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## ON THE COVER



*Chubby Turner just loves what he does.*

*Photo by Amanda Olson.*

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## Editor's Note

*Hello, Weatherford Friends!*

My sister is writing a book, *Legacy*. While it is mostly about our family, she pulls in a great deal of history — reliving the Irish immigration, which brought one of my grandfathers to America, and memories of Pearl Harbor, where an uncle served at the time of the infamous attack. Digging through our ancestry, she discovered some not-so-nice men.

I come from a fairly large family. Three siblings, many aunts, uncles and cousins — all of us flawed to some extent. We're family, good, bad, ugly and beautiful. They shaped me, showing me love and sometimes teaching me by default how not to live.

Who influenced your life? I hope you think of good men who made you a better person. We all need at least one of those. Remember that man, and be sure to thank him this month.

Happy Father's Day!

*Lisa*

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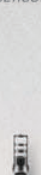
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# Competi Living

*"I often tell people not to join the sport of cutting. It's an addiction. It gets in your blood. I try to warn people about that before they try it out," said Harold "Chubby" Turner, often referred to as the "ambassador of cutting." With over 54 years of experience in the sport, Chubby has become the "addict" he warns people about.*

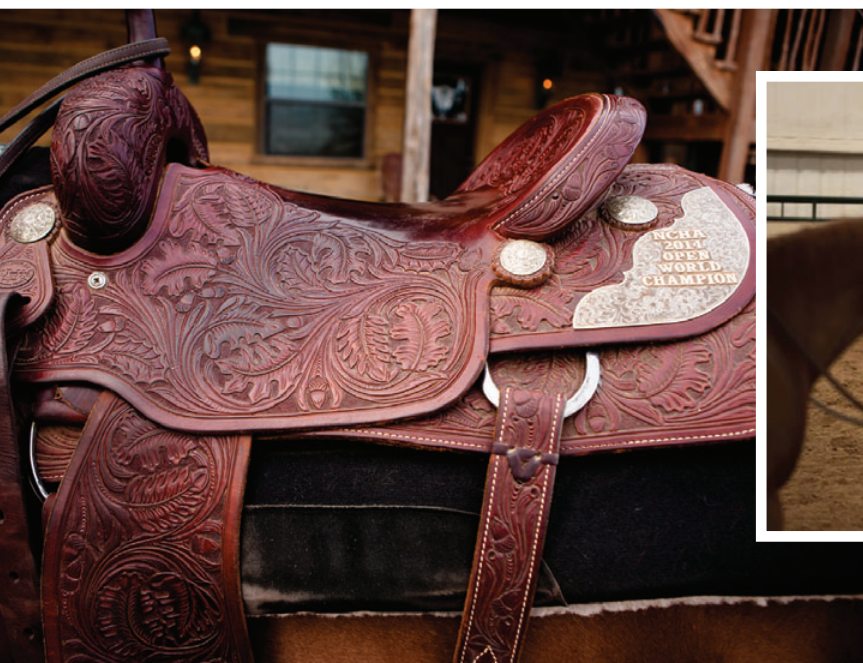
Fortunately for Chubby, his career in the cutting business paid off, literally, with over \$2.4 million in winnings and several world championship titles. On top of that, he trains numerous people and horses in the sport and is a resident trainer of J Five Ranch in Weatherford.

"This is the closest thing one can do to being a cowboy, without really being a cowboy. I grew up wanting to be one, and this sport depicts the actual ranch work that was done in the 1870s and 1880s. We work hard to keep the event as close to the ranch activities back in the day as possible," Chubby said. "It's a contest between a horse, rider and cow, and you are only as good as your horse."

Cutting is one of the fastest-growing equine sports, a competition in which the horse and rider must work together to demonstrate their cattle-handling skills. During the two-and-a-half minutes of competition, the horse and rider must approach a herd of cattle. Then the rider signals to the horse which calf to separate from the group. Once the horse separates the calf from the group, it uses its cutting skills to watch the calf, move-by-move, and prevent it from returning to the group. During this time, a panel of judges scores the performance based on challenges made by the calves, the horse's instinctive reactions and any errors made by horse and/or rider.

"I remember when I was a young boy, I would take my dad lunch on Sunday afternoons. He and his friends would be cutting on five to six cows that they would collectively buy. I didn't want to cut, though. I wanted to rope. My dad said, 'Son, I have seen you rope. You better give cutting a chance,' and I have been hooked since," Chubby remembered.

Even though the Oklahoma native received sports scholarships in college, he still couldn't shake his love for cutting. In fact, cutting is how he made his way to Weatherford over 17 years ago. One of Chubby's friends, who had a desire to learn how to cut, brought him to Silverado Ranch to work and train.





