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A man wearing a light-colored cowboy hat and a red and white plaid shirt is riding a light-colored horse. He is holding a red lasso in his right hand, which is raised above his head. The horse is standing in a grassy field with a wire fence and trees in the background. The overall scene is outdoors and appears to be a ranch or rodeo setting.

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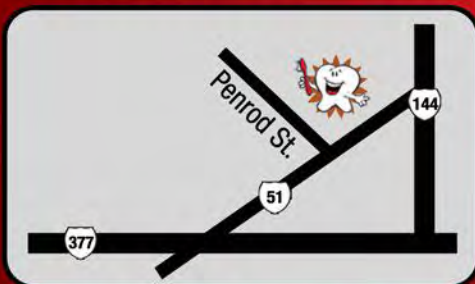
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Betty Tryon . Amy Walton

Editors/Proofreaders, Pat Anthony

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GRAPHICS AND DESIGN

Creative Director, Chris McCalla

Artists, Eduardo Barajas . Kristin Bato

Martha Macias . Felipe Ruiz

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PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography Director, Jill Rose

Photographer, Michelle Winters

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ON THE COVER



Matt Imel and 1,350-pound Chase make a good cow-roping team.

Photo by Michelle Winters.

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Editor's Note

Hello Friends,

There's a great saying by Kevin Costner that says so much in a few simple words. "If you build it, they will come," he said, in *Field of Dreams*. Well, visionaries built nine baseball fields about a mile west of the historic Square, and this month the fields and stands will be filled. Brazos River Baseball hosts tournaments at both

Granbury City Park and Moore St. Fields all month long

for Pony Elite players and All-Stars from throughout North Central Texas. Once you've recuperated from our Old Fashioned 4th of July Celebration, plan to pack a few picnic lunches or dinners and head down to the ball fields. You're bound to feel young again, full of possibility, as you climb into the stands and join forces with generations of Granbury dreamers to cheer on young athletes who are preparing themselves for high school baseball and beyond.

Happy July!

Melissa

Melissa Rawlins
GranburyNOW Editor
melissa.rawlins@nowmagazines.com
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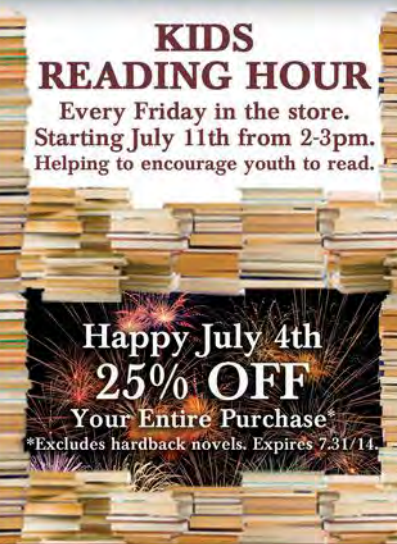
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A man wearing a light-colored cowboy hat and a red, white, and blue plaid shirt is riding a light-colored horse. He is smiling and holding the reins. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with green trees and a body of water.

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Switching Ends



— By Melissa Ramlins

When Matt Imel enters Granbury's Reunion Grounds arena this July Fourth, it will be the 10th summer in a row he's brought a team to the Ranch Rodeo. In years past, his teammates have included his dad, his brother, his former college roommate or his business partners. Most years, he's ridden his beefy Palomino, Chase, so as not to risk hurting his favorite, a black quarter horse called Cruise.

He reserves Cruise for his year-round team roping activities. In these competitions, Matt has traditionally played header, roping steer's horns for the team. This year, just to add challenge and fine-tune his skills, Matt is switching ends.

"Heeling is a lot different swing, a lot different horse

position. It's the other part of the team," said Matt, who developed appreciation for teamwork by participating in youth basketball and football. He played point guard, small forward and quarterback so well, his skills earned scholarships that paid for his bachelor's degrees in biology and chemistry. Like a quarterback switching to a receiver's position, Matt's recent switch from header to heeler means his responsibilities have drastically changed. Now, in every team roping, Matt's job is to finish the play. He's applying wisdom gained through a lifetime of working around horses.

When roping a cow while riding Chase, who measures 15.3 hands and weighs 1,350 pounds, Matt does not worry about getting jerked down. Horsemanship is partnership in Matt's world. "Team roping is a two-person team with five brains: the header, his horse, the heeler, his horse and the steer," Matt said. "The more you cooperate, the better off you'll be!" His black horse, Cruise, gave him his best ride two Decembers ago. Matt



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and Cruise went to the World Series of Team Roping held in Las Vegas with Monty Jacob, his good friend who lives nearby in Tolar. They won fifth place out of 450 teams.

The Ranch Rodeo relies on entry fees to raise funds for the Hood County FFA. There, teams show off their skills and their horses, while mimicking real-life work that cowboys do. "We pin a cow so we can brand her, rope a calf so we can doctor him and rope a cow so we can milk her," Matt explained. "Typically the ranch rodeo team is a four-person team, which makes that a nine-brain event. Probably more than that, because you have a whole herd of cows in there!"

