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ON THE COVER



*As mayor of Midlothian,
Bill Houston watches over
its growth.*

Photo by Hannah Chartrand.

CONTENTS

July 2017 • Volume 13, Issue 7



8 Growth Is Here
Bill Houston is in his third term as mayor.

14 Northwest Meets Southwest
At Home With Chad and Trisha Scott.

24 Kicking High
From Pantherette to Rangerette, Myah Brown's love of dancing pushes her to achieve her dreams.

30 Furry Family Fellows
Help your pets live long, healthy lives.



36 BusinessNOW
38 Around TownNOW
44 CookingNOW

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Subscriptions are available at the rate of \$35 per year or \$3.50 per issue. Subscriptions should be sent to: NOW Magazines, P.O. Box 1071, Waxahachie, TX 75168. For advertising rates or editorial correspondence, call (972) 937-8447 or visit www.nowmagazines.com.



Editor's Note

Dear Friends,

Happy times are here again! It's summer and the living is easy, for some of us, that is. Unfortunately, many still have the daily grind of work. But after work is a whole different story. How relaxing it is topping off the day in a swimming pool with your favorite drink and enjoying the company of friends! Whether in the privacy of your own backyard or sharing it with others in a public pool, water recreation is always a great choice. And nothing says backyard good times like firing up the grill and getting palates salivating all over your neighborhood.

If you're looking for some company to share the good times, look no farther than one of our beautiful neighborhood parks! Midlothian Parks and Recreation wants to add to your summertime enjoyment by giving you free movies at dusk, once a month. This year, they have such gems as *Sing*, *Trolls* and *Beauty and the Beast*. Check our calendar for more information. Don't forget the bug repellent!

Have a fun, safe summer, and squeeze in all the relaxing you possibly can!

