

SHEPHERD COMMUNITY NEWS

Upcoming City Election

At the City Council meeting on February 9, 2009, the Council ordered the General Election for May 9, 2009 to elect three (3) aldermen. Applications for a place on the ballot can be picked up at City Hall. Deadline to submit the application is March 9, 2009.

You Are Invited!

By Olene Reaves

You are invited to watch the Circus roll into Shepherd beginning about 7:00 am on March 9th. There is a lot of excitement as trucks and equipment arrive and move into position. The animals are unloaded and on public view. Side shows, concession stands, and the Circus family's homes and cook house are set up and preparations made to raise the big tent.

Giant pile drivers pound the stakes into holes and poles laid out just so. At 9:00am the huge elephants raise the Big Top amid cheers from the watching crowd (that's you).

A tour guide will answer all of your questions. Children can even take an elephant ride. Build a lifetime of memories. Don't miss this exciting free event.

The Circus will be held at the Shepherd Community Center/Ball Park area @ 10251 Hwy. 150.

Blood Drive to be held March 25th

Shepherd ISD will be hosting a Blood Drive on Wednesday, March 25th from 9:00am to 3:00 p.m. The drive will be held at the Shepherd ISD Administration Office located at 1401 South Byrd Avenue.

Shepherd ISD became a Commit For Life Organization in January 2008 by hosting a blood drive once per quarter. Commit for Life is a partnership with the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center that is focused on saving lives, today and in the future. Why should YOU Commit for Life? There is no substitute for blood. It has to come from one person to be given to another. A regular number of voluntary donations is required every day to meet the need for blood in the Texas Gulf Coast and East Texas Region.

If you are interested in making a donation, please contact chairperson, Tammy Haffner at 936.628.3396 x 247 or by e-mail at thaffner@shepherdisd.net to schedule your appointment.

As an added bonus, everyone that donates at our drive will receive a free Commit For Life t-shirt.

Remember one unit of blood can save up to three lives!

Last Call to Purchase Discounted Circus Tickets.

Remember to purchase your Circus tickets early at the discounted price of \$10.00 for Adults and \$7.00 for children. That is a savings of \$4.00 and \$1.00 respectively.

The Kelly Miller Big Top Circus, sponsored by the Shepherd Chamber of Commerce, will be in Shepherd on Monday, March 9th for two exciting performances @ 4:30 and 7:30pm. Don't miss this spectacular event.

Tickets are available in Shepherd @ the Community Center, People's State Bank, TD's Supermarket, First State Bank, High Noon Café, & America's Best Value Inn. In Cleveland @ HEB and Texan Theater; Coldspring @ Brookshire Brothers & People's State Bank; Livingston @ People's State Bank & Baskins. Call 936-628-3890.

Free Pachyderm Poo!

The Kelly Miller Big Top Circus, sponsored by the Shepherd Chamber of Commerce will perform on Monday March 9th.

The big elephants and other animals eat a huge amount of healthy grains, nuts and fruits and leave a rich "deposit" of good poo behind.

Bring your shovels and wheelbarrows to the Shepherd Community Center, 10251 Hwy 150 beginning Tuesday, March 10 for Free Pachyderm Poo for your gardens, flower beds and pastures. First Come, First Served. Call 936-628-3890

Sam Houston EC Visits Texas Legislators

Sam Houston Electric Cooperative paid a visit to elected officials as the 81st legislative session got underway in Austin recently. Co-op representatives discussed several issues with Texas policymakers. With the ever-changing landscape of America's power supply to the importance of keeping electricity reliable and affordable, Sam Houston EC is working to keep the needs of its members on the forefront in both Austin and Washington D.C.

Sam Houston Electric Cooperative serves more than 51,000 member-owners and 66,000 meters in 10 East Texas counties.

Growing Graduates – Texas Public Schools Plant Seeds for Success (Invitation to Open House)

Shepherd ISD will be hosting open house on each campus to celebrate Texas Public Schools week. The theme this year is "Growing Graduates – Texas Public Schools Plant Seeds for Success." Parents, teachers and community members should work together to plant the seeds for success for each and every student.

Parents and taxpayers are encouraged to visit the campuses during open house and commit to being involved in the education of Shepherd's future – the students of SISD.

