

The droning heat of summer is still upon us. I'm getting ready for some rain and cooler weather myself. We had a small shower Sunday afternoon, but the clouds passed by pretty quickly. It was just enough rain to moisten the grass on top of the ground and cool things down a little for the afternoon.

I was so sorry to hear about the passing of Ivetta (Watts) Hines last week. Her funeral services were conducted Sunday, by West Oaks Funeral Home in Sulphur Springs, with interment following in Miller Grove Cemetery. The Watts family was reared in the County Line area of Hopkins/Rains counties. Ivetta's father, Buck Watts, taught many singing schools in the area and gave piano lessons to lots of folks. In fact, the Buck Watts all-day singing is still a yearly tradition in Point.

I would also like to send out my condolences to the Ethridge family. Erma Dell (Ethridge) Monroe passed away Aug. 9 near her home on Malakoff. She was born on Greenville on Sept. 8, 1926, the daughter of Levi and Laura Mills Ethridge. She married Edgar Monroe in 1952. Mrs. Monroe was a member of Parkview Baptist Church of Malakoff. She leaves several children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren to mourn her loss. Erma Dell, like the other Ethridge children, went to school at Miller Grove. Visitation was Aug. 11, while the funeral was scheduled for Monday, Aug. 12, at the First Baptist Church and interment followed at Malakoff Cemetery.

My friend, Deanna Hasten, told me that the Lone Star Heritage Quilt Guild has had quilt displays in the window next to Plain and Fancy sandwich shop in downtown Sulphur Springs since June. Starting Monday, the display will showcase five of the past "Viewer's Choice" winning quilts from 2002 through 2009 quilt shows at the Hopkins County Fall Festival. The Viewer's Choice awards are made possible by the Grace Lindley Hamby Memorial (Deanna's mother) and the Louise Garmon Stripling Memorial, given by her children Brenda (Stripling) Stanley, Bettye (Stripling) Dunegan, Kenneth Stripling and Randall Stripling. On Aug. 26, the display will showcase the five Viewer's Choice winning quilts from 2010 through 2012. The awards are given to the two quilters receiving the most votes from the visitors to the annual quilt show, which will be held this year at the First Baptist Church R.O.C. in Sulphur Springs on Sept. 20-21. I always try to include some info about the quilt show since it has ties to our community, with Deanna living in Miller Grove and the Stripling family being from Miller Grove.

Please remember Chandler Lee in your prayers this week. He is supposed to undergo scoliosis surgery this week at Children's Hospital in Dallas. Chandler will be in the seventh grade next year.

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Written by By BRANDON DARROW, brd_2@hotmail.com
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Happy birthday this week to Madison Penny on Aug. 11, Claudia McCutchen Jones and Johnny Duckworth on Aug. 13, Jerry McGowan on Aug. 14 and D.J. Spencer on Aug. 15.

Happy 55th anniversary to Virgil and Jean (Ivie) McEnturff on Aug. 15. Happy 65th anniversary to Jim and Mary Burns on Aug. 14. These are two very special couples who are celebrating great milestones in their married lives.

As you travel the highways and byways don't forget that all roads lead back home and back to Miller Grove. Please send me any newsworthy information. My email address is brd_2@hotmail.com.