

LOCAL

Bullard Banner News

Staff

BILL WOODALL.....PUBLISHER
JIM EPPERSON.....EDITOR
DOC SMITH.....SPORTS EDITOR
DOT WEST.....RECEPTIONIST
KYLA WEIS.....GRAPHIC DESIGN

SERVICE DESK Contact Us

Address
114 N. Houston
Bullard, TX 75757

Telephone
(903) 894-9306

Fax
(903) 894-9308

On the Web
www.BullardNews.com

Hours

Monday through Friday, 8:30
a.m. to 5 p.m.

Email

News Room
editor@bullardnews.com
news@bullardnews.com

Advertising
advertising@bullardnews.com

Billing and circulation
circ@kilgorenewsheald.com

Deadlines

Advertising

Deadlines are noon Friday
for publication the following
week. During holidays, dead-
lines are noon Thursday.

News and Sports

Community news announcements must be
submitted by noon Friday.

Sports Announcements deadline is noon
Friday.

Letter to the editor must be submitted by
noon Friday.

Circulation

For problems with paper delivery
or subscriptions call, (903) 894-
9306

To ask about your account or to
refill news racks, call (903) 984-
2593

subscriptions for Smith, Cherokee,
Rusk counties are \$20 a year.

All other places in U.S.A. are \$24.

Over 65 is \$18

Charter members are \$10.

Bullard Banner News (USPS
015622) is published every
Wednesday by Bluebonnet Publish-
ing LLC at 114 N Houston,
Bullard, TX, 75757. Periodical
postage paid at Bullard, Texas.
Copy right 2008 Bullard Banner
News.

Postmaster

Send address changes to Bullard
Banner News 114 N Houston,
Bullard, TX 75757

Bullard Banner News

We want you



to submit your
story ideas.

editor@Bullardnews.com
(903) 894-9306

Congressman Gohmert Commends Mayflower Group On Keeping History Alive



Front Row Left to Right: Congressman Louie Gohmert and Dr. Tom McCall pictured with officers Governor Betty Corcoran; Deputy Governor Carolyn McCall; Recording Secretary Pansy Conner; Elder Pam Lister; Chairman of Education Madeline Alworth. Back Row: Treasurer Kevin McCall

The Tyler Colony Society of Mayflower Descendants State of Texas held its annual Compact Day Luncheon on Saturday, November 8, 2008 at 11:30 A.M. at the Hamilton West Club House, 1521 Rice Road, Tyler. It was a covered dish luncheon and the meeting was held to commemorate the signing of the Mayflower Compact and the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth, Massachusetts in 1620. Colony Governor Betty Corcoran, presided over the meeting.

Deputy Governor Carolyn McCall, introduced the guest speaker, Congressman Louie Gohmert whose subject was "AMERICA, PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE." He touched on the history of the Pilgrims and went on to talk about the history and the accomplishments of some of the past presidents of our country, such as, Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton, and George W. Bush. Then he touched on the economic con-

dition of the country during their presidencies.

He encouraged the members to continue doing what they were doing in regards to teaching in the local schools the history of the Mayflower Compact, the landing of the Pilgrims, and the reasons they left England and came to America. He stressed that history was an important subject to keep alive with our young people of today. The members enjoyed his message very much and felt his theme was enlightening.

ALIENS

Continued from Page One

municipal jails. Texans are paying \$39 million a year to incarcerate illegal aliens.

Hospitals in Dallas, Houston and Fort Worth see more than 70 percent of new child births from illegal aliens. This puts a financial burden on hospitals, Berman said.

A federal mandate to give health care services anyone needing emergency treatment regardless of citizenship, legal status or ability to pay.

"It really bothers me that illegal aliens have better health benefits than many of my middle income constituents," he said.

States around Texas like Oklahoma and Arizona passed legislation to deal with the illegal alien problems in those states. As a result of that legislation illegal aliens began to leave, but they came to Texas, Berman said.

Berman is now introducing an identical bill to Oklahoma's illegal immigration law. The law authorizes law enforcement officers to take 287 G training from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

The bill also severely punishes employees of illegal aliens and those who transport or house them. The Oklahoma

law also deals with identity theft, "much of which is being done by illegal aliens," Berman said.

Berman's bills will be among 30 or so filed this session trying to prevent burdens caused by illegal aliens on Texas taxpayers, he said.

"If we cannot pass legislation to deal with a huge illegal alien problem in Texas, then at the end of the next session I will consider running for governor of the state of Texas, to be able to use the executive powers of the office of governor to deal with this major problem."

Obituaries

Virginia Ann Griffith Wood

A memorial service celebrating the life of Virginia Ann Griffith Wood, 69, of Bullard will be held on Saturday, November 15, 2008 at 11:00 AM at First Presbyterian Church with Dr. Stuart Baskin, Rev. Pam Leach, and Dr. Gary Fitzgerald officiating. Private burial will be at Bullard Cemetery under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home.

Mrs. Wood passed away on November 11, 2008 at her home in Bullard.

