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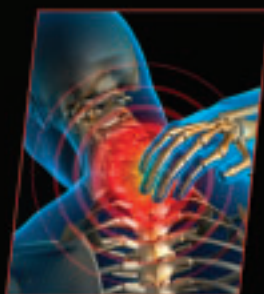
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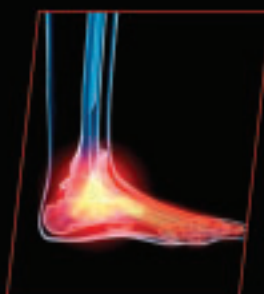
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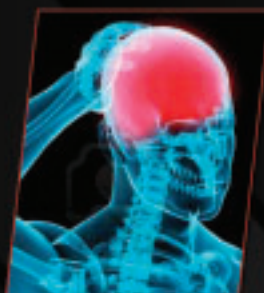
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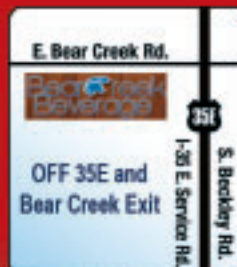


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ON THE COVER



Dolores McClatchey is honored by having the new elementary school named after her.

Photo by Amy Dishman.

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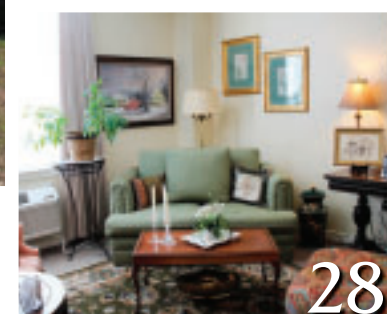
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Editor's Note

Hello, Midlothian!

To say May is a busy month doesn't quite do it justice. It is therefore apropos that the month begins with a merry celebration on May Day. National Teacher Day on May 3 is a wonderful time to show your appreciation. The celebrations of Cinco de Mayo and reverent observations of the National Day of Prayer share the 5th of May. End the week on the 7th sipping ice cold mint juleps as you

cheer on the Kentucky Derby.

Begin the week on the 8th with your mom on Mother's Day. As a mother of three and grandmother of two, I think the entire week should be dedicated to making mom happy and proud. On the 21st of the month, thoughts turn to our military on Armed Forces Day and on the 30th for Memorial Day.

We end the month of May with congratulations to all the graduates. Fling those caps high in triumph!

Have a great month!

Betty

Betty Tryon
MidlothianNOW Editor
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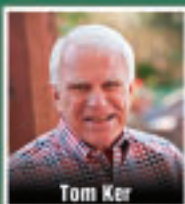
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The Teacher's Teacher

— By Betty Tryon



Sitting at her desk in a small-town school, Dolores McClatchey, future educator, had many dreams. Not one of those dreams included becoming a teacher and receiving one of the highest honors an educator can receive — being the namesake of a new school. Such an honor seeks a person of high integrity who serves as a role model to the entire educational community. How appropriate that the new Midlothian school bears her name — Dolores Wood McClatchey Elementary School.



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Architectural rendering of the school building, showing the exterior design and landscaping.

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best for me or
what’s best for
teachers. We kept
the focus on *kids*
and what’s best
for students.”**

“In high school, there was a basketball coach who was also the typing teacher,” she shared. “I never thought I could go to college. He convinced me that it was possible. I was the first one from my family who went to college. My parents were very encouraging and had always said, ‘You can do any and every thing you want to do if you put your mind to it!’ I believed that.”

Dolores graduated from high school in 1955 at the top of her class. Smiling, she noted that she was valedictorian out of a class of seven. “What I’m most proud of is that I never missed a day of school after I started high school. I loved school that much!” After graduation, she went to Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches. In three years, she earned her degree in elementary education. Dolores met her future husband, Clyde, in Nacogdoches, where he was working on his master’s degree. They both returned to Dolores’ high school where her husband taught, and they started their family with their son, Steapheon.

The couple moved to North Forest ISD in the Houston area and lived there for 16 years. Dolores taught second grade for four years and then moved to the central office into a position called Helping Teacher. “I held staff development for the teachers. I coached them, watched them teach and told them what I thought they





Happy Mother's Day!

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needed to do.” She became director of elementary curriculum with 10 elementary schools for 12 years. It was during this time that their daughter, Jana, was born.

With a growing family, the couple’s priorities changed. They wanted their children to have that grandparent experience, so they started a job search close to their parents. “We sent out 115 résumés and only heard back from one — Midlothian,” she laughed. “There was a supreme being leading us to Midlothian. We knew we didn’t want to go to a big city. At that time, there were 1,900 kids in the district. Signing our contract in 1975 was the best move we ever made.”