Primary Campus	March 3 rd	5:00-7:00
High School Campus	March 9 th	6:00-7:30

Meet Bob Jones, new Athletic Director at 7:00

Intermediate Campus	March 10 th	5:00-7:00
Middle School Campus	March 12 th	5:30-7:00

Concealed Hand Gun Course-Rescheduled

The Concealed Hand Gun Course that was scheduled for February 28, 2009 had to be cancelled and is rescheduled for Saturday, March 14, 2009. To register please call: (936) 628-3678 or (936) 327-1946.

Road Trips with Jim

By Lynn Slack

Road trips with Jim McClain were always adventurous, exciting, and very interesting. In August 1965, we made our first trip to Colorado. Mr. McClain allowed Jim and I to drive his NEW Volkswagon camper. I forget how many days we were on the road, but we slept in the camper and ate most of our meals in the road side parks. We went to a dance in Red River, NM, to the top of Pikes Peak. Spent the night in the garden of the Gods, claimed the Indian cliff dwellings of the Mesa Verde National Park, and swam in the hot springs of Glenwood Springs. Along the way we bought a couple of bows and some target arrows. We thought we might need some defense in case we were attacked by wild game.

After about a week, we had enjoyed about as much as we could stand, so we decided to drive home without another night on the road. A little after dark, I was driving when the 4-lane highway narrowed into a 2-lane highway as we came into a small town in west Texas. I hit the curb and blew out both tires on the right side of the (NEW) VW camper. Well, we had one spare tire and two flats. We decided to sleep on it. The next morning Jim walked to a wrecking yard where he was able to buy a tire from a VW Beetle. We were happy until we realized the Beetle tire was smaller than the other three. Well, the lugs fit so we came on home on 3 1/2 tires.

Mr. McClain was probably mad, but he did not let it show. I begged him to let me pay for the tires, or even work out the damages, but he would not let me. He put his arm around me and said I COULD NOT PLAY WITH JIM ANYMORE!

Several years later we decided we were mature enough to shoot the white water rapids of the Guadalupe River between the Canyon Lake Dam and New Braunfels. We borrowed an aluminum canoe, strapped it atop my 1969 Dodge Dart, and we were on the road again. Just as we pulled into New Braunfels, the U-Joint on my Dart started screaming for relief. I found a mechanic who said he could have it repaired by the time we finished our 22 mile canoe trip. The mechanic even offered to let his wife take us and our canoe up to the Canyon Lake Dam. GREAT!!

We were really feeling good when we got the canoe and paddles in the water. But the first little waterfall tipped us into the ICE COLD river. TIP: Never let go of your paddle. It will continue downstream while you are bailing water and looking for your sack lunch (good luck with that).

The next 12-15 miles were GREAT. We were successful in going over about half of the falls. One waterfall was too dangerous. We saw a canoe wrapped around a big rock in the middle of the river. We got wet and cold, chased paddles, skipped lunch, and generally enjoyed ourselves UNTIL the last dunking. When the canoe capsized, I hit my ANKLE on a rock. When we arrived at our destination, my little ankle had doubled in size. Since the river did not run by the mechanic's garage, Jim walked about a mile to get my car and returned to load the canoe and the "cripple." ON THE ROAD AGAIN. Back home, I hopped into the house where my concerned wife put her arm around me and said I COULD NOT PLAY WITH JIM ANYMORE.

Jim McClain has owned and rode motorcycles most of his adult life. About 1992 or '93, Jim suggested we take a motorcycle road trip. Even though I had little experience and was unlicensed, we were able to talk his wife into letting me ride her shiny red Honda Shadow. Off we go to west Texas. Our first stop was New Braunfels and the River Road, then on to San Marcus, Austin, Killeen, Lampasas, San Saba (stopped in to visit Steve Sadler), then Brady and over to Sonora. At

Junction we took Hwy 83 to the real "Hill Country." This area attracts a lot of 'bikers' because of the hills and curves. Vanderpool, Leakey, Rio Frio, and Utopia. I was really enjoying 'the ride.' The curves are more 'fun' if you go fast, BUT, if the curve is clearly posted 35 MPH, you should not attempt it going 55 MPH. I drifted onto the shoulder of gravel and rocks, lost traction, and laid the bike down. I hit my face on the ground. I found my glasses, but no lenses. That was okay because they would not fit my face anyway. My nose had been moved a little left of center and was glowing "like Rudolph." My lips looked like a boxer who lost the fight. Jim went a few miles before he realized I was not in his rearview mirror. He returned to find me inspecting the damages. The windshield was shattered, headlight pointing up and off

to the left, handlebars were in the 2 o'clock and 8 o'clock position. Both front and rear left blinker lights were hanging by their wires. Jim said, "See if it will start." I climbed on, and it started. As I sat there looking at the damage I said, "Oh, no! The speedometer doesn't work!" Jim started laughing and said, "You've got to be moving for it to work." Oh, yeah, right... did I mention that I had kissed the ground with my face?

