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ON THE COVER



Martie Rains takes pride in her artwork and the art her friends produce, too.

Photo by Bill Goldsborough.

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Editor's Note



Hello, Granbury Family and Friends!

When I was a child, we didn't go back to school until the day after Labor Day. These days, kids return to classes in August. The lazy days of summer drift away on the wind of soft breezes, although they may still be quite warm — even hot. If you have children in school, September is the perfect time for returning to a regular schedule, a routine somehow lost in the long days of summer. For the rest of us, our

normal day may not need fixing. But it's always worth reviewing.

I think back to where I was about a year ago — coming onboard as the editor for *GranburyNOW*. My life and schedule underwent rapid changes, and just when I thought I had it all perfected, something new made me reassess my ideal workweek again. There is such beauty in flexibility!

I still love my job. The more people I meet, the more I love my community, too. Thank you for all the wonderful encouragement you've given me.

Have a great month!

[isa

Lisa Bell GranburyNOW Editor lisa.bell@nowmagazines.com (817) 269-9066







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Want to see the world? Martie Rains is happy to be your tour guide as she takes you on a journey from Granbury to Ireland through her paintings. Visiting more than 25 countries and numerous states, Martie has been inspired by each destination. "We love to travel. Every place has its own beauty," she said.

Ah

Brush

Having never painted before, Martie began taking art lessons in 2005, after being encouraged by some friends. Beginning with simple subjects, such as bowls of fruit, her interests soon escalated to more exciting things. "Painting apples and grapes began to bore me," she said. "Then, we [she and her husband, Gary] took a trip to Italy, and that inspired me." The trip resulted in her first landscape painting — a view of a river in Florence. The painting still hangs in her home, reminding her of the artistic lessons she has learned. "I've done so many better things since then," Martie said.

Through 22 years as a marketing manager for Southwestern Bell and 10 years teaching English, speech and debate at Godley ISD, Martie never doodled or even played around with a paintbrush. She did not realize the talent hidden within her.



"Some friends painted, but I never tried nor had I taken any lessons," she admitted. "I really didn't know anything. I think there are people who have talent but never develop it."

She has been making up for lost time, doing a lot of "developing" ever since. Martie's work can regularly be seen at Pecan Plantation and various sites around Granbury, including a recent exhibit at the Convention and Visitors Bureau. Each piece features a memory of some kind. She compares her work to writing, having an inspiration and turning that inspiration into a story. "Many artists like to tell a story through their art. It makes a painting more interesting," she said.

"She sees something and goes for it," said Kathy Yoders, who gave Martie her first art lesson. "Art is a constant challenge, and I think that's a big part of the draw for Martie."

Martie, a member of the Pecan Plantation Art Guild (PPAG), paints mostly with oils. From landscapes and still life to portraits, she just loves to paint, telling a story through her work. Her artwork can be viewed, along with the work of 25 other featured

artists, at the upcoming Pecan Plantation Art Guild's Gallery Night. The fifth year the event has been held, Gallery Night has attracted up to 400 visitors in each of the last four years. It will be held September 30 from 4:00-8:00 p.m., with five Pecan Plantation homes serving as galleries. The event is free to the public, residents and nonresidents alike. Attendees will be treated to food, wine and nonalcoholic beverages and must register at the Pecan Club house before touring the homes. To save time, guests may also preregister on PPAG's website, pecanplantationartguild.com, as of August 1.

Martie's work reaches beyond Hood County. For example, a lady was looking at Martie's website when something familiar caught her eye. "Several years ago, I painted a chapel in Oregon. The light shone on it just so, and it was beautiful," she said. "The lady emailed me and said, 'That's where I used to go to church!""

One of Martie's favorite paintings is actually one of her simplest. It's a still life of a copper teapot. "I go to garage sales a lot looking for objects I can use in still lifes, such as the teapot,"







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she explained. "Sometimes, the simplest things can make a really good painting." Another painting she feels was successful was a portrait of a friend from church who agreed to model for her. Martie was inspired by her classic looks. "Her being very pretty didn't hurt," Martie said with a laugh. "Some people just catch your attention."