# tive

— By Lindsay L. Allen







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With three world champion titles now under his belt, Chubby is the right guy to train just about anyone. "I always wanted to be a world champion, and when I won my first title in 2004, it meant everything to me," he admitted.

In his current role as resident trainer, with over 450 acres between the two property locations at the ranch, Chubby's main responsibility is to train Constance Jaeggi, ranch owner and Switzerland native. "We were hauling Constance to all these shows, so I would ride and compete, too. She has a feel for the sport, a God-given talent, and horses love her. When she was in college at TCU, she spent more time at home with my wife and me than she did in her dorm room. She has become one of the top cutters in the sport and part of our family," Chubby noted.

The hardest part of learning the sport, according to Chubby, is learning how to stay out of the horse's way, and let it do its job. "People think they have





to operate everything. Beginners are always in the horse's way. You have to learn to just balance and not hold on," Chubby explained.

In 2015, Chubby was inducted into the National Cutting Horse Association's (NCHA) Members Hall of Fame in recognition of his own efforts in the association, commitment and promotion of cutting horses and the horses he has raised. In addition to the enthusiasm he brought to the sport over the last four decades, Chubby served as NCHA president in 2009 and 2010 and is a lifetime director. Through his work to help introduce practice pens at competitions and developments of the World Series cuttings, which allows older horses to participate in more events, and thus have more value, Chubby helped revolutionize the sport. "The Members Hall of Fame was a great honor, because it wasn't just about what you contribute to the sport itself, as far as winnings, but what you have done to give back and your development of the cutting sport, which is a multimillion dollar business," Chubby said.

His expertise and knowledge led him all over Australia, Germany, Canada, Switzerland and Europe as a clinic host. "People are just seeking knowledge about the cutting industry, and that's where I come in to play," Chubby noted. "This industry is the closest thing you can get to family. That's what I love about it all. It means so much to me." Chubby pointed out that cutting has a direct correlation to playing

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defense in the game of basketball. In basketball, you defend off the opposing player long enough to make a basket. In horse cutting, you are doing the same thing when you are keeping the separated calf from rejoining the group. Chubby said the cutting sport is complex and requires the rider to learn so many "little things," yet he tries to keep it simple, too, for those wanting to learn.

Cutting also brought Chubby and his wife, Ginger, together, long ago. She also works on the ranch and enjoys participating in the sport. "She is one of my biggest supporters and my best friend. She pushes me and makes me a better cutter," Chubby said. It's not just his wife, but also one of his sons, that makes it a family affair. Chubby and his son, Sam, used to work on the ranch together, until Sam and his wife began doing chiropractic work on horses, using an electro-magnetic pulsating machine on the animals' sore muscles.

"This has never been a job for me. I'm lucky to get up every day and do what I love, and I mean that," Chubby stated. "I'm competing three days a week, usually, and I'm continually trying to do it right. It's just really rewarding to see a horse progress."

His favorite horse was One Time Choice, or Roxy, as Chubby called her. "She is the quirkiest horse you will ever meet. I should write a book about all the quirky things she does," Chubby said, laughing. When he began riding Roxy, she didn't have the best training foundation and is short, almost like a pony, but Chubby went on to win the world championship with her in 2013 and 2014. "Cutting is the greatest equine sport anyone could ever want to do," Chubby said. "I would encourage anyone to do it, but then, again, you may not want to, because it can be quite addicting." **NOW**



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## At Home With Stephen & Cindy Stell



*Nearly six years after beginning to realize an idea of owning a dream home in Weatherford, Stephen and Cindy Stell can now appreciate their hard work. After meeting in January, Stephen and Cindy married in August of 2010. "We put down our roots together here," Cindy shared. They purchased an older home on two acres and began renovations. Stephen had bigger ideas for the property. They dug a "swimming hole" behind the house and added catfish and perch for lazy afternoons of fishing. Both cabana and barbecue areas were added near the water's edge. "My husband loves to be creative in designing and building things," Cindy shared. They continued to build on the property, purchasing an adjoining three acres with two additional houses.*

One of the houses was demolished to make room for their current homestead. "Once we got married and saw what our interests were, it helped to design the house," Cindy said. The home-building process took just over two years, and the property clean-up was a strenuous task. Friends and family helped clear the acreage behind the spot where their home now sits. "It was dangerous. It was overgrown with thorns and brush," Cindy recalled. They continued the clearing process despite cuts from briars and a few run-ins with bees and snakes. They now stock the cleared branches and trees as fuel for the multiple fire and barbecue pits on the property.

They used dirt from the pond as the foundation for their two-story dream home. Natural light is abundant with large windows covering the back wall of the open living room. Fresh air blows through open windows in each room, bringing in the outdoor smells. Neutral paint colors of yellow, amber and brown add warmth to the home, which features dark, wooden floors and a vaulted cedar-paneled ceiling.

