy 377. Vendors welcome. No sales of animals except legitimate rescues. No sales of food or drinks without approval. Call Ernie Reynolds, organizer, (817) 894-8168.

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



In the Kitchen With Catherine Moore

— By Lisa Bell

Catherine Moore moved to Granbury in 1983. Her husband, Michael, grew up here. A writer and intensely creative person, she loves the creativity of cooking.

As a 4-year-old, Catherine helped make cutout cookies, trying to employ toy cutters used with modeling clay. “I learned, the head chef rules,” she said. By age 9, she took cooking seriously. Down-home farm cooking in Grandma’s kitchen influenced her most, not only with style and recipes, but also with the gift of hospitality.

Six years ago, Catherine lost her sense of smell and with it, her taste. That doesn’t mean she can’t cook. Her recipes are tried and true, and Michael helps her get seasonings right. Together they keep discovering new tastes she loves sharing. **NOW**

Grandma’s Meatloaf

1 1/2 lbs. ground beef
3/4 cup oatmeal, not instant
1/4 cup dried minced onion
1 1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. pepper
1 cup tomato juice
1 egg, slightly beaten
Ketchup, to taste

- 1.** Preheat oven to 350 F and spray a 10 1/2x15 1/2x1 1/2-inch shallow pan with nonstick spray.
- 2.** In a large bowl, combine all ingredients, except ketchup, thoroughly.
- 3.** Divide mixture into two mounds in the prepared pan. Use your hands to shape each mound into uniform loaves. Then, frost each loaf with enough ketchup to cover the top of the loaf.
- 4.** Bake for 1 hour, 15 minutes. Allow loaves

to rest in the pan for 5 minutes before moving or slicing.

Black Bean and Corn Salad

This is Michael’s favorite flavor combo.

1 15 1/2-oz. can black beans, rinsed and drained
1 15 1/2-oz. can whole kernel corn, drained
1/2 cup onion, chopped
1 jalapeño, deveined, seeded and minced
1/2 cup jicama, peeled and chopped
1/4 cup cilantro leaves, roughly chopped
Juice of one lime
2 Tbsp. olive oil

- 1.** Combine all ingredients in a serving bowl.
- 2.** Serve at room temperature. Refrigerate any leftovers.

Pecan Pie Bars

Makes 16 large bars.

2 cups flour
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1/8 tsp. salt
1 1/4 cups butter (divided use)
1 cup brown sugar, packed
1 cup light corn syrup
4 eggs, lightly beaten
2 1/2 cups finely chopped pecans
1 tsp. vanilla

- 1.** Combine flour, granulated sugar and salt; cut in 3/4 cup butter. Blend until very fine crumbs form. Press mixture evenly into a greased 9x13-inch Pyrex dish using a piece of plastic wrap to press it firmly into the pan. Bake at 350 F for 17 to 20 minutes.
- 2.** In a saucepan, combine brown sugar, syrup and 1/2 cup butter. Bring to a boil over medium heat, stirring gently. Remove from heat.
- 3.** In a small bowl, lightly beat the eggs. Stir 1/4 of hot mixture into the beaten eggs; then add egg mixture to remaining hot mixture and stir in pecans and vanilla.
- 4.** Pour filling over the crust. Bake at 350 F for 35 minutes, or until set. Cool completely in the pan on a wire rack. Cut into bars.

Strawberry Candy

2 3-oz. boxes strawberry gelatin
1 cup ground pecans
1 cup flaked coconut
3/4 cup sweetened condensed milk
1/2 tsp. vanilla
Sliced almonds
Green food coloring
Red decorator sugar

- 1.** Combine gelatin, pecans and coconut. Stir in milk and vanilla; mix well. Chill at least 1 hour.
- 2.** While strawberry mixture chills, dye almonds with green food coloring in a Ziploc bag and let dry.
- 3.** Shape mixture into strawberries and roll in red sugar. Push dyed almonds into the strawberries for leaves.

To view recipes from current and previous issues, visit www.nowmagazines.com.

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