



# GRANBURY

★ TEXAS ★



*Granbury at a Glance*

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

THE STORY OF GRANBURY .....	3
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## CULINARY DELIGHTS

Foodie Finds.....	5
Granbury Wine Trail.....	6
Portrait of Texas Passion: Ron & Rhett Keisler .....	7
Portrait of Texas Passion: Dave Eagle.....	8
Portrait of Texas Passion: Genevieve Dodd.....	9

## ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS

Ready, Set, Action .....	11
Portrait of Texas Passion: Cynthia James.....	12

## TREASURES & FINDS

Granbury's Unique Finds.....	14
Portrait of Texas Passion: Sara Miskovic .....	15

## ADVENTURES & DISCOVERIES

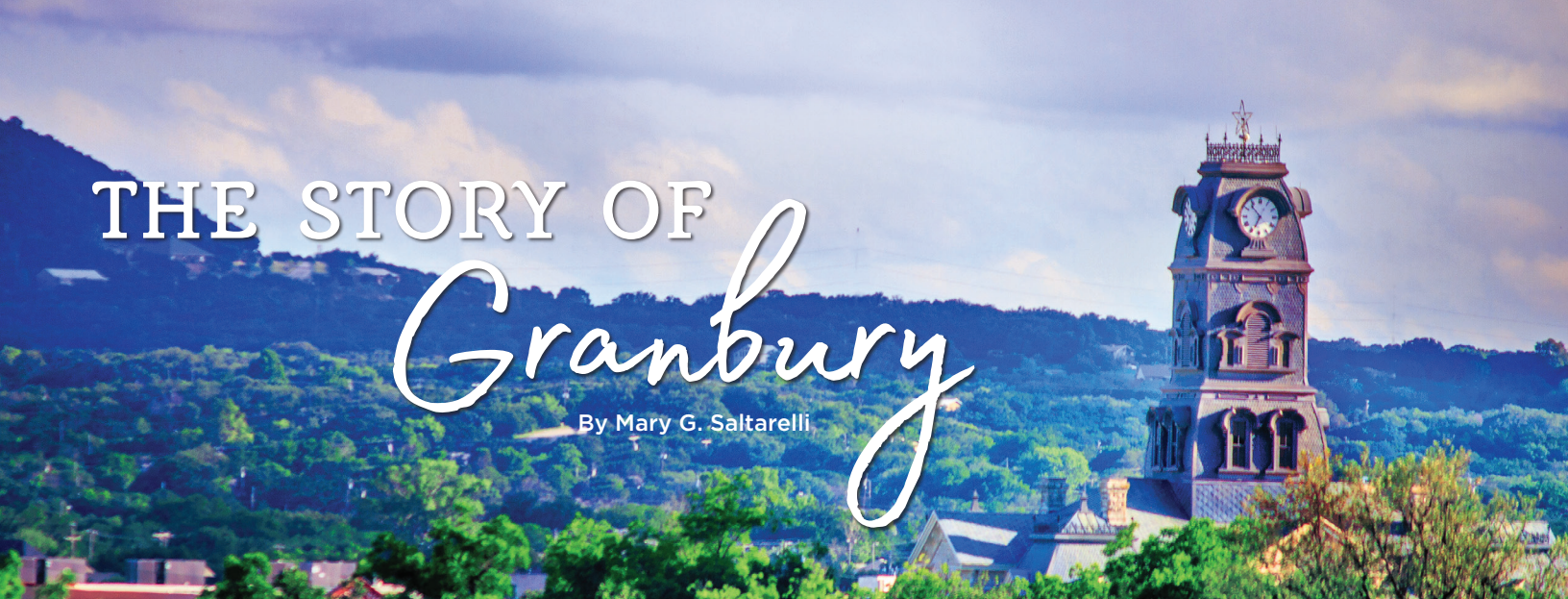
Memories that last a lifetime.....	17
Fuel the adventure junkie.....	18
A piece of history .....	19

## GETAWAYS & MOMENTS

Girls just wanna have fun.....	21
Me + You + Granbury = <3.....	22

GRANBURY FACT SHEET .....	23
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# THE STORY OF *Granbury*

By Mary G. Saltarelli

**L**ike a precious gem shimmering in its gold setting, Granbury nestles in the Brazos River Valley along the shores of a sparkling lake, reflecting the charm of its rich heritage and the beauty of its natural surroundings.

