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NOVEMBER 2017

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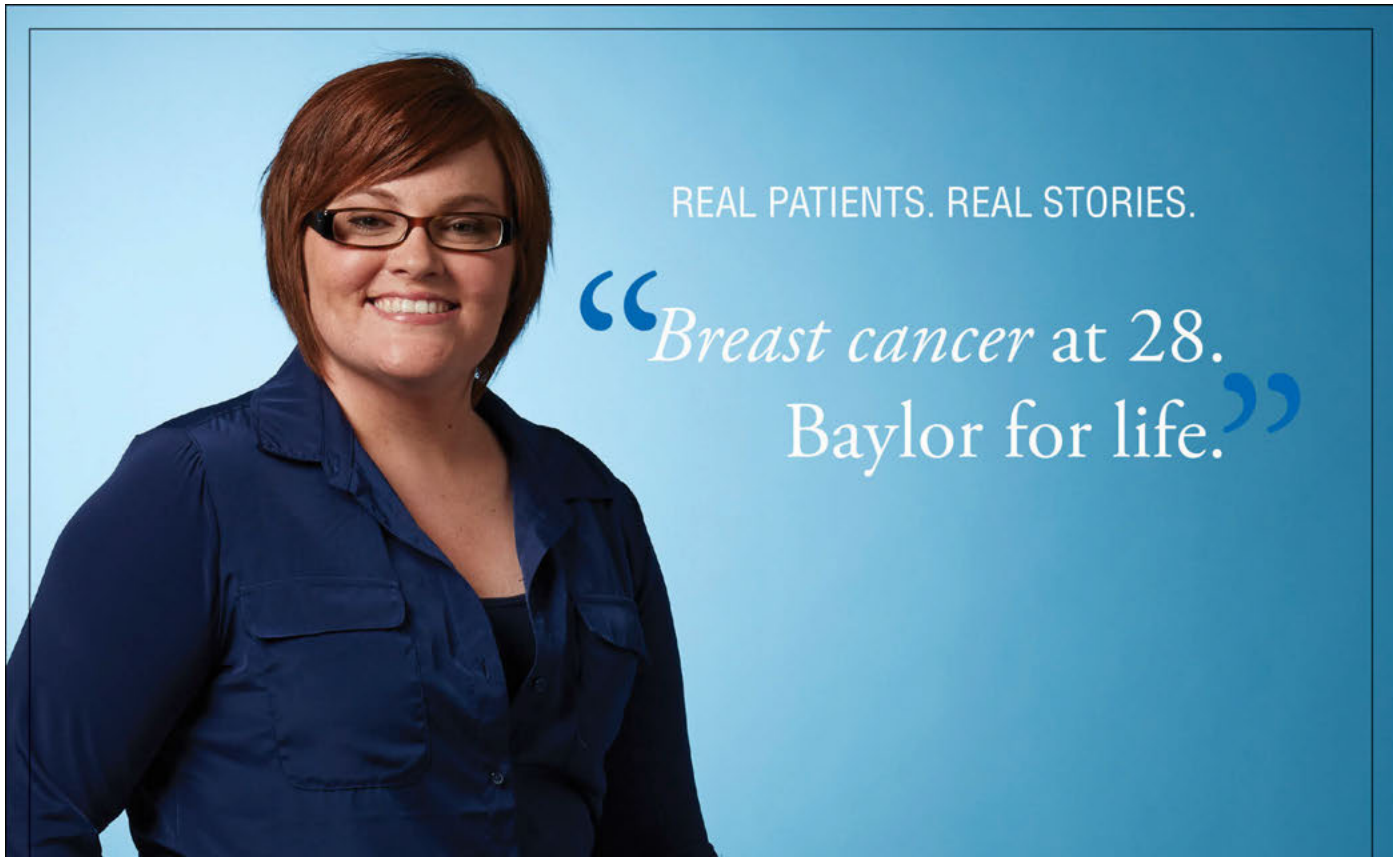
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# CONTENTS

November 2017 • Volume 13, Issue 11



## 8 A Tribute to Honor

Memories, camaraderie and respect are highlights of Midlothian's annual dinner for veterans.



## 18 Genuine, Yet Unique

Landry Allred's favorite thing to photograph is people.

## 30 Somewhere in Texas

At Home With Michael and Christine Barendregt.



## 36 The Season for Travel

Careful planning will help ensure your trip is fun-filled and unforgettable.

42 BusinessNOW

44 Around TownNOW

52 CookingNOW

## ON THE COVER



*Showing appreciation, respect and honor to veterans is important to Gina Moore and Sgt. Richard Pena.*

*Photo by Hannah Chartrand.*

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## Editor's Note

*Happy Thanksgiving!*

When I was a kid, I'd awaken on Thanksgiving morning to the aroma of homemade cornbread baking in the oven — the base for my mom's wonderful sage dressing. Wandering into the kitchen, I'd find my mom busy prepping the turkey or putting the giblets on to boil.