Dolores taught two years as a sixth grade reading teacher, until she was promoted to the position of curriculum director and began to work with the principals. Her position evolved into an assistant superintendent, and she continued to work with the principals and develop curriculum with all the teachers in the district. She also provided staff development, interviewing and hiring qualified teachers. She continued in that position throughout her 30 years



in Midlothian. Meanwhile, her husband worked as assistant principal and special education director for Ellis County. Upon retirement, he went to Texas Youth Commission and worked as an education liaison.

In Midlothian ISD, Dolores' work with the teachers operated on the principle of staying on the "cutting edge of what research said about what is best for kids." It has been sort of our motto that everything you do, you run through the filter of the eyes of what's best for kids," she stated. "It's not what's best for me or what's best for teachers. We kept the focus on kids and what's best for students."





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What Dolores is most proud of is the Literacy Program. “I had the opportunity to get training for teachers and develop a cadre of staff members who could carry on that training over the years to come. It is a guided reading library with level books located in an area separate from the school library,” she explained. “It’s like a book room. The teachers can pull from them to give their instructions. We trained all the first grade teachers and developed a library on each campus where teachers could place kids on their reading levels, and they could advance. The materials they needed were all right there. I feel like the program has made a difference, and it is continuing today.”

Developing a program for teachers was representative of Dolores’ work in the educational arena. “I love teachers!” she exclaimed. “I’ve always been a firm believer that the key to learning is the teacher. You can take technology or any kind of equipment or program and stick it in there, but it is the teacher who makes the difference. The basis of staff development is helping teachers know what research said about what was best for students and student growth, and then building on those materials and supplies to improve the reading skills of students.”



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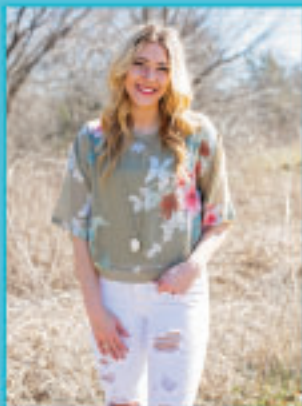
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Dolores still works part time in I Teach Texas, an alternative certification program. It involves working with teachers in Ellis County, who have a degree in a field other than education, but are trying to get the certificate to teach. “After they take course work through I Teach Texas, I supervise them for a year. While they are teaching, I go in and give them feedback on their teaching.”


After 30 years of being in Midlothian, Dolores has seen many changes and growth in the community. “There are a lot of good things about it,” she acknowledged. “When you grow, you are able to provide a wider range of opportunities for kids. You are able to build and expand on what you’ve previously developed and continue to develop new things. Growth can be difficult on one side because sometimes growth can happen so rapidly you have a hard time keeping up. You can’t predict what’s going to happen, particularly in the building of schools and in the hiring of personnel. Those two things are critical.”

Very few communities can keep up with the level of growth and still maintain high levels of educational achievement for the students. “I think that’s attributed to the growth that’s here,” Dolores remarked. “If you ask people on the street why they came to Midlothian, they say it’s the schools. We’ve had excellent support for school growth. The parents and the business people in the community are there and ready to do what they can for the schools. There are quality people working in this district. There are principals who give their life to what they are doing and teachers who are dedicated to the service. I feel so fortunate to have been a part of that, and I like to call it a family developing what’s needed for our students.” **NOW**

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MATURE BEYOND HIS YEARS

— By Debbie Durling



“When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left, and could say, ‘I used everything you gave me.’” This quote by Erma Bombeck is Clark Wickliffe’s ultimate goal in life. A fourth-generation Midlothian, his “old soul” goes way beyond his 20 years. His talents are diverse, ranging from real estate and ranching to politics. He already knows where he wants to go in life, and he’s making great strides to get there.

Clark grew up in a family that enjoys ranching and real estate. As Clark has watched his own parents over the years, he has been inspired to be the best he can be, wherever his interests take him. During his developmental years, he was presented with many opportunities to expand his horizons. In eighth grade he was accepted into People to People Student Ambassadors.



This program took him to Europe for 25 days. He toured several countries and lived with a family in Switzerland. He loved learning about the culture and being with the family in everyday situations.

Even though he has now enrolled in college, he decided to go straight into real estate when he graduated from high school. He remembers driving around with his mom looking at appraisals when he was a freshman. "I loved it," Clark said with enthusiasm. At 8:00 a.m., the day after high school graduation, he



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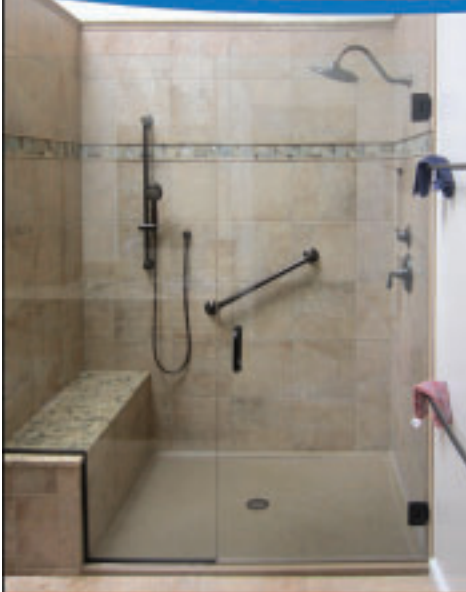
started real estate school. At his young age, he already has a thriving business.