And speaking of church, it is inside her own church, St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church in Granbury, that Martie's favorite work of art hangs. Entitled Holiness, it depicts the heavens opening up with golden sunshine surrounding a lily-white dove. Below, in the sky, are a variety of people basking in the beams, with the church below as a foundation. Martie spent a year working on the piece. She called it a "very emotional and spiritual labor of love." It's the most time she's ever spent working on a piece of art. She has, however, done some pieces in as little time as an hour. "A few years ago, I was doing a painting a day and blogging about them on my website. I did that for about a year, but I got so involved in blogging, I didn't have time to paint!





Along with creating art herself, Martie loves to help other artists market their art. She said it stems from both her love of art and her experience in marketing during her time at Southwestern Bell. "When Martie was working at Southwestern Bell, she was fabulous at marketing, and she has transferred that to art," Cheryl Moore, a fellow artist and friend, said. "She comes up with all these great ideas."

Among Martie's ideas to promote art is PPAG's Gallery Night, which includes "Pop a Balloon," where visitors do just that. Inside the balloon is a discount for a piece of art they can purchase. She also thought of creating postcards of the works of different artists as a way to publicize events. "We market our art by featuring it on postcards," Cheryl restated.

Martie described the feeling she has when creating a "good" painting as one that she can escape into. She also said not every creation is a success. "Sometimes, a piece comes together well, and sometimes it doesn't. When the painting does work, it's great! It's easy to get lost in it and lose track of time."

Martie also loves that her art is something she can do for a long time. And, being in good health, she has plans to do just that, perhaps even shuffling off this mortal coil with a paintbrush in her hand. "I can see myself doing this at some level the rest of my life," she said. "I've still got a lot of traveling to do, and there are many subjects to paint." **NOW**



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By Erin McEndree

Nite with

<u>ат номе with</u> Tom and Melba Whatley

Tom and Melba Whatley saw a small ranch-style house on Lake Granbury, while standing on the back porch of the house next door. A huge FOR SALE sign and a phone number could be seen from the lake side of the property, and that was the only indication the home was being sold. It was not listed with a Realtor. Tom saw the potential and envisioned a perfect retirement home with enough space for family. The home oozed '70s decor, both inside and out,

Rear and



but Tom's vision would modernize the facade and floor plan and make it a welcoming home for their three daughters and six grandchildren.

"The house had not been updated since it was built. It came with green carpet and wood paneling throughout," Melba laughed. "The three bathrooms had gold, brown and blue tubs and toilets. The kitchen appliances were avocado green." The vaulted ceiling in the living room had wood beams, but the majority of the house had low 8-foot ceilings.

The remodel began in 2012 with the plans Tom drew up from his knowledge of construction. He and Melba managed a complete overhaul of the home while they lived in Coppell. They made it their permanent home two years later when she retired from teaching high school math in Coppell ISD. Tom designed an office with a view off the master bedroom by enclosing part of the back porch where he could work comfortably from home.

The lake view from the master bedroom was important, so the wall between the master and the office is glass. The eye can see straight through both rooms. Melba created a small office nook from one of the tiny closets. It's a handy little space that can be tucked away behind the closet door. She updated the wall treatments of paneled wood and trim with





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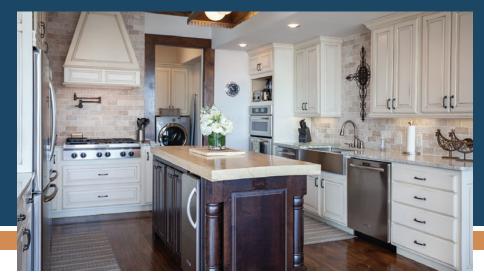
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light paint. "The master bathroom was huge for this era of home," Melba said. They added granite to the two vanities in shades of cream, gray and tan, glass doors to the shower and porcelain tile throughout with cream and gray hues. It contrasts the black cabinetry and makes an elegant, sleek design. Melba added a stacking washer and dryer to the closet for easy access.

