

The Tira and Sulphur Bluff Methodist Churches will be conducting a Maundy Thursday service at the Tira Methodist Church at 6 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

Posey and Peerless Baptist churches are hosting a sunrise service at the Cooper Lake State Park - South Sulphur Unit on Easter Sunday morning at 7 a.m.

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage everyone to attend a worship service on Easter, as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord!

A chili supper, benefiting the Tira Volunteer Fire Department, will be held on Saturday, April 6. Serving will begin at 5 p.m. The cost for the meal is on a donation basis. A silent auction will be going on, as well. Please make plans to attend and support the cause.

Floyd and Martha Payton enjoyed a visit from their daughter, Regina, from Thursday evening until Sunday morning. Martha comments, "The weather was so lousy we spent most of the time at home reading, watching sports and eating." Floyd has just about recovered from a bad fall he received three weeks ago. He fell on the driveway, hitting his head and requiring nine stitches to the forehead, plus destroying his glasses. We want to wish Floyd a complete recovery.

North Hopkins students and staff will enjoy a holiday on Friday. Just a reminder, the school calendar was revised and Monday is a regular school day.

Robert and Laura Jones spent six months in Colorado Springs. Laura says, "It was an opportunity to travel and work." Laura has been in Texas for 20 years, but before making this her home she had lived in Colorado Springs for three years. She reports that it was really nice to go back, see how big it has grown, and take the grandsons to all the places where she had taken her kids. She says, "It had changed tremendously population-wise, from 150,000 to 427,000 but, miraculously, it still has that small town feel, just much bigger. Still not much traffic

and not near as cold as it was.”

They did get to enjoy a few snows before coming home to East Texas. Some of the places they visited with the boys included Seven Falls, Manitou Springs, hiking a few times at Red Rock Canyon. Laura says that it was off limits to the public when she lived there, but it ended up being their favorite place to hike. For Halloween, they visited a “huge putt-putt golf course and attended the famous Emma Crawford Coffin Race in Manitou.” They took the train ride to the top of Pikes Peak, during the beautiful changing of the colors in the fall. They visited the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo and did some hiking in the Garden of the Gods. Robert and Laura enjoyed a visit to Helen Hunt Falls. Laura worked for the National Republican Presidential Campaign and reports that it was very exciting to work in the “biggest swing state in the U.S.”

She comments that the back of their condo faced the “entire Colorado Springs Mountain Range” and says that she “would get up an hour early and walk down the big hill having coffee and alone time for an hour each morning.” That was one of her favorite parts. Laura says, “Christmas brought kids from all different places and Jamie Lynn Shehan and Crystal Cobb and Kiegan and Acie got to stay a few months in their new Airstream.” Robert and Jamie Lynn spent time remodeling the “already pristine Airstream to a more vintage ‘50s feel in the inside; it turned out wonderfully.” After their visit, Jamie Lynn, Crystal, Kiegan and Acie left for their new adventure in Jackson, N.J.

The 12th of March marked their 10th anniversary. Laura reports that they had planned to renew their vows on the beach at Fort Walton Beach for their 10th, but they decided on the Lambs Rest Inn at New Braunfels. They had taken two of the kids there on vacation eight years ago and had been wanting to go back ever since. They arrived there very late after a long drive from Colorado, but the guests were out on the porch visiting in rocking chairs and invited them to join them. After a gourmet breakfast in the dining room the next day, they went to the Trades Day in Gruene, then came back to the inn and renewed their vows on the deck by the Guadalupe River, with a few of the guests attending, as well. On their drive home, they had to deal with all the spring break traffic, and then their car broke down and they ended up spending two days in the Czech town — West — before they finally got the part for their car and were able to return home.

Laura is still in school at Eastfield and is enjoying it very much.

I always need and appreciate input from my friends to help keep me informed of news in our

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Written by By JAN VAUGHN janvaughn73@gmail.com
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community. If you have any news pertaining to Tira residents, past or present, please contact me, Jan Vaughn, at 903-945-2190 or 903-438-6688 or janvaughn73@gmail.com.