Back on the road, we stopped at the next town where we bought some duct tape and re-positioned the blinker lights. Mechanically the bike was okay, cosmetically...

not so much.

Needless to say, our road trip was over, and we were 300 miles away from home and SANDY McCLAIN. Riding a motorcycle without a windshield made my 'new face' feel like bees were hitting me instead of the usual bugs. When we stopped for gas, I bought a bandana and tied it like I was going to rob a bank. I know I did not look 'cool,' but I was surprised when Jim ran off and left me. We got separated in the Houston traffic after dark. Remember, I was an unlicensed masked man, riding a bike (held together by DUCT tape) that did not belong to me, no glasses, in Houston freeway traffic after dark. I was not worried. Jim and I had gotten our 'story' straight. He was going to tell Sandy that I was to keep the bike for another week to get my motorcycle license. I was sure I could get all the repairs completed by then and Sandy would not hit me in my tender face with her fist.

Well you know what they say about 'the best laid plans.' When I rode up in my front yard, my wife came out to welcome me home. She asked where Jim was and I explained that I was sure he was already home by now. I talked for a few minutes before I lowered my bandana to reveal by 'road rash.' We went into the house and my wife brought out some ointment for my injuries. As I related by experience, the telephone rang. It was SANDY! It was apparent, the STORY did not fly. I did not understand everything she said, because I held the phone at arm's length away from my ear, but it sounded a lot like I COULD NOT PLAY WITH HIM ANYMORE.

Jim and I have ridden everything...pogo sticks, bicycles, trains, planes, helicopters, ski lifts, jet skis, sailboats, canoes, rafts, paddle boats, buses, all of Six Flags, and of course...motorcycles. WHAT A RIDE!!

Our last road trip together was Monday, February 16, 2009, from Shepherd First Baptist Church to Farley Chapel Cemetery. There along with his family and friends, I said farewell to the best friend I could ever ask for. I thank God for the memories and will forever think of Jim every time I see a lone motorcycle rider or hear the roar of a Harley. I realize with sadness that I CANNOT PLAY WITH JIM ANYMORE.....

Tribute to Margaret Williams

By Ruby Hubbard

Margaret Williams! What a lady, what a teacher, what a friend!

I've known Margaret 50 years. She was my sophomore Home Economics teacher. After college and teaching away for a number of years, I returned home and was fortunate to have completed my teaching career in the same district with her (sometimes on the same campus and grade level.)

Margaret has remained a constant friend. She has often stated that she is a 'people's' person. Her favorite phrase is, "Is there anything I can do to help?" She's one of the most energetic persons I know. 'Boredom' is not a part of her lifestyle. She seems to never tire.

Even though Margaret's teaching career is coming to an end, one can be assured that there is another 'area of concentration' on her agenda. To Margaret, I say, "There's always plenty to do; there's always a need to be met. Go for it! Do what pleases you most; and that is serving God and others.

I love you. My family loves you. Be encouraged always. Keep God first.

Attention parents of SISD students

Shepherd ISD is currently taking nominations for students to be screened for the gifted and talented program for the 2009-2010 school year. Parents, family, friends or community members may nominate a student for the screening process.

The nomination of students is the primary means of beginning the screening process. Screening will consist of gathering data on the students nominated by way of standardized/criterion referenced tests, mental abilities tests, teacher checklist, the Structure of Intellect Test, and personal interview. Program placement will be determined through the completion of a matrix on each student. Notification of program placement will occur before the start of the 2009-2010 school year.

Should you have a student you would like to nominate for program screening you may pick up a nomination form from any Shepherd ISD campus office. The nomination form should be completed and returned to the counselor's office by March 6, 2009.

Trash Stickers Available March 3rd!

By Pat Jennings

Trash stickers for 2010 will be available at Pct. 2 Annex beginning Tuesday, March 3, 2009. The price is the same as last year - \$75 for the first sticker and an additional \$10 for the second. Senior Citizens (65 and older) remain at \$50.

