



Meals-on-Wheels

OF JOHNSON AND ELLIS COUNTIES

Serving the Children of Yesterday

Bread Basket

Volume 10, Issue 10

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Volunteer Provides Friendship, Meals to Homebound

INSIDE

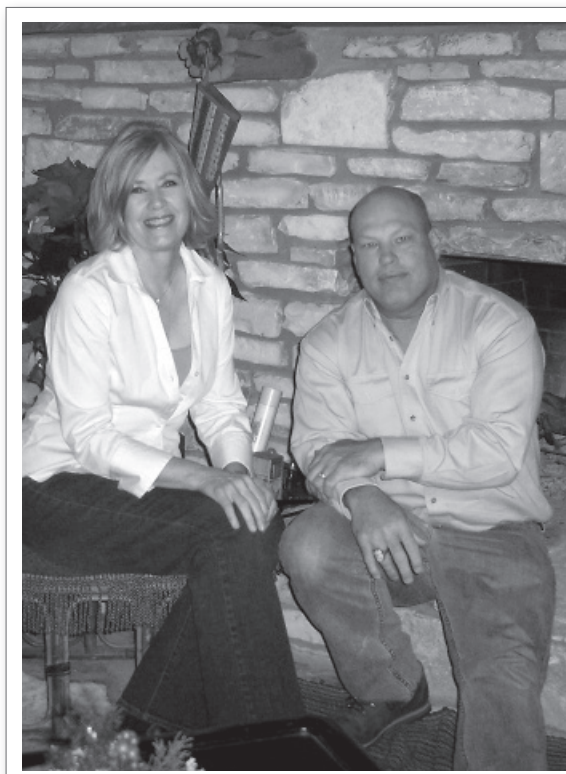
- Fabulous 40's Fling
- Join Our "Lunch Bunch!"

Jeff Steele was perusing the local paper when he discovered a press release that piqued his interest—a plea for volunteers to deliver Meals-on-Wheels in the area. The Wilmer mayor approached his wife, Janie Fricke, and asked if she thought it was something she'd be interested in pursuing. Her mother was a Meals-on-Wheels client in rural Indiana, so her eyes lit up at the possibility of becoming involved locally. With community-oriented values as their central core, the couple agreed that this would be the perfect fit for Janie and thus, a new Meals-on-Wheels volunteer was born.

"I remember how special it was," Janie says, recalling her mother's enthusiasm not only for the meals but the volunteers' daily kindness and concern. "She lived four miles from the little town," Jeff adds. "As long as we knew that Meals-on-Wheels was going by there and providing meals, we had peace of mind."

A volunteer's perspective is now a part of Janie's appreciation for the organization. "I just love being able to go in and visit with the same little faces from week to week," she says of her Meals-on-Wheels route. "I really enjoy getting to know them."

This small-town country gal who grew up on a foundation of family values is also a prominent part of the professional family whose names are synonymous



Janie Fricke and Jeff Steele

with Nashville and country western music. Janie quickly learned that her natural talent for music could actually propel her into the career of her passion. Coupled with her charismatic charm, melodic voice and musical gift, she soon rose into Nashville's star-studded skies, becoming Female Vocalist of the Year in both 1982 and 1983.

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"I just love being able to go in and visit with the same little faces from week to week."

—Janie Fricke

Fabulous 40's Fling: A Glimpse From the Past

Christine Holcomb of Cleburne has a fondness for dolls: rag dolls, baby dolls, china dolls. An old-fashioned crib adorns her parlor packed with her decades-old collection. And in her living room, her favorite doll of all—a doll that's more than 100 years old—regally resides in a shadow box on the wall. This was her mother's doll, she beams. And with that, she launches into a story of childhood memories—of playing with the doll while lounging on her mom's down feather bed.

Otis Wilson of Waxahachie is a proud man of few words. He faithfully served his country during World War II despite the fact that at home he was required to use the “coloreds only” drinking fountains and banished from enjoying a summer swim in the community watering hole. Later, Otis and his wife, Ellen, were befriended by a Meals-on-Wheels volunteer who became the catalyst to Otis finally receiving the military medals to which he was entitled—some six decades after his tour of duty.