Located where the Western Cross Timbers meets the wide-open prairies of Texas, the area boasts breathtaking scenery that conveys its natural history. Limestone hills, including prominent mesa Comanche Peak, yield fossils of dinosaurs and prehistoric forests. Groves of native live oaks and pecans whisper of the Comanches and other native tribes who once called this land home.

In the middle of the 19th century, hardy pioneers from the Upland South settled Granbury. They brought with them a diverse culture that's reflected throughout the region today in architecture, folklore, music, and lifestyle. These settlers created the native limestone buildings that grace Granbury's Tennessee-style courthouse square. When they chose the names Granbury and Hood County for their new home, Texans honored two Confederate heroes of the Civil War, Gen. John Bell Hood and Gen. Hiram Granbury.

During Granbury's early years, cowboys worked cattle across open rangeland and kept the town square lively visiting saloons and playing ten-pins in the alleys. Legends abound of notorious outlaws hiding out in the area, including John Wilkes Booth,

Jesse James, and Belle Starr. Railroads chugged into town, but the first cross-country highways bypassed Granbury.

A long-awaited dream became reality for this sleepy little country town when the Brazos River Authority created 32-mile long Lake Granbury. Then, Granbury's courthouse square became the first in Texas to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Together, the lake and the community's historic preservation movement revitalized Granbury, producing today's vibrant city.

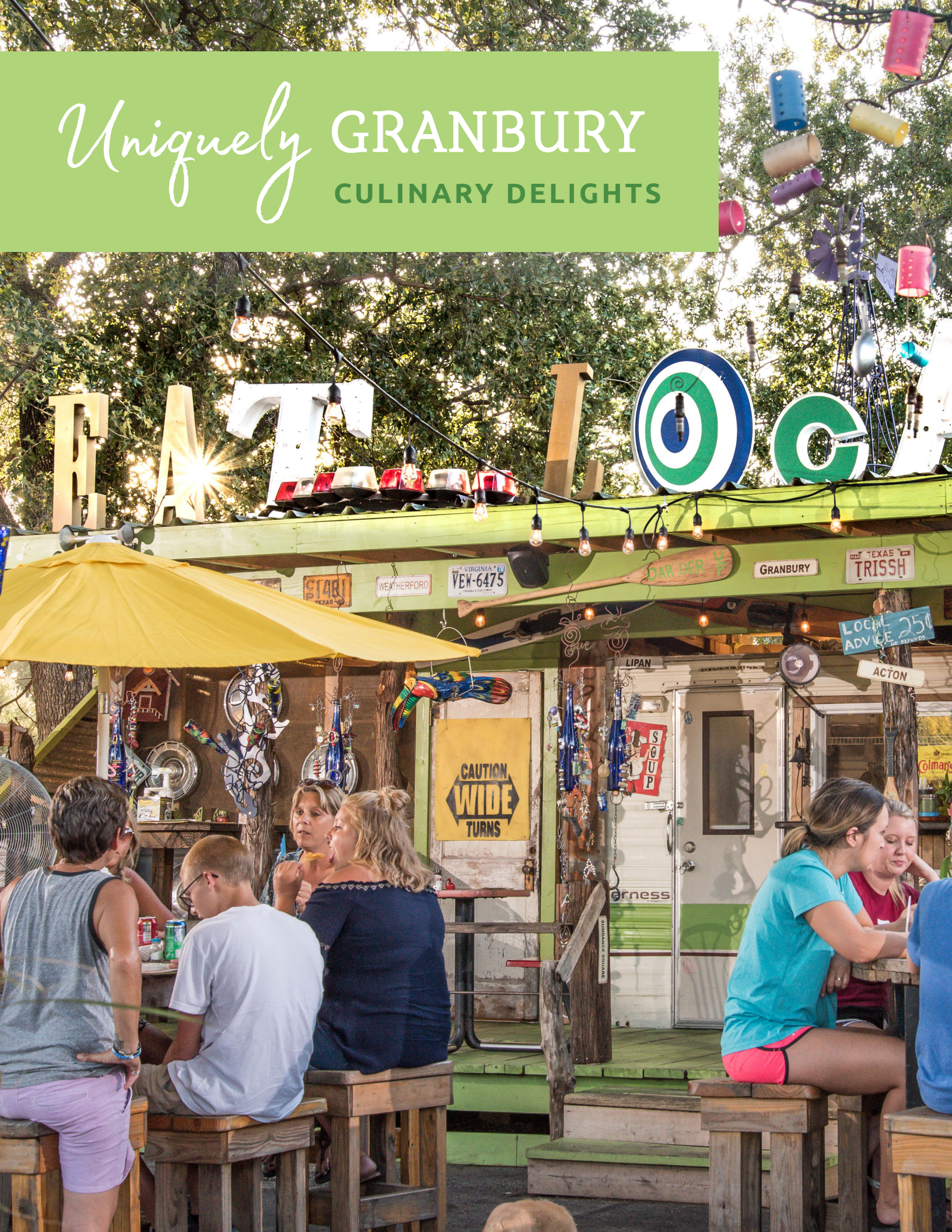
Boutiques, antique shops, and art galleries delight visitors and residents within the pristine Victorian buildings that line the four sides of Granbury's "Best Town Square in Texas." Music and theater ring out from historic venues. Eateries, wineries, and breweries offer tantalizing temptations. Fun-filled events showcase every season. Lake Granbury offers days of frolicking in the sun, and bed and breakfast inns and first-rate hotels that pamper and rejuvenate.