"We kept the original floor plan and

used the exact foundation," Tom said. "We tore out the middle section of the living area and reconstructed the ceiling with large beams that my son-in-law made." Rustic beams with functional iron plates and brackets stretch far above the living room. This dramatic detail is mimicked on the carport and the front entrance, creating a grand presence from the long driveway. Melba incorporated an original metal light fixture into the kitchen



design that resembled the ironwork on the beams.

Including many original details from the house was important to Melba. She kept the '70s dark wood wall treatment, with a combination of panels and chair rail molding, but painted it an off-white to create a modern style. Tom's desk in the office is made of wood left over from the floor. "I wanted to keep what I could and tie in natural elements," Melba said.







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Different textures and materials help the outdoors come indoors. Two wall hangings in the living room are made of tree trunks, and decorative balls are crafted from twigs and large rope.

More natural elements are used in the kitchen. The butcher-block island is made of white oak that came from Tom's brother in Tennessee. When planning for family visits, Melba decided on a sixburner stove and two refrigerators that sit side by side. The granite countertops and backsplash tiles in copper and gray tones complement the dark wood floors. A large square dining table that seats eight in highbacked cream chairs is perfect for adults at family gatherings. The view from the eating area looks toward the east where the sunrise reflecting off the lake can be seen with morning coffee. A telescope welcomes a quick peek. "We can see boats on the water a long way off and the moon on a clear night," Melba said.

The former garage was enclosed to create two bedrooms, two bathrooms, a laundry room and a sewing room. Melba loves sewing little girl's clothes and has made several costumes for birthday parties. "Each daughter has a bedroom and bathroom they decorated with the year each got married on the door," Melba said. Upstairs, the oldest daughter's room has a spectacular view of the lake. Melba used dated furniture from her son-in-law but spruced it up with a coat of white paint. She repurposed the dresser, creating a stand for a large bowl sink in the bathroom. A chair in the corner was rescued from the house before construction began that matches nicely with the decor. Pops of color are found on the pillows and the comforter folded at



the end of the bed. Across the hallway is the kids' bunkroom.

Six bunk beds with puffy pillows await a visit from grandkids. The kids have an array of choices including gaming systems, ping-pong, dress up and crafts. "It's all about the kids here," Melba said. "There is even a separate girl and boy bathroom."

The adults' entertainment room has a large sectional with large pillows that look like scrabble tiles. A wine bar and refrigerator sit behind one of the leather couches. A wall hanging captures the theme of the home: *Where Memories Are Made*. But this is not the only place to watch the big games. A converted garage has been designated as Tom's man cave. Light wood paneling sits above dark wood paneling and surrounds a pool table, seating area and large screen TV. Melba saved the original saloon doors but gave them a coat of red paint.

For outdoor fun, a sparkling pool is just steps away from the back doors. It creates a waterfall into a shallow pool on a lower level that was specifically made for the smaller grandkids. A kitchen area with a built-in grill and fire pit is a favorite spot to make s'mores. Melba saved the original steps, stone deck and wall from crumbling. She picked rock to match. Down the path, the dock received a total makeover. It's a place where the kids can jump into the lake, the boat or onto the Jet Ski. This outdoor area can be seen from every window on the east side of the house.

The view from the house next door has changed drastically from when Tom and Melba first visited. They have created a home that three generations are enjoying and will continue to make memories in for years to come.



By Zachary R. Urquhart

It's that time of year, again! Get out your camo, start cleaning your rifle and head to the store to stock up for your hunting expeditions. While most seasoned hunters have their routines down to an exact science, there are some simple things any new or novice hunter should know before heading out to get this year's limit.