The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade was usually on TV in the living room. I loved the parade — the bands, the balloons and especially the floats. I was fascinated by the creativity and the varied and unlikely materials used in their construction!

I watched the parade as I helped peel and chop vegetables or crack pecans or walnuts. Sometimes we prepared a new dish, but the stars of the meal were family recipes. There was Auntie's pecan pie and Aunt Dot's candied yams. As we prepared them, memories about my grandmother's sisters were shared and cherished.

I am thankful for those special family times, where heritage was passed on to me and my brothers. We may not have been wealthy, but we had the most important things — faith, family and love. So, we really were rich... And we had amazing food! Here's to building memories you'll be thankful for years down the road!

*Becky*

Becky Walker  
Managing Editor  
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# A TRIBUTE TO HONOR

— By Betty Tryon

*Through great dedication and sacrifice, veterans have stood with America. The community of Midlothian stands with its veterans. For the past eight years, Midlothian celebrates Veterans Day by honoring them with the Veterans Tribute Dinner. The first one began with a picnic planned by a handful of citizens and veterans. That special barbecue began the tradition of having this event with all volunteers and everything donated.*



After the initial picnic in 2010, the committee wanted the tribute to be a continuous event, so they asked the city for help and was enthusiastically received by the City Council and administration. With the addition of the city's support, Special Events/Recreation Coordinator Gina Moore and School Resource Officer at Walnut Grove Middle School Sgt. Richard Pena eventually became part of the team spearheading the event, and the outdoor picnic became an indoor annual dinner.

"The founding members said that everybody who volunteers needed to do it out of their good will and not for anything in return, so that's what we've continued," Gina said. "I met Sgt. Pena when he assisted with a parade the city was hosting. I found out he was a veteran, so I asked for his help with the tribute dinner."



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Gina Moore and Sgt. Richard Pena are part of the team that plans the annual Veterans Tribute Dinner.

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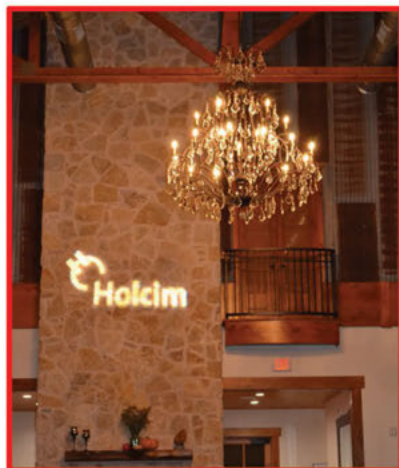
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"I helped one time, and then found myself on a committee," Sgt. Pena said with a laugh. As a veteran, he considers serving on the committee to be an honor. Sgt. Pena joined the Marine Corps in 1994 and served until 1998 as a machine gunner in the infantry. "I joined because with my background, I felt like I had little choice," he shared. "I didn't grow up with money, and it was something I needed to do to have somewhere to go after high



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school. I was self-aware enough to know I needed direction. I’d always wanted to be a Marine, so it was probably the easiest recruiting job that recruiter ever had. I told him I wanted to sign up, and he asked, ‘Don’t you want to talk about it?’ I said, ‘No, not even a little bit.’ That night I found myself in a hotel in Dallas taking a test and was sworn in the next day. That’s how quick it was!”

Sgt. Pena started working for the city of Midlothian at the water department, but decided he wanted to go into police work. After completing the Police Academy, he was hired in 2002. Since becoming one of the members of the Veterans Tribute Dinner committee, he is very impressed with the dedication that



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Richard Pena proudly served in the United States Marine Corps.

goes into planning the tribute. "The city and Gina work themselves to the bone," he stated. "This is a dinner where these veterans can get together, at least once a year, and fellowship with each other. It is also to honor the families of these veterans, who were at home while their loved ones were out doing their service."

Everything the committee does is about honoring vets. "I also do it to honor the ones before me," Sgt. Pena remarked. "You have grandparents who served in WWII. We're losing more and more of them every day, so we need to honor them while they are still here. I was never involved in conflict, so I've never had to fight. But I've known guys who did. While I served, we did lose some guys. During the tribute dinner, you start remembering things like that, so it can get to be solemn. But then you look around and see a room full of people who gave their all and the families who stuck by them. It's very moving. It's also good to see some of the guys who've been around forever and try to get them to tell some of their stories. That's when it becomes a good time and fun."

The Veterans Tribute Dinner is held at the Midlothian Conference Center, so the organizers can expect up to 500



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people. “We don’t discriminate on who comes to the dinner,” Gina explained. “We don’t even object if someone is from Venus or Waxahachie. If a veteran wants to bring a significant other, they just need to make a reservation online, so we have a head count. We would never say no to a veteran.”

