

October 2023

Important message from Bev Murphy Wells: !!!!!

Scams are picking up...these scams involve texts, emails, or phone calls that impersonate your bank, often with a fake security message or a familiar company or person you know. If you receive something suspicious...

- Don't click or respond
- Call or visit your bank to verify legitimacy (most banks will never send a notice asking for personal info)
- Keep on top of account activity
- Never give personal info or codes to anyone

FROM OUR GRADUATES

Tommye Ruth Blair Toler: "I must say that Judith Murphy had quite an odyssey after her fractured ankle. Hopefully she will be back on two feet very soon. "

Bev Murphy Wells:" Pat Payne is right about hurricanes. September is the peak, last year Ian hit mid-September and Nicole which was later downgraded to a tropical storm (major high winds though) hit in November...lost my hibiscus tree 🥺 and Pat is right on another account, the warm waters in the Gulf intensifies any storm.

- Poor Judith had quite an adventure, some pleasant and some not so pleasant. Hope her healing will go well so she can continue to travel knowing how much she enjoys venturing here and there.
- In response to David Dibb's question about Texas' courthouses...what a great idea! Next time I'm in Texas, I plan on taking a picture of the Waxahachie courthouse...it's remarkable!
- Praying for those who have recently lost their loved ones and praying for those who have grave illnesses for themselves or family members. "

Larry Thomas: David did a fantastic job putting the directory in final form. Everyone I tell about our class keeping in touch are both amazed and envious as apparently most classes are not blessed with leaders doing so much work with reunions, newsletters and now the directory. Thank you to each one responsible.

UPDATES:

Ralph Sparks WHS '59 (hubby of Kay Phillips Sparks) has been suffering with a disease that is causing his bone marrow not able to make enough blood. Periodically Ralph must have blood transfusions. In addition, because of the lower levels of blood, oxygen levels also drop so at those times Ralph must be on oxygen. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers for stronger levels of both. Ralph has always been so active and this is cramping his style.

Judith Hamff Murphy: "I had my accident on June 15 and the surgery was June 28—three months ago this week. I got out of my big boot, wrappings, and non-weight bearing last week. I am currently waiting for a PT referral to clear my insurance approval so I can begin walking. That should happen in the next week or so. I discontinued my home care workers last week and I'm doing well on my own. Friends and family help with the details as needed. It's really nice to be back to my independent living. (I do have my regular house cleaning folks and I have a weekly meal delivery service, for now.)

I was hoping to be able to come to the mini-reunion in October, but unfortunately I'm not up to that yet. No plans to travel until mid-2024."

Carol Leskin Allen: Carol Leskin Allen lives in Tampa but all is fine with her house after the last hurricane in that area. She did evacuate but came home to "all's well".

Work... it's a wonderful thing



By David Dobb

Howard's story about the jobs he's held in a relentless quest to make money made me think about the first real job I ever had: as stock boy at the TG&Y in Waco when I was in high school. The manager was a woman, and all the clerks were women or high school girls, and I was the only male on the staff. I guess today, women are proud to be able to handle anything a man can do, but back then the work was more clearly divided. I unloaded trucks, stocked shelves, opened boxes, kept up with lay-away items**, mopped the floors, and other such manly tasks.

Holidays brought special opportunities for interesting assignments. At Easter, we got live baby chicks to sell. They were dyed purple, red, blue, and green, and very popular with the children. But sometimes one got sick (maybe the dye?). It was my manly job to get rid of it. It seemed heartless to throw a live chick in the dumpster, but this city boy did not know how to kill a chicken. I tried a couple of methods (one involving an ice pick) until, thankfully, one of the ladies showed me how to wring its innocent little neck.

Christmas was exciting. We set up decorations, sold a lot of bicycles and Radio Flyer wagons that needed assembly, and offered gift wrap. Now you may think gift-wrapping is an artistic endeavor for creative individuals. But it's really an exercise in measuring, cutting, and folding angles... and my Engineer mind took to it readily. I'm still a great gift-wrapper, and love doing it.