HAVE A PLAN

Get Your Papers in Order

Before you do anything else, make sure your licenses are up to date. You may purchase licenses at most sporting goods outfitters or large superstores. You can also now purchase licenses online through the Texas Parks and Wildlife website.

• Know the Calendar

Texas has outlined specific seasons for different animals. This area, called the North Zone, has start dates as early as September 1 for doves. The most anticipated season — white-tail deer starts November 5, and there are dates for various game and fowl starting everywhere in between. There are several animals with multiple or split seasons, so be sure you are hunting your prey legally, as the penalties include loss of license, hefty fines and can even involve jail time. If you want to try your hand at bowhunting, your season will start about a month before rifle hunters.

• Pick Your Spot

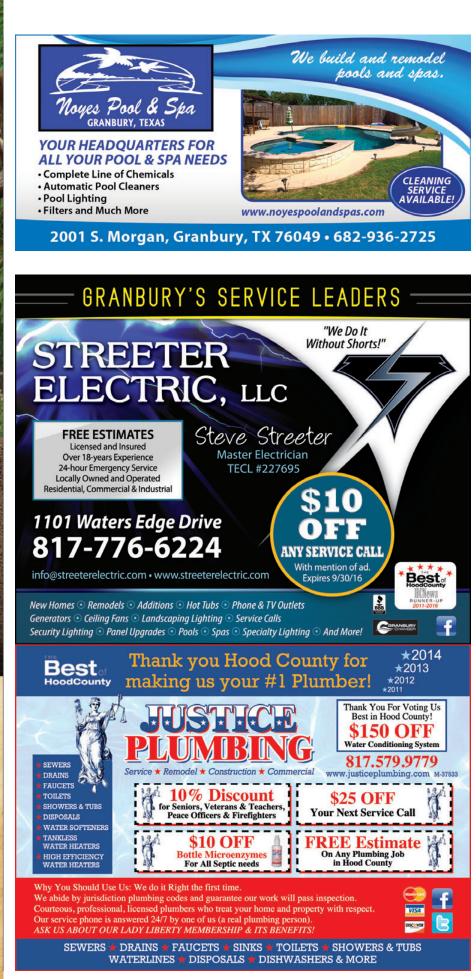
There are several options when choosing a hunting spot. You may try to find a friend who has a hunting lease, allowing them to hunt on someone else's property. Or, you can opt for one of the many public hunting lands nearby. There are plenty of options within an hour or so, but if you are willing to travel a little farther, the Texas Hill Country is known to have the largest number of white-tail deer.



GET READY

• Before You Lock and Load

You'll want to have your guns and ammunition ready before your trip. Cleaning your shotgun or rifle takes a little time, so you do not want to wait until the big weekend to take your gun out of the safe. Be sure to bring enough ammunition. If you have a great hunt, you may only need a few shots to reach your limit, but you should plan on a few misses just to be safe. If you have never hunted, you will want to spend some time practicing your shot, which means you should plan a weekend to go shoot





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targets or clays. This will also help you get familiar with your weapon. It is also very important to know your surroundings. You especially need to know if other hunters are nearby.

• Blend In and Stand Out

The right camouflage can be paramount in keeping your game from spotting you before you pull the trigger. Make sure your gear is right for the natural environment that will surround you. On the other hand, there are clear laws requiring hunters on public lands to wear at least 400 square inches of hunter orange, in addition to orange headgear. So, when you are packing your camouflage, do not forget your orange vest and hat.

• Bring Your Vittles

You will probably be in the field for a while, so be sure to pack some food and drinks. Avoid odorous things like garlic, as well as fibrous foods like beans or broccoli that may lead to discomfort while you are trying to hunt. The best options are foods that have carbs, protein and a little fat. A peanut butter sandwich is easy and will keep your body ready when that deer or bird comes into view.

