Special Events:

"Easy As Pie"

Nov. 13th - Nov. 27th
United Supermarkets
& Market Street

"Holiday Meals"

Nov. 29th - Dec 24th Mall of Abilene

"Paw Prints"
With Santa & Mrs. Claus
Saturday, Dec. 7th
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Meals on Wheels Plus will be closed on

Frontier Texas

- * Thanksgiving Day Nov. 28th
- * Christmas Day Dec. 25th
- * New Year's Day January 1st

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November 2024

Volume 49 Issue 4



I thought you would like to know....

An elderly gentleman, who lives alone in a low rent apartment, called to tell us about the special volunteers who deliver his meal one day a week. He isn't able to clean his apartment so this couple sweeps, mops and cleans for him. He is so very grateful and wanted us to know how much this couples friendship means to him.

Betty L. Bradley
Executive Director

Myra, age 85, wrote a sweet note to thank us for the meals. She said that she feels stronger because of them. A daughter wrote to tell us that her mother, 86, had been receiving meals for two weeks and said "What a difference it has made. She

thinks the meals are wonderful and looks forward to their delivery every day. I call her every day and the first thing she has to tell me is what her meal was."

The safety check volunteers perform as they deliver the noon meal each day saves lives. One recent week involved five clients. One lady was on the floor with a broken shoulder. Another lady wasn't able to answer the locked door and the police were called for a wellness check. She was found on the floor with extremely low blood pressure. A 78 year old lady had fallen outside around 8:00 a.m. and wasn't found until the volunteer arrived with her meal. She had one broken rib, four fractured ribs and a punctured lung. A 79 year old gentleman was found on the floor. All were transported to a hospital and admitted. Sadly, an 80 year old gentleman was found dead in his home. It is hard to imagine how these people felt as they waited for someone to find them.

This past year has had it's challenges. Requests for meals are coming in much faster than we can add people to the program. A Meals on Wheels Case Manager makes a home visit to verify the need in a face-to-face interview. Currently there are 220 people on our waiting list and some of them have been waiting a couple of months.

Another challenge is that donations have not kept up with the increased need for meals. There are now 1,618 individuals enrolled on the program. About 375 live in the 13 small communities we serve. The rest live in Abilene. We need to raise around \$140,000 every month to provide meals for that many people. It sounds like a lot, but is actually only about \$4.35 per meal.

A third challenge has been that there are not enough volunteers to deliver meals. We end up pulling staff from their regular duties to deliver meals every day. Often they have to deliver two or three routes. They are expensive "meal deliverers" and don't have the time to develop a relationship with the people on their routes that volunteers frequently do. There is a shortage of volunteers not only in Abilene but also Aspermont, Ballinger, Eula, Hamlin, Hawley and Rowena.

I want you to know that your financial and volunteer support are valued and provide a life saving service to many frail individuals who just need a little help to remain in their own home. You can help drive away hunger, one meal at a time.

Page 2 The Scoop



Meals on Wheels Legacy Society

Your Legacy, Their Lifeline, One Meal at a Time

You are invited to become a member of Meals on Wheels Legacy Society!

If you have included Meals on Wheels in your will, or named Meals on Wheels as a beneficiary of your retirement plan or life insurance policy, you are invited to become a member of the Meals on Wheels Legacy Society.

The Legacy Society was established in 2009 to give donors an opportunity to learn more about the Meals on Wheels programs and understand how including Meals on Wheels in their estate plan can help secure the future of the program.

For more information on becoming a member of the Meals on Wheels Legacy Society, please contact Betty Bradley, Executive Director of Meals on Wheels Plus at (325) 672-5050 or email her at bbradley@mealsonwheelsplus.com.

Those who will need our services in the future need your support.



In light of a rapidly aging population, increasing costs, and funding that is not keeping pace, programs like Meals on Wheels face unprecedented challenges to meet the growing demand and need for meal and nutrition services, particularly among homebound seniors.

As a result, decision-makers at all levels of government and community-based organizations within the Aging Network are increasingly seeking lower cost solutions to stretch constrained budgets.