# W&O



# Birth It

— By Amber D. Browne




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The downstairs living space allows the Stells to share meals with family and friends. “We have a lot of get-togethers and celebrations,” Cindy said. They often find themselves gathering around the large, maple butcher-block island in the kitchen to share Stephen’s barbecue.

“Every party we have, every get-together we have — it all centers here,” she added. The light granite for the kitchen countertops was selected first, and dual cabinet colors to match. They installed an oversized refrigerator inside fully featured custom cabinets. “You think you’ll never fill it, and guess what happens,” she said, laughing. “It’s all full!”

Cindy considers her oversized round, mahogany dining room table from San Miguel her best purchase. “This has been a great dining room,” she said. “A round table allows us to visit together. That was the idea for the entire house.” The amber chandelier above the table matches wall sconces in the dining room and adjoining office. Impressionist artwork from Stephen’s late aunt is on display

along with Cindy’s mother’s paintings. With help from her mother, Cindy began painting landscapes of their property about a year ago. “I have the best art teacher in the world, so that really helps,” she smiled.

With her parents and brother, Harold, Anna and John Holcomb, just down the road, and two adult children, Aaron and Allison Wilson, living upstairs, guests are always visiting. Aaron recently graduated from Texas Christian University and teaches driver’s education. He also serves on the Weatherford Public Library board. He appreciates the warmth of the home. “Natural light is a big thing to me. You feel better when you’re in a room filled with sunlight,” Aaron said.

Allison also enjoys the natural, open

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feel of the home, but she's especially proud of her music loft. She is an aesthetician in Weatherford, but a musician in her free time. A Brazilian pecan staircase featuring light and dark wood leads to the upstairs loft, which offers great acoustics for her music. Instruments are featured throughout the area including a piano and guitars displayed in custom-made cedar boxes. Suites with a bedroom and bathroom flank each side of the loft, which overlooks the downstairs living space. Allison's balcony offers the best view of the property that now includes an additional 28 acres purchased late last fall.

A creek feeds into a lake on the property. The Stells have dubbed it Lake Paradise. It's stocked with fish and has become home to a number of wildlife, including ducks and turtles. The Stells added new fencing throughout the property to keep their cows safe. They often ask out-of-town guests to pile into "his and her" MULEs for a tour of the expansive property. Stephen enjoys barbecuing for guests from his chuck wagon overlooking the lake, and Cindy uses fresh vegetables from her garden for delicious sides and for canning. Future plans include screening in a porch near the chuck wagon for visitors to sit in the shade and share meals.





When Stephen isn't traveling for his business, Tech Con Trenching, Inc., he's enjoying the welcoming atmosphere of their place. "He has more fire pits and barbecue pits than anyone I've ever known," Cindy said. "He works really hard, so he might as well get to play a little bit hard, too." The pond is his pride and joy. Wherever you are on the Stell property, you can find a nice view of God's country.

The back patio offers a picnic table and tables and chairs for seating near the stone fireplace. Barn doors on the garage nearby open to share the sounds of music on the radio. Above the garage sits a game room complete with a poker table, two recliners and a television. A Murphy bed provides room for overnight guests. A table and chairs, which once belonged to Stephen's mother, were whitewashed and added to a corner of the room for additional seating. Building the game room was a fun project for Stephen and Cindy, and they enjoy sharing it with others.

"Weatherford has been such a blessing for us," Cindy said. "When I get up in the morning, have my coffee and do a little devotional, I look out and think we are in the best state and the best country. And, I get to be in Weatherford, too. That's the icing on the cake." The family enjoys spending time outdoors and bringing nature back inside the home with lots of natural light and earthy colors. "Reconnecting with nature is like reconnecting with God."

Although it took years to realize the full potential of their dream, Stephen and Cindy have created the perfect home for their family. With two houses at the front of the property ready to greet out-of-town guests and a game room with sleeping quarters for visitors, the property is shared among family and friends. The hard work paid off. "It's worth it in the end," Cindy shared, as Stephen nodded in agreement. **NOW**

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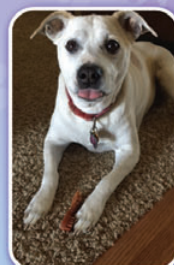
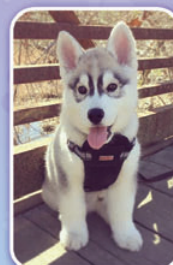
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# LIFE GOES ON

— By Lisa Bell

*Michael Browne will sit at the table, his cane resting beside him, mirrored shades covering his eyes. "Wow! Did you see that?" he'll ask. Normally, people look around, see nothing special and hesitantly answer, no. "Neither did I," he'll reply. His humor breaks the ice for those unsure about talking to someone who can't see. After losing his sight during his sophomore year in high school, Michael quickly learned he needed a good sense of humor.*

"You get nowhere dwelling on the past. If you can't change what's happened, go on," he said. "My dad always said when one door closes, two more open." Adopting that philosophy, Michael is optimistic and works toward making his dreams reality.

