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River Oaks News

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Around the Town with Denise Honeycutt

Recognizing the Poppy During May

was a surgeon with Canada's First Brigade Artillery when he wrote a poem expressing his grief of over the rows of graves of soldiers who died on Flanders' battlefields in western Belgium and northern France. The bright red flowers that bloomed among the rows of white crosses became a sign for all who fought in WWI.

The first version of the poppy was in December, 1915. McCrae's poem was noticed by two women; Anna Guerin of France and Moina Michael of Georgia. They both worked diligently to implement the sale of the artificial poppies to help orphans and other penniless individuals affected by the war. In 1920, Guerin received help from the American Legion to create the first poppy sale in the United States. The "flower of remembrance " is recognized not only in the U.S. but several other countries across the globe. Proceeds received from that first sale

went towards the American and French Children's Leagues.

In 1922 Guerin had a hard time with distri-

Pictured right: Patty Bravo representing VFW Post 10429.



A man by the name of Col. John McCrae bution of the poppies and sought Michael for that same time the "Buddy Poppy" was reghelp where she wanted to use them as a sym- istered with the U.S. Patent Office; "Buddy" bol of remembrance of the war. Guerin was was named as homage to their comrades that nicknamed "Poppy Lady of France" in her didn't come home from war. homeland and Michael "The Poppy Princess" by the Georgia legislature. Michael ventured ficial remembrance flower in 1997. Profit out to the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) from sales have helped numerous widows, for assistance when the poppy became the of- widowers and orphans over the years and ficial memorial flower of the VFW.

> 1923 comes along and there's a shortage freedom. of poppies from French manufacturers so the VFW depended on various New York florists to make up the difference. It became a setback but led the idea by VFW officials to use unemployed and disabled veterans to make the artificial flowers. This was approved in 1923 and the first poppy factory was built in Pittsburgh, PA in 1924. This became of assistance to veterans and covered a steady and reliable source of poppies.

Today, the VFW distributes approximately 14 million all over the world. Around



Hence, the Buddy Poppy became the ofcontinues to perpetuate lives for our nation's

In Flanders Fields

by John McCrae In Flanders fields the poppies blow Between the crosses, row on row, That mark our place; and in the sky The larks, still bravely singing, fly Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, Loved and were loved, and now we lie, In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe: To you from failing hands we throw The torch; be yours to hold it high. If ye break faith with us who die We shall not sleep, though poppies grow In Flanders fields.

Pictured left: **Donna Patterson**, Poppy Chair for American Legion Post 297 Auxiliary Unit.

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Suburban Newspapers, Inc. From the City of River Oaks

Carter BloodCare **Blood Drive Bus at** City Hall May 31

Carter Blood Care Bus will be in the City Hall Parking Lot located at 4900 River Oaks Blvd. on Wednesday, May 31 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. To make an appointment, visit the Carter BloodCare website.

For more information or questions, call Belinda Hernandez at 817-626-1597 or email bhernandez@riveroakstx.com.

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From Suburban Newspapers Staff

Story Submission **Information**

Suburban Newspapers, Inc. publishes the White Settlement Bomber News, Benbrook News, and River Oaks News weekly. stories and photos submitted by readers.

Do you know about a great volunteer opneighbor or child do something brag wor-

Submissions are published space permitting and may be edited.

Email the full story and photos with names to suburbannews@sbcglobal.net.

Fort Worth Gem, Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry & Bead Show & Sale May 27 (9-5) & May 28 (10-4)

Hosted by the Fort Worth Gem and Mineral Club, the annual Memorial Day weekend show & sale is this weekend. Admission: \$6; Military, seniors, students: \$5; Under 13: Free. Fun activities for the whole family: dino dig, spin wheel, scavenger hunt, silent auction, and door prizes.

> **Will Rogers Memorial Center** 3401 W Lancaster - Fort Worth, TX

City Seeking Committee And Board Members

From the City of River Oaks

The City of River Oaks is currently We have a small staff and rely heavily on seeking applicants that are interested in serving on a City Board.

If interested please fill out the enclosed portunity or a free public event? Did your application, sign it and either mail or return it in person to the City of River Oaks % City Manager at 4900 River Oaks Blvd, River Oaks, Texas 76114 or email the completed application to the City Manager at mgregory@riveroakstx.com.





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Good Luck, Graduates! SUBURBAN NEWSPAPERS. INC.

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John English



CLASS OF 2023

Keep Roads Safe: Use These Tips to Stop Driving Distracted

roads.