The four men on Matt's team this year are the veterinarians at his clinic, Peak Performance Equine Hospital. Doctors Wayne Howell, Alton Price, Tim Lammers and Matt will ride down to the herd of cows across the white chalk line. Precision and speed, resulting from great partnership, will be on display at this old-fashioned celebration of Americana.

"It's an ego event," Matt confessed. "It's every rider's chance to bring their horse to town on Fourth of July and say, 'Here's what I got.' It's good for our horses to do something different, and we just like to get out in the community and celebrate our independence." During the Granbury Chamber of Commerce's 2014 Fourth of July Celebration: 40 Years of Patriotic Tradition, the Ranch Rodeo follows the Old Fashioned Parade and precedes the Extreme Pyrotechnics Fireworks Show.



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"We live in the best country you can live in," Matt said. He has been on a hunting trip to Kurdistan, where the group rode horses up the mountain. "They use horses as part of their livelihood, yet they are more a piece of equipment to them. If the horses couldn't do their job, they lost their value and went on the plate. Here, horses are more a part of the family."

When Matt and his wife, Erin, moved to Granbury from Kansas, he brought his equine family with him. Cruise, the black horse on whom Matt had his best ride ever, came from stock he and his father inherited. "Grandpa had old foundation run quarter horses — Leo, Go Man Go, Oklahoma Star — who would run little match races back in Kansas," Matt said. "While I was growing up, he still farmed a little bit with draft horses."

The Imels' 300-acre family farm east of Kansas City always had a stud or two and a handful of mares. Matt and his dad worked as many as 30 head. His first memory of being on a horse involves a fall when he was only 3 years old off the back of Skip, the grandson of Go Man Go and the grandfather to the horses he now rides. Matt endured a scraped face, which did not stop him from breaking every colt raised for sale by the Imels.

Well, all but one. While on summer break from college, Matt was tasked with breaking 10 horses in three months. "One was a little bay mare Dad had bought as a yearling. She bucked me off three times in a row one morning. I was young and bullheaded and just kept



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crawling back on. To this day, she never did get broke,” Matt said, laughing.

His dad didn't want Matt injured while rodeoing, and advised his son to fund his college education with athletic scholarships. So Matt played basketball five days a week, and during weekends, he and his college roommates helped doctor cattle in pastures in the Flint Hills of Kansas. “One thousand acres, no fences,” said Matt, recalling the rolling hills of prairie in Kansas. “It's not just everywhere in America you can ride along without worrying about thorny bushes! We would ride through hundreds of yearlings, find one that was sick, rope him, and our buddy would give him medicine.” He continued this fun, stress-relieving, part-time job even while studying veterinary medicine at Kansas State University.

That's where he met Erin, who is from Topeka, only an hour up the road from where Matt had grown up. She now cares for small animals while Matt focuses on horses. Together, they are rearing their children to focus on partnership, too. Merritt, 9, carries his great-grandfather's first name and Senne, 7, her mother's maiden name. Erin runs barrels now, and the family likes to go watch her. When the children ride, Merritt on Cruise and Senne on Rock, they're learning how much fun horses can be and are talking about team roping one day. Both also play baseball and basketball, and Matt is coaching them.

“Those college athletics helped me tremendously in being part of a team,” Matt said. “Whether ranch rodeoing, team roping or running our business — to be successful, I have to be part of a team.” Passing along the same values to his children, Matt approaches everything in his life as a work in progress. Betting on success, Matt will always be training and fine-tuning his horses, as well as himself. **NOW**



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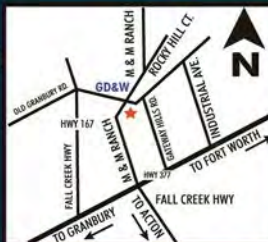
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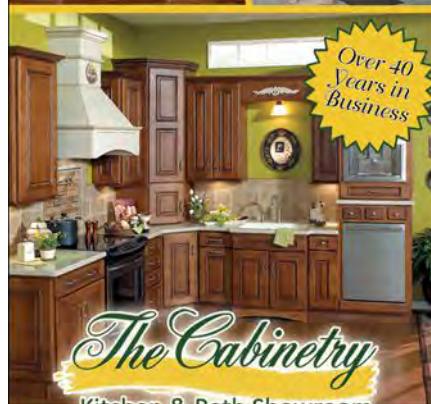


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WELCOME TO CABO, TEXAS

A previously overgrown lot with a three-room structure has become what many of Matt and Debi Hammond's friends call Cabo, Texas. The cool coastal colors and seashore of Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, inspired Matt and Debi to transform the hunting cabin into a waterfront paradise that includes characteristics of a home on the beach.