Betty

Betty Tryon
MidlothianNOW Editor
betty.tryon@nowmagazines.com



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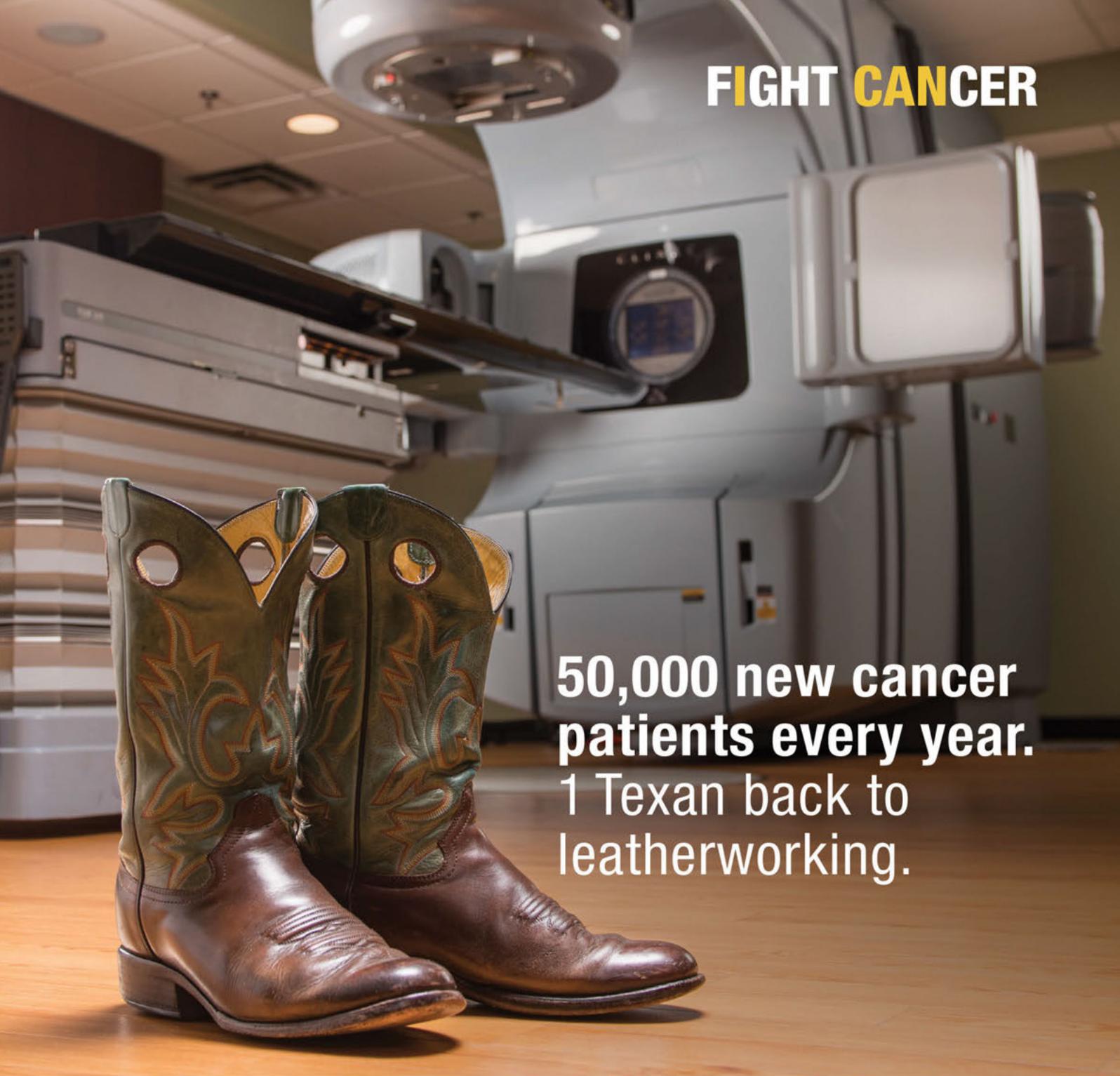
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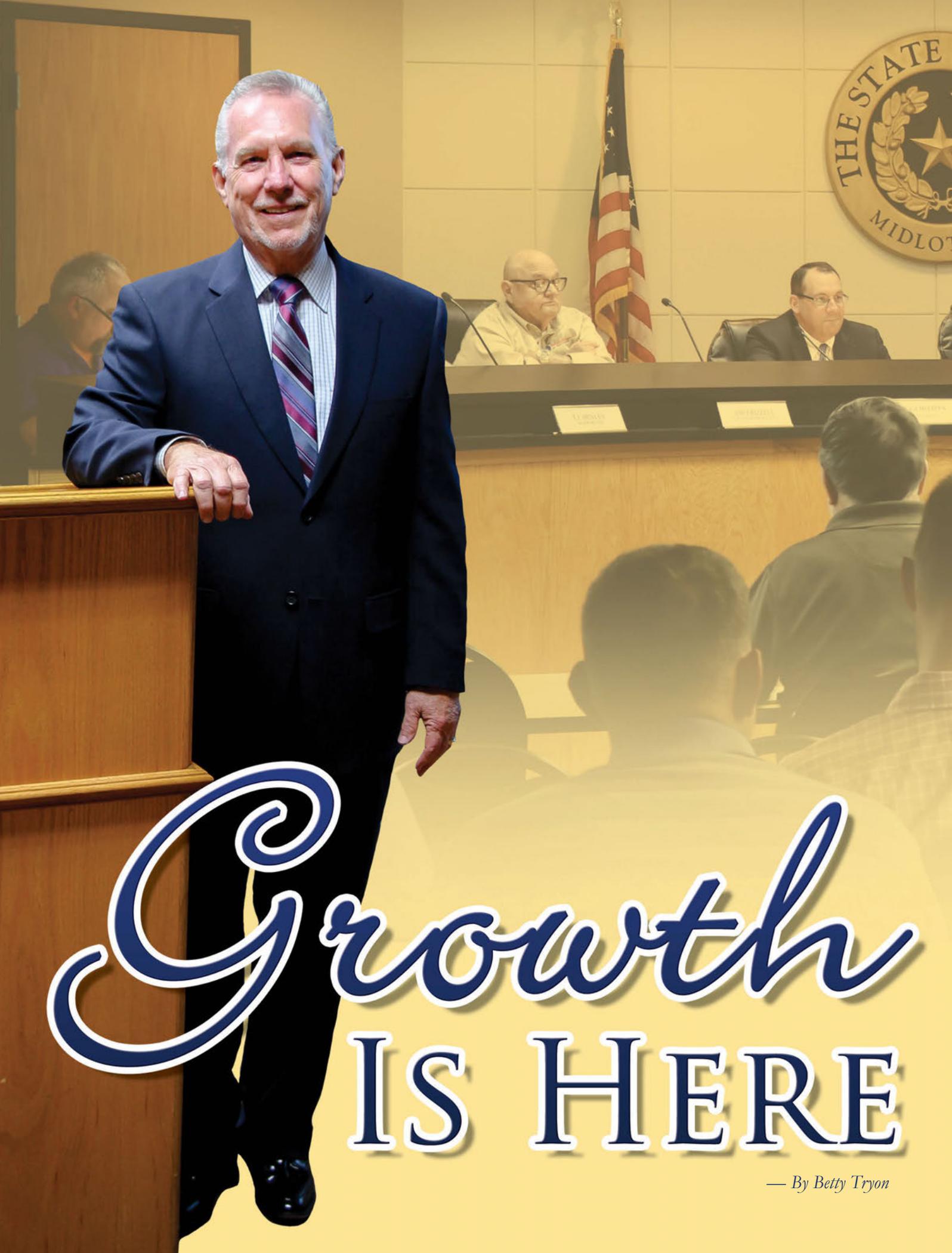
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Growth IS HERE

— By Betty Tryon



“I LOVE HAVING THE TIME TO WORK WITH THE PEOPLE AND TRY TO MAKE A *difference* IN OUR COMMUNITY.”

The oft used phrase, “If you build it, they will come,” can most certainly refer to Midlothian. The city built it, and the people came. In every way, it is a compliment — to the people who’ve lived here and infused it with honor, character and personality, and to the builders throughout the decades who constructed the edifices that hold their greatest treasures in the schools and their hearts in every home. Growth is a big concern for any community, and nearly everyone has an opinion about it.

Bill Houston, the mayor of Midlothian, understands growth and businesses. Born in Orange, Texas, he was the sixth out of a family of seven kids. The family lived in Orange until he became a freshman in high school. They then moved

to Tucson, Arizona. After graduation, his first job was with a national company that took him to different states to live and work. He moved back to Texas in the early '80s with his wife and kids. “The kids were little, and we wanted a good environment and a good school district for them to grow up in,” he said. “They also liked to hunt and fish, and this was a great area.”