A few veterans have discovered unexpected welcomed surprises at the event. “We’ve had some of the veterans who did not know each other but found out they were in the same place, on the same base, at the same time and did not know it!” Gina enthused. “Here in Midlothian, they found each other. The dinner gives them an opportunity to talk to each other about their experiences. Usually they don’t want to bring up the memories, but in this setting they can.”

Sgt. Pena understands how important this time of solidarity can be. “They are talking to another veteran who *gets it*, so they feel as if they are talking to a brother or sister,” he explained. “You never forget the guys you meet when you’re in the service. You eat with them. You sleep with them. It was good camaraderie.”

On November 11, Veterans Day, Midlothian will reach out to remember and honor its veterans again. Captain Zina Salazar, U.S. Army engineer officer with Battalion 2IC, will be the guest speaker this year. It will be the first time the dinner has hosted a female speaker.

Gina’s commitment with the Veterans Tribute Dinner comes from a personal place. “I come from a military family,” she shared. “All my uncles were military. I could never serve, so I try to honor the ones who did and do. It’s my way of giving back, and it’s an honor to do it. It’s an honor to be a part of this.” **NOW**

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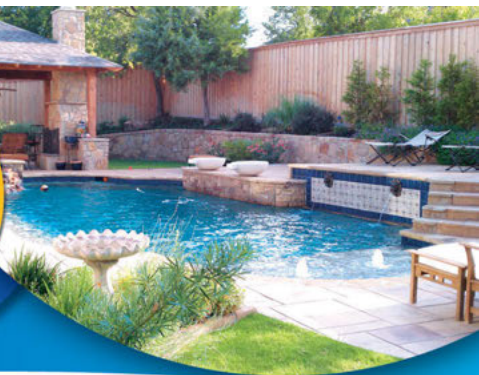
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# GENUINE, YET UNIQUE

— By Betty Tryon

*The bright pink lipstick and bold sapphire earrings on the model immediately captured one's interest and made for good contrast in the headshot. Another attention-grabbing series of photos is of a woman enveloped in darkness broken up by strategically placed lighting and shadows. The photographer behind these images is Landry Allred, a journalism major at The University of Texas at Austin.*

Landry honed her skills in photography as a former student at Midlothian High School. "I did photography as a hobby, but Mrs. Hallmark, [Angee Hallmark, theater director] often asked me to photograph things for the theater because I was in that class," she stated. "I was involved with theater throughout high school." Landry also photographed the performances during her time as an intern for the MISD Communications Department. Many of the photos were chosen for the school's website.







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Midlothian has been home to Landry all her life, with the exception of her first year, which was in China. Here in the Midlothian community she indulged in her hobby of photography and accumulated a remarkable portfolio of varied interests. "I always had an eye for things, different angles and colors and whether it looked nice," she shared. "When younger, I liked taking photos of nature. I remember taking pictures of pretty trees, but I wasn't serious about it until I received an official photography

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camera in middle school. In high school, I took a photography class, where I was able to learn different techniques. The photography teacher was a great help in teaching me all of the basics.” Landry still uses the Nikon D3100 camera she received in middle school. She’s hoping this Christmas brings her a much-needed newer model!

By observing different types of photos on social media and in blogs, Landry was able to develop her own personal photography style. “I think the kind of style that I aim for is something genuine, yet unique,” she mused. “That probably sounds super cheesy, but I really do try to make my pictures stand out and/or have some unique quality about them that people stop and notice. I try not to edit my photos too much, but just enough to where it enhances the photo rather than hijacks it. I think I knew I was good at taking pictures around my sophomore or junior year of high school. I traveled quite a bit during those years, and I would take my camera with me to take photos. When I posted them on my social media, I got some good feedback.”

When considering a setting to photograph, Landry looks to see whatever catches her eye. “If it’s a person, then it’s their facial expression or what they are doing,” she explained. “If it’s a still shot, for example a city or a building, then I look at the angles. Sunlight is important. It is better to not take pictures of people under harsh sunlight because it washes them out.



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It just looks better if it's in the shade. Obviously you wouldn't want to shoot at noon because the sun is directly overhead. The best times to shoot are at sunrise and sunset. They are called the golden hours."

Although she usually avoids the harsh sunlight, there are times when Landry specifically seeks it to use it as a prop for her photos. "You can be backlit with the sun behind you, and it will leave an outline of your body. On a photo I took of a couple with the sun behind them, it looked like a silhouette. It looked really cool!"

Landry's favorite photos to take are senior photos. She likes to be creative with light, and her first main photo shoot was also her favorite one. It allowed her to experiment with different sets, angles and lighting. "It was a photography project called Fashion Photography with Kaci Wiens as the model. We set up a photo set in her living room like an actual photo shoot. I loved all the pictures! They are probably some of my favorite pictures I've ever taken."