A smart kid, he took advanced classes in high school. Pressures mounted, and while those he considered friends pushed him, he grew depressed. Always a smile on his face, even his parents didn't see his despair. As the result of a failed suicide attempt in April 2007, Michael lost his eyesight and sense of smell. Miraculously, he still tastes food most of the time.







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After going home from the hospital, Michael sat with his mother, Linda, thinking life really was over. But she didn't let him give up. They homeschooled him for a while. She incorporated playing games and helped by giving him verbal directions. He realized life wasn't over at all. He still had much to offer and ways to do it.

In late March 2007, Michael received his paper driver's license before becoming blind. In June that year, the permanent one arrived. With a valid license, the insurance company wouldn't cancel his coverage. For a year, until his next birthday, he was a fully insured, licensed blind driver. "Why do



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Michael's parents, Linda and Charles Browne, are proud of the positive influence he has on others.

you think they have braille on drive-thru ATMs?" he asked, laughing.

Michael eventually returned to public schools, graduated and went on to attend Weatherford College. Although studying takes him longer than most students, he will earn his associate degree soon.

Michael's loss of sight opened doors. He learned new ways of life and determination to keep going. He didn't become Superman with automatic keener senses. He trained like a physical athlete, focusing first on hearing. Over time, it got stronger. "Anyone can fine-tune their hearing," he said.

Before his mother had cataracts removed, he watched her order the same thing at restaurants many times. If they went somewhere new, she looked for a few minutes before tossing aside the menu and saying, "I'm not hungry." Without sight, Michael now understands how she felt.

What if restaurants offered a menu with braille on one side and large print on the other? With that thought, Michael started a business. He has already worked for a few restaurants in Weatherford, creating durable menus for customers who need large print or Braille.

In the fall of 2015, Michael joined Phi Theta Kappa. There he met Weston Decker, who joined the group a year earlier. When they first met, Michael asked, "Is that your paper on the floor?" Weston looked down before saying no. "Are you sure?" Michael followed up.

"I didn't realize he was blind," Weston said. "Ten minutes later, I forgot he was blind."

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The Phi Theta Kappa team welcomed Michael with open arms.

As the group's VP, Weston had to work with the college on a project to improve the campus experience. Michael knew firsthand the challenges for the blind. They decided to make the campus more mobility friendly for vision-impaired students. "It helped having Michael right there," Weston said. "Sighted people miss things."

Building on Michael's menu design, they created braille maps of the campus and added a braille listing of classrooms and other important places. After being on campus since 2011, Michael had no clue about the location of storm shelters. Tactile maps will be available to visitors or new students. They will also be located inside each building entrance, with detailed information from the person's current location.

The project pleased Dean of Academics Michael Endy. With full support of Weatherford College, he committed to implementation at all of their campuses. He also hired Michael for a work/study program. Using his blindness, Michael works with campus maintenance to ensure braille spellings on rooms are correct. "We found several that were wrong," he said.

"I definitely think all colleges should have some sort of setup," Weston said. While doing research, he discovered that even the largest universities didn't have anything similar to their plan. At best, they assigned guides to the visually impaired. From Weston's perspective, a guide makes students dependent, while independence is a vital part of the college experience. "Hopefully, as the word gets out, other colleges will contact Michael and work with him to implement this," Weston added.

As Michael and Weston spent time together around town, they noticed some handicapped parking spaces located far from building entrances. Some places were inaccessible to wheelchair-bound individuals because there was no ramp.

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Sam Medina, Michael's tutor, has aided in his success at college.

Linda and Charles are both very proud of their son. "He's a very capable person," she said. "He's a regular guy. He just can't see or smell. He has a good attitude and good sense of humor."

Charles recognizes how far Michael has come since losing his vision. "He has a maturity level of someone a little older and truly understands how family comes together in crisis. He truly shows what can become of someone when 'they put their mind to it.' Honestly, having witnessed firsthand what he has done has increased my desire to do well also," he said.

Linda has no qualms about leaving Michael at home alone. He cooks, washes clothes and uses public transportation, but he is banned from microwave popcorn after pushing one too many zeroes. With no sense of smell, he doesn't catch foods burning. The positive side is no worries about dead skunks or the temptation of fast foods.

