

# LIVING ROOM

## Winnsboro Shop Offers Variety From Ladles to Linens

by Autumn Keiss

Sitting at the intersection of Texas Highways 37 and 11 is the small town of Winnsboro with a population of about 4,000. On Main Street, wedged between an insurance agency and a flower shop, is the charming shop called Ladles to Linens.

A sign in front of the shop advertises a "Gourmet Kitchen and Wine Store," and the inside delivers. Soothing music permeates the room, and goods are displayed in a sophisticated and eye-catching fashion.

Ladles to Linens is owned Lyndi McCulloch who opened the shop without prior knowledge of such things as kitchen gadgets.

"I didn't know anything about cooking," she said. "I was working in sales and got tired of the corporate world. [Someone] said they needed a specialty store in town so I opened one."

Lyndi's sales background helps her manage her store, and she is learning more about the goods she sells. "The store offers a cooking class, and sometimes I'll come and learn something," she said.

She also offers "Crazy Daze" in the Winnsboro store and online at [www.ladlestolins.com](http://www.ladlestolins.com). Crazy Daze is a daily event allowing customers to earn Crazy Bucks that can be spent on the store's products. The online store contains more than just kitchen items — it is also full of home décor for every room in the house.

"The online store can help when things are slow in a town this small," Lyndi said.

Ladles to Linens has expanded since it opened. The store began by selling gourmet kitchen items, then added bedding and three years ago they began selling wine. Its most popular products till remain the kitchen gadgets and food items.

Lyndi chooses what items to sell in her shop based on her personal taste.

"I only buy what I like, though," she said. "If I would put it in my own home, I'll put it in my store."

Some of Ladles to Linen's inventory is Lyndi's own product. Her crowded shelves include a chili mix called Dad's Chili, which features a caricature of her father on the front of the box.

"We've been producing Dad's Chili for five years," Lyndi said. "It's completely separate from the store, but some of my customer's joke that I opened my own store just so I could sell my product."

The chili mix, which is Lyndi's father's recipe, is a success.

"It has really taken off," she said. "It's been in the Central Market in Dallas since last March, and is really popular."

Like Dad's Chili, Ladles to Linens is a popular store.

"We get people from Dallas, Sulphur Springs, surrounding areas and we also get a lot of tourists."

The wide variety of customers helps contribute to Lyndi's own love for the store. "My favorite part about owning my own business is the customers," she said.

Ladles to Linens is located on 215 N. Main Street in Winnsboro and is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. To contact the store visit [www.ladlestolins.com](http://www.ladlestolins.com) or call 903-342-1050.

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