• Staying the Night

If you are planning on making an entire weekend of your hunting trip, you will have to add another level of preparation. Research what camp grounds are available. If you are planning to go on the season's opening weekend, you will want to reserve a spot ahead of time. If you are pulling your tent from a pile of things you rarely use, set it up and check it for leaks before your trip. Bring a flashlight and extra batteries, and be sure to bring a warm enough sleeping bag for potentially cold temperatures. Lastly, be mindful of local wildlife. If bears or other animals are a potential threat, take precautions to keep food and trash sealed and out of reach from such critters.





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Guns can be dangerous if not handled correctly. The state of Texas requires a hunter's education course for every hunter, which is good for life, after completion. You can get a one-time deferral good for a year, but it is highly recommended that you go through safety courses before operating a gun.

· Beware of Snakes

Most likely, your hunting site will be home to slithery critters, as well as the prey you are there to hunt. Only about 10 percent of Texas' snakes are dangerous for humans, so the first step to safety is identification. Bring a field guide, and be on the lookout for copperheads, cottonmouths and rattlesnakes. If you or a companion are bitten, the best solution is to get to a nearby hospital. Do not try to cut around the puncture or try to suck out the venom. Instead, clean around the wound with disinfectant soap, take off jewelry or items that may restrict the area, and try to limit movement of the extremity until you can get to a doctor.

Whether you are hoping to bag meat for the winter, or you want a 16-point buck over the mantel, a great trip starts with the right equipment and preparation. Staying safe while you are out will ensure a successful hunt is not overshadowed by injury or tragedy. With these tips, you are ready to aim and fire. **NOW**

Editor's Note: License purchasing, laws and general hunting information are available on the Texas Parks & Wildlife Hunting Page at mmm.tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/hunt/. TEXAS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES Covering the cost between your insurance and your pocket!



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Tom Campbell and Parker Nelson create art in unique mediums.

Stone Art

Tom Campbell and Parker Nelson are creating the look of stone without the high cost. — By Lisa Bell

Tom Campbell comes from generations of native Granbury residents. When he returned from California to care for his dad in 2008, he brought Uptown Arts with him. Parker Nelson came onboard two years ago, but in August 2015, they attended training, joined in a partnership and became the Hood County dealer for Cre8stone. They recently changed their name to Uptown Arts Stone Creation to capture the artistry of the process.

Cre8stone uses crushed limestone and quartz with European technology that began over 30 years ago. The process is used both on interior and exterior surfaces. With no tear-out or need for extra support, homeowners can add stone over existing surfaces. Tom and Parker have created a stone look for many surfaces, with fireplaces being one of their most common projects.

After completing training a little more than a year ago, they took on their first project in November 2015. Since then, they continued creating walls, floors, decks, fireplaces, countertops, showers, retaining walls and covering even the entire exterior on houses.

The process uses crushed stone, which they spray on and then spend the next eight hours carving. The carving requires the artistic flair Parker adds to the equation. "He is the artist," Tom said. "It's all hand-carved. You don't see that in masonry."

Business **NOW**

Parker likes making people happy. "Whatever the customer wants, I can try my best to make it happen," he said.

"One customer wanted a compass because his house faces north," Tom added. "That's what we use for our logo now."

Because Parker is an artist, he enjoys creating designs when people want them. They generally produce a sample before moving forward with a job, so they can ensure the customer's satisfaction. The 20-year-old partner likes getting to make decisions on the design and helping bring the customer's vision to reality.

The biggest challenge they have seen so far was on a Will Steed home. The client wanted stone around the second-story fireplace. The house wasn't built to support heavy stone. By using their technique, Tom and Parker created the desired effect at a fraction of the cost. The 17-foot face, flanked by 4-foot-6-inch sides needed a one-day completion. With the lack of full electricity, they brought in floodlights, put the mixer on the balcony and went to work. Late in the evening, they surveyed the finished work. Everyone involved loved the results.