Weston shared there are a lot of good students at Weatherford College, but Michael stands out. "He's shown us if he can do it, we can," he said.

Michael enjoys spending time with family, especially his nephew who mimics him. "Ultimate hide and seek," Michael said. "One reason my nephew likes me."

Michael turned 25 in March, thankful for life with a bright future. His deepest desire is to become an inspirational speaker and share the lessons he learned, so maybe others won't go through the same experiences. He also plans to continue growing his business. "It's either that or become a stand-up comedian," he said.

In his closing remarks, Michael said, "Ladies, I'm single!" Proof he isn't much different from any of his friends. **NOW**





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# Bountiful Harvest

— By Melissa Swedoski

*The bounty of fresh fruits and vegetables during the summer is one of the great delights of the season. With a little effort and planning, you can enjoy flavorful fare at meals all year long with canning, which is fun and economical, but there are a few things to know to prepare for the process.*

## Acidity Levels and Canning

Knowing the difference between high- and low-acid foods determines the canning process used. Low-acid foods include meats and vegetables, with the exception of acidified tomatoes and pickled products. High-acid foods include fruits, pickled vegetables, relishes, salsa, pickles and sauerkraut.

Canning requires extreme heat to kill mold, yeast, bacteria or other organisms that cause spoilage. Low-acid foods require pressure canning to destroy the bacteria in temperatures that reach 240 F or higher. High-acid foods can be safely processed by boiling water canning. In general, boiling water canners take less time than pressure canners.





## Choosing Produce

Fresh produce is best from a backyard garden, but scouring the local farmers market can yield real gems. Overripe fruit isn't recommended, but if the fruit is fresh, small bruises can be removed and discarded.

- Fruit – It is generally better to hot-pack fruit, including apples, pears, apricots, nectarines and peaches. Unless you are making a jam or jelly, berries should be frozen. Tomatoes are a popular item to can and should be cooked before canning.
- Vegetables – Asparagus, beets, carrots, green beans, okra, peas, peppers and potatoes are eligible for canning, along with cucumbers, beets, beans, turnips or bell peppers. Tender lettuces, however, can't stand up to preservation techniques.



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## Jars and Lids

Mason jars are the best choice for home canning, since they come in pint and quart sizes and, if used properly, can be reused in future seasons. To pack whole fruit and vegetables, use a wide-mouth jar, which makes the process easier.



Two-part lids are necessary, as the screw band will secure the canning lid to the jar during processing. Screw bands can be reused as long as they aren't bent or rusty, but lids are designed for a one-time use since the sealing compound can lose effectiveness over time.

Jar lifters are good for moving hot jars, while jar funnels will help reduce spills during filling. A magnetic lid wand allows you to drop lids and bands into the hot water of the canner to sterilize them and soften the sealing compound, combining two steps in one.

## General Guidelines

Make sure the food is thoroughly washed and trimmed and practice arranging produce in a jar. Once you've cleaned all the tools and sliced and diced the produce, use a large spoon or ladle to put the produce loosely into jars. Fill the jars with boiling water, pickling solution or sweet syrup. Use white grape juice for fruit.



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Use proper headspace to ensure that all the contents reach the appropriate temperature for safety and sealing. Juices, jams, jellies and relishes need 1/4 inch. Fruits, tomatoes and pickles need 1/2 inch. Meats and vegetables need 1 to 1 1/2 inches.

Remove air bubbles with a nonmetal utensil, frequently found in a canning kit, by working down the jar sides. If the headspace changes as bubbles release, add more hot food or liquid to maintain the balance. Clean the jar's rim, put the lid on, screw the band on and tighten. Place the jars into the canner and position so they are not touching.

A boiling water canner resembles a big pot with a lid and a rack in the bottom. Fill the pot halfway with water and preheat to 140 F, for raw-packed foods, or 180 F, for hot-packed foods. Insert the canning rack and jars, cover and bring water to a slow, steady boil. Allow to process for the designated time.

Pressure canners use a heavy pot with a rack, tight-fitting lid with a vent, dial or weighted pressure gauge and a safety fuse. Heat foods to 240-250 F and hold that temperature for as long as necessary. Put 2 to 3 inches of water in the bottom, insert the jars, put the lid on and increase the pressure. When processing is finished, let the pressure drop before opening the canner.

## Canning Shelf Life

Some foods don't require canning, including carrots, turnips and rutabagas, while green or lima beans, peas, okra,



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cucumbers, eggplant, peppers, summer squash, green tomatoes and most fruit will remain good for about a month in dark storage. Other crops, such as kale, collards, parsnips, leeks and Brussels sprouts are hardy enough to survive cold weather and can be left in a garden into the winter. Kale, chard and spinach can be frozen, as can summer squash, but only after it's been baked.