It's no surprise Landry enjoyed taking the senior photos and the fashion shoot







because they are all about people. "I like their expressions because it enables me to really capture who a person is. Sometimes I'll see someone and think, *They would make a great photo!* Other times I'll be taking photos of someone for a photo shoot, and they will start laughing or they will do something silly. I'll think, *That's them!*"

Sometimes, it's difficult for Landry to get the shot she really wants because the subject is so focused on the fact that they are having their picture taken. "They feel like they need to pose to look their best, and I feel like you can't really see who they are," she said. "It would be better for photographs if people could be who they are. Sometimes, to get them to relax, I try to get them to laugh by telling jokes. On the other hand, it can be cool to have photo shoots of someone who is super posed, like my fashion shoot with Kaci. A lot of fashion photos are stiff and dramatic, and I try to capture that rather than their personality."

Landry has big plans for herself after she graduates from UT. She not only loves photography, she also loves to write. Her dream is to be a travel journalist and work for a company such as *National Geographic*, *People* or *Time* magazine. In order to prepare herself as much as possible during her time at school, she will continue to build her portfolio and hopes to work for the newspaper staff at the *Daily Texan*. She is also looking to study abroad with the journalism program. With her skill in writing and photography, Landry's future readers will not only be able to read her stories, but see them in pictures — hopefully from a new camera! **NOW**



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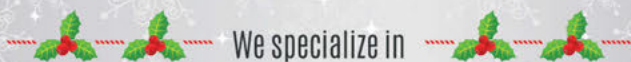
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— By Zachary R. Urquhart

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Michael was born and raised in Los Angeles, and a year after high school, he enlisted in the Army. "My dad said I could either get a job, go to college or join the military," Michael detailed. "I come from a military family, so it was an easy choice. I was in the Army for five years before I went back home and worked in my family's business." Michael was stationed in Texas, so for decades he had a plan to move to Texas one day. After medically retiring from the electrical industry due to a bad motorcycle accident, he was ready to come.

Christine is from East L.A., having grown up in the neighborhoods they use in movies like *Stand and Deliver*. "My parents got me into sports to keep me busy and safe," she explained. After school, Christine worked in customer service for 30 years, serving as the bilingual supervisor for a utility company.

Michael and Christine had some mutual acquaintances, and they met a little over a decade ago. After a few years together, they were married in June 2008. In the first few years of their marriage, they moved around California, relocating several times to take care of ailing parents. Through all the moves, Michael still had his dream of moving to Texas. "I had told



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Christine I wanted to retire in Texas, and she just always humored me,” he said. “Finally, she was getting tired of California, so she said we were ready to make the move.”

After years of thinking a move to Texas was just an inside joke, Christine agreed, and within a week, they were finalizing their plans. “We reached out to a friend in Garland that Sunday, and talked to a Realtor on Monday,” she

recounted. “I was looking at links that Tuesday, and I told Michael I had found our new house.” By the end of the week, Michael and Christine had put an offer on their new home in the southern part of Midlothian, and Christine was on a flight to see it in person. “It was early February, so I was wearing my big jacket because I didn’t realize how hot it would be,” she laughed. “And we didn’t know where Midlothian was. We just

loved the photos, especially the ceiling, and it was Texas.”

The home whose photos sold Michael and Christine is a beautiful house with a friendly circle drive surrounding a flagpole. The landscaping and front porch have a typically Texan accessibility that is part of why Michael likes it here





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so much. "It's the friendliness and the attitude," he detailed. "Christine told me we could try it for a year when we first came, but within a few months we sold our old house. The only properties we have left in California are two burial plots."

Inside, photos of their family accentuate a handsomely tiled entry hallway that leads in multiple directions. The front guest room is definitely Christine's, made clear by the overwhelming amount of Dodgers gear inside. "It's momma's room," she gloated. Though they are both from Southern California, Michael's rooting interest in the Yankees is at odds with Christine's fervor for the blue and white. There is another guest room down the hall, this one resplendent in its white and gold color scheme. The shared guest bathroom is peach for now, but is on Michael's list of home renovations. First, though, he had to tackle *their* room. "We redid the floors, but we have to redo the bathroom next," Christine admitted. The bedroom looks nice with its light blue walls, large vanity and deep wood colors.

While Christine gets to claim the first room most guests will see, Michael has taken over decorating the guest suite in the back. "I'm slowly adding more Raiders and Yankees stuff. And I can always go to eBay if I need to," he mused. Aside from his sports teams, the room also features a lot of Disney memorabilia, mementos left from their days in California. Michael redid the bathroom with rich colors and a reclaimed wood look that he carries over

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with more of the same behind the bed. The room also has a great view of the backyard, and a door to the two-story back patio.