The kids are now grown with their own businesses and families. “Debbie and I have been empty nesters for 20 years, and we like it,” he said with a smile. Their oldest son, Mike, lives in Midlothian and is a real estate broker with a pest control business. The middle child is Cora, who lives in Waco, and their youngest son, John, a Midlothian resident, is a builder with many businesses. Stepson, Kenny, is a financial planner. “All of my kids are hard workers and have an entrepreneurial spirit,” Bill said.

As a newcomer to the city, Bill wanted to learn about his new hometown and took a class through the Chamber of Commerce called Leadership Midlothian, and through the

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city, he took Citizens Academy. “In Leadership Midlothian, you learn about county government and what facilities they have in other parts of the county. His stint there earned him the Midlothian Chamber of Commerce Leadership Alumni of the Year Award in 2012. He also joined the Citizens Academy. “It was amazing! In Citizens Academy I got to see all of the things that were done for the city,” he enthused. “I could not believe that a little city of about 8,000 people had a water treatment plant and public works. The employees and workers really cared about the citizens, the city and doing a good job.”

Bill did not set out to be a politician in Midlothian. “I’m conservative and a Christian,” he acknowledged. “I like politicians who represent the people.” His venture into local politics began when he wanted to build homes in Midlothian. “When I first moved to Midlothian in 2001, I had a vision of my retirement. I’ve had rental houses for about 30 years, and I saw there was a real need for rental property in Midlothian,” he recalled. “I wanted to build new homes to rent. My philosophy was to rent out property I would live in myself. They had to be clean and in good repair.”

However, Bill found the process at city hall burdensome. Frustrated, he was expressing his dissatisfaction during one of the classes for Leadership Midlothian. Paula Baucum, a participant in the class, suggested he run for city council and offered her help. “I ran for city council, and she ran the campaign. I won and became a council member. As a council member, I felt the voice of the people wasn’t being heard and decided to run for mayor.” So, Bill threw his hat in the ring and didn’t have an opponent. He

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ran unopposed for his second term, and when that was up, he determined if he got an opponent for his third run at the mayorship, he would not run. For the third time, he ran unopposed for the office. "I love it! I love having the time to work with the people and try to make a difference in our community."

As mayor, Bill appreciates the diversity of the council members. "We have a really good council," he stated. "There are seven of us. We don't think alike, and we argue about things. But we have very good representation of the citizens. There are two basic goals that the council has: We want to build a sustainable community with structures in our neighborhoods that 50 to 100 years from now will still be there. We don't want junk. Also, we want to be open and transparent, and I think we are. There's no hidden agenda anywhere in the city about what we have or don't have."

The mayor encourages Midlothian citizens to participate in city council meetings. "We have an open forum," he stated. "If someone wants to speak during the meeting, all they have to do is fill out a form and tell us what they want to discuss. They get three minutes to speak."



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One topic that generally initiates conversation is the growth rate in Midlothian. The mayor sympathizes with those who think Midlothian may already be too big. "I'm pro-growth," he admitted. "A lady told me that we needed to stop the growth because it's just too much. I told her that I liked it when it was smaller, too, but it's not realistic to stop growth. We are going to do our best as the city grows because it's going to grow whether I'm here or the city elects someone else. Midlothian is still going to grow, and I think we've grown wisely. We want to grow our police and fire department, continue to work on our roads and keep our parks pristine."

The passage of the most recent school bond possibly contributed to some of the growth. Families looking for good schools will take that into consideration when looking for a place to move. Future citizens also look at the quality of life in a potential new place to live, and part of what constitutes a great city to live in is its parks. Bill loves parks. "I'm a parks guy," he acknowledged. "There are two things I do every week. I drive to all the subdivisions where there are new houses being built to see how they're progressing, and I usually get out at every park in the city. For a town the size of Midlothian, we have awesome parks!"

Entering his 10th year of being involved in the city's government, Bill reflected on how much he enjoyed serving the city. "I like managing the growth and doing things for the city that benefit the whole city," he shared. "For the foreseeable future, and if the economy stays solid, I expect the community to grow at a fast rate. Our standards for Midlothian are high, and we manage the growth to satisfy the needs of our citizens." **NOW**

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Texans like to brag about everything being bigger and people being friendlier here. While it is hard to argue the question of size, some might disagree with the friendly attitude in the state. But for Chad and Trisha Scott, it has not taken long to fall in love with Texas' Southern hospitality.

Chad grew up in Chewelah, Washington, in the northeastern part of the state. He studied education at Eastern Washington University, and was a teacher for two years before entering the corporate world. "I went to work at a wholesale steel manufacturer as a sales guy," he explained. "That evolved into me owning a distribution business, and now working as a sales director for a large worldwide corporation in the industry."

Trisha is from Poulsbo, on the other side of Washington. She earned a degree in psychology at Western Washington University before going to work in the marketing department for Boeing for 13 years. Since moving here, she has worked



Southwest

— By Zachary R. Urquhart

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at J.A. Vitovsky and Longbranch Elementary schools, and now works for Stitch Fix, an online clothier.

Chad and Trisha met on a blind date almost 15 years ago. “Chad knew my brother-in-law from work, and he set us up,” Trisha described. “Living in the Northwest, the thing to do is grab coffee after church. Well, our friends all bailed, so it was just the two of us.” They hit it off, and after dating for a year, they were married in April 2005. “We wanted a far, but not too far, destination for a smaller wedding, so we chose Vegas,” Trisha recalled.