In order to purchase a sticker you must present a proof of residence and your license plate number. Please have these with you to help facilitate the transaction!

(Joe Cronin is riding around as we speak with his sticker already on his windshield! What am I going to have to do to be first buying my sticker – run for City Council?)

Shepherd ISD Hires Athletic Director



At the February meeting, school board members voted to hire Bob Jones as the new Athletic Director/Head Football Coach for Shepherd ISD. Coach Jones, who has 26 years of coaching experience, is coming from Aldine Senior High School where he has been the head football coach and campus coordinator for the past five years. Prior to Aldine, Coach Jones was head football coach/athletic coordinator at Dunbar High School in Fort Worth ISD for six years. In the past eleven years, his teams have made 7 playoff appearances.

In 2007, he served as an assistant coach for the U.S. Army High School All American Game and was honored to serve as the Head Coach of the West team in 2008. In his career, he has had four players chosen, six players nominated, to participate in this prestigious game.

In addition to stressing competitive athletic programs, Coach Jones believes that there must be success in the classroom. He has been part of sending over 42 athletes to colleges and universities nationwide and over the past seven years has had 9 Academic All-State players.

Coach Jones said, "Through my years of experiences, I have gained the knowledge, excitement and desire necessary to develop and maintain a successful athletic program. In establishing a competitive boys and girls program, I feel it is very important to instill a championship attitude based on character and discipline for everyone involved. It is this principle of winning that brings pride to a community."



Birth Announcement!

Joel T. Hudgins

Joel T. Hudgins was born on January 30, 2009, weighing 6 lbs. 11 ozs. 18 1/2 inches long! His parents are William J. Hudgins and Brittany M. Piles.

Welcome to the World

Charles Stevens Oliver, III Baby Trey!



Trey was born December 16, 2008, at 1:47 p.m. He weighed 7 lbs. 15 ozs. and measured 19 1/2" long. His proud parents are Angela LeAnn Kyle and Charles Stevens Oliver II of Shepherd, Texas.

He was welcomed home by his Big Sister Charli Elizabeth Oliver and his grandparents DeAnna Beckett Kyle and the late Sandy LeRoy Kyle of Shepherd, and Lisa and Charles Stevens Oliver, "Steve" of Goodrich, Texas and lots of family members and his Great-Grandpaw James Beckett and the late Helen Beckett.

Pirate Baseball Season underway

By Stephanie Lilley

The Shepherd Pirate baseball teams and parents have high hopes for a great season. The boys have been working diligently at practice giving it 100%. Parents have gathered around at practice watching with anticipation as the new head baseball coach (Coach Quick) unravels this season's practice layout with high expectations. Practice is very disciplined and well organized with all boys actively involved.

Both Varsity and JV have been scrimmaging for the past two weeks preparing for pre-district and district season. The first scrimmage was in East Chambers. The boys faced some windy weather but, battled hard and brought the victory home. Both teams faced Lumberton at our home field on Tuesday, February 17th. JV started around 4:30 in the drizzling rain. The team handled it well and the parents and fans continued to stay in spite of the weather. Varsity boys were geared up when they started the game but didn't get to finish due to the bad weather.

Varsity traveled to Northside, Thursday, Feb. 19th for their last scrimmage and played a great game. Highlights from that game given by Coach Quick are as follows: "Pirates scored first. Ethan Johnson pitched 3 solid innings only allowing 1 earned run. Shepherd committed 3 errors. Our bats are slowly coming around and pitching will improve every time out as we go along. We are still working hard everyday to get better. The boys are putting forth effort and we will continue to improve all the time. Overall last night's game was exciting and a good challenge for our kids. We were up 7 to 1 and lost the lead in the 6th. In the 7th we were back on top only to lose by one run in the bottom of the 7th off a good hit by the opposing team."

The JV followed Friday night at Onalaska having a whopping win over the opponent 19 - 0. A few highlights from the game: Doug Lilley took the mound for the first 3 innings pitching a no hitter. In the 1st inning Christopher Ellisor and Hagen Kelso got a triple. Matthew Stephens took the mound in the 4th inning and finished the game. Stephens pitched a no hitter as well!

We wish the boys good luck! The next home game will be March 3rd against Anahuac. I encourage you to come out and support Shepherd baseball and see all the field improvements that have been made.

Letter from Coach Quick to the fans...