Granbury cherished and preserved its special sense of place, and today it's a dynamic "Micropolis," or rural population center, full of promise for the future. You're invited to discover its inherent charm and to experience the cultural ambience, outdoor fun, and relaxing lifestyle that are uniquely Granbury. Visit, stay, and come back again and again. Experience Granbury.



# Uniquely GRANBURY

## CULINARY DELIGHTS







## FOODIE FINDS

*Granbury restaurants offer a taste to please every palate. A collection of eateries located on and around the Square, offers everything from fine dining to authentic German food. Around town, one can find hibachi, sushi, seafood and lakeside dining, all with a local flare.*

*Located within 15 miles of downtown Granbury are three vineyards, one of the fastest growing microbreweries in the state and an award-winning artisanal cheese maker. A unique ferment-on-premise winery is located right on the historic square, along with two other wine tasting rooms.*

*Here are a few highlights of uniquely Granbury's dining experience:*

- Ketzler's Schnitzel Haus and Biergarten - This family owned and operated business is the only one of it's kind for miles. Serving authentic German food and German beer, Ketzler's will give you a taste of Germany in the heart of Granbury.
- Eighteen Ninety Grille and Lounge - Located on one of the finest town squares in Texas, Eighteen Ninety Grille and Lounge blends local history and flavors to create a unique experience in polished, yet casual dining.
- The Loco Coyote - Local hotspot featuring live music, larger than life dishes and sawdust floors inside this rustic cabin eatery.
- Let's Eat a Granbury culinary gem, owner-Chef Curren Dodds utilizes locally-sourced products for his delectable masterpieces. Menu items range from spice-rubbed Texas quail to tempura-fried soft shell crab.



# GRANBURY WINE TRAIL

*With vineyards and wineries galore---great wine is plentiful in Granbury.*



The Granbury Wine Walk takes place every April, attracting wine connoisseurs from all over the country! The 2-day event allows participants to experience true Texas treasures: authentic wine, food, music and art.

- Pemberton Cellars - Located just a few miles north of Granbury, Pemberton prides themselves on their wine made from hand selected grapes grown in their own vineyard.
- Bluff Dale Vineyards - This 15-acre vineyard offers scenic country views while you sip on a variety of award-winning wines.
- Barking Rocks Winery - Enjoy live music at this winery the first Friday of every month. Bring a snack to share, and enjoy wine with a beautiful view.
- D'Vine Wine of Granbury - Located in the heart of the historic square, it is fun to taste several different wines while chatting with the locals. The fruit wines are especially popular.





# PORTRAIT OF TEXAS PASSION:

## *Ron & Rhett Keisler*



photo courtesy of draftmag.com

**F**our years ago, father and son team, Ron and Rhett Keisler, had a dream. They wanted to start their own brewery. So along with seasoned Master Brewer and Cicerone, Grant Wood, they founded Revolver Brewery. The idea: start with fresh water from their own Trinity Aquifer well and utilize seasonal local ingredients in their brews. They commissioned U.S. craftsmen to create custom equipment that would enable them to accomplish their goal of creating the best beer around.

Today, Revolver Brewery is one of the fastest growing microbreweries in Texas. In fact, it has been so popular that it recently negotiated a deal with Tenth and Blake Beer Company, the craft and import division of Miller Coors, to increase distribution. The transaction will not affect the brew though. In the words of owner Rhett Keisler, "we are going to keep making great tasting beer. That will never change."