They have welcomed three sons to the family, as well. Luke is 11, and loves sports. “He plays basketball and baseball, and is gearing up for middle school,” Chad explained. Sam is 9, and although he likes sports, he also shows a strong creative side, enjoying music and art. Cade is 6, and is the most outgoing of the boys. About the time they welcomed their third child, Chad sold his company and took a job that moved the family south. “I traveled between Texas and Washington for about a year, but we moved here in 2011,” he detailed. They lived in Red Oak, then in Texanna Ranch

for a few years. “We came from five acres in Seattle, so we wanted more space,” he explained. They had a lot in the south part of town, but when the Aviary subdivision opened up, they knew it was what they wanted.

“With friends from school and the kids playing with kids from this side of town, we kept looking,” Trisha said. “We drove around a lot, and when we found this place, it was perfect. We had already designed the house, and the lot in this small neighborhood was perfect to suit our needs.” The result is a beautiful neo-Craftsman home on a quiet cul-de-sac.

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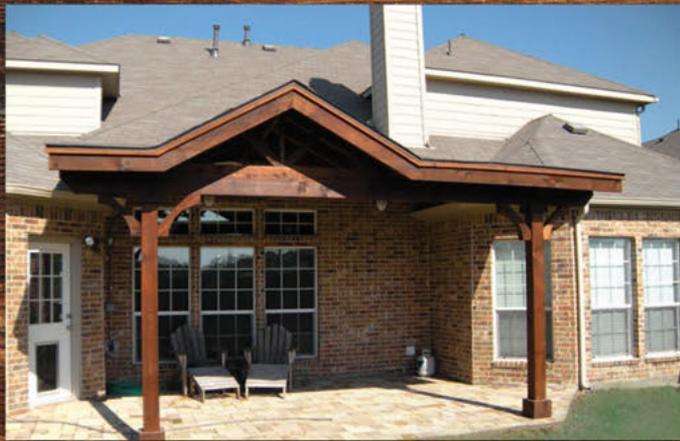
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The façade is covered in a combination of large stones and staggered hardy board shingles that are slightly irregularly shaped, giving a unique look to the home. Inside a statement-making blue door, a small foyer splits a closet and a powder room. “We wanted something different than the standard office in the front,” she explained. Past the entryway, a wide open space is painted an airy blue tone, giving an inviting feel that shows how they have adapted to Texas’ hospitable nature. “We’ll go back to visit and really see how much friendlier it is here in Texas,” she shared.

An informal dining area with a massive light-hued table that is great for the family sits sandwiched between the open kitchen and living room. The kitchen has massive, light-marble counter space and a darker gray island featuring a farm-style sink, as well as a coffee bar area in the corner as a throwback to their roots in the Northwest. The living room features a beautiful fireplace, one of the things Chad insisted they include. “Trisha is more of the decorator, but I wanted a full masonry, wood-burning fireplace,” he admitted.

The other thing Chad really wanted was vaulted ceilings in the living room, but he settled for coffered ceilings instead. “They didn’t think they could structurally vault the inside, but they were able to do it on the back patio,” he recounted. They love sitting on the spacious back porch, watching the boys swim and play in the forest behind their home. “There’s an extra blue door. It was our front door, but it was warped, so we use it as decoration back here,” he explained.

On one side of the house, the boys have rooms that are large and individually constructed. “One of the things our builder, Chris, does is make different built-ins for each room,” Trisha explained. “And each room has built-in shelving and dressers in the closet, so the boys’ rooms feel big.” Sam has tall shelves filled with Seattle sports memorabilia and shares an elegant bathroom with Cade. “We decided to have no glass in the bathrooms, so their shared bathroom has a walk-in shower,” Trisha explained.

Cade’s room features low trunk-like built-ins and is decorated with an

airplane theme. “This is my ode to Boeing,” Trisha laughed. Down the hall, Luke has a room with his own bathroom that doubles as a guest area when family travels across the country to visit. His built-in frames his large window with a great view to the rest of the neighborhood.



On the other side of the home, the master suite is a beautiful room with several key features. White bedding and light colors continue the airy feel seen throughout the house. Big windows offer a nice view into the backyard, and they chose a barn door to split the bedroom from a unique bathroom. “We made the bathroom large by making it long,” Chad described. “We wanted a tub in the same space as the walk-in shower, and it ended up being really big.” The entrance to the beautiful shower and bath combo is layered with leftover wood to offer yet another distinctive feature in the space. “We wanted texture, and Chris had some leftover wood from the back patio. We gave it a whitewash and it’s perfect,” Chad detailed.

Losing the vaulted ceiling did have a hidden benefit. “That gave us space above the living room, so I have a little office and we have an extra bedroom,” Trisha explained. They chose barn doors again to save space, and they put scraps from the home’s custom, reclaimed floors behind the bed for a great look. The best part is a bookshelf that opens to reveal a hidden media room that doubles as recreational space for the boys. It is the finishing touch on one of the truly unique homes in Midlothian. With a great look and an even greater family, Chad and Trisha have made a nice addition to the friendliest place on Earth. **NOW**

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With impressive showmanship, the Kilgore College Rangerettes took to the field with all the precision and discipline of a marching army in their white Cowboy hats and matching white boots. Kicking as high as any Rockette, Myah Brown, a student at Kilgore College, was living a dream on the field. "Rangerette is very hard to make with so many girls competing," Myah pointed out. "With me, there were 80 girls trying out, but only 36 made it."