Although weather can affect outdoor projects, they average one week to finish most jobs. Uptown Arts Stone Creation replicates the look of granite for countertops. For floors, they reproduce rock, stained concrete or scraped hardwood. They also craft magnificent showers and walls. All of their work is sealed. Floors are guaranteed for five years. Resealing extends the warranty another five years.

Because both of these men have strong ties to Granbury, they support the local community. As artists, they belong to the Lake Granbury Art Association, Granbury Arts Alliance, and Pecan Plantation Art Guild. They also participate in Gallery Night and belong to the Historic Granbury Merchants Association. In addition, they support the fire department and Kiwanis.

To obtain the look of granite or stone without the high cost, Uptown Arts Stone Creation provides the service you want with a bonus of unique art design. September and October are their busiest months, so if you want work finished before the holidays, call soon. **NOW**

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Around Town NOW



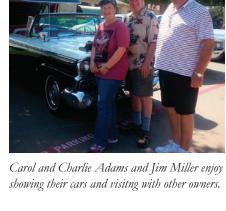
The Bruce family from Glen Rose visits Granbury for school supplies.



Casey Smith enjoys a summer afternoon on his bike after riding his skateboard.



Aryan Adams and Rickqual Bohannon from San Angelo enjoy a day at the Granbury beach.





Wanda Strange, Patty Smith and Lisa Bell enjoy Ladies Night Out in Granbury.



New Granbury resident, Diesel Ercanbrack, shares his sweet smile.



Naomi and Emily Buck spend summer days together running Sew Krazee.



Dadrain Ercanbrack loves the skatepark at the City Park.





Special advertising section



Calendar

September 1

Lake Granbury Newcomers Club Luncheon: 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Pecan Plantation Country Club. The ladies group resumes after a summer break with Donna Olguin singing Patsy Cline. \$14 tickets; call (817) 243-9831 for reservations. Visit www.granburynewcomers.org or call Pat Hendricks (817) 579-2637 to learn more.

September 3 — 5

Labor Day Lake Fest: **Saturday**, 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.; **Sunday**, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.; **Monday**, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Historic Granbury Square, Hewlett Park and City Beach. Visit www.granburysquare.com for details on events.

September 10

Rio Brazos Star Party: 8:00-11:00 p.m., Acton Nature Center, 6900 Smoky Hill Ct. Texas Master Naturalists hosting a free star party. For more information, visit www.actonnaturecenter.org.

September 11

First Responders Appreciation Event: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Hewlett Park pavilion, 621 E. Pearl St. Mobile RV Service and Dragonfly Salon team up to show appreciation to first responders and their families. Free lunch for these men and women and their families only.

September 12

North Texas Civil War Roundtable: 5:30-8:00 p.m., Spring Creek BBQ, 317 E. Hwy 377. Dr. Steven E. Woodworth, chairman, history department, TCU and author of over 28 books presents "Cavalry at the Crossings -Chickamauga Creek." Visitors welcome. Visit www.ncentexcwrt.com or call any officer listed on the website.

September 22

North Texas Annual Giving Day: 6:00 a.m.midnight. Online giving event across the nation (and world) to come together to raise money for North Texas nonprofits. For more information, visit www.northtexasgivingday.org.

October 1

Fifth Annual Granbury Paranormal Expo: 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Historic Granbury Square. Free street festival featuring ghost hunters, psychics, horror, sci-fi, fantasy, cosplay and more. Celebrity guest Alex Vincent. Call (817) 559-0849 or visit www.GranburyParanormalExpo.com.

SEPTEMBER 2016

October 6

Lake Granbury Newcomers Club Luncheon: 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Decordova Bend County Club. Enjoy Granbury visual arts with Jeanette Alexander. \$14 for lunch; make reservations at (817) 243-9831. For more information, visit www.granburynewcomers.org or call Pat Hendricks at 817 579-2637.