Generally, canned items are good for a year and are best stored in a cool, dry place, ideally at 50-70 F. Items should also be stored in the dark, so if closed cabinets aren't available, jars can be stored in boxes. Always double check for any signs of spoilage before eating your canned items. Things to check for include:

- Popped lid, where the can lid is bulging, or obvious bubbles in the liquid
- Mold or a strange odor
- Broken seal, rusted lid or leaking fluid
- Mushy texture that was not present at canning

When correct canning procedures are followed, you'll have rows of colorful jars in your pantry for year-round use. And you will feel the pride of knowing you did it yourself. **NOW**



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Bonding with customers makes this team a welcome difference in mortgage lending.

## Friends After the Loan

*PrimeLending builds relationships one loan at a time. — By Lisa Bell*

PrimeLending opened the office in Weatherford 11 years ago. But the company itself started business in 1986, celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. Backed by PlainsCapital Bank, PrimeLending has the support of a Fortune 500 company but the feel of a small business. They offer VA, Conventional, FHA and USDA mortgage loans.

The second-largest purchase lender in Texas, PrimeLending has a 96-percent customer satisfaction rate. Being voted *Star Telegram's* best mortgage lender in Weatherford for 2011, 2012, 2015 and 2016 isn't an accident. Although the company offers cutting-edge technology throughout the mortgage experience, the loan officers add a personal touch. While a prospective homeowner can go online and check the progress of the loan, he or she can also call or drop by the office.

Loan officers Eric Schroeder, Shaundra Hardt and Paul Syptak have more than 50 years of combined experience in the mortgage industry. All three are passionate about helping people and problem solving. Each loan becomes a new adventure for them, ploughing through challenges when necessary. Each one of them strives to gain approval for their customers, if possible. They enjoy educating clients on improving chances of approval and the different types of mortgage loans available. Fully adopting PrimeLending's philosophy, all three of them want people to achieve their dreams of home ownership, and they give their best in the process.

"Not all loans are the same," Eric shared. "We take on somewhat of an advisor role, making suggestions for overall finances and helping select the type that best fits the family or individual."

"Vets are my favorite loans," Shaundra said. But she also loves



seeing generational business. As children, they watch the process, drawing or coloring pictures for her. As adults, they come back and ask if she remembers them. Then she gets to help with their first mortgage.

Paul shared a story about receiving a photo from a first-time buyer. He couldn't make it to the closing, so they sent a picture. "They were crying because they were so happy," he said.

Although each of them has a unique personality, they share a common love of family. They agree working for PrimeLending is like being part of a big family. They cover for each other when needed, so family time isn't compromised. And they pride themselves for having customers who feel that same bond. Much of their business comes from repeat customers and referrals.

**Each one of them  
strives to gain approval  
for their customers,  
if possible.**

PrimeLending gives back to the community, especially with supporting military and veterans. One of their projects included sending boxes to overseas soldiers. They are part of the East Parker County Chamber of Commerce and back other organizations through them, as well.

For people considering a home purchase, the team offers some suggestions. Qualify before you start looking, so you know what price range to look at and have time to take care of any questions that arise. Be honest with your loan officer, and don't make any large purchases until after closing on the home.

By using PrimeLending, homebuyers get the best of a large company with the personalized attention of a small office and loan officers who really want to help. Go see Eric, Paul or Shaundra. They simply love what they do. Tell them upfront you read about them in this article, and they will give you \$250 off closing costs this month. **NOW**

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*Jennifer Lundy, Jon Jones, Brooklyn Mayfield, Laura Tuley and Mandi Bane enjoy time with Chewbacca (John Shepherd) at Sheps Place.*



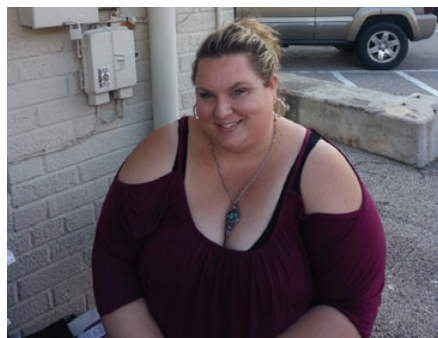
*The popular Christian band, Tenth Avenue North, closes their Holy Ground tour in Weatherford.*



*Celebrities Tammy Dombeck, Jody Dean and Rebecca Miller help raise funds for Theater Off the Square.*



*Tara Lotbridge welcomes customers to her new shop, Little Bit of Sunshine.*



*Jennifer Counts joins in ladies night out on York Street.*



*Tanya Hodges and Lisa Flowers pose with Mo the Buffalo at the Plains Capital Bank Celebration.*