In its infancy, the small structure was a cabana by the pool at the Western Hills Hotel. The original owner bought the cabana when the hotel burned down in 1969 and moved it by Lake Granbury. The cabana served as a small hunting lodge for the owner. After Debi's mom and stepdad bought the property, they added a master bedroom and bath and a two-car garage to the cabin. They turned the back porch into a dining room and blasted out the rock underneath the cabin with dynamite for a basement.


Matt and Debi envisioned a wonderful home once the house became available. "It was a dream we had that came true," Debi said. "It was a goal we worked toward." The house held many childhood memories, and the Hammonds wanted to preserve those, while creating new ones with their children and grandchildren.

Matt and Debi bought the house in 2003 and noticed the deck was in need of repair, so they decided to make some improvements. They called all the original handymen and



AT HOME WITH MATT AND DEBI HAMMOND

— By Erin McEndree



put them to work replacing, repairing and remodeling everything. They tore down the decks and extended them to the length of the house. One cantilevered deck hangs over the side of the rocks, supported by steel beams and posts. They added a pool, an outdoor fireplace, a pond with a waterfall and an outdoor kitchen. An architect created many deck levels that lead to the dock. A black, metal handrail lines the 42 steps down to the dock, and flower pots of colorful sprays line the steps that descend to each section of deck.

Four weddings have been held at Matt and Debi's house, and they constantly have guests who make themselves at home. They have hosted the church youth group, birthday parties and neighborhood cookouts. "We have a huge screen as part of the outdoor kitchen where we play videos and movies," Matt said. "We can eat in the pool. We have swim-up barstools, and I make popcorn for all the kids." The whole space has a coastal feel with





colors and items to remind Debi and Matt of the beach resort they frequent. All the lounge chairs, umbrellas and paint colors are yellow, green, red, blue and orange. Pelicans on pylons keep a close eye on guests.

The same colors are featured in the indoor kitchen. Dishes hanging in a rack are the same colors as the deck chairs. Yellow tile surrounds the wall of windows facing the lake, and when they are open, the breeze wafts through. Matt

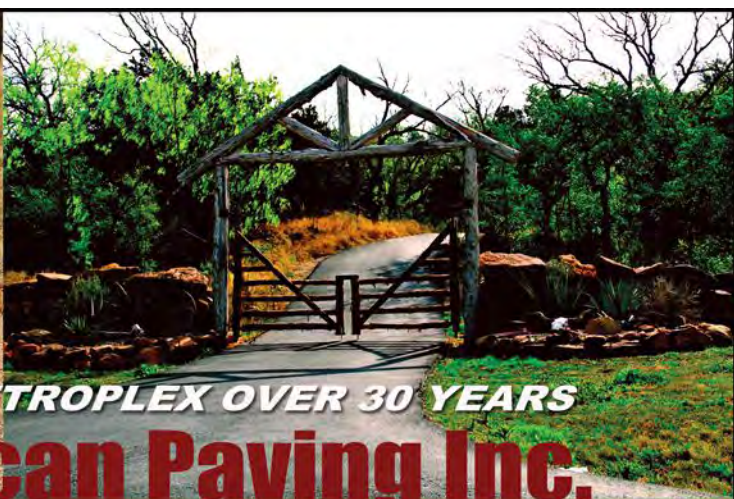
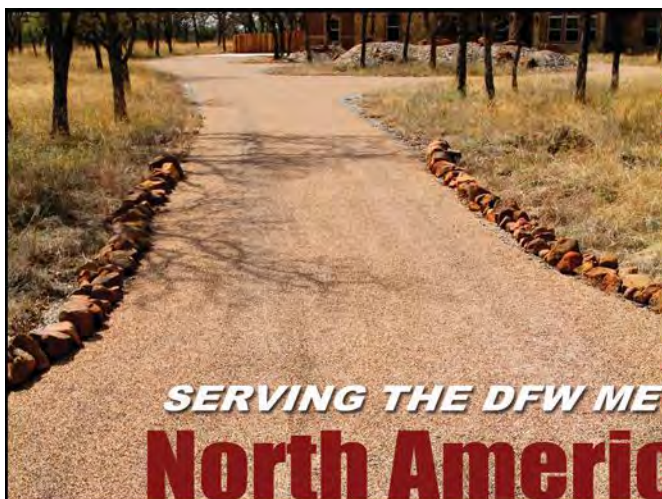


enjoys serving people food on the deck. Coffee cups hang on decorative hooks between each of the windows. "We get a coffee cup each time we go to Cabo," Debi said. From the beam hang large, colored platters Matt and Debi use when serving their favorite foods, like lobster, crawfish and chowder.

"The kitchen used to be like a closet with four walls," Debi said. "When a pipe burst, we took out a wall and made a half wall looking into the dining room."

When the wall was being demolished, Matt and Debi found newspapers from the '40s and '50s used for insulation and a huge dirt dauber nest. "I wondered why I could never get the kitchen to smell clean!" Debi said.