Myah began dancing with teams when she was a student at Mt. Peak Elementary School, and the Frank Seale Cub Dancers came to perform and recruit for middle school. "I saw them and thought it looked like fun," she shared. "I wasn't a sports person, and this was something I could do. So, I signed up for sixth grade dance class and fell in love with it." She became a Cub dancer and squad leader in the eighth grade, and that helped push her along in her dancing aspirations.

In high school, Myah joined the Midlothian High School Pantherettes. "Being a Pantherette taught me a lot," she said reminiscing. "It is something I will never regret being a part of. It helped me find myself and what I wanted to do for the rest of my life. I had two directors at the time, so I had two different perspectives. One taught me the competitive side of dance, and the other taught me the passion and love for dance."

Kicking High

— By Betty Tryon



Myah's interest in the Rangerettes started when a teacher in middle school, Mrs. Meierhofer, talked to the Cub dancers about the special dance team. She even took them to Kilgore to watch the Rangerettes perform. "She is a Forever Rangerette. Alumni are called Forever's," Myah explained. "She took us to Revels and football games, so we could see the aura that comes with being a Rangerette."

The Rangerettes are such an impressive dance squad, with so much glorious history, that when girls try out at multiple schools after high school, those other teams are reluctant to take them if trying out for the Rangerettes is in the picture. It can be a risky proposition for the young girl wanting to be a part of the Rangerettes but not wanting to miss out on other school teams if she doesn't make it. Most other dance squads have their tryouts in April, but Kilgore College doesn't hold its tryouts until July. "The other teams want you to be dedicated to *them*," Myah admitted, "and they didn't want me to make their team, and then leave if the Rangerettes chose me. It was a hard decision to make because so much was at stake."

During Myah's time in high school, Millie Funk was the captain of the Pantherettes and became a Rangerette. Her experience was a great help to her



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fellow teammate. “She helped train me, which gave me a lot of confidence going into tryouts,” Myah shared. “She taught me the Rangerette style, and I had a better grasp of what to expect than other girls. We also had a mini-camp in the summer where you learn their standards and how they dance. Current Rangerettes are the ones who choose the next in line, so it’s good that they get to know you and look for your face during tryouts.”

Rangerettes have a very high standard to uphold, and as such, they have many rules to make sure the girls uphold that image. “We are known as the All-American Girl,” Myah explained. “We want to be seen as girls who are on time, get good grades and are accountable. We’re just well-respected girls who don’t go out to party and drink, and we try to use good judgement. Rangerettes are very nice, sweet and easy to talk to.”

Becoming a Rangerette has caused Myah to be more accountable and has made her a stronger person. “It’s helped me to be more open,” she said. “It is hard work because we do practice a lot. But at the end of the day, you realize the things you’re accomplishing, and you live in the moment.”

Myah has accomplished many things since she first became a Rangerette. Her first trip with the team was to New York to perform in the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade. “It was a crazy moment, and I never thought I would be in New


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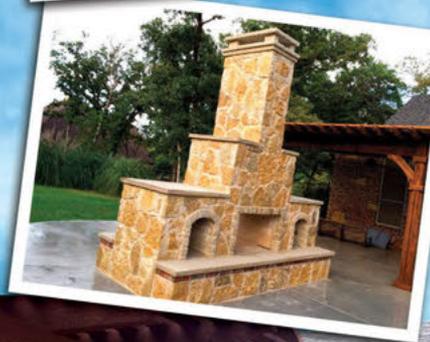
York to dance." She was able to see there were many dance opportunities in the larger cities. There was a past Rangerette who is now part of a Broadway Dance Center. One of the Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders was a past Rangerette. The team performed a Christmas show in Kilgore, and Myah acknowledged it was a hectic time, as they prepared for a trip to Hawaii to tour Pearl Harbor and do a show on the USS Arizona Memorial. The team also performed in the Cotton Bowl with the Western Michigan and Wisconsin teams. "We got to work with the players and help them with different events," she enthused. "So many people wanted to talk to us just because we were Rangerettes. It's really nice to be so influential to people around here."

Myah found her passion for dance with the Midlothian Pantherettes, and the Kilgore Rangerettes increased that



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passion and made her want to perform more. “A lot of people, when it comes to dance and drill teams, end up stopping, whereas I want to find a way to still be in that world,” she admitted. With that goal in mind, she plans to go to Texas A&M University and join their dance team. She wants to study political science and pursue a career in the field of law but has no intention of stopping her dancing. “I also want to try out for the Dallas Mavericks Dance Team after college. After being a part of the Rangerettes, I am interested in trying out for multiple dance teams, such as the Aggie Dance Team and The University of Texas at Austin Dance Team.”