He fancies himself a Midlothian historian, as he can tell many stories passed down from his ancestors, as well as recall many facts from his studies of personally owned documents from the past. His office is a room in what was previously his grandfather's Western Auto store in downtown Midlothian. It has been totally restored, right down to the rustic brick fireplace that was covered up by a wall so well that no one knew it was there until the renovations began some years ago.

Clark has two other interests that he takes even more seriously than those mentioned above — politics and ranching. These are equal passions in his life. Even though there may be seasons in which he has to choose one or the other, he feels deeply committed to both. He was the youngest professional ever to be included in the North Texas Leadership Commission Class. It consists of a group of 30 people assigned to design what they think the DFW area would look like in 2050. This has given him experience in city planning and working with others in the field, preparing him to possibly sit on the City Council of Midlothian some day with an ultimate goal of being a State Representative. "I want to be the one who is really representing the people, not getting caught up in myself or what I want," he said.

His latest endeavor has to do with his love of ranching. When he was 10 years old, his father gave him 10 head of cattle. By giving his father the profit from those cows for the next four years,

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he was able to pay him back. As he has worked with his own cattle through the years, he watched his brother, Eric, grow his ranching business. This is where he learned about federal loans and grants to help ranchers get off to a good start. This past year, Clark applied for the USDA Grant for the Beginning Farmer and Ranch Development Program. "The paperwork was about this thick," Clark said as he held his fingers apart the width of an average phone book. It is a competitive grant program that provides training and education for beginning farmers and ranchers. Through this grant, Clark has learned many ways to "ranch smarter" through research and classes.

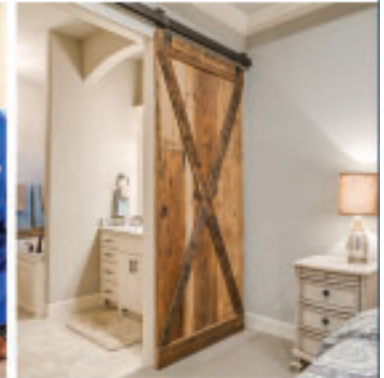
A concept that has truly added more usable acreage to their ranch is soil conservation. Clark said that ranchers used to lop the top of the trees and eventually they would grow back. The root system would also continue to demand water from the soil, taking it away from the



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grass that would feed the cows, if it were only able to grow. He has now mastered clearing the land with a goal of producing more cows on less property.

First, he bulldozes every thorn tree. Then the brush is burned. The root of the tree must be killed. To do this, they put the necessary compounds into the root and over time it rots. After that, he plows the ground to level it and loosen the soil. "We have learned that turnips are great soil cultivators," Clark added. A lot of the land in this area is dirt on top with hard limestone rock underneath. The turnip grows down into the soil and right through the limestone. When the turnip is pulled up, a way has been made for the roots of the grass to go deeper and be stronger. Last, they seed the land with a mixture of grass and turnips. They use a machine they were able to acquire because of funding from the government called a No-Till. This machine injects the seed into the ground. It plows and seeds at the same time, while also helping prevent situations like the Dust Bowl of





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the past. After working a pasture full of trees, it becomes a lush garden of grass.

"Through government grants, we are also able to experiment with mixing various types of grass seed to create a hardy blend that proves good for feeding the cows," Clark explained. They report all of their findings from research to the government, which becomes beneficial to other ranchers and farmers.

Research to reduce the carbon print on the land is also being done. "Fertilizer makes the amoebas in the ground lazy," Eric said. "We are trying to find ways to make the amoebas grow in the ground to limit the need for fertilizer."

In all his endeavors, he still takes time for philanthropy. Clark invests in the Special Olympics program with Midlothian schools each year. This particular program is close to his heart because when he was in school, he was able to serve as a peer partner/mentor to students who were part of the program.