 One such method is drop-shipping frozen meals with limited to no personal contact, in lieu of the traditional Meals on Wheels delivery model.

Seniors who are in need of home-delivered meal services represent an extremely frail and vulnerable population, one with signicant health and social support needs.

A 'more than a meal' model includes daily in-home visits, nutritious meals, and safety-checks.

"More Than a Meal" supports the wealth of past research, indicating that home-delivered meals improve the health and well-being of older adults, particularly those who receive daily-delivered meals and those who live alone.

INCREASE FOOD SECURITY AND IMPROVED DIET

 Seniors receiving daily-delivered meals report that their meals helped them to eat healthier foods.

REDUCED USE OF COSTLY HEALTH CARE SERVICES

 Seniors receiving home-delivered meals (daily or weekly) experience reduced rates of hospitalizations and falls compared to seniors who do not receive the service.

REDUCED SOCIAL ISOLATION AND LONELINESS

 Seniors note that receiving daily-delivered meals resulted in more social contact and less loneliness than those receiving frozen, weeklydelivered meals.



Looking for a truly meaningful gift this holiday season?





Meals on Wheels invites you to celebrate the special people in your life with a gift that makes a real difference. Instead of traditional presents, honor your loved ones by donating any amount to help feed the hungry.

Your contribution provides a hot meal and a caring connection for someone who can no longer cook for themself - bringing nourishment and joy straight to their door.

Skip the holiday rush and give a gift that matters. With just a donation, we'll send a special Christmas Greetings on your behalf to notify your honorees of your thoughtful gesture.

Simply include a list of names and addresses with your donation, and send it to:

Meals on Wheels Plus P.O. Box 903 • Abilene, TX 79604 or stop by our office at 717 N. 10th St. Abilene For more information call (325) 672-5050







During This Joyous Season

A Gift In Honor Of



Has Been Given To

Meals on Wheels Plus, Inc.

Wishing You AMerry Christmas From

Tom & Sue Jones

The Greatest Gift

The greatest gift at Christmas Time,
Is one we all may giveA friendly smile that helps to make
Life easier to live.

A kindly thought, a helping hand,
To show someone we care
And let them know how much it means
For us to have them here.

The greatest gift at Christmas time Costs not a lot to buy-It's being a good neighbor As days and months go by

It's offering a shoulder When someone needs a lift, And so I pray this Christmas Day That this may be your gift!

By Grace E. Easley



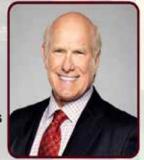
e he Date

Meals on Wheels Plus, Inc. 50th Anniversary Celebration

May 22, 2025 (Thursday) - 6:30 p.m.

Guest Speaker: Terry Bradshaw

Topic: "Why Not Your Best?"
With amazing humor and down-home common sense, Terry looks at attitude, adversity & relentless competition as to what makes us successful.



Join us in helping Meals on Wheels celebrate 50 years and prepare for the future.

Doubletree by Hilton Downtown Abilene

riodis off wifeels bins in

For information about Sponsorships or Individual Tickets, please contact, Betty Bradley at (325) 672-5050 or by email bbradley@mealsonwheelsplus.com

Page 4 The Scoop



In Loving Memory Memorials for May 31, 2024 to October 11, 2024



Milton Adams

Marianne Fincher **Ed Patton**

Col. James "Jim" W. **Alexander**

20th Century Study Club Gary & Karanne Grubbs Ruthyle Julien Lamplighters Class Aldersgate Methodist Church Brenda Langston **Bootsy Norwood** Charles Schroeder

Peggy Joyce Melton Allen

Robin Burrow Larry & Suzanne McMillon Sterling & Linda Robertson **Bud & Gayle Turnage**