The original wood floors run throughout the house and are stained a deep brown. They complement the white walls, ceiling and gray beams typical for coastal decor. Leather couches and chairs surround a large turquoise and white,



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distressed trunk used as a coffee table in the living room. Photos of grandchildren, taken by Matt and Debi's daughter, Amy, are on each wall. There is a paddle over the door and a mounted fish their oldest grandson, Caden, caught.

The extra bedroom, known as Caden's room, has bright yellow beadboard walls and a green striped comforter. Two hanging swing chairs dangle from the ceiling. A painting of surf boards hangs by the bed and a lighthouse lamp is on the bedside table. The adjacent bathroom has sage green beadboard with pelican pictures and a photo of Matt and his son, Justin, sitting at the end of a dock when Justin was a little boy.



The old master bedroom is where the adults stay. The huge walk-in closet where the cribs used to be is now a playroom, decorated with flowers and tea cups.

"This room is decorated like the home we moved from," Debi said. While doing the renovation, they found a hidden door in the bathroom, conveniently leading out to the pool area. "People can come



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in from the pool and not track water through the house,” Debi said. The bathroom is decorated with green rugs and green-framed pictures.

The master bathroom is predominately white with splashes of turquoise. “The bathtub fell through the floor, so we replaced the tub with a glass shower overlooking the lake,” Matt said. Two white pedestal sinks and a double-sided fireplace make the bathroom a cozy place to relax. More photos of the family are displayed above the fireplace, as well as around the room. In the updated master bedroom, a large, white, cushy chair sits beside a wooden rocking boat the kids use. A unique Murphy bed is tucked away for the grandchildren. A row of windows and French doors look out over the lake and create an impressive view.

The basement has a massive rock wall, and it serves as Matt and Debi’s wine room. “This was my stepdad’s room where he worked on motorcycles,” Matt said. “We don’t have motorcycles, but we do collect wine.” The leather couches fold out when all the family visits. An old fiddle and Victrola are in the corner by an antique armoire beside which stands a vintage, wood and steel accordion-style cot from an Army captain. “Our goal is to add a bathroom in the basement,” Debi said. “We also want to cover the deck and add fans.”

When Matt and Debi are not at work or at church ministering to married couples, they are tending to their retreat. They are making memories in the home that reminds them of the coast of Mexico. Both thoroughly enjoy their family and friends who frequent their Cabo, Texas, beach paradise. **NOW**



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The Versatile Stripe

— By Amy Walton

It's no secret that trends between home design and fashion are closely related. They not only coordinate in color scheme, but also in pattern. For example, I'm sure we've all noticed the pastel trend over this past year — coral and mint to be exact. We've also noticed the chevron trend, first in home design, and then quickly transitioning into the fashion realm. As much as I love recent trends, I want to focus on a more classic style that also has the ability to remain trendy — stripes.

Stripes have been thought of as rather traditional, and in a lot of cases, I have to agree. I love the look of a classic stripe, no matter what the color or application. In the classic form, a stripe can be displayed in a horizontal or vertical manner. In home decor, you might consider a vertically hung stripe on a set of drapes to be more formal; whereas, a horizontal, bulky stripe might feel a bit more casual. Another big trend has been placing thick horizontal stripes on the interior walls of your home. I love this trend, because rather than using wallpaper to create interest on your wall, you are simply using paint. For this application, a smoother finish on your walls is ideal, as a textured surface might interfere with achieving clean paint lines.

Color also plays a big part in the look of a classic stripe. A lighter fabric or color choice may come off as more approachable and

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welcoming compared to a bolder black and white print. If you are looking for a more intense look, a high contrast stripe might be the choice for you. To achieve a calm, relaxed feel, lean toward lighter tones with less contrast between the hues of your stripes. The same theory applies to fashion. A softer color scheme will represent a lighthearted and relaxed look as opposed to a bold print, which will signify a larger, more obvious fashion statement. These bold prints have been seen anywhere from maxi dresses to handbags. They are especially popular during the summer months in both high contrast hues and tone-on-tone applications.

But stripes don't have to take on a traditional appearance. They can have a very trendy, casual feel, as well. For example, when applied to a nautical or beach theme, stripes undergo



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a complete transformation and quickly represent the essence of a relaxed environment. There is nothing more relaxing than the look of a navy-and-white-striped rug nuzzled up against a bright white linen couch with some burlap trimmed pillows sitting atop. Ahh! I can hear the waves rolling across the beach right now and envision my toes in the sand! Just imagine, an aged driftwood coffee table supporting a beige-and-white-striped storage basket and some scattered seashells to complete the look. Maybe it's just me, but that scenario sounds like sheer perfection. Without going too over the top with your theme, this beachy design can really create a peaceful and serene room with a casual, effortless elegance.