Downstairs, there is plenty of seating that gets shade from the second level deck, with a patio that extends to what will soon be a swimming pool. The porch leads back into the house through the den, which is really two living rooms in one. The media area has comfortable seating and a large screen on top of an exquisite driftwood shelf that Michael created. "I had shown him something on Pinterest, but we didn't know where to get the wood," Christine explained. "Then one day I was driving on Mt. Zion. This guy was selling big pieces of wood, so we stopped." Matching the shelf, Michael also made a driftwood table on the other side of the den, a slightly more formal sitting area centered around the large-stoned fireplace. The mantel is one of the key spots where Christine puts out her extensive holiday decor, decorating around photos and unique stoneware that Michael's grandparents made over 50 years ago.

The dining area features a massive table that serves as a gathering spot, with views of the living room and spacious kitchen. Next to a pantry so large it could be a spare bedroom, Michael and Christine have a room just for their many dogs. "We've rescued them from the SPCA, the pound and even just from seeing a sign in the neighborhood," he said. "I put in French doors, so they can see us while they're closed in their room."

Above the kitchen, the eye-catching ceiling is the culmination of an awesome upstairs. One side of the loft is an office and Harley Davidson collectible area. "Even after the wreck where I broke everything, I still love riding," Michael confided. Across the catwalk of a walkway, the second lofted area is their game room and exercise room. And completing the circle, there is a door leading back to the upstairs patio, which offers a beautiful view of their L-shaped lot, with a multi-tiered berm acting as the visual focal point.

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# The Season for Travel

— By Zachary R. Urquhart

*The holidays mean parties, family and, for some, travel. If you have not planned a big trip before, there are some things you should keep in mind. If you are in the mood for a long getaway for the holidays, here are some tips to make sure you are ready for your excursion.*

## Picking a Place

- *Making the Best Use of Your Miles.* The first step is figuring out where you want to go and when you want to leave. If you have a credit card







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with airline miles or points, you need to be sure that you are not trying to leave during blackout dates. Some have many blackout dates. Some have few, and others have none, so you will need to call your cardmember services, or check their website. You may also be able to use your points to reserve rooms at some hotels and resorts. While your flight choices or hotel rooms may have limits, saving money by using your points can be a great way to plan a bigger vacation than you thought possible.

• *Keep Everyone Satisfied.* While it is not possible to make everyone happy, if you are traveling to a destination other than a family member's house, try to find a



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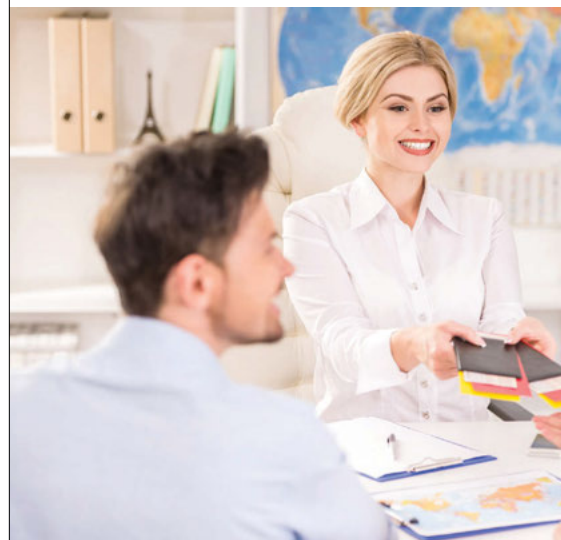
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location with plenty to do. A house on a remote beach is great for some, but if part of the group does not like the feel of the sand on their feet, look into a place like Galveston that has beaches, as well as a historic downtown area and other fun activities.

• *Decide With Help.* With the boom of online services that consolidate hotel rates and flight costs, many people have gotten away from using a travel agent. But, with the sheer volume of options out there, you might consider having an agent help you plan the perfect trip. If your plans include a cruise or other more exotic type of trip, a travel agent could have special offers you cannot

get anywhere else. And an agent can be great if you are looking to book travel and accommodations for the extended family.

## Get the House in Order

• *Avoid Leaving a Paper Trail.* Assuming you are taking the chance to enjoy a lengthy trip, there are



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a few things you should do around the house. Have mail and newspaper services stopped. Anytime you will be gone more than a couple of days, it is a good idea to stop mail and paper delivery, but that is especially true during the holidays, when burglars have a keen eye open for signs of an empty house. You can call or drop by your local post office, but using USPS.com lets you put a hold on your mail with ease online. Most large market newspapers also let you place holds online, but you will have to check if you are getting a small, local publication.



• *Make It Look Lived In.* Aside from limiting mail or newspapers, having your lights variably on and off is a simple way to make it seem like people are home. Timer switches for your exterior lights are cheap and very easy to install. You can even install them on key interior lights to enhance the rouse that you're still at home. If your yard has winter grass or tends to have weeds that will start looking long during your absence, check into hiring a yard service to keep it looking nice. This also ensures that you will not be overloaded with household chores upon your return. Also, try getting all laundry, dishes and cleaning tasks done before you go. You would hate to ruin the fun you had on vacation by coming back to a house with a long list of to-dos.