Clark can be characterized as a man who wants to use his talents to make a difference wherever possible. At such a young age, he has already influenced the future planning of the DFW area, the real estate market, developed better ranching methods and reached out to help fund a community program. With his drive and personal dedication, great things are surely yet to come for Clark. **NOW**

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At Home
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Monzingo

Still Bouncing

— By Zachary R. Urquhart



A home does not have to be a large, ornate house with extensive decorations and landscaping. For some, home is simply where they have their meals and rest their heads. The building of new neighborhoods has seen the housing market for young families explode over the last decade. At the same time, though, a simple and quiet development has given rise to an increase in the elderly population in Midlothian. For Sue Monzingo, Midtowne Assisted Living and Memory Care could not have opened at a better time. She spends her days socializing, eating, bouncing around and enjoying a fun life.

Sue grew up in Waco, and met her husband when they were kids. "We went to Gurley Elementary together, then South Junior High. We graduated from Waco High School in 1949," she detailed. After



graduating in January, Sam and Sue married in November, staying in Waco for the first few years of their married life. Sam worked as a bank teller, while Sue was a secretary for an insurance company until they had their two daughters, Susan and Sandra. Between the two girls, Sue has four grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren, all of whom live in the area.

In 1960, Sue and her family moved from Waco to Dallas so Sam could go to school. "He went to Southern Methodist University and studied insurance," Sue explained. Sam and Sue spent several decades in Rockwall before moving to a home in Midlothian to be close to their family. "We lived in a house for a while, but Sam was diagnosed

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with Alzheimer's, so he had to move into assisted living in Waxahachie," she continued.

After Sam passed away in late 2014, Susan and Sandra looked into the assisted living center in Midlothian for Sue, and right away it seemed perfect. "When they were building the Midtowne division, we started checking it out," Sandra said. "Mom moved in soon after it opened, and she has loved it."

"Everyone experiences grief differently," Susan recalled. "Mom seemed alright, but she had stopped eating after Dad died. The doctor said she was fine, she just needed to eat and

be around people." The change in scenery did wonders for Sue's health after Sam's passing.

With the manifestation of Sue's grief having led to her not eating, Sandra was especially pleased with how well her mom is fed. "They can't cook in their rooms, but they have three great meals each day," she said. "Mom really loves breakfast, and they started making Belgian waffles, so she loves each morning."

Sue's apartment is handsomely decorated with furniture and decor that has largely been with her for decades. "I am an interior designer, so I did her place for her," Susan admitted.





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“Coming from a big house, I couldn’t get everything in here.” The kitchen area is adorned with vases and imitation foods, and has the look of a Venetian bakery. The living area has several paintings of note. “Dad’s niece painted the wagon, which is in front of the house he grew up in,” she detailed. “And the snowy town was painted by a famous local painter from Oak Cliff.”

In addition to the decor in those rooms, mirrors and lamps ornament the entire dwelling. Near the bedroom, Sue has several pieces of Asian artwork. “We never went to Asia, I just really like the colors in those paintings,” she laughed. Though they never went that far, Sam and Sue spent much of their time driving a motor home all around the country. “We’ve been to every state. I think Arizona was my favorite, but they are all beautiful,” she recounted. Her love of pretty colors is evident when surveying her place. There are bright colors adorning every wall, and decadently colorful rugs on the floors.

With one of the larger apartments, Sue is able to fit quite a few pieces of her family’s history in her new home. “We’ve had these couches since we lived in Oak Cliff,” she revealed. “We keep them and recover them, and they’ve lasted a long time.” The table at the end of the bed is a piece Sam and Sue got before their wedding, and it has lasted

over six decades. "The baking table by the door has been in my family a long time, too," she continued. "Sam's sister painted it black and white, but when I got it, I had it stripped and stained back to wood." In her bedroom, Sue has photos and paintings of her large family. "I had paintings done of the girls when they were young," she said. "And there are photos of all of the kids, grandkids and great-grandkids. I even have a photo of Sam when he was a boy."

The family mementos are in line with the family time Sue enjoys. She goes to Susan or Sandra's house for dinner regularly and the young kids love coming to visit. "One or both of us are usually here once or twice a week, and our grandkids will fight about who gets to come along," Susan shared. "And we both have pools, so during the summer Mom sits by the pool, while we get together. Our families together end up being 25 people, so we just say, 'If you can make it, come on, if not, come next time.'"



Sue loves her time at her new home. She is able to get her hair and nails done at the beauty shop, she enjoys visits from the MHS band and football players, and she is happy meeting her neighbors. "I didn't know anyone here before I moved in, but there are so many great folks," she beamed. "And I like meeting nice people." After a life of road trips, taking care of kids and working with Sam teaching Sunday school, Sue loves this new season in life, and she especially loves taking it easy, one waffle-filled morning at a time. **NOW**



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IT'S A-BOAT TIME

— By Zachary R. Urquhart

Summer is here! With Texas' cool days vanishing rapidly, this month marks the beginning of the summer season. One of the best parts of Texas summer is going to the lake. Before you head out to hit the waters, there are some important things to remember to ensure you experience a fun-filled day.