*Ladies of all ages enjoy adult coloring at the Weatherford Public Library.*



*Phyllip Hickman, the Rickshaw Rabbiteer, enjoys giving Ashley and Shannon Hillger a ride.*



*Jai Lynn Smiley shares adoption information with Bob and Trish Kilinski.*



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Long-term care insurance can help cover the costs of these services and may help you preserve your financial resources. Keep these factors in mind if you're thinking about purchasing coverage:

- **Age.** Look at long-term care insurance well before you need it. The older you are, the more you can expect to pay for your plan. Also, if you wait, it's more likely you'll have developed a health condition that may disqualify you from getting coverage. While there's no "right" age to buy, the American Association for Long-Term Care Insurance estimates more than half of long-term care policies are purchased by people ages 55 to 64.

- **Affordability.** Coverage and cost vary, so shop around for a plan that will be reasonably affordable rather than choosing one that breaks your budget. The National Association of Insurance Commissioners recommends spending no more than 5 percent of your income on a long-term care policy.

- **Features.** It's not easy to evaluate different plans. Be sure to compare these key features:

**Benefit trigger.** The criteria or event the insurer uses to determine when your policy will go into effect.

**Elimination period.** The number of days you'll pay for care out of your own pocket before you begin receiving benefits. Thirty days is the minimum elimination period for many long-term care plans.

**Daily benefits.** The amount the policy will pay on a daily basis. Some plans pay benefits based on the hours of service, such as the number of hours a home health aide visits your home.

**Inflation adjustment.** A feature that helps your benefits keep pace with rising costs.

**Types of services.** A description of what's covered under each plan and where you may receive this care — at home or in an assisted living residence, adult day care facility, nursing home or other setting.

**Duration of benefits.** The length of time you'll receive benefits, from a few years to as long as you live.

**Exclusions.** Stipulated conditions or acts that the benefits won't cover. These could include conditions caused by alcoholism or dangerous behaviors.

Learn more about long-term care insurance from the HHS National Clearinghouse for Long-Term Care Information. Contact your insurance agent to discuss policy options that may be available to you. **NOW**

*The information in this article was obtained from various sources. While we believe it to be reliable and accurate, we do not warrant the accuracy or reliability of the information. These suggestions are not a complete list of every loss-control measure. The information is not intended to replace manuals or instructions provided by the manufacturer or the advice of a qualified professional. Nor is it intended to affect coverage under any policy. State Farm makes no guarantees of results from use of this information. We assume no liability in connection with the information nor the suggestions made.*

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### Through June 20

Registration: Summer Kid's Theatre Camp for Grades K-9 July 5-22. Call (817) 917-1689 or visit [www.theatreoffthesquare.org](http://www.theatreoffthesquare.org) for more information.

### June 2

Summer Spectacular Kick-off Carnival: 10:30 a.m.-noon, Weatherford Public Library. Games, balloons and more. An outdoor party for the whole family with many special guests. Visit [www.weatherfordtx.gov/142/Library](http://www.weatherfordtx.gov/142/Library) for details.

Songs2Save: 6:00 p.m., Doss Heritage Center, 1400 Texas Dr. Concert and dinner featuring Dave Stamey benefits Pioneer Cabin Park. Visit [www.dosscenter.org](http://www.dosscenter.org) or call (817) 599-6168 for table and ticket information.

### June 6

Teen Legion Kick-off Party: 2:30-5:00 p.m., Weatherford Public Library. Join us for pizza and learn about Teen Legion activities for the summer and watch a great movie: *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*, PG-13, 135 minutes.

### June 9

WPL Players: 2:30-4:00 p.m., Weatherford Public Library. Series of workshops for teens

aged 12 to 18 culminating with a production of an original play inspired by *Romeo and Juliet*.

### June 10

Spring Creek Musical: 6:00 p.m., 100 Spring Creek Rd. Old time musical with bluegrass, gospel and country music. Concession stand available with all proceeds covering expenses. Free and open to the public. Visit Spring Creek Musical on FB.

### June 10, 17, 24

Three Easy Bites That Won't Weigh You Down: 1:00-2:00 p.m., Weatherford Public Library. Three-week series by Texas A&M Agrilife Extension. Call (817) 598-6168 or visit [www.weatherfordtx.gov/142/Library](http://www.weatherfordtx.gov/142/Library) to register or for details.

### June 10 — 26

*The Odd Couple*, Live Theatre production: **Fridays and Saturdays**, 8:00 p.m.; **Sundays**, 2:00 p.m., Theatre Off The Square, 114 N. Denton St. For details, call (817) 341-8687 or visit [www.theatreoffthesquare.org](http://www.theatreoffthesquare.org).