• *Find a Helping Hand.* If there is a pool to be skimmed, leaves to be raked or pets to be fed, try finding a trustworthy neighbor to help you out. Offer the same





help during their vacation in exchange. Aside from helping with simple chores, having someone check on your place is good in the off chance you have power loss, a leak or some potential catastrophe.

## Time for the Trip

- *Dot Your I's.* Before you hit the road or head for the airport, make sure you have all the various documents and paperwork you will need. Identification for your family and passports, if you are going across borders, and insurance cards are among the things you will want to bring. If you have a detailed itinerary, be sure you have confirmation numbers for each activity. And even though you do not want to think about it before a big trip, it is advised to have an updated will on file in case something unexpected happens.

- *Travel Prepared.* Whether flying or driving, traveling with kids takes a little extra work. For air travel, bring games, toys and snacks to keep your kids occupied and happy. If you are driving, ration the games and snacks you give the kids to keep them from getting bored too quickly. When in doubt, classic car games that you grew up playing, but your kids likely haven't, could be a fun distraction. And be sure to throw in pillows and blankets, so your kids can be as comfortable as possible while they have to sit still for hours on end.

Holiday travel can be more stress than it is worth if you are not ready for all that is involved. But with careful planning and preparation, you can spend a fun-filled holiday vacation, making memories to last a lifetime. **NOW**

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# EIGHTEEN SHOPS

*4L Marketplace houses different Midlothian businesses under one roof for your pleasure. — By Betty Tryon*

Going shopping at 4L Marketplace is an event and a treat! Stepping into the spacious building is akin to walking into 18 different shops all together in one business. Patricia and George Luedtke opened 4L Marketplace in November 2016, along with assistance from their daughter and son-in-law, Reagan and Weston Williamson. They wanted to give Midlothian the same shopping experience they enjoyed in other cities. “Waxahachie has so many places you can go browse through, so we were thinking this would be a great thing for Midlothian to have instead of everybody having to go over there,” Patricia stated.

The family already had talents in constructing creative arts and crafts. With George’s interest in buying and selling antiques, 4L Marketplace became a natural business venture for the family.

Reagan has joined her dad and husband in making creative pieces they’ve sold. “My dad and I made a kid’s table out of a wire spool,” she explained. “My husband made picture frames and different pieces of furniture out of barn wood. We would go to antique and thrift stores to see what we could find and see what we could make out of what we found — whether we’d need to paint it or fix it.”

Even though they don’t have the time to be personally creative today, their business is full of inspired- and artistic-minded vendors who are the equivalent of 18 different businesses. “Each one rents space and has their own thing in here,” Patricia clarified. “It keeps their costs down. People do their own kind of crafts and art projects. The items change a lot. We move out the



furniture to keep it fresh. We get all of our antiques from England, and we also sell local furniture. Our collection is very eclectic from the lamps, Mint & Lace women's clothing boutique, a candle line and KA-Ranch's salsa and jams."

**Their business is full of inspired- and artistic-minded vendors.**

That isn't their entire inventory, of course. The building is chock-full of treasures. "We have a little of something for everybody, like farmhouse-style stuff," Reagan shared. "Anyone who comes in here can find something — from jewelry to clothes to the gift items."

One of the vendors sells Monticello Chalk Clay Paint and also offers classes once a month on how to use it. "It's very popular," Patricia offered. "Once we had four generations of one family come in to participate." She teaches distressing techniques and how to paint with the chalk clay paint on a piece of furniture that those taking the class get to take home. One other class held at the business is taught by the Luedtke's son-in-law, Kirk Brown. He is a firefighter paramedic and teaches CPR classes in the store.

Every other week, a dedicated couple travels to 4L Marketplace to purchase a jar of cashews from the vendor, Certifiably Nuts. There is also Namies Nursery with original handmade children's clothing and goods. The Melissa & Doug toy line inspires with its real wood toys that are made to last. 2 Queen B's, a handmade jewelry line started by two ladies, rents space inside 4L Marketplace. There are many more vendors with unique and creative items inside the building, encouraging people to take their time and browse. As Patricia says, "You may not see everything the first time, so you'll have to come back." **NOW**



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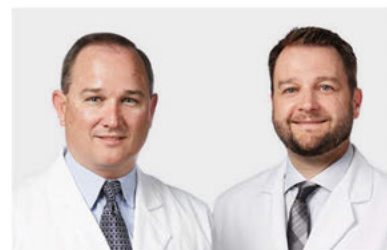


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# A Roadmap to Cancer Care: Patient Navigation

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Helping a patient navigate their cancer journey is an important function of their care team — a team of caring experts each playing an important role in surrounding patients with specialized support. That means a strong focus on communicating with patients and families, managing treatment and side effects and providing guidance in areas not directly related to clinical care.