She was born on November 1, 1939 in Richmond, Missouri to Dr. Harry and Virginia Bates Griffith. She was raised in Richmond, Missouri, graduating from Richmond High School. Even as a small child

Genny showed an interest in all kinds of art. Her love of art continued and grew until she enrolled in the University of Missouri where she earned a degree in Art and French. After graduation,



Genny shared her talent and love of art with students in Missouri, Tennessee, Colorado and Texas. She taught art at Moore Middle School and Orr Elementary, and helped develop the art program for Grace Community School. Genny was actively involved in the art community in Tyler by teaching art classes to all ages at the Tyler Museum of Art and assisting in the development of the Discovery Science Place. She also painted murals for First Presbyterian

Church and Landmark Title Company in Tyler. Genny retired after teaching for 40 years. Along with her husband, Bill, Genny was a board member of the Mission House of Bullard and gave a great deal of time and love to the community.

Genny was preceded in death by her parents and a brother-in-law, Jack Glock. She is survived by a loving family including her husband of 48 years, William R. Wood of Bullard; daughter, Shannon Elizabeth Wood of Whitehouse; son, William R. Wood II and wife Kelly of Bullard; grandchildren, Michael Pritchard, Lindsay Pritchard, Amy Enlow, Ryan Wood, Jess Wood, Chris Wood, Cade Wood, and Marquez Franklin; sisters, Martha Griffith O'Donnell and husband Pat of Ouray, Colorado, and Susan

The Gift of Good Health

By Grace-Marie Turner

The holiday season is here again. But amidst the hustle and bustle of gift-giving and family get-togethers, seniors enrolled in Medicare Part D should carve out time to consider whether they want to stay with their current prescription drug plan.

From Nov. 15 through the end of the year, Medicare is holding its annual "open enrollment" period for Part D. During this time, eligible seniors can sign-up or change plans. Seniors can compare their current coverage with others among the many competing Medicare drug plans. They can decide whether to stay with their current coverage or switch to another plan that may offer lower premiums or more coverage options.

Unlike traditional government programs, where there's just one plan for everyone, Medicare Part D is structured so that insurance companies must compete for customers. Knowing that beneficiaries have the option to switch means that insurers have to make their plans attractive or they will lose customers. The record shows that this results in more choices and lower costs.

In 2003, lawmakers estimated seniors would pay an average monthly premium for prescription drug coverage in 2009 of more than \$44. But according to government offi-

cials, their average monthly premium next year for the standard plan will be just \$28.

But some drug plans are raising their prices and changing the specific drugs available. So every senior who is enrolled -- even those that are happy with their plans -- should be sure to seize this once-a-year opportunity to review their coverage.

Web savvy seniors can do this through Medicare's website at www.Medicare.gov. There, using the "Medicare Plan Finder," seniors can compare plans based on price, drug coverage, and out-of-pocket expenses. Seniors can also use the Plan Finder to compare the cost of filling a prescription their local pharmacy versus a mail-order drug store.

Seniors without web access can always call 1-800-Medicare and speak with a customer service representative who will talk them through their choices. Seniors may also want to assess whether one of the Medicare Advantage plans also may be right for them. These plans offer a full range of health services and some of them include prescription drug coverage at no extra cost.

Medicare's open-enrollment period ends on December 31, so seniors should act fast to check their options and make sure they're enrolled in the most-affordable plan that best suits their needs. After all, the best gift is good health

27th annual Spirit of Christmas Food Drive

The 27th annual Spirit of Christmas Food Drive, sponsored by Brookshire Grocery Co. and Rose City Kiwanis Club and PATH, begins on Wednesday, Nov. 19.

The food drive provides food for needy families in the Tyler area at Christmas.

"We have always had tremendous community response to the food drive," said Sam Anderson, BGC's director of consumer and community relations. "This has grown into one of the largest privately sponsored charitable efforts in the region."

Area residents may make donations by placing non-perishable food items in designated bins located in participating Brookshire's or Super 1 Foods stores.

People are asked not to donate homemade goods or

items in glass jars. Bulk items, such as flour, sugar and corn meal, should be donated in smaller sizes to allow for more variety in the boxes given to the recipients.

In addition to the public food donations, each family will receive at least one roasting hen from Brookshire Grocery Co. Members of Rose City Kiwanis Club and PATH will sort, package and distribute the food to the families before Christmas.

All food collected in the area will be distributed in the Tyler area. Families assisted by the Spirit of Christmas Food Drive are selected by local relief organizations or government agencies according to need.

The Spirit of Christmas Food Drive began in 1982, when 92 families in Tyler, Texas, received assistance.

Jesse Wright

Bullard - Services for Jesse Wright, 72 of Bullard, were last Sunday at Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1799 in Whitehouse with Pastor Hodges officiating. Arrangements are under direction of Boren-Connor Funeral Home, Bullard.

Mr. Wright died Nov. 4, 2008, in a Tyler hospital.

He was born May 15, 1936 in Jefferson and served in the Army during the Korean War. He lived in Dallas prior to moving to Bullard in 1982. He was a member of Pleasant Hills Baptist Church of Tyler and VFW Post 1799. Survivors include his wife, Kathleen Wright, Bullard, sons Thomas Heyder, Bullard and Joseph Heyder, Pennsylvania; daughter, Christine Gattis, Bullard, and five grandchildren.