According to a new survey from Travsame time, over a third of drivers have exdistracted while driving.

lem. One-third of respondents believe it is acceptable to use technology while driving and even more admit to doing so, 79 percent say they have made or received a phone call Travelers is offering the following tips: while driving, 74 percent have looked at map directions on a cell phone and 56 per-







Driving fatalities in the United States are growing number of drivers are also taking to at the highest point since 2008, yet new re-social media, with 29 percent admitting to passengers to handle technology-related search reveals that many are unaware of the recording videos or taking photos using their enhanced risk and are actively making smartphone, a number that's increased since choices that increase the danger on our 2019 along with the rise of TikTok and other or texts. social media platforms.

"When you're behind the wheel, every elers, 57% of people think roadway safety is second matters, and anything that occupies unchanged since before the pandemic. At the your mind or vision is a distraction," says Chris Hayes, assistant vice president of perienced a near-miss because they were Transportation and Risk Control at Trav-Our devices are a large part of the prob- phone, especially when it's alerting you to texts and calls, doing so is dangerous to you, your passengers and others on the road."

To help put a stop to distracted driving,

- Turn off notifications: Setting your phone to "do not disturb" before you begin you from being tempted to check your phone for new notifications.
- Prepare beforehand: Check directions or set your GPS before you begin driving. Put your favorite playlist or radio station on before you hit the road.
- Let it wait: Do not make calls, text or otherwise manipulate your phone while driving. Even hands-free calls can pull your focus from the road. If you need to text, email, make a call, or use your phone for any other reason, pull over first.

Legal Notice

The White Settlement Independent School District (WSISD) is accepting proposals for Professional/Consulting Services for Special Education. The Request for Proposal document RFP #2223-005 can be obtained on the WSISD website, www.wsisd.com and go to: Business Services/Purchasing/Bid Information/Current Offline Bid Opportunities. Please contact Nancy Escobar at nancy.escobar@wsisd.net for inquiries. The deadline for inquiries and questions is June 1, 2023 by 2:00 pm. Proposals are due by June 8, 2023 by 2:00 pm. Proposals must be sent to: White Settlement ISD, Attn: Nancy Escobar, 8224 White Settlement Road, White Settlement, TX 76108. Faxed or e-mailed proposals are not accepted. White Settlement ISD reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.

- Recruit a passenger: Rely on your tasks, such as checking GPS, changing the music or radio station, and answering calls
- Speak up: Consider asking a distracted driver to put down their device. Eightyseven percent of consumers who use a phone while driving say they would be less likely to do so if a passenger spoke up.
- Beware of other distractions: It's imelers. "While it's tempting to use your portant to make driving your number one priority when you're on the road, and keep in mind that not all distractions are tech-related. For example, don't wait until your commute to eat, brush your hair, or apply makeup. Take care of such tasks before you start the car.

"There are more distractions than ever on cent have read a text message or email. A driving is a good idea, as it can help prevent today's roadways. Ultimately, making a concerted effort to change behaviors will help prevent injuries and save lives," says Hayes.

Legal Notice NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR

PROPOSALS VIA ONE-STEP PROCESS CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT-RISK

Pursuant to the provisions of the Texas Government Code Chapter 2269, Subchapter F, it is the intention of White Settlement Independent School District to select a Construction Manager At-Risk (CMAR), via a one-step selection process request for proposal (RFP) for Liberty Elementary School and Other Miscellaneous Construction projects resulting from the May 2022 Bond Referendum. The RFP package is available for download https://www.wisd.com/apps/pages/purchasing/bi d-information. Questions regarding the RFP should be directed to Janette Owens, CPA, RTSBO Director of Bonds and Financial Transparency White Settlement Independent School District janowens@wsisd.net. Sealed responses marked, "CMAR Request for Proposals Liberty Elementary School and Other Miscellaneous Construction Projects May 2022 Bond. White Settlement Independent School District May 21, 2023" will be received until 2:00pm (Local Time), Wednesday, May 31, 2023. Sealed responses will be received at the Administration Building: 8224 White Settlement Road, White Settlement, Texas, 76108. Submittals received after that time will not be conserved for evaluation.

Inventor of Liquid Paper - Bette Nesmith Graham by Dr. Ken Bridges

An obstacle can be an opportunity for an enterprising spirit. This was the case for Texas inventor Bette Nesmith Graham. What had been an annoyance for typists led to the struggling single mother creating a new tool for offices and a multi-million dollar business. A single inspiration led Graham to invent the typing correction fluid she came to call Liquid Paper.

Born Bette Clair McMurray in Dallas in March 1924, she grew up in San Antonio. She was a difficult student in school as her stubborn personality led her to clash often with her teachers. As a result, she dropped out at age 17 and later completed night school. She married Warren Nesmith in 1942, and the couple had a son, Michael, later that year.

Her husband left to serve in World War II in 1942. After his return, the marriage collapsed; and the couple divorced in 1946. Newly divorced and having a young son to care for, she found a job as a secretary. Unfortunately, she did not know how to type very well, which was a vital office skill.