The navigation function plays a tremendous role in the patient experience. A care team's goal is to ensure that patients and their family members understand their treatment options, know what to expect and help them connect to and take advantage of helpful resources. Managing symptoms, providing emotional support and providing transition into survivorship are also ways a care team helps patients. Patients can take steps to make the most of their partnership with the care team, so the team can better help them navigate the journey.

**Don't shy away from questions.** One of the most important things a patient can do is answer questions honestly and ask questions openly.

- Answering questions fully and honestly will help the care team better understand how the patient is feeling, how they're responding to treatment and what support they may need. While a sign or symptom may not seem like a big deal to a patient, it can be important for the care team to know.

- It's also important for patients to ask questions without fear. What you

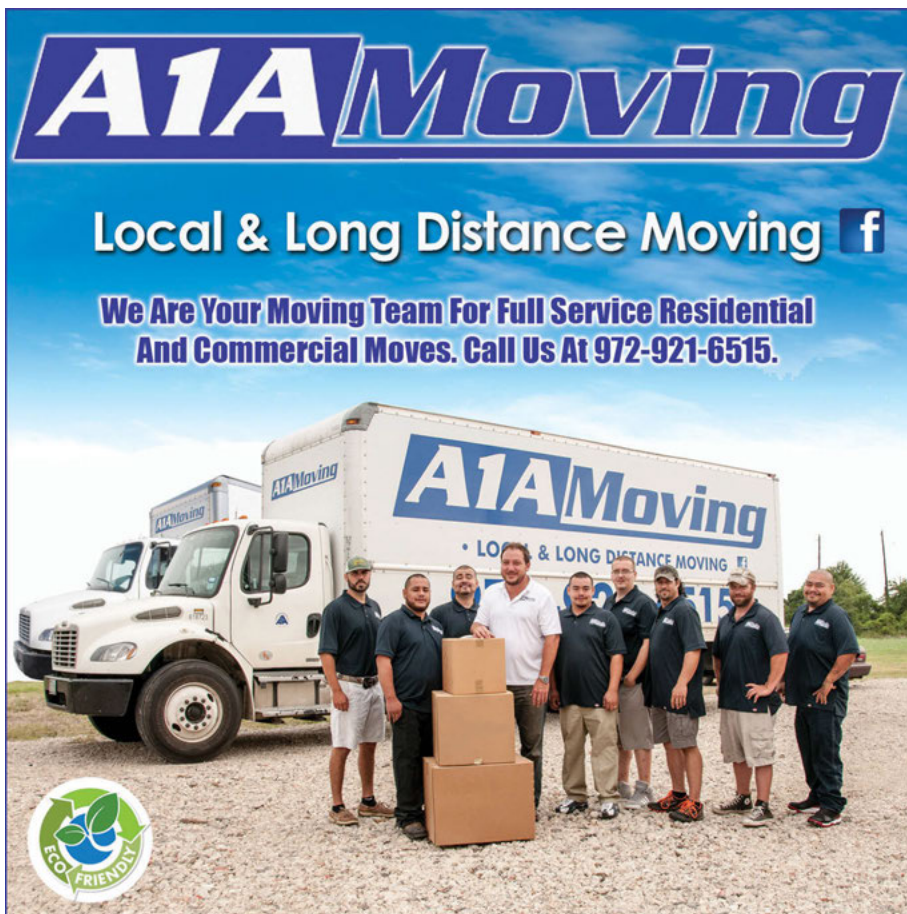
don't know can cause fear and stress, so asking questions and addressing concerns directly can improve the patient experience and potentially head off complications.

**Pay attention to how you feel.** Cancer can bring side effects and new symptoms. It's important for patients to pay attention to how they feel and tell their care team.


**Share the journey.** Cancer can impact one's life in countless ways. Emotional pressures, financial challenges and lifestyle changes can be stressful and feel overwhelming. Other times, patients may feel strength and hope, or be inspired to help others or try new things. Through the good times and the difficult times, sharing the journey with family, friends and the care team can be therapeutic and allows patients to feel supported.