BEFORE YOUR TRIP

- *Safety starts at home:*

Boating is exciting, but there are many things you should know before getting on the water. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department teaches safety classes throughout the year, as well as offering an online version of its course. For anyone born after August 1993, the safety course is required in order to operate a powered vessel.

- *Know your equipment:*

In addition to knowing the safety standards for your boat or personal watercraft (PWC, also commonly called a Jet Ski), you need to ensure you know the equipment itself. If you are renting

a vessel, familiarize yourself with controls and features. If you own your own boat or PWC, check the oil and fluid levels the same way you would a car.

- *As you are planning:*

While Texas is somewhat lacking in natural lakes, there are a plethora of manmade spots to enjoy. For a perfect sunny day on the water, a local lake might be the place for you. But if you're thinking about a longer trip, you might want to consider traveling up north to Lake Texoma or exploring a lake in the Austin or Houston areas.

- *When you pack:*

Because you are constantly getting hit by the cool mist coming off the boat, you might forget to apply sunscreen or drink



enough water. Bring plenty of liquids and sunscreen to take care of your body's needs, inside and out. You want to remember your trip for the first time you waterskied, not the wicked sunburn you got spending 10 hours in the heat.

ON THE LAKE

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a small fee, with all but a guarantee of a successful day baiting and luring. If your desires are more for speed and thrills, make sure to find a location free of heavy traffic or shallow water. Choppy waves are great for PWC use, and can be fun for general boating, but for waterskiing and wakeboarding, you will want flatter waters. One trick is to make passes about 20 yards away from, but parallel to, manmade shorelines that act as a natural wind blocker.

Happy
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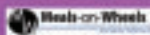
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• *Equip yourself:*

Make sure you wear life jackets. Legally, adult boaters only have to have a life vest available, not necessarily on. But tragic, avoidable deaths happen every year because someone failed to use a life jacket. Children under 13 are required to wear life jackets, and they should also be closely monitored while the boat is underway. It is also prudent to take a wallet and phone on the lake in case

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you have any mechanical or user-error problems on the water.

• *Boat safely:*

You should always pass other vessels on the left, or port side. When you pass another vessel, a person or an object of any type, you must be more than 50 feet away or slow to idle speed. Boats are allowed on the water at night if they have lights, but PWCs must be off the lake 30 minutes before dusk for everyone's safety.

• *Know your limits:*

PWCs are fun and relatively simple to learn to use, but operating larger boats is much more involved, so do not try to take out more boat than you can handle. When it comes to getting maximum speed, or trying tricks on skis and boards, make sure you have someone who can help you if you overdo it.

• *Keep your ears and eyes open:*

You want a full day at the lake, but if waters are too choppy for skiing, or if storms are coming, it is best to be safe. Someone waving hello and someone waving for help looks similar from 60 feet away, so be sure to look for signs indicating that a fellow boater needs help. The Texas Wildlife Department has wardens patrolling the lake for everyone's benefit, so afford them the same courtesy and respect that you show highway patrolmen.

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BEFORE HEADING HOME

• *Recheck your hitch:*

Be careful to make sure your boat is securely hitched if pulling or secured on the lift if it stays at the lake. For a lift, make sure to raise the boat based on the highest possible water level, not necessarily the current level. Every year, boats fall off lifts and sink during storms because they were not lifted high enough off the lake level.


• *Cleaning up:*

There are organisms and bacteria in some water that will eat away at the veneer on a boat if left untouched, so make sure to give it a quick wash when your day is complete. If you travel from one body of water to another, make extra sure to clean the boat, as some organisms in one lake will attack those in another if they are allowed to spread.

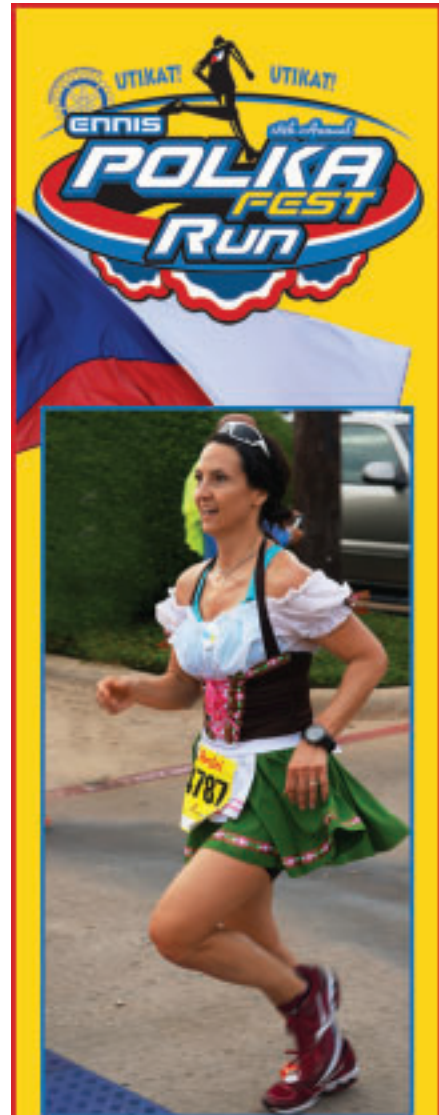
It may seem as though there are a lot of rules to follow just to have a relaxing day on the water. But following these guidelines will help you be prepared for your day at the lake, as well as keep you and your loved ones safe. **NOW**