Although becoming a Rangerette is an honor, it is also a big responsibility. When speaking to young girls who might want to join the Rangerettes, Myah encourages them to go for it. “It’s a big sacrifice because a lot of people apply for it, but it is the best feeling ever to see your name with the team. I had a hard month-long process of training and getting ready for that moment. There is a lot of dedication that goes along with it, and it helps mold you into a better person, a better dancer and a better leader.” **NOW**



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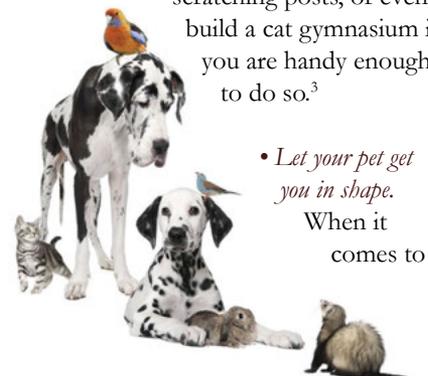
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• *Diet is important, too.* People have gained an incredible understanding of nutrition and diet over the last few decades. Just like you need to balance your starchy carbs with plenty of protein, fruits and vegetables, pets need a balanced diet, as well. That can mean giving your furry friend pet food with all the nutrients they need, or giving them a variety of foods. You probably do not eat the same meal every day, so remember that your pet may enjoy a variety, too. Be sure that over the span of several days you are feeding them the full spectrum of nutrients they need to grow and thrive.⁵

• *Some pets need special diets.* Most pets will thrive with a standard, balanced diet appropriate for their breed. Some, though, will require a special diet for issues including, but not limited to, heart and liver disease, weight problems or bladder stones. Some pets even have allergies, so you may have to find or make special food to keep them going and growing. If you suspect your pet is having dietary issues, get a detailed diet from your vet.

OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER

• *No one likes to sneeze.* In addition to potential food allergies, dogs and cats can also suffer from seasonal allergies. If you notice your pet scratching, licking or rubbing its face on coarse surfaces, it is probably trying to satiate its itchiness much like people will move their backs on a door frame to get those hard to reach places.⁶



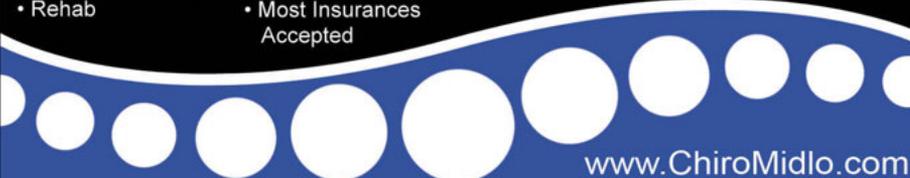
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A less common symptom for allergies left untreated is hair loss. When you see any of these things, get to the vet, so you can get medication quickly. In the meantime, give your pet baths more regularly, and keep floors clean by vacuuming and by washing your pet's feet frequently.

• *Consider pet health insurance.* One of the reasons people sometimes neglect to take a pet in for a visit is the cost. While emergencies can be costly, and long-term care can seem daunting, pet insurance is a great way to offset potential expenses. If you do not have pet insurance, the easiest first step is to go online to get quotes and compare rates. Many familiar companies like GEICO and Progressive offer various plans, so you can decide how much coverage your pet needs.

It is never easy to say goodbye to your beloved pets, but the fact is that most pets will pass on before their owners. With these helpful tips, though, you can help the furry members of the family live a long full life. **NOW**

Sources:

¹<http://pets.webmd.com/pet-vaccines-schedules-cats-dogs>

²https://www.aaha.org/pet_owner/about_aaha/why_accreditation_matters/about_accreditation/how_to_choose_the_right_veterinarian.aspx

³http://www.petmd.com/cat/wellness/evr_ct_exercising_with_your_cat_a_how_to_guide

⁴<http://www.animalplanet.com/pets/healthy-pets/10-fun-ways-to-exercise-your-dog/>

⁵http://www.whole-dog-journal.com/issues/15_7/features/Home-Prepared-Dog-Food-Nutritional-Information_20568-1.html

⁶<http://iheartdogs.com/10-signs-your-dog-has-seasonal-allergies/5/>



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Monday: Closed
Tuesday-Friday: 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Sunday: Closed



GiGi's Fine Furniture can find the items to complete the look you want as you furnish your home.

TRULY YOUR OWN

GiGi's Fine Furniture is tailored to people who know exactly what they want in decor. — By Betty Tryon

So you're browsing on Pinterest and your eye catches that perfect room set up with colors that harmonize and flow together and mix with furniture that's traditional, modern, opulent, timeless — whatever your taste or mood. Wouldn't it be nice to have someone pull that look together for you? That's where GiGi's Fine Furniture in Midlothian comes in. "Buyers are very specific about what they want," said GiGi Matlock, owner of GiGi's Fine Furniture, "and it's because of the Internet. They will look on Pinterest and bring me a picture and say, 'This is what I want.' I end up many times searching for a piece a certain size and width, much more than I ever had when I worked in large stores. Places like Pinterest will pull the look together for you."

GiGi's Fine Furniture opened in Midlothian in January 2016. GiGi's background in furniture comes from working in a large retail furniture store. "Once I got a job at a furniture store, I said to myself, *This is what I should do. This is what I should sell,*" she shared. "After working in the retail store, I decided I wanted better hours and more flexibility. I wanted to be able to stop missing holidays and weekends and get something near home."

At her furniture store, she can offer anything indoor and outdoor that one could need or want. "I carry all the brand names, such as Ashley HomeStore, Steve Silver Company and Coaster. [And], I'm able to offer all the brand names at a better cost because I don't have all the overhead of larger companies,"

Business **NOW**

she explained. Much of her business is from catalogs, so if you have an idea of what it is you want, and you've seen pictures of it, GiGi's Fine Furniture can do the research and locate the pieces for you.