The nautical theme doesn't stop with home design either. We have been seeing this trend transition into fashion for quite some time. Beginning with gold jewelry making its comeback a few years ago,



it then became more obvious. Anchors became prevalent in jewelry, and stripes, while they have always been popular in fashion, began pairing up with the nautical aesthetic, as well. The nautical stripe has been applied to many things such as nail art, handbags, shoes, shorts — you name it. Even pairing a classic striped sundress with an anchor charm bracelet or ring has become trendy. Pair



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Aside from the nautical theme, stripes have many other ways of taking on a casual look. I call this the rustic stripe. You might see this in the French country design style, along with the shabby chic and cottage look. I've also seen this rustic stripe in the industrial style. You can find them printed on a kitchen towel, a grain sack pillow or even roughly painted on a table or dresser as a charming accent. You won't find clean lines when observing this type of style, but the imperfect elements of the rustic stripe are where you find its true charm.

The rustic stripe can also be seen in the fashion world when applied to items such as the boyfriend jean, or even when printed on a summer scarf or canvas tote. I love pairing a bright and simple summer dress with a more rugged "rough around the edges" striped scarf. The contrast of those two elements creates interest and meaning behind an otherwise simple look.

It's hard to imagine that such a simple aesthetic can be applied to so many different design styles, but it's true. Whether you are going for the latest trendy look or the traditional classic look, stripes have the ability to take on many roles. What I find most appealing about stripes is their ability to never go out of style. They are timeless in so many ways and will always find a way to make a statement in both interior design and fashion. **NOW**

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Teresa Benegalia and the staff at Running Bear Athletics perform gait evaluations under the watchful eye of store mascot, Louie the bear.



NO PAIN, PURE GAIN

All the gear at Running Bear Athletics accentuates every body's abilities. — By Melissa Rawlins

When she's not out running the roads or doing CrossFit, Teresa Benegalia finds great satisfaction managing her store, Running Bear Athletics. Helping people find the right shoes, Teresa and her manager, Patrece Norman, believe customer service is key in business. "We try to give our customers the best experience possible that will bring them back repeatedly," Teresa said.

Teresa and her husband, Marty, moved to Granbury with their son, Matt, in 1999. Her face might look familiar, because she was office administrator for Grump's for the six years prior to starting Running Bear Athletics. Sometimes on Saturdays, Matt helps his mom in the running gear store, although he works for his dad full time. "Family businesses are just that way," she said. "We do what we have to so that our businesses are successful."

Teresa started running about five years ago when a friend encouraged her to become her running buddy. Pretty soon the husbands joined in, and all four were running regularly. The four of them ran their first 5K four years ago in Acton, at the Acton Nature Center Run, and they have run several races since then.

Sensing a need in Granbury for a store to buy shoes and athletic gear, Teresa decided in early 2013 to open a running store. She wanted to encourage people to shop locally. Running Bear Athletics has become a hub for runners. Teresa posts upcoming runs and events on the boards at the entrance of the store along with registration forms for those races.

When Teresa leased her space in Davis Crossing, behind Cari's Restaurant, she knew just who to call to do the remodel. Paul Gensheimer, who is a friend and local contractor, took on the job

of transforming the once office space into the store seen today. Walls were painted by Linda Stolley of Decorator on a Shoestring Budget. She created murals of several bears, the biggest of which is the store mascot, Louie. You will find Louie running on the wall behind the treadmill. The metal cutouts in the store and the custom apparel racks were built by Danny Reed of Brazos Plasma Designs.

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Whether you're running a mile or a marathon, Running Bear has what you need. For nutrition, they carry a line of gels, chews and foods from Honey Stinger, Skratch Labs and CamelBak hydration products. Teresa stocks Trigger Point Performance therapy products, Soleus running watches, Feetures socks and various brands of apparel, including Evinco Sports shorts, which were created by Shelley Ackerley, a local business woman. They also carry seven different brands of running shoes, including Brooks Sports, ASICS, Merrell and Newton.

"It is essential when buying running shoes to know whether you need a neutral or a stability shoe," Teresa said. The staff at Running Bear can perform a gait evaluation for each customer. "After you know which type of shoe you need, the fun part is trying different brands on to see which is most comfortable to you." Patrece and Teresa actually put the shoes on your feet, giving you good, old-fashioned customer service. For each different brand Running Bear Athletics carries, they can also special order different sizes and styles of shoes.

"Whether you're running, walking or whatever it is you like to do, the most important thing is being active," Teresa said. Inspiring customers to "move with purpose," she emblazoned the walls of her store with an encouragement from 1 Corinthians 9:26, "So I run with purpose in every step. I am not just shadowboxing." **NOW**

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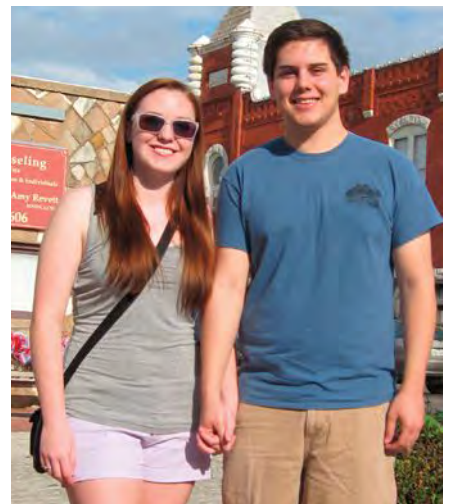
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Pat McNeely presents Esther Umphress (left) with the Texas Treasurer Award recognizing the fact that she volunteers in multiple nonprofit organizations in Hood County.