One of the girls I worked with was a WHS60 classmate, Linda Hardwick. She was nice, but was dating a big guy named Mike, who drove a fast car, so she was unavailable. Her younger sister, Judy, also worked there. Very cute, and I had a crush on her, but she would not date anyone outside of her church. And, boy, was I ever outside. Linda married Mike, but was killed in a car wreck, with Mike driving, in 1962. I see her name frequently as I work on the directory, and as I read the *Town Crier* stories of the wonderful and accomplished lives led by so many of the girls in our class, I am still sad at her loss and her family's loss.

After high school, I worked my way through college in the dorm cafeteria, local Ice Cream Shop, Char-king burger Drive-in, college teaching assistant, Boy Scout Camp counselor, and summer engineering program with Monsanto. After college, I went right to work with Monsanto, then the US Air Force, then back with Monsanto, lasting through 4 buyouts until retirement. After retirement, Anita and I went right to work doing house painting and wallpapering (take down or put up).

I can't remember ever not working, except those idyllic days as a young boy. Even now, totally unemployed, I need something to do. Being a homeowner pretty much fills that need. I believe God made us with both the skills and the need to do meaningful work, especially the kind that benefits others. And I am thankful for it.

**** "Lay-away items":** Based on an old-fashioned notion that you did not take your purchase home until it was fully paid for, the customer made installment payments and the store held the item until the payments were complete.



1 Tim Lasseter Latta and hubby John have escaped the sizzling heat of the Texas Summer to a cooler climate. Here is a picture at the Continental Divide where Tim said it was cold. More pleasant temperatures can surely bring a smile to a person's face!





Train ride from Durango to Silverton



John and Tim Latta at Mesa Verde National Park, CO

2. **Howard Dudgeon** Reports:

“My uncle Clint Brazelton and a friend of mine Travis Dubois at Baylor were in the 14th Army Air Corps successor of the Flying Tigers. They were stationed in Kunming China. My uncle was a crew chief and TD was a radioman and later Dean of Men at Baylor.

The 14th AAC flew the Hump, the Himalayan Mountains, regularly. They would fly the wounded out and supplies in. My uncle as crew chief was on many flights from China to India and back. A crew chief is an expert airplane mechanic. My uncle was 22 years old in 1944.

On one of the trips to India the airplane had engine trouble. The pilot told the passengers to throw equipment off the airplane to lighten the load. The Chinese soldiers who were taking care of the wounded started throwing the wounded off the airplane. I am not sure if my uncle or TB told me this story or if they were on the airplane when it happened or if it was a story they heard. Maybe they were telling me life was cheap in China in 1944.”

October Birthdays:

6	Randy Farrar
7	George Howell
9	Marvin Schutza, David Rosen
15	Betty Barkley Flowers, Sharon McCarthy Odell
16	Charles Edward Wilson
17	Beverly Summey Gritter, Melynda Ricketts Chatham
18	John Ferguson, David Walsworth
21	Ken Baker
25	Ralph Klatt
26	Anitra Harrell Henrion
29	Tim Lasseter Latta



A NEAT IDEA: SOME WAYS TO DECORATE PUMPKINS:

Use some old buttons:



use glitter



Use some tacks



Use ribbons, braid or ricrac



Use anything you might have and....use your IMAGINATION!



The world has been in turmoil with bad news everywhere we turn. It's good to be reminded of the love and compassion that is also around us every day.

LOWE'S EMPLOYEES COME TO THE RESCUE OF DISABLED VET WITH BROKEN WHEELCHAIR



THEY REPLACED THE BROKEN PARTS AND TOLD ME, "WE'RE GOING TO MAKE THIS CHAIR LIKE NEW." I KEPT THANKING THEM AND ALL THEY COULD SAY WAS, "IT WAS OUR HONOR."

The bride's father died and donated his heart. The man who received the transplant walked her down the aisle.



It was considered the best photo of this century. A lioness and her cub were crossing the savannah but the heat was excessive and the cub was in great difficulty walking. An elephant realized that the cub would die and carried him in his trunk to a pool of water walking beside his mother. And we call them wild animals.

15-17

This whole class shaved their
heads on graduation Day



VIA GICAG.COM

For their classmate who
had cancer



www.whs60.org