Dear Pirate Fans,

I would like to reach out to all Pirate Fans to encourage you to consider coming out to the ballpark this season. I am excited to be in Shepherd coaching a group of fine young men in the most wonderful game, America's pastime, Baseball. The players and I are getting to know one another very well and working hard to prepare for an exciting season.

This season brings back all but two players from last year's team, so our expectations are to be more competitive than before. As a new head coach, both in the position and new in the school district, getting the players and fans to buy into the philosophy of the program is always a challenge. But thus far, each player is working hard to learn and improve daily their skill level and knowledge of the game. Support from parents and the community has been great which makes us all on the field feel the excitement of the game.

Our approach here in Shepherd will be to build a high level of expectations for ourselves as mature young men, develop a high level skill for the game, while working hard in being successful on and off the field.

I would like to personally thank all those who have been a great support to the program in Shepherd thus far in helping to improve our baseball park. We are adding concrete to our hitting cages, extending the dugouts, building a new bullpen, among other improvements that make us proud to be Shepherd Pirates.

We as the entire team especially thank Jim Sewell for his unending dedication to maintaining our field and making it what it is today, GREAT! Again I invite all of you to come and show your support for these young men as they continue to work hard daily and show that Shepherd will have a team to reckon with in Baseball! See you at the Ballpark,

Matthew Quick, Head Varsity Baseball Coach

Attention!

Will the little girl who wanted the butterflies at the Garage Sale on Feb. 20-21st come by 91 E. Post Oak. If you still want them, we have saved them for you!

Senior Citizen Volunteers Recognized



On Tuesday, February 10th, the Shepherd Senior Citizen volunteers received recognition and thanks from Rosemary Frankens of Detco. Those honored are (first row) Sidney Ferrell, Juanita Carter, Donna Benson, Rosemary Frankens (Detco); (second row) Mattie Wright, Sherry Roberts, Mary Lynn, Libby McCollum, Laura Ramey, Margie Shearer, Mary Crowder (Callie, baby); (back row) Ronnie Roberts, Shirley Rand, Chris Cronin, Randy Crowder, Odessa Wilson, and Annie Borel.

Benefit for Patricia MARR Adds 'Walk-On MARRS 2009' to Event

The big benefit for Patricia MARRS on Saturday, April 25th will begin at the Shepherd High School stadium with a walk-a-thon! "Walk-On MARRS 2009" will be a two hour event, (9:00-11:00 a.m.) There will be a \$10.00 registration fee for walking participants. This will provide you with a logo T-shirt for the day of the walk-a-thon with proceeds going to the benefit.

A pre-registration form can be obtained by calling Susan Murphy at (936)628-3661 March 16th-April 11th. With the form and registration fee, you may begin collecting "flat pledges" from friends and family to turn in the day of the walk-a-thon. [Pledges, please know the person who requests your pledge.] Admission for spectators to the event will be \$2.00 and those wishing to cheer on your walker may make pledges in their name during the event.

There will be a prize for the walker accumulating the most contributions. Registration the day of the event will begin at 8:00 a.m. with the walk-a-thon starting promptly at 9:00 a.m. What better way to support the MARRS family by getting fit in the process. This is not based on the fastest or greatest number of miles walked, but by having a heart of concern for a member of our community. Please consider participating in this worthwhile event to kick off a fun filled day.

The festivities then move on to the Community Center for a number of activities and refreshments. Mark your calendars, April 25th, for a good day of community involvement to aid this worthy cause.

To volunteer or receive more information, contact: Tammy Samuelson at (936) 628-3474, Paula Courville at (936)537-4535 or Jean Brown at (936) 628-6613.

Shepherd Students Participate at San Antonio

The Shepherd FFA recently traveled to the San Antonio Livestock Exposition to show heifers, pigs, lambs and to be a contestant in the San Antonio Calf Scramble. The students that showed heifers were Randy Waldron, Justin Shrader, Meagan Whittleman, Kyle Kaufman, Stephen Kolek and Tyler Kolek. Justin Shrader and Stephen Kolek placed high in their classes and returned for a chance at Division Champion selection, all of these students were very successful in their showing and did a great job.

Kenny Barnes participated in the market pig show and also participated in the Calf Scramble where he caught a calf on Valentine's night. He will return with a breeding project for next year. Brandon Cronin and Josh Cronin participated in the market lamb show and did a great job. Josh placed 4th with his lamb and Brandon placed 7th with his lamb, both young men made the sale. The students had a great trip, loaded with fun and memories that will last them a lifetime.