Although much of her business is online, GiGi does have a business location and a showroom. Items displayed in the showroom are beautiful and of high quality. "I do a lot of specialty orders for people," she said. "Because I don't have a lot of space to show, I try to put furniture and furnishings in here that are a little bit rustic, traditional and modern. It's just a few pieces to give you an idea of the different things I can get and things we can do. My website can give you more of an insight into what you can get and items that are available."

GETTING THE PERFECT LOOK FOR YOU IS GIGI'S GOAL AND SOMETHING SHE ENJOYS.

GiGi travels to many markets to learn about all the different trends that are happening. This is helpful when it comes to being up-to-date with what her customers might want. "I love putting looks together," she smiled. "I love picking out colors. Shabby chic is in. People are mixing this table with that chair. It's the trend now. People don't buy matchy match anymore. In the past, someone would buy a bedroom suite and want all eight pieces of it. They just don't do that anymore. Also, no one wants to come in and buy the exact same thing on the floor where everybody comes in and picks that same thing."

Getting the perfect look for you is GiGi's goal and something she enjoys. "I've always loved decor," she said. "I'm that person who changes everything at home every season. Furniture is my passion, so to be able to make a living in it is a blessing." **NOW**



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Steve Rose chats with Sandy, Kris, Christia and Victoria at the Midlothian Chamber After Hours event.



Louis Ponder, Tasha Taylor, Anna DeSelle, Austin Terry and Caitlyn Harris show off games that the Midlothian Ambassadors donated to the Midlothian Healthcare facility.



Joyce Sebesta operates large equipment at the new TexPlexPark grand opening.



InHome Genius celebrates its Midlothian Chamber ribbon cutting ceremony.



Natalee Maddox celebrates with family on award day at JR Irvin.



Tyler Ammon, owner of Beardsman Supply, shows off one of his T-shirts.



Steve Burnett and Cubie Ward enjoy the Midlothian Chamber's Wine Walk.



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Soccer Season Is Prime Time for Foot and Ankle Injuries

Soccer season is in full swing, and parents and coaches should think twice before coaxing young, injury-prone soccer players to “play through” foot and ankle pain. Skeletally immature kids, starting and stopping and moving side to side on cleats that are little more than moccasins with spikes — that’s a recipe for foot and ankle sprains and worse.

Kids can play with lingering, nagging heel pain which, upon testing, turns out to be a stress fracture that neither they, their parents nor their coaches were aware of. By playing with pain, they can’t give their team 100 percent, and they may make their injuries worse, prolonging their time out of soccer. Some parents want to see X-rays of fractures before they’ll take their kids out of the game. And stress fractures can be subtle. They don’t always show up on initial X-rays.

Symptoms of stress fractures include pain during normal activity and when touching the area, and swelling without bruising. Treatment usually involves rest and sometimes casting. Some stress fractures heal poorly and often require surgery, such as a break in the elongated bone near the little toe, known as a Jones fracture.

Soccer is a very popular sport in our community, but the constant running associated with it places excessive stress on a developing foot. Pain from overuse usually stems from

inflammation, such as around the growth plate of the heel bone, more so than a stress fracture. Kids’ growth plates are still open and bones are still growing and maturing until they’re about 13 to 16. Rest and, in some cases, immobilization of the foot should relieve that inflammation.

Other types of overuse injuries are Achilles tendonitis and plantar fasciitis (heel pain caused by inflammation of the tissue extending from the heel to the toes). Quick, out-of-nowhere ankle sprains are also common to soccer. Ankle sprains should be evaluated by a physician to assess the extent of the injury. If the ankle stays swollen for days and is painful to walk or even stand on, it could be a fracture.

Collisions between soccer players take their toll on toes. When two feet are coming at the ball simultaneously, that ball turns into a cement block and goes nowhere. The weakest point in that transaction is usually a foot, with broken toes the outcome. The toes swell up so much the player can’t get a shoe on, which is a good sign for young athletes and their parents: If they are having trouble just getting a shoe on, they shouldn’t play. **NOW**

*Christopher Schmitt, DPM
Associate of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons
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Calendar

JULY 2017

July 1

Midlothian Rockin' the Red, White & Blue Independence Day Parade: 10:00 a.m.; Activities and the Downtown Midlothian Market in Heritage Park from 8:00 a.m.-noon.

July 1, 15

Midlothian Market: 8:00 a.m.-noon, Heritage Park, 234 N. 8th St. Various vendors including crafts and food in open air market.

July 3

Citizens National Bank Independence Day Fireworks Display: 9:15 p.m., MISD Multi-Purpose Stadium, 1800 S. 14th St. Free to public. Rainout date is **July 5**. Stadium parking lot gates open at 6:00 p.m. Stadium will not be open to the public. For more information, call (972) 775-7177.

July 8

2017 Movies in the Park summer schedule: *Trolls*, Rated PG: dusk, Hawkins Spring Park. Rainout date is **July 15**.

July 11, 25

City Council meeting: 6:00 p.m., City Hall

Council Chambers, 104 W. Avenue E. Call (972) 775-3481 for more information.