Editor's Note: More laws, safety standards and general boating information are available on the Texas Parks & Wildlife Boating Page at www.tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/boat/.

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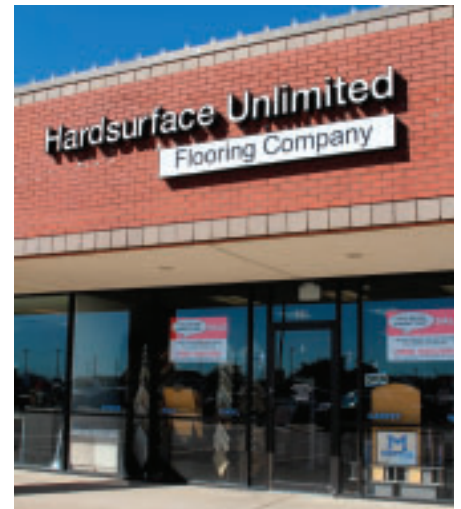


Hardsurface Unlimited Flooring

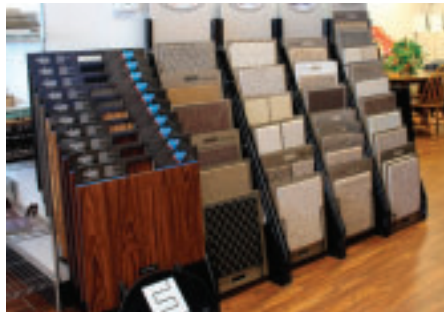
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Calvin Nelms and John Herrera have everything you need to be creative with your next flooring project.



Flooring and More

Hardsurface Unlimited Flooring is a full-scale remodeling company.

— By Betty Tryon

Over one year ago, 50 years of experience in flooring, architecture and construction came to Midlothian. Hardsurface Unlimited Flooring opened for business in April 2015 with co-owners Calvin Nelms and John Herrera. “I have 36 years of experience,” Calvin stated. “All I’ve ever done all my life is flooring and remodeling. I probably have more knowledge and background when it comes to installing than most people. I sell flooring, but I’ve also actually installed floors. We are not just a floor store. We are a full-scale remodeling company.”

John has 14 years of experience in architecture and construction. “Most of my background comes from drawing floorplans, measuring and the architectural side of it,” he offered. “If someone is having trouble visualizing what they want, I can

print out a 3-D model for them, so they can see how that material would look in their space.”

Choosing the right material for your home is easy in the stylish showroom at Hardsurface Unlimited Flooring. There are plenty of samples to examine, allowing you to be creative as you make your selection. A popular flooring these days is hardwood. Aside from the beautiful aesthetic look of hardwood floors, Calvin notes a health benefit. “Some people want it because of allergy reasons,” he explained. “They want to stay away from carpeting throughout the house. It also increases the value of your home, whether it’s solid hardwood or engineered hardwood. Engineered floors are built and designed with the state of Texas in mind. Because of the way they build these floors, each ply is laid at a

different angle. That helps to prevent moisture from seeping through. Here in Texas, if I was building my house, it would be with engineered floors. A laminated floor will not increase the value of your home.” Engineered wood is real wood although it is a man-made composite of wood products combined with adhesives. The crisscross of the plywood gives it extra strength and durability.

“We are not just a floor store. We are a full-scale remodeling company.”

Of course, there are other flooring options other than hardwood and engineered wood floors. “People see our name Hardsurface Unlimited and don’t realize we also do carpet, porcelain tiles, ceramic tiles, vinyl planks, stone veneer for fireplaces, carpets and countertops. We also have a cabinet maker for cabinets,” Calvin stated. “Our prices are competitive to just about anyone, and if not, I’ll make it competitive.”

“We are honest and upfront with customers,” John added. “I try to tell customers every possible thing that could go wrong upfront and how much it could cost. We have a book where prices are set. We don’t just make up numbers in our heads. Customers can see the prices and know they are getting the same deal everyone else is.”

When the floor design for Hardsurface Unlimited Flooring was put in place, the owners made sure it would be comfortable for everyone. They only have one type of surface on the floor for one reason — to make it handicapped accessible. “We made sure the aisles are wide enough for wheelchairs to move through the store,” Calvin explained.