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The SIMPLE IRA Plan for Small Businesses

The SIMPLE IRA, more properly known as the Savings Incentive Match Plan for Employees, is a relatively easy way for a small business to add a retirement plan to their employee benefits.

How the Plan Works

Each eligible employee sets up an IRA and can choose to make deferrals before taxes from their paychecks. Employers can either make a nonelective payment of 2 percent of compensation to everyone who is eligible for the plan, or they can match the employees' contributions up to 3 percent of their compensation for the year. (All employees must receive the same match, but the employer can change the percentage from year to year.)

The employer can deduct the contributions from income taxes. The participating employees don't have to pay taxes on the income that they contribute, either, although they may owe taxes when they take withdrawals. Any investment earnings the employees make will compound tax-deferred until withdrawal, too.

Who Is Eligible

Eligible employees must have received at least \$5,000 in either of the two years before the current year, and are

reasonably expected to earn at least \$5,000 in the current year. An employer can set less restrictive requirements (for example, allowing all employees to participate, even those making less than \$5,000), but it can't make more restrictions.

Money in the plan is 100-percent vested. Employees can take all of the funds in their account with them when they leave the firm.

This plan is for firms with fewer than 100 employees. If your company grows and hires more than 100 people, the plan can continue for two more years, then it has to be disbanded.

The ease and flexibility of a SIMPLE IRA can help a small business give employees a valuable benefit to attract and retain talent. The minimal paperwork and ability for the owner(s) to set money aside for their own retirement makes it more appealing. That may give your company the edge it needs to grow. **NOW**

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Caught in the Food Crosshairs

— By Betty Tryon, BSN

The evening ended as a memorable affair — just not the way the hostess envisioned. Within a few hours after eating, one by one, the guests began to feel ill with nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Only those who ate the salad became sick. In looking for what might have caused this, it was discovered that the salad ingredients were chopped on the same cutting board on which the raw chicken had been prepared. In cleaning the cutting board after using it for the chicken, the cook thought a quick rinse was good enough, but it was not.

Cross-contamination of food is a public health concern. Food cross-contamination is the act of transferring germs from one object to another. Using the same cutting board in the kitchen for raw meats, bread, fruit and salads is an accident waiting to happen. To be safe, save one board for raw meats and another one for vegetables and fruits. Considering the distressing consequences, it is a relatively easy thing to do to help protect your health. Even under the strictest cleaning practices, juices from raw meat can be harbored in cracks and tiny crevices on the board. Toss a board that has too many scars on the surface. When cleaning your meat board, use hot soapy water, follow up with a disinfectant and rinse thoroughly.

The quest to avoid cross-contamination of food begins even before the food ends up in your kitchen. If you use re-usable grocery tote bags, keep them clean. In tote bags and plastic bags, try not to

carry your fresh produce in the same bag you carry raw meat. In other words, don't package your hamburger meat with your tomatoes.

After rinsing your fresh produce, store it in a clean container rather than returning it to its original container. As always, wash hands thoroughly before preparing food. Another precaution is to wear gloves if you have a wound on your hand. The gloves protect you by providing a barrier to keep your wound from becoming contaminated, and they prevent germs from getting on your food. Storing eggs can be risky business. They should be kept in the original container and placed on refrigerator shelves, rather than in the egg containers on the fridge door. The constant opening and closing of the door jostles them and exposes them to fluctuating temperatures which reduces their quality.

When grilling this summer, employ the same rules you use in your kitchen. Never put cooked meat on the same plate or pan that held uncooked meat. Keep grilling utensils separate between raw food and cooked food. And remember, always wash your hands after handling raw meat. **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.



Rodney Leach

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July 3 — 6

40 Years of Patriotic Tradition: **Thursday**, 7:00-11:00 p.m., Mike Brown Hyundai. D&D Rockin' Rods Classic Car Show; **Friday**, 8:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m., historic downtown Granbury and Reunion Grounds. Kiwanis Firecracker 5K, Hometown Parade, Ranch Rodeo and Fabulous Fireworks. **Sunday**: 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Granbury Square Plaza and Granbury Opera House. Visit www.granburychamber.com or call (817) 573-1622 for details on this Old Fashioned 4th of July Celebration.

July 3, 10, 17, 24

Summer Reading Program: 10:30 a.m.-noon. Hood County Library, 222 N. Travis St. During the free and fun R U Curious? 6- to 9-year-olds discover how much fun they can have at the library. Ask about Saturday's special events, and don't miss their Thursday movies. RSVP to (817) 573-3569.