When it comes to cancer care, your care team knows they have seen it all, but you haven't. Each patient experiences cancer differently — it's not a one-size-fits-all situation. By providing a patient navigation model that ensures patients have a system of support from trusted experts, your care team is able to create a roadmap to cancer care holistically designed to meet the needs of each person entrusted to their care. **NOW**

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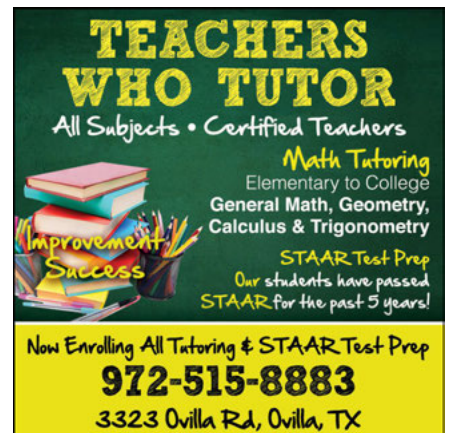


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## In the Kitchen With Steve Randle and Rick Hensley

— *By Melissa Rawlins*

Avid hunters and longtime NOW Magazines employees, Steve Randle and Rick Hensley, cook a lot in their homes and at their respective camps. At 5 years old, Rick began helping his mom in her kitchen, and then he was happy to man the grill or fire pit once he started hunting in his early 20s in Nacogdoches, Texas. Steve and his three sons have hunted turkey and deer in Comanche and Mills counties for over 30 years. Starting a brisket and a campfire Friday night, their pit and the camp fire smokes all weekend.

The recipes he and Rick share here are so simple, but they earn compliments from their friends and families. “And they’re great,” Rick said, “for sitting around a camp fire on a cool fall evening after you’ve been out hunting.” **NOW**

### Rick’s Cajun Rib Eyes

*Best prepared before you go out for the evening hunt.*

- 2 1.25-inch-thick prime or choice rib eyes, bone-in or boneless**
- 1 Tbsp. Tony Chachere’s Original Creole Seasoning**
- 1 tsp. Lawry’s Seasoned Pepper**
- 1/2 tsp. onion powder**
- 1/2 tsp. garlic powder**
- 1 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce**
- 1 tsp. soy sauce**

- 1.** Place the steaks in a 1-gallon Ziploc bag. Sprinkle both sides with dry seasonings; add the sauces.
- 2.** Squeeze the air out, and zip the bag closed. Place it in your ice chest for at least 2 hours.
- 3.** Let steaks get to room temperature before putting them on the fire.

- 4.** For medium rare, and depending on the size of your fire, most steaks will need to cook about 5 or 6 minutes per side

### Rick’s Venison Stew

- 2 Tbsp. bacon grease**
- 1 Tbsp. olive oil**
- 2.5 lbs. venison, cubed**
- 1 tsp. Lawry’s Seasoned Salt**
- 1 tsp. Lawry’s Seasoned Pepper**
- 1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce**
- 8 cups beef broth**
- 12 medium golden potatoes**
- 1 tsp. Tony Chachere’s Original Creole Seasoning**
- 1/2 tsp. garlic powder**
- 1/2 tsp. onion powder**
- 1 large, sweet 1015 onion**
- 4 celery stalks, diced bite-size**
- 1 8-oz. bag petite carrots, sliced bite-size**

- 1 10-oz. can Ro-Tel tomatoes, regular or mild**
- 1 14.5-oz. can green beans**
- 1/2 15.2-oz. can corn (optional)**
- Salt and pepper, to taste**

- 1.** In a large stock pot, combine grease and olive oil.
- 2.** While it heats, season the cubed venison with salt, pepper and Worcestershire sauce.
- 3.** Cook over medium-high heat until done. Add the beef broth; cook at a low boil for about 30 minutes, to start tenderizing meat.
- 4.** Meanwhile, wash potatoes. Leaving the skin on, cut into medium bite-size pieces. Add to the boiling meat mixture; simmer for another 15 minutes.
- 5.** Add remaining seasonings, vegetables and canned goods and fast simmer 20 minutes.
- 6.** If desired, use flour or corn starch to thicken it a little.
- 7.** Salt and pepper to taste, and enjoy!

### Steve’s Nanner Pud

- 5 3/4 cups cold milk**
- 2 large boxes instant vanilla pudding mix**
- 1 1/2 14-oz. cans Eagle Brand condensed milk**
- 1/2 stick butter**
- 1/2 box graham cracker crumbs**
- 1 1/2 boxes vanilla wafers, reduced fat variety**
- 3-4 ripe bananas**
- 1 large tub Cool Whip**

- 1.** Combine milk with pudding mix. Stir in condensed milk, a little at a time, to avoid clumps; refrigerate.
- 2.** Melt butter and mix with graham cracker crumbs. Spread crumbs on bottom of bowl or aluminum pan, saving some for decorations, if desired.
- 3.** Put down a layer of wafers and sliced bananas.
- 4.** When pudding is firm, fold in the Cool Whip, so the pudding has white streaks all through it. Save some Cool Whip for decoration.
- 5.** Pour a little less than half of the pudding mix over the wafers and bananas.
- 6.** Repeat the layers and end with all bananas covered, or they will turn brown.
- 7.** Stand wafers up all the way around the edge of the bowl.
- 8.** Sprinkle with crumbs, and add dollops of Cool Whip.

**To view recipes from current and previous issues, visit [www.nowmagazines.com](http://www.nowmagazines.com).**





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