Meals-on-Wheels is part of the reason why our more than 750 clients can continue to enjoy living independently. Some of their unique perspectives—their outlooks of the world and insightful experiences from the past—will be highlighted during the upcoming Fabulous 40's Fling on Saturday, March 26, at the Texas Motorplex, located between Waxahachie and Ennis.

Please join us in celebrating the Greatest Generation, and capture a glimpse from the past. With your help,



Christine Holcomb



Otis Wilson

this event will raise more than \$60,000 to provide meals to the homebound in our area. Sponsorships are still available. For reservations or more information, contact the office or visit our website, www.servingthechildrenofyesterday.org.

Join Our “Lunch Bunch!”

Meals-on-Wheels has a new group of donors who give each month. These regular gifts supply Meals-on-Wheels with the steady income needed to provide food, friendship and other critical services to your homebound neighbors. If you would like to become a “lunch bunch” monthly donor, please contact the office or sign up online at www.servingthechildrenofyesterday.org.



Meals-on-Wheels of Johnson and Ellis Counties

August Through November 2010*



In Celebration of

Meals-on-Wheels Volunteers

Lynco Heating &
Air Conditioning

Our Five Grandchildren

Lundy and Linda Tidwell

Fran Anderson's Graduation

Josh and Amy Jackson

Avalon Faris' 92nd Birthday

Vinsen and Pam Faris

Maxine Gunter's Joyous Milestone, Her 75th Birthday

Pamela Oberg

Shirley Hall

Walt Hall

Leota Hopkins' Birthday

Jim Kelly

Nelda Isenberg's Retirement

Vinsen and Pam Faris

Joan Leach

Johnson County Master
Gardeners Association

Dan and Martha Massingill's 50th Wedding Anniversary

Roger Bradford and Martha
Stanton
Penni and William Massingill
Deborah and G. Sealy
Massingill
Fred and Wanda Rodriguez

Andrew Oberg's Beginning of the Next Stage of His Life—College!

Pamela Oberg

Dorothy Price's Birthday

David and Elizabeth Price

Tara Shollenberger's Birthday

Vinsen and Pam Faris

Chandler Thrash's 10th Birthday

Margaret Thrash

Greg Thrash's Birthday

Margaret Thrash

Laurie Thrash's Birthday

Margaret Thrash

Willard and Dorcas Willis' 50 Years of Marriage

Howard and Sharon Wright

Andrew and Cari Wilson's Exciting News That Their First Child and Our First Grandchild Is a Boy

Pamela Oberg

In Honor of

All Veterans

Paul Bradtmueller

Elderly in Need

Peggy and Charles Dell

Navy Vets

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Volunteer Provides Friendship, Meals to Homebound

Continued from Front Cover

Today, she calls Ellis County home—dividing her time between concert performances with fellow musician George Jones and other country music icons, and overseeing the rustic farm she and Jeff share. She's also visually creative and markets a line of throw pillows, table runners and other fabric-inspired art.

Plus, she is still an integral part of the Meals-on-Wheels family of volunteers, delivering meals on a weekly basis. Jeff couldn't be happier about his wife's affiliation. "Janie's a personable person and she enjoys the interaction (with the clients)," Jeff adds. "She gets a lot of self-fulfillment. She comes home and talks about them all the time."

Janie and Jeff are only two of the many volunteers who provide friendship to clients served each day. Without volunteers, we could not do what we do—that is, serve more than 750 people! Thank you to those who give selflessly to brighten the day of a homebound person in your community. If you are not currently involved, we always need more caring people to help deliver noontime meals.

"It has had a direct effect on us and the family," Jeff says. "Once you get involved with an outreach like Meals-on-Wheels, it impacts you directly. You have more of an understanding to those that need your help."



Janie Fricke and Ronnie Edwards

Visit Us Online

To learn more about supporting the mission of Meals-on-Wheels, visit us on the Web at www.servingthechildrenofyesterday.org.



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