July 15

Arrowhead Show: 8:00-3:30 p.m., Midlothian Civic Center, 224 S. 11th St. Admission is \$5. Children under 12 are free. Contact Harold Hughes for more information at haroldhughes@skybeammail.com or (972) 921-8555.

July 24

Indian Trail Master Naturalists, 7:00 a.m., First United Methodist, Waxahachie. This is a free educational program. For more information, call Don Happ at (469) 309-9871.

July 28, 29, 30

Waxahachie Community Theatre the Kids' Summer Showcase productions of *Goldilocks on Trial* and *The Great American Talent Show*. **Friday**, 7:30 p.m.; **Saturday**, 7:30 p.m.; **Sunday**, 2:30 p.m.; Living Hope Church of the Nazarene, 2420 Brown St., Waxahachie. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at waxahachiecommunitytheatre.com. Tickets are also available at the offices of Dr. Jerry Ellis in Midlothian. Call box office at

(972) 646-1050 or email wct.texas@gmail.com for further information.

August 5

Mt. Peak Cemetery Association Ice Cream Supper/Fundraiser: 6:00 p.m., auction of cakes, baked goods and arts and crafts will begin; 7:00 p.m., ice cream, hot dogs and drinks will be sold. Bounce house and face painting for the kids. All proceeds are used for the maintenance of the cemetery.

August 12

"Dodge for a Cause" Dodgeball Tournament: 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Claxton Gym, SAGU, Waxahachie. This is a community, family fun, event that includes concessions, souvenir team photos and fun activities. Entry fee at the door for spectators will be \$5. T-shirts will be available for \$10. We are hoping each team participating can donate/raise \$500 for us. For more information, visit bbbstx.org/EllisDodge or contact Susan Smith at (469) 644-9876 or by email at ssmith@bbbstx.org.

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

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In the Kitchen With Andrea Cannon

— By Betty Tryon

Andrea Cannon readily admits cooking is not her favorite thing to do, but finding her grandmother-in-law's cookbooks and recipe cards changed her attitude. "Everyone loved Mamaw's cookbook. I offered to sort through all of her notes and recipes and compile a cookbook for the family," she said. While compiling the recipes, she decided to cook each dish. However, her Mamaw's notes left out missing steps and ingredients. Andrea's experimentation in filling in the blanks for the recipes led her to a new appreciation for the art of cooking. "I still don't want to cook every day, but I do take over the kitchen once or twice a week now to prepare some new and amazing dish." **NOW**

Boston Robbin Pie

This is my favorite of Mamaw's recipes.

Crust:

- 1 cup flour**
- 1 stick butter, or margarine, softened**
- 1/2 cup pecans, ground**

Filling:

- 8 oz. cream cheese, softened**
- 1 cup sugar**
- 12 oz. Cool Whip (divided use)**
- 1 pkg. instant chocolate pudding**
- 2 cups milk**

- 1.** For crust: Mix all ingredients; pat into a pie pan. Bake at 350 F until golden brown; cool.
- 2.** For filling: Mix the cream cheese, sugar and half of the Cool Whip. Pour the mixture into the pie crust.
- 3.** Prepare the pudding with the milk; pour it into the pie crust on top of the cream cheese mixture.

- 4.** Chill for about 2 hours before serving. Top with additional Cool Whip, if desired.

Texas Taco Salad

- 1 lb. ground beef**
- Fajita seasoning, to taste**
- Salt, to taste**
- Pepper, to taste**
- 1 tomato, chopped**
- 6 black olives**
- 2 cups corn chips, crushed**
- 1 head lettuce, shredded**
- 1 onion, chopped**
- 1 cup cheddar Mexican blend shredded cheese**
- 3/4 cup salsa**
- Tortilla chips (optional)**

- 1.** Brown the ground beef until done, seasoning with fajita seasoning, salt and pepper to your liking; drain when done.
- 2.** Combine all ingredients, except salsa and

chips, in a large salad bowl. Toss well; stir in salsa. Garnish with tortilla chips, if desired.

Re-baked Potatoes

This dish is super quick and easy, and it tastes fabulous!

- 1 pkg. 32-oz. Southern-style frozen hash browns, thawed**
- 24 oz. sour cream**
- 2 cups cheddar cheese, shredded**
- Tomatoes, diced (for garnish)**

- 1.** Combine hash browns, sour cream and cheese in a 9x13-inch casserole dish. Bake at 350 F until toasty brown, about 30 minutes.
- 2.** Add tomatoes and serve.

Squash Casserole

- 2 yellow squash, sliced and quartered**
- 2 zucchini, sliced and quartered**
- 1 stick butter or margarine**
- 1/2 cup onions, chopped**
- 2 eggs**
- 1 5-oz. can evaporated milk**
- 2 cups cracker crumbs or breadcrumbs (or a mixture of both)**
- 1 cup cheddar cheese, shredded (divided use)**

- 1.** Boil the squash and zucchini for 10-15 minutes; drain and set aside.
- 2.** Melt butter in the pan; add onions and cook for about 2 minutes. Add eggs and evaporated milk; stir until blended.
- 3.** Pour the boiled squash back into the pot and stir. Add crumbs and half of the shredded cheese. Mix well.
- 4.** Prepare a casserole dish with nonstick cooking spray. Pour the squash mixture into the dish; bake at 375 F for 35 minutes.
- 5.** Top with remaining cheese, and bake an additional 5 minutes.

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

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