**For more information on this uniquely Granbury brew master, please visit [www.visitgranbury.com](http://www.visitgranbury.com).**





# PORTRAIT OF TEXAS PASSION: *Dave Eagle*

*Dave Eagle, once a practicing attorney, woke up one day and wanted a change.*

Artisan cheese was his passion and so Dave, along with his son, Matt, and his nephew, Corey, opened Eagle Mountain Farmhouse Cheese Co. They make their own Texas versions of traditional cheeses that are usually found in western Europe. They also have a few original cheese creations born right here in the Lone Star State!

Eagle Mountain Farmhouse Cheese Co., located about 17 minutes north of Granbury on Highway 4, offers some of the finest hand-made cheeses found anywhere in the world. Their cheese is made from the fresh natural Grade A milk of the Brown Swiss dairy cows, pastured exclusively by Mike and Debbie Moyers at Sandy Creek Farm in North Texas.



Dave believes that developing a strong relationship between the artisan cheese maker and his dairyman is the most important factor in providing the discerning consumer with the finest hand-made artisan cheese.

The mouth-watering cheeses made by Dave and his team can not only be found at their farm in Lipan, but also in C & J Butcher Shop located at 400 S. Morgan Street in Granbury. Eagle Mountain Farmhouse Cheese Co. currently offers Gouda, Alpine, Trappist, Tome, and other cheeses. This includes natural rind and washed rind cheeses.





# PORTRAIT OF TEXAS PASSION: *Genevieve Dodd*

*"Thank God for tea! What would the world be without tea!"*

*- Sydney Smith*

For Genevieve Dodd, the quote by Smith is a reality. After spending numerous years on multiple undergraduate degrees and a Masters in Counseling, Genevieve looked around and realized she wasn't doing what she loved.

What she did love was tea. Having an English grandmother who firmly believes that any problem could be solved with a cup of tea, Genevieve decided to follow her heart and build a business around what she loved!

Mixing her passion for tea and love of steampunk subculture, she started Tea Punk Teas three years ago. Her first blend, Rotgut Assam, was an Assam tea with hints of citrus and whiskey. She debuted the blend at her first tea show in Tucson and it quickly became a hit.

Today, Tea Punk Teas product line features twenty dark black blends, including one titled "Cosmic Crow's Dark Side of the Spoon," nine green teas, seven white blends, including a spicy white peach blend called "Southern Belle," and nine herbal infusions and decaffeinated teas, including a serene Herbal tea named "The Little Lord's Naptime." They can be found in Christina's on the historic square in Granbury, as well as online at [www.teapunkteas.com](http://www.teapunkteas.com). Later this year, they will become available on Amazon.

**For more information on this uniquely Granbury tea-maven, visit [www.visitgranbury.com](http://www.visitgranbury.com).**



# Uniquely GRANBURY

ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS







# READY, SET, ACTION

*Granbury's vibrant arts community is a rich mosaic, showcasing everything from ancient artefacts, public art, live theatre entertainment and cultural shows.*

- Granbury Opera House - Known as the crown jewel of Granbury's art scene, the newly refurbished Opera House draws art patrons from around the world to see the Granbury Theatre Company at work. Built in 1886, the Opera House still shines with its elaborate chandeliers, elegant twin curved staircase and and filigree iron balcony railings.
- The New Granbury Live - The most intimate venue in Texas, the New Granbury Live features shows ranging from the big band era, country, and tribute artists to gospel and holiday specials.
- Brazos Drive-In Theatre - Since 1952, the family-operated lot at The Brazos Drive-in Theatre has invited carloads of movie-lovers to kill their engines, tune their radios to 89.1 FM, and recline as far as their seats allow for the evening's double features. The historic theatre is the longest continually running drive-in in Texas.



# PORTRAIT OF TEXAS PASSION: *Cynthia James*



**F**or over 30 years, Cynthia James has been creating beautiful works of art. Following her motto, “Life is an exploration. Creativity is the expression,” Cynthia’s work is anything but ordinary. From jewelry to three-dimensional pieces, no project is too big or too small.

“I view jewelry making as small sculptural work,” Cynthia said. “I get a lot of inspiration for my larger artistic pieces from smaller things I have done.”