Roy "Hoss" V. Allen

Jerry Matthews Bill & Lila Senter

Vena Belle Allen

Leonard T. & Leeta Harris

Harriet Allgood

Nancy Haddox

Billy "Bill" Baker

Christine Bradshaw Bill & Lila Senter

Jane Bell

Lonnie & Nancy McIntosh

Blaine Bennett

Susan Moss

Nancy Bennett

Bonnie Miller

Len Boden

Sterling & Linda Robertson

Glen Boland

Delpha Caudle & Family

Melba Boozer

Larry & Suzanne McMillon

Jay Bourland

Chris & Vance Goddard

Jim Boykin

Bill & Lila Senter

Alton Braden

Vernell Kleypas

Debbie Brown

Your Pool Friends

Lynn Brown

Susan Springer

Steve "Stoney" Brown

Janice Amarine

Sherri & Randy Chapman

Marty & Lesli Frey

God's Chapel

Beth Bunch

Cecille & Buddy Martin

Jimmy Cantrell

Michelle Beaty-Eide Bailly

Tina Cargile

Betty Casteel

Larry Carter

Delbert & Aletta Allred

Dolorez Castro

Ace Air Conditioning Patti Miller Shawnda Rixey-CADCO **Architects-Engineers**

Esther Chavarria

Clifford & JoAnne Wilson

Betsy Clark

Ron & Pat Dulude

Cleo Colburn

Sharon Deike **Felix Cortez**

Vernell Kleypas

Joyce Curtis

Betty Casteel David Merrell

Young at Heart Class-Hillcrest Church of Christ

Edwin Deike

Marty & Lesli Frey David & Sharon Rohmfeld Fred & Brenda Watkins

Maren Devine

Jami & Bailee Bunnell **Betty Casteel** Andrew Gardner

Bill Dulin

Dianne Dulin

Polly Dusek

Ron & Pat Dulude

Jerry Egan

Virginia Egan Marty & Lesli Frey Paul & Monica Minzenmayer

Chad Alan Foster

Rhonda & Randy Blanton

Alice Fournier

Linda Jo & Gus Cottros

Norma Garza

David Garza

Trevor Gibbs

Paul & Monica Minzenmayer

George Giles

Deborah Chitwood Class of 1982

Larry Gilliland

Ace Air Conditioning **Betty Casteel**

Tom & Gloria Gonzales

Rose Branch

William "Billy" Goodrich

Sterling & Linda Robertson

Doris Graham

Dawn Bourland Doan Bourland

Earlene Griffith

Josh & Patti Ensor Leck, Tip & Kelton **Matthews**

Linda Taylor Hagler

Ace Air Conditioning Patti Miller

Jill Haley

Delpha Caudle

Mrs. Jay Grindstaff Dr. Arthur "Art"

Hall, Jr.

Christine Bradshaw Bill & Lila Senter

Judy Hancock

Betty Casteel

Marvin Hasenak

Mary Crymes

Frank Hawk

Rosa Hawk

Beat Heri

Lou & Darlene Dorich

Jimmy "Slim" Herman

Holly Frizzell Robin & Ava Walker

Peggy Higgins

Natasha Klutts

Charles Holloway

Toni & Bill Burger Chris & Steve Faehnle Ron & Leta Holmes & **Family**

Jerry Matthews

Sandy Meyer Candy Scarborough

Charles Holloway cont.

Steve & Rosemary Suttle George & Jan Woodard

Ina Howell

Juddi & Ben Gilmore

Linda Hudson

Mike & Mary Lou Garrett

Casey Huff

Linda Strother

lackie Isham

Marty & Lesli Frey

Ethel Jansa

Vernell Kleypas

Clifton & Maxine

Michalewicz

Blanche Lilian Jerige

Lee & Callie Hampton Belinda Seals

Jerry Jones

Mrs. Jay Grindstaff

Willis Terry Iones

David & Gwen Ocker

Marcel Kalina

Paul & Monica Minzenmayer

Al Keesee

Nita Slaton

Mickey Kent

Tim Burns

Martha Kiel

Jami & Bailee Bunnell **Robin Burrow**

Betty Casteel

Josh & Patti Ensor

Linda Strother

Coach Hershel Kimbrell

Bill & Lila Senter

Danny Kirk Tammie & Danny Blankenship

Sharon Siewert Knaus

George & Patsy Jones Bill & Lila Senter

Albert Koltermann

Sharon Musser June & Merlin Peters

Sterling & Linda Robertson

Al & Sheryl Koltermann

Ken & Tammy Baker

Bruce Kreitler

Sterling & Linda Robertson

Mary Kruse

Henry & Jane Bourdo



In Loving Memory Cont.



