

Have you noticed a daffodil or two blooming? Does that mean that spring may be just around the corner? And, what happened to our winter? It seems like the year is moving by rather fast, as we're already starting a new month.

This time last year we were experiencing cold weather and a little bit of snow. We can count our blessings and hope that the warm weather continues. The long-range forecast calls for it to continue at least through the middle of February.

Several from this community were involved in the annual Lights of Life Gala on Saturday night in the Hopkins County Civic Center. A wonderful time was enjoyed by all and a record-breaking auction made this year's event a financial success. Thanks to everyone who gave so much and made the Gala a great night in Hopkins County.

I heard from Rhandi Stribling Fails this week, and she allowed that they had been enjoying the Yantis basketball games and that her grandmother, Joyce Gilbreath, had returned home over the weekend and enjoyed dinner with Joann Bevill and Maxine Gilbreath on Friday night. Joann made a big breakfast on Saturday morning that was enjoyed by all.

Rhandi and her family are also proud to announce that they have a new baby wild hog for a pet. "Olivia" is certainly being enjoyed by Case and hopefully will grow and prosper on the Stribling farm.

I saw Bryant Fisher in town this week, and he was headed to Denver, Colo., for a National Beef Council meeting this week. He's representing Dairy Farmers of America on the Beef Council.

Marilee reported that J.R. and Vanessa are getting settled in Sunnyside, Wash., and had called back and indicated a safe trip there. J.R. is looking forward to working with both dairy and beef producers in Washington State as he begins his new job with Coba/Select Sires. Vanessa is excited to be closer to her family, as well. Congratulations to J.R. and Vanessa.

Written by By BOBBY MCDONALD
Wednesday, 01 February 2012 14:20

Vera Harrington reported a nice visit with the daughters and granddaughters in Waxahachie over the weekend. "But now I've got to play 'catch up' all week here at the farm after having fun," reported Vera. "It was all worth it when you see the smiling faces of the granddaughters, though."

Vera also allowed she was excited about all the moisture we've received that has the winter grasses sprouting.

"It's just so wonderful to see something green, after enduring last summer's drought," Vera said before asking everyone to continue to pray for more of the rain we need.

Tragedy once again was experienced by the Wallace family this week in the death of Ben Wallace as he was killed in an automobile accident near Porter. Ben is the son of Tim Wallace and the grandson of Robert Earl Wallace. Funeral services are scheduled for Friday at 1 p.m. at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel, with burial in the Reilly Springs Cemetery. Visitation will be on Thursday night. Please continue to pray for Tim and his extended family as they endure this time of grief.

It was only a couple of weeks ago that the Wallace family buried Florence Evelyn Wallace Glenn, who was almost 90 years of age. Florence Evelyn was the daughter of Mr. Odie and Miss Jessie Wallace, and reached adulthood in this community. She was a member of the Reilly Springs Baptist Church Quartet that performed for a number of years in the community and throughout Hopkins County.

Sandi Wallace reported that Joann Wallace is home recovering from foot surgery this week. She reported that Joann is doing much better but is still a little bit sore from the procedure and has trouble with mobility. Remember Joann in your thoughts and prayers.

On a brighter note, I saw Mary Alice Koon this week, at the Health Fair in Sulphur Springs, and she reported that Brodie was doing some better, and seemed to improve a little bit every day. Continue to remember Brodie, as well.

Written by By BOBBY MCDONALD
Wednesday, 01 February 2012 14:20

Mary reported that she'd heard from Jandi in Muleshoe, and Sam has learned to climb out of his crib, and come knocking on the door when he decides to have "midnight excursions." It sounds like a "big boy bed" is in order.

Until next week, continue to count your blessings and say a prayer of thanksgiving for how wonderfully you've been blessed. Remember our troops who defend our freedoms and ask for them an extra blessing of safety and a safe return trip home. Pray for love in our hearts, harmony in our community and peace in our land. God bless Reilly Springs, Hopkins County and America.