Pennies for Patients

Photos by Linda Yates

Shepherd Intermediate School students have been participating in Pennies for Patients fund raiser to support the Society for Lymphoma and Leukemia. These children have been giving so graciously with the hope that their donations will help to find a cure for these dreaded diseases.



In our entry lobby, 2-two gallon jars were placed for a contest for our two Principals, Mrs. Lowe and Mrs. Cronin. One was to kiss a pig and the other a goat. So whichever jar had the most pennies would be the lucky winner. However, we did catch Mrs. Cronin emptying her pennies into Mrs. Lowe's jar, so the contest was declared a tie.

At all three assemblies, both principals fulfilled their pledge in front of students and staff. It was okay with everyone that our goat turned out to be a baby lamb and the pot belly pig got a little unhappy and decided to run. Thanks to Mrs. Everitt, the pig was corralled and the principals gave it a quick kiss. The baby lamb loved the attention, and didn't mind the kisses at all.



After the Principals paid their dues, each grade level got to participate in another fun fund raiser activity. Students could buy a strip of tape to put on their computer teacher, Mrs. Coogler, and tape her to the wall. The lines were long for this event. Needless to say, each grade made her stick, then they removed the chair she was standing on. They cheered as she slowly unstuck from the wall and landed on the floor—FEET FIRST.

For the closing event of each program, our ambitious nurse, Rebecca Ramos, who is responsible for organizing this event, volunteered to be the recipient of "pies in the face" from grade level classes who brought in the most money. With goggles, garbage bag and towel in hand, she endured her part of the bargain with a big smile. Students from Mrs. Fleming's 3rd grade, Mrs. Morton's 4th grade and Mrs. Deitz' fifth grade class got to participate. Mrs. Morton's 4th grade class brought in the most monies overall with a total of \$308.00. Fourth grade classes did an outstanding job of collecting funds for Pennies for Patients amounting to \$938.00.

Monies collected from all activities totaled to \$2,156.40, tripling the amount from last year. We are so appreciative of our loving, giving students and faculty here at Shepherd Intermediate School. It took a well organized team to make this fund raiser a success. So, to all who participated, you are priceless—THANK YOU!



What can I say? Shepherd is coming up in the world! First, an elevator at the Middle School, a clock tower, and now, a double deck parking area at First State Bank. Wonders never cease! First State is also adding to their current facility with more office and lobby space and a new drive-thru for taller vehicles. All of this should be finished in April.

The past and the present met Monday morning. (See picture) The Piney Woods Trail Riders gathered in Shepherd and headed down highway 59 to the big Livestock and Rodeo Show in Houston. I saw



quite a few of our citizens gathering with this group. I wish I had gotten a better picture but I had to catch the shot as they were leaving town. Whenever I get on the freeway I admonish myself to be careful because I am about to get out there with the 'big boys' (and I am not

riding a horse, but just driving my old lady Buick!) Surely we would have heard if the 18 wheelers and the horses had tangled!

Timothy Lutts is a financial advisor who has good ideas in other areas as well. I don't have money to invest but I like to read him. There has been a tug-of-war going on regarding global warming. Some say it is a ridiculous idea while others can't sleep nights just worrying about it. Lutts has a new take on it all. Read on.

Have you ever noticed how news stories get old after a while? The stories are still there, but people get desensitized to them; they need new news. The media juggernaut moves on. The octuplet's mom is already old news. Michael Phelps' photo is old news. The pilot who landed in the Hudson River is old news, and Al Gore has been old news for a long time; he never makes the front page anymore.

But the cause to which Mr. Gore has dedicated himself in recent years, Global Warming, is as real as ever and it is generally accepted by most observers that the earth's climate has changed substantially thanks to man's burning of fossil fuels.

Following this is the false conclusion that if we don't act soon—and in a big way—the earth's future will be in trouble. I (Timothy Lutts) say false because it's not the earth we're concerned about, it's the earth's ability to continue to function as a home for us humans . . . and other species.

Authors Robert M. Lilienfeld and William L. Rathje (our foremost geologist) put it this way: "Myth: we have to save the earth. Frankly, the earth doesn't need to be saved. Nature doesn't give a hoot if human beings are here or not. The planet has survived cataclysmic and catastrophic changes for millions upon millions of years. Over that time, it is widely believed, 99 percent of all species have come and gone while the planet has remained. Saving the environment is really about saving our environment - making it safe for ourselves, our children, and the world as we know it. If more people saw the issue as one of saving themselves, we would probably see increased motivation and commitment to actually do so."