After her father's death, Nesmith moved back to Dallas with her mother and sister. She accepted a secretarial position at Texas Bank and Trust in the early 1950s and eventually worked her way to the position of executive secretary. However, she still made mistakes when typing.

Typewriter erasers were available, but their effectiveness were limited to the kind of typewriter ribbon used and often did not erase completely. In professions where precision were essential to avoiding any type of legal problem, this meant absolute perfection with any typed document. As such, even the slightest mistake meant that the typist had to begin again. This wasted time and paper and caused considerable frustration, from newspapers to students typing reports to businesses eager for efficiency and perfection.

One day, she happened to observe some sign painters. While precision was important in their work as well, she noted that they did not start over completely when they made a mistake – they simply painted over it. Inspired, she began applying water-based paint to typing mistakes. Before long, other secretaries began to find out about her correction fluid, and it soon became a hit. She steadily refined the formula

An obstacle can be an opportunity for an enterprising spirit. This to make it dry faster and soon had a profitable side business selling her sthe case for Texas inventor Bette Nesmith Graham. What had been correction fluid to secretaries across Dallas.

By 1956, she was filling orders full time out of her home for "Mistake Out," as she called it. Her now-teenaged son and his friends often helped fill the orders as demand steadily increased. In 1958, she changed the name to "Liquid Paper," and applied for and received a patent and trademark for her product.

She soon received national attention for her innovation. In 1958, General Electric placed the first large corporate order, for 400 bottles. At that point, she started offering Liquid Paper in different colors as not all documents were on white paper.

Changes came to her personal life as well. She married Robert Graham in 1962. Her son, Michael Nesmith had grown up and developed a successful acting and musical career, eventually co-starring with the pop group The Monkees. In the meantime, Liquid Paper steadily grew.

By 1964, the company was producing 5,000 bottles per week. By 1967, the company was working out of its own factory site in Dallas. Ten years after she launched Liquid Paper, the company was making 10,000 bottles per day and made \$1 million in sales for the first time (more than \$8.7 million in modern dollars). The company sold one million bottles in 1970 alone.

Graham moved her company into a new, 35,000-square foot facility in Dallas in 1975. Remembering her own struggles, she made sure that the site had special amenities for her employees, including a library and a day care center. Employees noted that she was practical and generous and had made emphasizing quality over profit a focal point of the business. She established the Betty Claire McMurray Foundation in 1976, named after her mother, to help women in business.

As her health began to fail, Graham sold Liquid Paper to the Gillette Company, known mostly for selling razors, in September 1979 for \$47.5 million (or more than \$201 million in modern dollars). Graham died in May 1980 at the age of 56. In spite of the eclipse of the eclipse of the typewriter by the modern computer, Liquid Paper remains a popular product. Sometimes a simple observation and hard work can produce a multi-million dollar innovation.

From Texas Department of Licensing & Regulation

Memorial Day Weekend Means Increased Traffic on Roads

Motorists traveling during the Memorial Day weekend are reminded that state law requires drivers to slow down or move over for emergency vehicles – including tow trucks, police cars and fire trucks – stopped on the side of the road with their emergency lights activated.

Texas law requires drivers to slow down at least 20 miles per hour under the posted speed limit or, if able, to change lanes when they're passing a first responder stopped on the road with their emergency lights activated.

Large numbers of travelers are expected on Texas roads, which means that more breakdowns and traffic stops are likely as well. Drivers should pay attention to what's happening around them and prepare to react quickly.

TDLR licenses tow operators and tow companies in Texas, and regulates driver education/driving safety courses, and motorcycle/ATV safety courses.

About TDLR

TDLR provides regulatory oversight for a broad range of occupations, businesses, facilities, and equipment in Texas. The agency protects the health and safety of Texans by ensuring they are served by qualified, licensed professionals. Inspections of individuals, businesses, and equipment are done on a regular basis to safeguard the public. Currently, the agency regulates 37 business and occupational licensing programs with almost 1,000,000 licensees across the state.

Visit TDLR's website for more information and resources. You can search the TDLR licensee database, and also find past violations in which a final order was issued against companies or individuals. TDLR's Customer Service line is available anytime between 7 a.m. until 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, at 1-800-803-9202. TDLR representatives are fluent in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.

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Three Day Weekend Forecast



Friday, May 26:

<u>AM</u> - Partly sunny, with a high near 85. E/SE wind 5-10mph. <u>PM</u> - Mostly cloudy, with a low around 64. E/SE wind 5-10mph.



Saturday, May 27:

<u>AM</u> - Mostly sunny, with a high near 85. SE wind around 10mph. <u>PM</u> - Partly cloudy, with a low around 65. SE wind 5-10mph.



Sunday, May 28:

<u>AM</u> - Mostly sunny, with a high near 86. S/SE wind 5-10mph. <u>PM</u> - A 20% chance of showers after 1am. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 68.

Extended Forecast Click Here