Cynthia works primarily in glass, natural elements, metals and clay to create her works of art. For the last sixteen years, she has worked with dichroic fused glass jewelry, and recently started working with natural elements as such as copper, sterling and aluminum. She has even blended these mediums together to design a whole unique style.

In 2010, she opened Artefactz as her studio and store on the historic downtown square in Granbury. Here, she sells her one-of-kind jewelry and other unique art pieces. The store also features other unusual and rare, nature-inspired artisan gifts.

**For more information on this uniquely Granbury artist, please visit [www.visitgranbury.com](http://www.visitgranbury.com).**

Artèfactz, located on the Historic Granbury Square, is the perfect place to find unusual and rare nature-inspired artisan gifts, and decor for the home or office. Here, Cynthia sells her one-of-a-kind jewelry and other unique art pieces. The store also has the largest selection of children’s toys on the square, featuring Melissa & Doug educational lines, as well as women’s fashions.





*Uniquely* GRANBURY  
TREASURES & FINDS





# GRANBURY'S UNIQUE FINDS

*Shopping in Granbury is fun because there is something different in every store. Make your way from store to store without ever having to get in the car!*





# PORTRAIT OF TEXAS PASSION: *Sara Miskovic*

***“Good food and laughter, that’s what makes the world go ‘round,’”***

says Sara Miskovic, Granbury native and owner of The Panhandle, a gourmet tool shop on the historic downtown square.

Sara purchased the shop in 2016, and this thriving business features local products.

Growing up on a farm, Sara found her calling with the creation of Olde Homestead Company. Sara started making homemade jams, jellies, salsas, relishes, pie fillings and more, which she sold at the shop. When the previous owner approached Sara with an opportunity to buy the

company, she jumped on it.

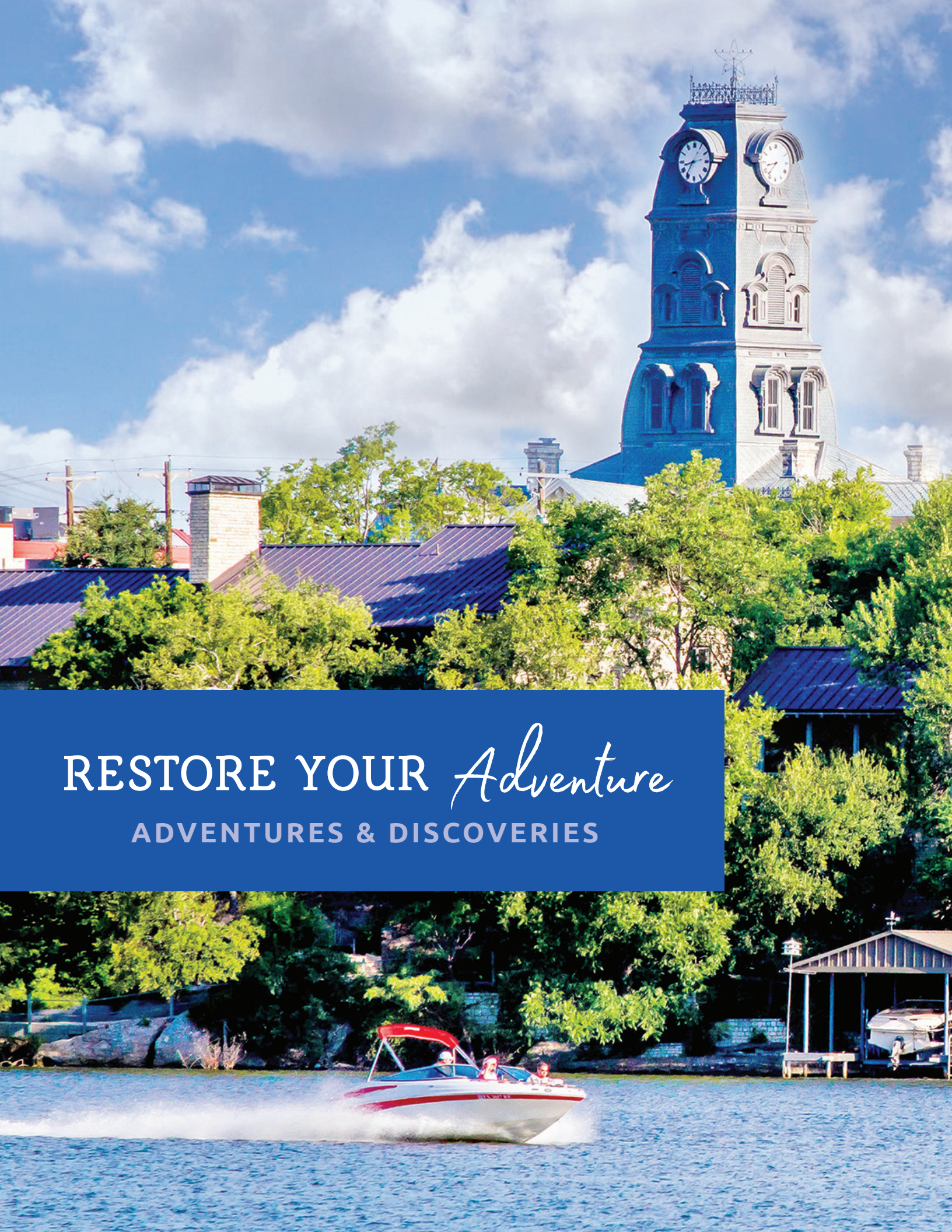
Today, shoppers can purchase locally sourced cheeses and pottery, as well as an array of high-end cookware, vintage accessories, and modern tools.