The owners are very accommodating with their hours and where they do business. “If I have a customer who needs an after-hours appointment, I can meet with them. We will do the entire state of Texas!” Calvin laughed. Calvin and John show their appreciation for senior citizens, firefighters, police officers and our military by giving them all a 10 percent discount for their flooring needs. **NOW**

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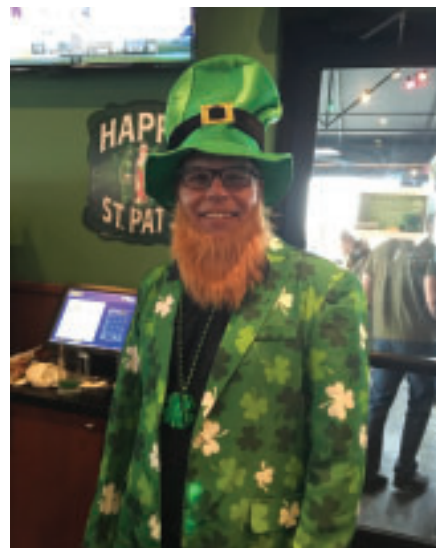




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Owner Brad Golden celebrates St. Patrick's Day at Beef 'O' Brady's.



Jana Pongratz and Sue the Panther represent MISD as they welcome visitors at the Midlothian Marketplace.



MHS graduating soccer seniors pose for a team picture.



Cammy Jackson, president of the Midlothian Chamber of Commerce, celebrates her birthday.



Johnny Carino's joins the Midlothian Chamber of Commerce.



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Ryan Molder provides entertainment at the Wine and Arts Festival.



Lainey Wolf and Ninja Turtle, representing TxBB4, have fun collecting goodies at the Marketplace.



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May 6

MISD Jazz Bands 3rd Annual Spring Outdoor Jazz Concert: 7:00-10:00 p.m., Back Alley Plaza, downtown Midlothian.

May 7

Texas Arrowhead Show: 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Midlothian Civic Center, 224 S. 11th St. Set up from 6:30-8:00 a.m. Admission: \$5, children 12 and under are free. Table prices are: \$35 for a 6-foot table. For more information, contact Harold Hughes at (972) 921-8555 or email haroldhughes@skybeammail.com.

Midlothian Wine & Arts Festival: 4:00-8:00 p.m., 8th St. and Ave. in downtown Midlothian. Tickets: pre-sale, \$20; day of event, \$25. Tickets include sample tastings, a wine glass and tote bag.

Fifth Annual Race for the King 5KRun/Walk and Kids' Fun Run: 8:00 a.m., Ferris Junior High, 1002 E. 8th St., Ferris. Race begins and ends at Ferris ISD Yellowjacket Stadium.

The race benefits the Kyle King Scholarship Fund. To make payments and for additional race information, contact Traci Rodriguez at (972) 544-2279 or tdrodrig@ferrisisd.org. You can also access the school's website to get a registration form.

May 13, 14

MHS Pantherettes present RETTES take FLIGHT: 7:30 p.m., MHS Auditorium. Adult tickets, \$10; Student tickets, \$8.

May 21

Midlothian Opry Country Music Show, Midlothian Civic Center, 224 S. 11th St. Old Country and gospel music with Goodtimers Band, \$5 admission. Call Davonnia at (214) 676-1706 or go to Facebook Midlothian Opry.

May 28

18th Annual Polkafest Run: 10K/5K/1-mile Fun Run/Walk: first race begins at 7:00 a.m., 2405 Yorkstown Dr., Ennis. The event coincides with the 50th anniversary of the National Polka Festival. For more information or to register, visit www.polkafestrun.com or on Facebook at Ennis Polka Fest Run. Paws for Reflection Ranch First Annual

Horsepower Poker Run Fundraiser (motorcycle poker run) to benefit Boots of Honor programs: registration, 10:00-11:30 a.m. For more information, go to PawsForReflectionRanch.org, PawsForReflection@att.net and (972) 775-8966.

June 4

Mid-Way Regional Airport Annual Pancake Breakfast Fly-In: 8:00-11:00 a.m., Mid-Way Regional Airport. Breakfast tickets: adults and children 8 and over, \$6; children under 8, \$3. The event features classic airplanes, helicopter and airplane rides, fly-overs, live music, children's activities, Midlothian Classic Wheels and Gold Wing Road Riders. Parking is free. Public is invited. For more information, call (972) 923-0080 or visit mid-wayregional.com.

June 10

Relay For Life of Midlothian: 6:00 p.m.-midnight, Midlothian Civic Center Youth Football Field, 224 S. 11th St.

Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your current event details to betty.fryon@nowmagazines.com.

