

Thorndale ISD Ex-Students News
Reported by Charlene Olbrich
Ex-Student Association Advisory Committee Member
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I thought we were going to have a slow week, but boy! was I wrong. A good sign.

Our high school band is headed for state competition on this next Monday. We are so proud of this group of students and wish them good luck. At the competition in Groesbeck last week, the top 4 bands progress on to state competition and our little band came in 3rd. Go Band!!

Angie Schneider Becker, Class of 1965 has been working on our "lost" list from just this past year. She called in address changes for Lance Arms Guerrero, Class of 1993 in San Angelo and Stephanie Dickens Branham, Class of 1999 in Temple. Our thanks to Angie for her work on finding two of our lost exes and always working to keep us updated on all the news.

Our condolences to the family of ex-principal and coach, Robert "Bob" Mathis who passed away October 21, 2009. He touched the lives of many exes and friends here in Thorndale and will be lovingly missed by many. Donations have been made in memory of "Mr. Mathis" to our scholarship fund by Ronnie and Angie Schneider Becker, Classes of 1963 and 1965, respectively and Harold Biar, Class of 1949 and wife, Rosalie. Our thanks to them. This is such a nice way to remember a loved one.

Had a call from Violet Schramm Dixon, Class of 1969 of Bogart, Georgia last week about Bruce Featherston. Violet reads our news in the Champion and calls when she has information for us and we do appreciate it. She is always so bright and bubbly and I love to hear her voice on the phone. Now, we need to find out what classes Bill, Jr. and Don Featherston were in. Surely some of our exes went to school with them.

We had a number of folks involved in the Rockdale Fair last week. We want to congratulate all the winners and contestants. I noticed a number of exes among the helpers, many parents and several contributing money. A lot of work goes into all phases of the Fair.

Our condolences to the family of Kevin Gilbreath of Fairfield who passed away October 6, 2009. Kevin attended school here in Thorndale but we don't have him on any of our class rosters. He was the son of the late Donley Gilbreath and wife Joyce Hollowell Gilbreath, Class of 1947. He will surely be missed by many loving family and friends. Our thanks to Tody Hollowell, Class of 1953 for calling to let us know this sad news. Kevin's oldest brother died a number of years ago so this family has been hit hard.

There was a nice photo and article in the newspaper of Chris Northcott, Class of 1994 receiving his promotion to the rank of Gunnery Sergeant in the Marine Corp on October 1, 2009. His mother and wife participated in the ceremony and were with him in the photo. He will now be an Infantry Unit Leader Course Instructor responsible for training Infantry Platoon Sergeants. Our congratulations to Chris. We are very proud, too.

There was a nice photo of several of our VFW Auxiliary members and an article on their meeting in Pilot Knob. Exes moms Margie Menzel, Val Hegar and Ethel Seelig and Mary Ann Sielaff Rodenbeck, Class of 1949 made the trip and met with the State VFW Auxiliary President.

Our congratulations to Mindi Millner, Class of 1997 and Russell Ellington, Class of 1996 on their recent marriage. We wish them many years of happy married life.

Our condolences to the family of Denisse Lynette Wuensche who passed away on October 19, 2009. She is the daughter of Bobby Wuensche, Class of 1957 of Taylor. She will surely be missed by many. Denisse attended a number of our Relay for Life events here in Thorndale and always had a smile on her face.

I was happy to see a good photo and short article in the newspaper on the 30 year class reunion of the Class of 1979 at the home of Renee Weise in Taylor. We had already heard that they had such a great time.

There was a colored photo in the paper of several new flags being presented to the new Rockdale High School by the American Legion. In the photo was our Cecil Cook, Class of 1972. I always say our exes do get around.

There was a photo in the newspaper of the Rockdale Lions dignitaries which included Billy K. Galbreath, Class of 1940. He and his whole family have worked for many years with this good organization.

Visited with Irene Waiser Cast, Class of 1944 last week and she's improving slowly. Seems she might have had an allergic reaction to some medications given her when she got sick. Get well soon, Irene. We miss that red car driving past our house each day.

We can be found on the web at www.thorndale.txed.net or you can e-mail locojo@austin.rr.com. You can always call 512-898-2072 or you can write to Thorndale Ex-Students Assn., P. O. Box 393, Thorndale, TX 76577. We love to hear from our exes.