Quote of the Week: "Here's what I think the truth is: We are all addicts of fossil fuels in a state of denial, about to face cold turkey." Kurt Vonnegut (1922-2007)

Church News

A Free Marriage Enrichment Seminar will be hosted by the Shepherd Church of Christ on April 24-26th. This event will be of great benefit to all ages in teaching better communication skills for closer relationships. Child care will be provided. Save the dates and plan to attend. The Church is located at 51 Bell Street @ Smith. Call 936-628-6130 for further information.

Spring Hill Baptist Church of Evergreen will host a Men on the Move program on Sunday, March 8, 2009, at 3:00 o'clock pm. Rev. F. Mason, Pastor, (936) 767-8421 or (936) 653-4531.

Bus Drivers Needed

Shepherd ISD is needing full time and part time bus drivers. If interested please apply online at www.shepherdisd.net. You may call 936-628-3396 ext.230 or ext.273 for information.

Business News

New Cleaners/Floral Shop has come to Shepherd. Mann Cleaners is located at 41 N. Ross Ave. (behind TD's Food Market). Phone (936) 697-2094. Service is by Town & Country Cleaners in Huntsville - next day service if in by 8:00 am. Come try us out. Jay Mann

Community Classifieds

YARD SALE: Friday, Saturday, Sunday, March 6, 7, 8, from 8am til? Location 11250 Hwy 150 between the 4-way and Hwy 59. We have clothes, furniture, generator, tools, Bowflex, AB lounge, wedding dress, pictures, and lots more. (281) 622-6422.

NEED CANNING JARS! Call (281)622-6422.

FOR SALE: A nice changing table for \$40 OBO. Please call (936) 365-4595.

LOOKING FOR a car or truck between \$500 and \$800. Should be in good condition. Call (936) 365-4595.

MOVING SALE: Saturday, March 7, 2009. 8:00 am - 'til? Everything needs to go. Some furniture, crafts, tools. Rain or Shine. Lake Run-a-Muck - follow the sign to 271 Neal Lane. For more information call (281) 592-5754.

LAND FOR SALE: 3.88 acres on high ground. For more information, call (936) 653-4531.

YARD SALE: First Annual Lake Waterwheel Subdivision Community yard sale. Follow signs down FM 223, Friday and Saturday, March 6th and 7th.

FOR SALE: Beagle-Walker Hound puppies! \$25 each - about 10 weeks old. First shots and wormed. Parents on site. Contact (936) 628-6212 for appt. to see.

FOR SALE: Beautiful Beagle-Walker Hound Puppies! 3 blk & tans, 1 blonde and white. \$35 ea. - about 12 weeks old. First shots and wormed. Parents on site. Picky about where our babies go...must have fenced yard!!! Will be good hunting or watch dogs. Contact (936) 628-6212 for appt. to see.

CHURCH GARAGE SALE: Big variety of items, antiques, etc., Saturday, March 7, 2009, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm, Coldspring Pentecostal Church, 1120 Highway 150, Coldspring.

For news or special events to be published in *Shepherd Community News*:

Drop off your information/picture at McClain's, e-mail to shepherdnews@eastex.net, or fax to (936) 628-2866.

Information may not be taken over the telephone. Include contact information on your request to have something published. *Our deadline is 6 p.m. Tuesday for the following week.*

Obituary

Pearlene Bryant

May 14, 1933 - January 25, 2009

Pearlene Bryant, age 75, of Cleveland, Texas, passed away Sunday, January 25, 2009. She was born in Arkansas on May 14, 1933 to, George and Amanda Williamson who preceded her in death along with her loving husband, Louie Joe Bryant.

Survivors include her daughter, Sandra Zirixax of Shepherd, Texas; step-sons, James Bryant and Jimmy Bryant; sisters, Ola Wren, Lucille Wright, and Bernice Blackburn; grandchildren, Kayla Jones, Jennifer Bryant, Justin Bryant, Jimmy Ray Bryant, Joshua Bryant, and Cody Bryant; numerous nieces, nephews and many other cherished family members and caring friends.

Graveside services were held 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 28, 2009 at Farley Chapel Cemetery, Shepherd, Texas.