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Susan Cornette of *If The Shoe Fits*
photo by Ann Martin Photography

the colors of your choice. As Lori's new business was getting more demanding, Hal stepped in to help her fill orders, and is now a crucial part of her business. Her products can now be found in over 300 stores all over the country including Cat in the Fiddle and Cradle and All, as well as on her website www.loridodsondesigns.com.

IF THE SHOE FITS

If you were to ask Susan Cornette how she started a home-based business of her own, she would modestly tell you it just happened. On a whim, Susan decided to paint a pair of Dr. Scholl's shoes that were sitting in her closet. After a trip to the gym where her friend enthusiastically and repeatedly told her she needed to sell the shoes, Susan figured why not. From the moment Susan stepped into Animal Crackers, an upscale boutique, her life took a drastic turn. The owner of the store just happened to be there, fell in love with the design, and not only ordered 75 pairs on the spot, but took Susan under her wing by explaining to her Retail 101. Now her line of shoes, "If the Shoe Fits" are sold at approximately 35 retail and online stores across the country, including her website www.cjwearables.com. She has five sales reps, and has sold almost 2,000 hand painted shoes in a little over a year.

SHOWER OF FLOWERS

Veronica Wright of Simply Enchanting, her home-based floral arrangement business, got her talent from years of watching her mom, Paulette Browning put together floral arrangements for Hobby Lobby. Now Veronica is filling orders for clients through word of mouth. From trendy to traditional, Veronica can make floral arrangements for tables or walls in any room of your house. She studies your décor, offers ideas, takes measurements, and even delivers her masterpiece. Her next projects include building a website to get her name out and exploring local retail outlets.

Aside from having three kids each and a creative home-based business, these savvy business gals do admit, it's not as easy as it sounds. The work is always there, so sometimes you put in more hours than you would at an office, and depending on your children's schedule, your own hours may be less appealing than eight to five. Plus, there is money to invest, taxes to figure out, health insurance to buy, and a retirement plan to think about. But ask Lori, Susan or Veronica how they feel about it, and they are sure to tell you they wouldn't go back and change a thing. You can find success after leaving the corporate world. It's all about identifying your talents and interests and going for it!

Jackie Beynaerts is a freelance writer living in Frisco.

working from home: opening the door to a new opportunity

by jackie beynaerts

WITH THE JOB MARKET AS UNSTABLE AS IT IS, never ending lay-offs and cost-cutting corporations doing whatever it takes to make or save a buck, it seems the perfect career for most people is still a dream away. And most people would take out the perfect part, and just settle for a company that understands that your daughter's orthodontist appointments cannot be scheduled on a Saturday. So can a career-bound person have it all? At least three of our Frisco neighbors have decided not to be slaves to the corporate world and found success by doing what they love, at home.

HOBBY TURNS BUSINESS

Four years ago as pottery-painting classes were becoming more and more popular, Lori Dodson gave it a try. Having a natural artistic talent that she inherited from her dad, Hal Boggan, she instantly found a hobby she enjoyed. After some prodding from her family, she decided to take her paintings to Cat in the Fiddle, a baby boutique in Plano. She successfully turns children's handprints and footprints into creative designs that she paints on crosses, plates, piggy banks and more. She has special designs for every holiday and can customize any order with names, dates and