

# it all

She recalls the time she was working on a basket of green beans. "I don't know what happened, but the baby fell out of her car seat into the beans."

Now that all but one of her children are grown, she has slowed down a little. She and her husband are in the hay business. They have 400 acres of hay that the couple puts up four times a year. She runs the swather and her husband runs the baler.

Some of her other interests include quilting, working on her embroidery machine, collecting stamps, collecting pretty dishes and playing canasta with friends once a month.

The Gassmann family attends St. Joseph Catholic Church where she teaches preschool catechism and religion education class. She is an officer in the New Almelo Council of Catholic Women. And, she volunteers. Mrs. Gassmann has organized a group of volunteers from her church to help at The Haven in Norton. The Haven is a house where families of inmates at Norton Correctional Facility may stay when they come to visit. The volunteers have helped paint, clean, organize and decorate several rooms at the hospitality house.

Mr. and Mrs. Gassmann have four children: Randy and Beth Gassmann, New Almelo; Jeremy and Brandi Gassmann, Lee's Summit, Mo.; Alice and Wesley James, Ellis; and Connie, a senior at Norton Community High School.

They have two grandchildren and are expecting two more.

Mrs. Gassmann's advice is to work hard because, "if you don't put in the time, you're not going to make it."



Norton County farmwife, Vickie Gassmann, (above) is assisted by her grandson, William George Gassmann, as they bake cookies in her large country kitchen. Mrs. Gassmann and her husband, George, dismantled old houses for 15 years to gather enough lumber to build their own home. Helping her husband with their hay operation, Mrs. Gassmann, (left) operates a swather. The Gassmanns farm 400 acres of hay, getting four cuttings every year.

— Telegram photos by Carolyn Plotts