### June 12

*Silly Strings* Book Party: 2:00 p.m., Chandor Gardens, 711 W. Lee Ave. Celebrating the

release of new children's book filled with silly alliterations. For more information, contact Shayla Day at [maidinhisimage@yahoo.com](mailto:maidinhisimage@yahoo.com).

### June 16

Summer Spectacular The Secret Agent Magic Show: 9:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., Weatherford Public Library. James Wand presents a wacky show - fun for the whole family. Free tickets at the library, available starting **June 9** at noon.

### June 20

Clark Gardens: 5:00-11:00 p.m., 567 Maddux Rd. Summer Solstice Party. Tickets are only \$12 for adults, \$7 for children ages 4-7 years, and \$7 for members. For more information visit [www.clarkgardens.org](http://www.clarkgardens.org).

### June 25

Impact Athletic Training Center Car Wash: 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., David's Stove Shop, 4019 Fort Worth Highway - I20 at Exit 415. Fundraiser benefitting Impact Athletic Gymnastics Team. Contact Suzi Prokell [sprokell@yahoo.com](mailto:sprokell@yahoo.com).

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



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## In the Kitchen With Gail Simko

— By Lisa Bell

Gail Simko is a past president and still an active member in Parker County Women's and Newcomers' Club. Her involvement has given her plenty of opportunities to share her cooking skills during the last 14 years. Any time the ladies smell her peach cobbler cooking, they can't wait to dig in and taste the yumminess.

She loves traveling with her husband, Bob, to Los Angeles; Cape Cod, Massachusetts; and Florida each year to spend time with family. A busy woman, she also enjoys volunteering at her church, Center of Hope, Camp Hope and all children's activities, plus Bible studies. She still takes time to relax with a good book or knit and crochet, as well as play games such as mah jongg, canasta and bridge. **NOW**

### Shrimp Scampi

**1/4 cup olive oil**  
**1/2 stick butter**  
**3 garlic cloves, minced**  
**Parsley, to taste**  
**1/2 cup chicken broth**  
**30 shrimp, medium or large**  
**Breadcrumbs (optional)**

1. Add all ingredients, except shrimp and breadcrumbs, to a saucepan and cook over medium heat until butter melts.
2. Reduce heat; add shrimp to top of liquid and simmer until they turn pink.
3. Serve over spaghetti or rice and top with breadcrumbs, if desired.

### Peach Cobbler

**2 cups fresh peaches**  
**1 1/4 cups sugar (divided use)**  
**1/2 cup butter, softened**

**1 cup flour**  
**1 1/4 tsp. baking powder**  
**1/8 tsp. salt**  
**1 egg**  
**1 tsp. vanilla**

1. Place peaches in a 2 to 2 1/2-quart baking dish and sprinkle 1/4 cup sugar over them.
2. In a bowl, cream butter and 1 cup sugar. In a separate bowl, mix flour, baking powder and salt. Add to the butter/sugar mixture.
3. Add egg and vanilla; mix well.
4. Spread the mixture over the prepared peaches. Bake 45 to 50 minutes at 350 F.

### Broccoli Cornbread

*This recipe can be easily doubled for larger servings.*

**1 10-oz. pkg. frozen chopped broccoli**  
**3 large eggs, slightly beaten**  
**1 cup cottage cheese, drained**  
**1 tsp. salt**

**1 8.5-oz. pkg. corn muffin mix**  
**1/2 cup butter, melted**  
**1 small onion, chopped**

1. Preheat oven to 400 F.
2. Grease a 9x13-inch baking dish. Thaw and drain the broccoli; pat dry on paper towels.
3. Stir together eggs, cottage cheese and salt. Add muffin mix, butter, onion and broccoli.
4. Pour batter into prepared baking dish. Bake for 25-30 minutes, or until golden brown and a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean.

### Pecan Delight Muffins

*Makes 2 dozen mini muffins.*

**1/3 cup melted butter**  
**1 cup brown sugar**  
**2 eggs**  
**1 tsp. vanilla**  
**1/2 cup flour**  
**1 cup chopped pecans**

1. Mix butter and brown sugar; beat in eggs and vanilla.
2. Add flour and mix thoroughly; stir in pecans.
3. Bake in mini muffin tins at 350 F for 16 minutes.

### Frito Dip

**1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese**  
**2 Tbsp. milk**  
**1 2.25-oz. jar Armour dried beef, cut with scissors into small pieces**  
**1/2 cup sour cream**  
**2 Tbsp. chopped green peppers**  
**1/4 cup pecans, chopped**  
**Fritos corn chips**

1. Blend cream cheese and milk together.
2. Add beef, sour cream and green peppers.
3. Put mixture in a pie plate; sprinkle pecans on top.
4. Bake at 350 F for 15 minutes. Serve hot with Fritos.

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





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