July 4

Tom Ward Decorated Bike Contest: 9:00 a.m., GISD Administration parking lot. Free entry. No registration required. Age groups 4 and younger, 5-9 and 10+. Fun for parents and grandparents overseeing their kids decorating bicycles according to the theme "Forty Years of Patriotic Tradition." For details, call (817) 573-1622.

July 6

Nature Walk at Acton: 7:00-9:00 a.m., Acton Nature Center, 6900 Smoky Hill Ct. The First Saturday Bird Walk, a guided hike with Dr. Billy Teels, is free for all. Bring binoculars and field guide. Get more information at www.actonnaturecenter.org.

July 7, 14, 21, 28

Women's Bible Study: 1:00-2:30 p.m., Lakestone Terrace Retirement Community, 916 E. Hwy 377. Women Reaching Women Ministry takes every woman on a journey of real hope. RSVP to (817) 402-3653.

July 12

Girls Night Out: 5:00-8:00 p.m. historic downtown square. Drawing for \$100 downtown dollars, drinks and food for ladies who come to shop in the boutiques and galleries surrounding the courthouse. Call Brenda Hyde, Historic Granbury Merchants Association, (817) 573-5299.

July 14

Duffer's Delight UnClassic Golf Tournament: 1:00 p.m., DeCordova Bend Estates Country Club. Benefiting Hood County Children's Charity Fund, this charity golf tournament is sponsored by the Granbury Association of Realtors. Sponsors contact Scott Bradley,

(817) 219-1459; golfers contact Debbie Van Dyke, (817) 578-7105.

July 21 — 25

Weird Animals: 8:30 a.m.-noon, Acton United Methodist Church. Free vacation Bible school for ages kindergarten through sixth grade. RSVP required to Camp Director Kim Howard (817) 326-4242.

July 26

National Day of the American Cowboy: 10:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Fort Worth Stockyards. Honoring past and current cowboys and cowgirls, upholding America's pioneering spirit. Visit www.stockyardstation.com.

Last Saturday Gallery Night Art Walk: 6:00-9:00 p.m., 106 N. Houston St. The Galleries of Granbury present artists, some giving demonstrations, while you enjoy hors d'oeuvres, wine and music. Contact (817) 579-7733.

Ongoing

Second Mondays

Lake Granbury Art Association meeting: 7:00 p.m., Shanley House. Program followed by Q&A time. Refreshments served. Free for citizens seeking education about art and artists. Call (817) 578-3090.

First Tuesdays

Hood County Clean Air Coalition meetings: 10:00 a.m., American Town Hall. Recognizing the dangers that high ozone levels pose to senior citizens, children and those suffering from asthma and other lung disorders, this proactive organization exists to promote clean air in Hood County. How can you help? Visit www.granburyedc.com/cleanair. Contact Michelle McKenzie at (817) 279-9991 or mamckenzie@centurylink.net.

Third Tuesdays

Greater Granbury Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America meetings: 6:00-9:00 p.m., Pecan Plantation Country Club. Contact Colonel Gary Proctor, USAF (Ret), (817) 894-0901, or garyproctor5455@msn.com.

Third Wednesdays

Master Gardeners meeting: 1:00-2:00 p.m., Hood County Annex 1 Meeting Room, 1410 W. Pearl St. For information, contact (817) 579-3280.

Thursdays

Yoga: 11:00 a.m., Senior Circle, 1321 Waters Edge Dr., Suite 1001. Gather with a group of adults age 50 and over for video-led exercise. Senior Circle encourages the active lifestyle

possible through meaningful education, wellness, health, volunteer opportunities and social activities. For a complete list of quarterly events for Senior Circle, visit GranburySeniorCircle.com. Call (817) 579-2979 for details and to RSVP.

First Thursdays

Granbury Extension Education Club luncheon: 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Hood County Annex 1 Meeting Room, 1410 W. Pearl St. Monthly programs cover family and consumer science topics, and community service projects are planned. For information, contact Brianne Langdon, (817) 408-0746.

Second Thursdays

Special Needs Parent Support and Networking Group: 6:15-8:00 p.m., Lake Pointe Resource Center, 1921 Acton Hwy. Free. Facilitated by Susan Miller and Madalyn Cano for parents and professionals to learn, connect and share in a caring, responsive and socially supportive setting. Contact (882) 936.4112, or visit www.lakepointegrnburymuseum.com.

Weekends

Hood County Museum: 1:00-4:00 p.m., Old Hood County Jail, 208 N. Crockett. \$2 for adults, \$1 for children 6-12. (817) 573-5135.

Third Weekends

Romance Weekend: **Friday-Sunday**, Noon-9:00 p.m., historic Granbury. Bed n Breakfasts around town cater to couples. For more information, contact City of Granbury Visitor's Bureau, (817) 573-1114.