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In the Kitchen With Vera Wofford

— *By Betty Tryon*

Vera Wofford knows how to cherish those special moments in her family. “I treasure the times when I see my large family enjoying a meal. The aromas and warmth of a well-used kitchen is a memory that will never leave children as they sense love, care and comfort from beautifully prepared meals. My family’s health and comfort is my pleasure in cooking.”

Vera has three children, 13 grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and a husband of 56 years. As a child, Vera grew up on home-grown vegetables and meat raised on the farm. Many of the recipes she uses today are from the goodness of that era. She loves passing those traditions to her granddaughters. **NOW**

Mandarin Orange Salad

Salad:

- 1/2 head lettuce, chopped**
- 1 cup celery, chopped**
- 1 Tbsp. minced parsley**
- 2 green onions and tops, thinly sliced**
- 1 11-oz. can mandarin oranges, drained**

Dressing:

- 1/2 tsp. salt**
- 2 Tbsp. rice wine vinegar**
- 2 Tbsp. sugar**
- 1/4 cup oil**
- 1/4 tsp. Tabasco sauce**
- Dash pepper**

- 1. For salad:** In a large mixing bowl, toss all ingredients together.
- 2. For dressing:** Mix together all dressing ingredients in a jar with a tight-fitting lid. Shake well before using.

Pat Hunter’s Corn Casserole

- 1/2 cup sugar**
- 3 Tbsp. all-purpose flour**
- 2 tsp. baking powder**
- 2 tsp. salt**
- 6 large eggs, beaten**
- 2 cups whipping cream**
- 1/2 cup melted butter**
- 6 cups frozen whole kernel corn, thawed**

- 1.** Combine first four ingredients in a large bowl; add eggs. Stir in cream and butter. Stir in thawed corn. Pour into sprayed 9x13-inch baking dish.
- 2.** Bake at 325 F for 45-55 minutes.

Man-pleasing Lasagna

- 1 12-oz. box lasagna noodles**
- 1 lb. lean ground meat**
- 1 15-oz. can tomato sauce**

- 1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese, softened**
- 1 cup sour cream**
- 1 bunch green onions with tops, thinly sliced**
- 4 oz. shredded cheddar cheese**

- 1.** Boil noodles; drain and cover with cold water.
- 2.** Brown meat; add tomato sauce.
- 3.** Combine cream cheese and sour cream. Add onions.
- 4.** In a large baking dish, layer noodles, cheese mixture, meat, ending with a second layer of noodles on top. Cover with shredded cheddar. Cover loosely with foil and bake 20-30 minutes at 350 F.

My Chocolate Pie

Filling:

- 1 cup sugar**
- 1/3 cup flour**
- 3 heaping Tbsp. cocoa (or more if you like it darker)**
- 1/4 tsp. salt**
- 2 cups milk, scalded**
- 3 egg yolks**
- 2 Tbsp. butter**
- 1/2 tsp. vanilla**
- 1 9-inch pie shell, baked**

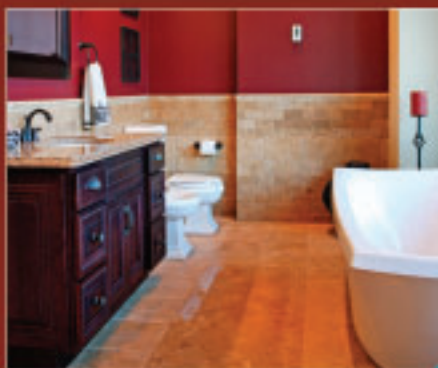
Meringue:

- 3 egg whites**
- 6 Tbsp. sugar**
- 1/2 tsp. cream of tartar**

- 1. For filling:** Mix 1 cup sugar, flour, cocoa, and salt in a deep, heavy skillet. Gradually add milk, stirring constantly. Cook over medium heat, stirring until mixture thickens and boils.
- 2.** Cook 2 minutes; remove from heat. Add a small amount to egg yolks; stir, and then stir into hot mixture. Cook 1 minute, stirring constantly.
- 3.** Add butter and vanilla; pour into pie shell and let cool slightly.
- 4. For meringue:** Beat egg whites and 6 Tbsp. sugar. Add cream of tartar to stabilize. Top pie with meringue. Bake at 350 F until light brown, about 10-15 minutes. Best served warm and fresh from the oven.

To view recipes from current and previous issues, visit www.nowmagazines.com.

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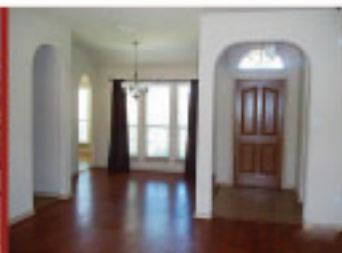
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