October 8

11th annual Vettes on the Square: 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Historic Granbury Square. Brazos River Corvette Club car show features over 100 corvettes, a silent auction and 50/50 raffle tickets, plus a chance to win prizes. All proceeds benefit Ruth's Place. For details, visit www.brazosrivercc.com.

Native Arts Day: 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., trailhead at Comanche Peak Nature Trail, Glen Rose. Historical presentation of Comanche and early Texas daily life with hands on experience. Email Maryann at notana1999@yahoo.com for more information.

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



Cooking **NOW**



In the Kitchen With Carol LeStarge

— By Lisa Bell

Carol LeStarge's mother was a homemaker and stay-at-home mom. She loved to cook, especially bake. An inspiration for cooking, Carol's mother never used box mixes, making everything from scratch. "She would give me a recipe that she made, and I would follow the directions to a tee," Carol shared. "After I made the dish, I would say, 'Mom, it just didn't taste like yours.' She would say, 'Well, I only put a pinch of this in, and I added another teaspoon of this.' Voila, the recipe was different than what she gave me."

Carol still enjoys cooking and, sometimes, invites friends to join her. Single and busy, she only makes simple recipes. Although retired, she has a booth at Chicks in the Stix and works there a few days each month.

Paddidle

Makes 1 serving.

2 Tbsp. Ghirardelli Carmel Sauce, warmed
1 sliced banana (may substitute a chopped apple)
Whipped cream, to taste
Chopped pecans
1 maraschino cherry

 Pour Ghirardelli Carmel Sauce over banana. Top with whipped cream.
 Sprinkle pecans over the whipped cream. Add a cherry on top.

Tomato Soup

I jar Bertolli Four Cheese spaghetti sauce

I can organic chopped tomatoes I 8-oz. container soft cream cheese Fresh basil, to taste

I. Place all ingredients in a small pot. Heat slowly, constantly stirring to avoid burning.

Mexican Chicken

4 skinless deboned chicken breasts Small amount of oil (select your

- favorite type)
- 3/4 cup salsa
- 1/2 cup water
- 4 slices pepper jack cheese

I. Brown chicken breasts on both sides in your favorite cooking oil.

2. Pour salsa over chicken breast. Add water and simmer covered over low heat for about 30 minutes.

3. Top with pepper jack cheese just before serving. Chicken will be tender and delicious.

Broccoli Oriental Slaw

Slaw:

- 1 lb. pkg. broccoli slaw
- 2 pkgs. chicken flavor Ramen noodles, crushed
- I cup honey roasted nuts
- I bunch scallions, chopped
- I red pepper, thinly sliced and then chopped
- I cup cranraisins

Dressing:

- 3/4 cup oil
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 1/3 cup white or natural vinegar
- 1 1/2 pkgs. chicken stock/flavoring (from Ramen noodles)
- I. For slaw: Mix together all ingredients in a

large bowl. *2.* For dressing: In a separate bowl, stir together all ingredients until well mixed. *3.* Pour dressing over the veggies, nuts and cranraisins and stir well.

4. Refrigerate about 4 hours before serving.

Mom's Cherry Streusel Cake

cup butter
 cup sugar
 eggs
 cups flour
 tsp. baking powder
 1/2 tsp. salt
 can cherry pie filling
 Tbsp. butter
 1/4 cup flour
 1/4 cup sugar

 Cream butter and sugar together until light and fluffy. Add 2 eggs and blend thoroughly.
 Sift together flour, baking powder and salt.
 Add to first mixture and blend; batter

will be heavy. Spread 3/4 of batter into a buttered 13x9-inch pan.

4. Add cherry pie filling and gently spread evenly over batter. Drop remaining batter by spoonfuls over cherry pie filling.

5. Blend butter, flour and sugar; mix until crumbly. Sprinkle mixture evenly over batter.6. Bake at 350 F for 45 minutes. Cool and cut into squares.

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

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