Her love for food provides inspiration for the products she features today.

She loves interesting flavor combinations and fresh ingredients.

She hopes the products at her store will enhance peoples lives and feels that entertaining is a great way to bring people together.





RESTORE YOUR *Adventure*  
ADVENTURES & DISCOVERIES





# MEMORIES THAT LAST A LIFETIME

*Life is all about the memories we make. These family fun ideas will create postcards in your mind for a lifetime.*

- Become a zookeeper for the day at Fossil Rim Wildlife Center. Nestled away in the rustic hills of Somervell County, Fossil Rim is home to dozens of endangered species. Pack everyone in the car, roll down the windows, and watch real-life animals, such as giraffes and ostriches, walk right up to the car.
- Get up-close-and-personal with the world around you at The Action Nature Center of Hood County. Open to the public 7 days a week, this free park is filled with wildlife, wildflowers and a guaranteed adventure. As you wander around the park you will find the natural pond filled with croaking toads, a butterfly garden, and a historic windmill. Grab your butterfly net and binoculars, and head out to the Action Nature Center for a wild adventure where you can spot hundreds of different birds, butterflies and beautiful creatures.
- Crawl around with critters at Karen's Kritters Petting Farm. Open every Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon, Karen's allows you to get up close and personal with miniature donkeys, alpacas, chickens, goats, guinea pigs and bunnies. With admission just \$4 per person, this adventure is sure to leave your kiddos feeling fuzzy inside.
- The Granbury Doll House Museum showcases an extensive doll collection, including celebrity look-alike-dolls. Boasting an uncanny resemblance to a life-sized doll house, the museum also offers doll-making demonstrations.
- Long ago, dinosaurs left footprints in the mud at the edge of an ancient ocean. Today, you can walk in their tracks in the bed of the Paluxy River in nearby Glen Rose. Dinosaur Valley State Park stretches 1500 acres and offers tons of fun. From hunting down the tracks of dinos, taking pictures with the life-sized replicas and hiking the trails. There are plenty of memories to be made where the dinos roamed.





# FUEL THE ADVENTURE JUNKIE

*Granbury offers a wide variety of experiences that you can't get in the city. Explore the trails with the Texas sun setting above you, lay on the beach without having the travel hours from home, and get the opportunity to mingle with the ghosts of Granbury.*

- Take a hike back in history at the Moments-In-Time Hike & Bike Trail. The 2.17-mile trail extends from the Granbury Airport to Shanley Park. Along the trail you will find several interpretive signs that convey the early history of Granbury and Hood County.
- Put your toes in the sand at Granbury's City Beach Park, located just seconds away from the square. As if making sandcastles isn't enough fun, Waterside Sports, located on City Beach Park, offers personalized water sports services, from rentals and gear to complete instruction and certification. They have everything from kayaks and river tubes to surries and volleyballs.
- Looking for a good scare? Granbury's Ghost and Legend Tours offers a spooky night that everyone is sure to enjoy! Meet the Lady in Red, the Faceless Girl, Indian Joe and who knows---maybe even John Wilkes Booth.