Saturdays

Breakfast With Veterans: 8:00-10:00 a.m., American Legion Post 491, 3409 Davis Road. For \$5, the Post offers not only a buffet, but also eggs cooked to order, pancakes and a variety of breakfast meats to raise funds for the nation's largest wartime veterans service organization, committed to mentoring youth, advocating patriotism, and continued devotion to our fellow service members and veterans. Visit www.alpost491.com.

Second and Fourth Saturdays

HALO Pet Adoption Days: **second Saturday**, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Tractor Supply; **fourth Saturday**, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Arrow Feed & Ranch, 2031 E. Hwy 377. For more information, contact Pam Fine, Executive Director of HALO (Hood County Animal Lovers Organization), (817) 559-7309.

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



In the Kitchen With Teresa Patterson

— By *Melissa Rawlins*

The “Snack Queen” loves eating. In her 20s, while sharing an apartment with an aunt who loved to cook, Teresa Patterson learned to take her time cooking and then to enjoy her creations. Since moving here three years ago, she and her boyfriend started a restaurant, so she cooks for the public a lot. “At home, I get to be much more creative,” said Teresa, who is still inspired by her friends and family. “My boyfriend is a wonderful cook, and so are my sister and a couple of my six brothers!” When she gets to cook for them, she finesses familiar hors d’oeuvres. Certainly a classic, Teresa’s spinach dip is simpler than some versions but always a hit at parties and gatherings. **NOW**

Pizza Dip

Serves 4-6.

- 1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese, softened**
- 1 8-oz. pkg. mozzarella cheese, shredded (divided use)**
- 1/4 cup Parmesan cheese, shredded**
- 1 14-oz. jar pizza sauce**
- 10-15 slices pepperoni**
- 1 2.25-oz. can sliced black olives**
- 1/2 cup green pepper, chopped**
- 1 baguette or 1 loaf French bread or flatbread or 1 8-inch prebaked Boboli pizza crust**

- 1.** Preheat oven to 350 F.
- 2.** In a medium bowl, mix cream cheese with 1/2 of mozzarella and all of Parmesan.
- 3.** Pour half the pizza sauce in bottom of glass pie pan. Spread cheese mixture over sauce; cover with remaining sauce; cover with remaining mozzarella.
- 4.** Layer on pepperoni, olives and green

pepper as desired. Bake for 15-20 minutes, or until bubbly.

- 5.** Serve with warm French bread, baguette or flatbread or prebaked pizza crust torn into dipping-size pieces.

Spinach Dip

- 1 9-oz. pkg. frozen chopped spinach, thawed and well-drained**
- 1 8-oz. pkg. sour cream**
- 1 cup mayonnaise**
- 1 pkg. Knorr Vegetable Recipe Mix (not Spring Vegetable)**
- 1 loaf Hawaiian Sweet Round Bread or 1 box crackers**

- 1.** Mix first 4 ingredients together in medium-sized bowl; refrigerate for at least 1 hour before serving.
- 2.** Serve simply with crackers. Or hollow out the center of Hawaiian Sweet Round Bread. Cut the center piece into chunks and place

around bowl on serving dish. Fill center with spinach dip. Serve with additional slices/chunks of Hawaiian bread and/or crackers.

Ranch Bean Salad With a Kick

- 1 lb. ground beef**
- 2 Tbsp. Frank’s Original Buffalo Wing Sauce**
- 1 head/bunch/bag lettuce**
- 1-3 Roma tomatoes, chopped or sliced**
- 1 15-oz. can Ranch-style beans, drained**
- 1 cup cheddar cheese, shredded**
- 1 cup Catalina salad dressing**
- 2 cups Fritos**

- 1.** Brown ground beef, drain and return to pan. Add buffalo wing sauce; remove from heat.
- 2.** Place lettuce in a large bowl; add tomatoes, beans, cheese and dressing. Mix well.
- 3.** Add meat and Fritos to individual servings. Serve immediately.

Chicken or Beef Tortilla Casserole

- 6 white corn tortillas (divided use)**
- 1 8-oz. jar green chile salsa (divided use)**
- 1 lb. cooked white meat chicken or 1 lb. browned ground beef**
- 1 10.75-oz. can cream of chicken soup**
- 1/2 cup sour cream**
- 2 cups shredded cheese (preferably mixed with Monterey Jack)**
- Guacamole**

- 1.** Preheat oven to 350 F. Cut corn tortillas into 1/2-inch wide strips.
- 2.** Spread 1/3 cup salsa in bottom of 8x8-inch pan, cover with 1/2 tortilla strips; set aside.
- 3.** Mix chicken/beef with soup, sour cream and remaining salsa. Spread mixture on top of tortilla strips in pan; top with 1/2 shredded cheese.
- 4.** Repeat layer one more time. Top with a few of left over odd-sized, strangely shaped tortilla strips. (They make a nice crispy addition to the casserole.) Bake for 30-45 minutes, or until bubbly.
- 5.** Serve with green salsa, sour cream, tortilla chips and guacamole.

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

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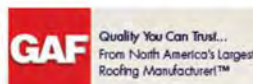
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