

Thorndale Ex-Students

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As the holidays come to an end, seems like everything slows down. Our news surely does.

Dear cousin, Shirley Roepke Becker, Class of 1955 had a birthday on last Monday, so I called her on both numbers but no answer. So, I left her a happy birthday message on her phone. Called her on Wednesday to wish her a Happy New Year and she did answer. She was so sick so she didn't answer any phone calls. Didn't feel like talking to anyone. She was better when we talked on Wednesday, New Years Day, but still sounded like she had a bad cold. Next day, she called me and said she felt so much better. So glad to hear that and a few prayers might help. She doesn't slow down for much, but I guess this really got her down. She missed both her birthday celebration and welcoming the New Year, too. Get Well Soon, Shirley!

Dear niece and nephew, Ted and Glenda Lehman Merz, Class of 1968 stopped in several times which I always enjoy. New Years Eve, Glenda brought me a big pot of her great stew, recipe handed down to her by her dad, the late A. J. Lehman, Class of 1935. He made it for years for our family's New Years Eve celebration at their home. Now, Glenda makes it every year and of course, Ted helps. Since I don't get out much at night, she always brings enough for several meals along with desert, this year cookies. Can't thank them enough.

We need to keep Julia Niemtschk, wife of the late Eldon "Shorty" Niemtschk, Class of 1953, in our prayers. She fell and broke her arm between the shoulder and the elbow and it has been very painful. She has to have surgery to fix it and she meets with the surgeon this next week. A shame to have to wait so long before the surgery. She always has such a good outlook on things though. Tough but very sweet lady and we know those prayers do help.

On Facebook, Moody High School posted their baseball schedule. Coaches were listed along with the team and our own Logan Fisher, Class of 2018 is the Head Coach. He seemed pleased to see his name in print and we congratulate him. We wish you and your team a great season, Logan.

Had a nice visit from exes and my friend, Barb Ewing. We watched basketball, ate chicken salad sandwiches, chips and drinks and visited. Fun way to spend a day. She always brings the surrounding areas obituaries for me to go through. My thanks to her.

Thorndale Lady Dogs had their own tournament this year here at home, the Thorndale Shootout, two days after Christmas. They beat Bruceville-Eddy 45-4. Next against Crawford but the Rockdale paper's early deadline caused them to not get the final score.

The Bulldogs went to the Mt. Pleasant Chapel Hill tournament and lost to Mt. Pleasant 68-29. The tournament went through the week-end.

There were two big colored pictures, one each of each team in the paper. Rockdale paper is really great at covering our athletes and all sports. Our thanks to them.

I'll list a couple of funnies as we are short on news as things slow down at the start of the New Year, 2025. Thanks to Kyle Cooke and the Rockdale paper for these cute and funny posts.

An old preacher was dying. He sent a message for his banker and his lawyer, both church members, to come to his home.

When they arrived, they were ushered up to his bedroom. As they entered the room, the preacher held out his hands and motioned for them to sit on each side of the bed. The preacher grasped their hands, signed contentedly, smiled, and stared at the ceiling.

For a time, no one said anything. Both the banker and the lawyer were touched and flattered that the preacher would ask them to be with him during his final moments. They were also puzzled; the preacher had never given them any indication that he particularly liked either of them. They both remembered his many long, uncomfortable sermons about greed, covetousness, and avaricious behavior that made them squirm in their seats.

Finally, the banker said. "Preacher, why did you ask us to come?"

The old preacher mustered up his strength and then said weakly, "Jesus died between two thieves, and that's how I want to go."

After a very long and boring sermon the parishioners filed out of the church saying nothing to the preacher.

Towards the end of the line was a thoughtful person who always commented on the sermon. "Pastor, today your sermon reminded me of the peace and love of God."

The pastor was thrilled. "No-one has ever said anything like that about my preaching before. Tell me why."

Well, it reminded me of the Peace of God because it passed all understanding and the Love of God because it endured forever!"

I hope you are having a great start to your 2025 and that it gets better as we go along. Stay safe and try to stay in touch with all our exes.

We can be found on the web at www.thorndale.txed.net or you can e-mail locojo@austin.rr.com. You can call 512-898-2072 and if I don't answer, leave a message with your maiden name and phone

number and I will call you back. You can always write to Thorndale Ex-Students Assn., P. O. Box 393, Thorndale, TX 76577. We love to hear from our exes.