# A PIECE OF HISTORY

*"Where Texas History Lives." From the historic square to the museums scattered throughout the town, there are many stories to be told.*

- Hood County Jail Museum - Built in 1885, this old western jail is complete with the original cellblocks and hanging tower. As you walk through, you can see the markings on the walls from the historic criminals who did time in that very building. Step inside the actual jail cells, and see what it was like being an outlaw in the 1800's.
- Granbury Historic Railroad Depot - Long gone are the days when people traveled from town to town by railroad. The Granbury Historic Railroad Depot was built in 1914—and takes you back to this special moment in time.
- Granbury State Historical Cemetery - There are some famous names buried on a hill eight blocks north of the Square. General Hiram B. Granbury, Jesse Woodrow James, and Ashley Crockett, grandson of Davy Crockett, are among those who are laid to rest in this historic site.





RESTORE YOUR *Joy*  
GETAWAYS & MOMENTS







# GIRLS JUST WANNA HAVE FUN

*In need of a girl's weekend getaway? Granbury offers an escape from reality and a girl's trip like no other with shopping, relaxation and of course, a ton of fun!*

- The Pomegranate House and Cottages offers the perfect getaway for a girl's weekend. Enjoy this charming, private cottage nestled under a canopy of 300-year-old live oaks.
- The second Saturday of each month, Granbury hosts Girl's Night Out on the historic square. Enjoy special discounts, trunk shows, wine, snacks and door prizes.
- While you're shopping downtown you have to check out the many ladies boutiques selling a unique collection of women's clothing, jewelry, lotions and potions.



# ME + YOU + GRANBURY = <3

*Looking for that perfect place to get away with that special someone? Imagine a night in Granbury watching the sunset with a glass of wine in hand. Get the kids a sitter, and head to Granbury for a romantic weekend the two of you are sure to never forget.*

- Inn on Lake Granbury - This award-winning, luxurious resort sits right on the edge of Lake Granbury. Cuddle up in front of the fireplace in your room, or out on the balcony to watch the sunset over the lake.
- Farina's - Looking to wine and dine your loved one? Farina's is the perfect place during crisp weather to enjoy a romantic meal on the beautiful patio near the fireplace. Farina's features an expansive menu, ranging from artisan cheese plates, soup, salad, sandwiches, pizza, pasta, steak and, of course, delicious wine.
- D'Vine Wine - Create your own customized wine blend at this winery located in the heart of Granbury's historic district.





# GRANBURY FACT SHEET

Founded in 1860, Granbury started as a square and log cabin courthouse. Granbury's town square

## LOCAL NOTABLES

- Johnny Perkins - New York Giants professional football player
- Elizabeth Patton Crockett - widow of David Crockett
- Nellie Gray Robertson - first female county attorney in Texas
- Peter Mayhew - British actor who played Chewbacca in the Star Wars films
- Robert Williamson III - Poker player
- Bill Garrett - Former PGA tour golfer
- Jim Shofner - Former NFL head coach
- Andy Parker - Founding drummer of the English rock group UFO
- Dana Vollmer - Olympic gold medal winning swimmer

## BRAGGING RIGHTS

- Texas Highways Magazine's top 40 travel destinations
- 10 Best Summer Weekend Escapes by USA Today
- Best Small-Town Getaways - Southern Living
- Frommer's Top 7 Ghost Tours
- Best Place in Texas to Retire - SmartAsset
- Certified Scenic City
- Granbury's 4th of July firework show has been ranked among the Top 10 fireworks shows in the Southwest.
- The majestic Hood County Courthouse was the recipient of the Texas Downtown Association 2013 President's Award for Best Restoration.

## BY THE NUMBERS

**7,978** Granbury's population in the 2010 census

**62.4** Average temperature in Granbury

**75** Minutes from DFW Airport

**40** Minutes to downtown Fort Worth

**33.5** Square miles of coastline

**31** Pet-friendly restaurants and lodging facilities.

**25** Accommodations ranging from bed and breakfasts to cabins.

**15** Museums and tours offered in Granbury.

**15** Eateries within the historic downtown district.

**11** Antique stores in Granbury

**6** Art galleries

**5** Golf courses

**4** Wineries

**2** Percent lower than the U.S. average for cost of living

**2** Theaters, one of which is a drive-in

**1** Family-owned craft brewery

## TRIPADVISOR'S TOP 5 THINGS TO DO IN GRANBURY

**1** Granbury Town Square

**2** Revolver Brewery

**3** Granbury Opera House

**4** Hood County Jail and Historical Museum

**5** Granbury City Beach