Margie Bowen Ladner

Margie Wheeler

Zane Latham

Acute Rehab-Hendrick Medical Center

Kristin Lerette

Pam Stublefield

Peggy Lewis

Christine Bradshaw

Eldon "Brent" Mankin

Roxy & Bill Cox

Annabell Matschek

Vernell Kleypas

Kelly Matschek

Paul & Monica Minzenmayer

Della McBride

lane Malone

Joe McGinnis

Earnest & Nancy Proctor

Hubert Meadows

Sterling & Linda Robertson

Paul Melton

Butch & Linda Merriman

Ronald "Ronnie" Mercer

Sterling & Linda Robertson Patricia Wehmeyer

Kay Meredith

Linda Taylor

Dorine Moeller

Paul & Monica Minzenmayer "Moki"

Judy & Ricky Kyker

Betty V. Novak

Frederick V. Novak

Bob Olson

Sterling & Linda Robertson

Luke Parker

Marty & Lesli Frey

Vee Perini

Candy Scarborough

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Janice Pugh

Ace Air Conditioning Mike & Lynda Hughes

Patrick Quinones

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Ronald Ramsaier

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Taylor Rankin

Sue Siltman

Juanita Ransom

God's Chapel

Jerry D. Reid

Judith E. Reid

Jane Rhodes

Cindy Rhodes

Betty Richards

Ballinger Quilters Club **Dorothy Parker**

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Eva Black

Vestal Richey

Cindy Dick

Betty Ridlehoover

Bill & Lila Senter

Leslie Sahr

West Texas State Bank

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Larry & Suzanne McMillon

Dan Simmons

Melanie Miller

Victoria Miller

Mary Frances & Sam

Henry Smith

Billie & George Ward

Patsy Smith

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Steve Strain

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lud Powell

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Nancy Ruelas

Inquires Class-St. Paul

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United Methodist Church

New Beginnings SS Class-

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Margie Zentner

Clifton & Maxine Michalewicz



A Limb Has **Fallen From** the Family Tree.

I Keep Hearing a Voice That Says,

"Grieve Not for Me"

Remember The Best Times

The Laughter

The Songs

The Good Life, I Lived While I was Strong



In Honor of

Our Neighbors Glen & Carol Burkhart

Bob & Betty Hale

Our Neighbor Stacy Burnett Bob & Betty Hale

<u>Betty Casteel</u> Carlton & Sally Villers

Margaret Chengson
Richard Chengson

On Their Marriage

Mr. & Mrs. Roger Langston

Margie Wheeler

Armando & Melissa Pallarez
Esta Jeter

Father's Day
Charles Perkins
Linda Perkins

Richard & Gloriana Tadlock
Delpha Caudle

Our Neighbors

Justin, Erin, Heidi Weldon

Bob & Betty Hale



Margo Santos Wilbur & Elsie Howard



Happy 50th Kelly Smith Garolyn Jergins



<u>Living Honor Gift</u> - pays tribute to a well-loved or respected person

Memorial Gift a way to show love, respect and sympathy when someone passes.

If you would like to make a Honor or Memorial Gift, please use the enclosed envelope, or call us at (325) 672-5050. You can also visit the website at www.mealsonwheelsplus.com



Volunteers of the Month



Ray Maddox
July Volunteer



David & Jan Klassen August Volunteers



Honoring Volunteers
who found a Meals Recipient
in a Crisis Situation





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A DAY AT MEALS ON WHEELS

Did you know that the Meals on Wheels cooks arrive at 717 North 10th Street in Abilene every morning at 6:00 a.m.? They quickly turn the ovens on and start preparing the fresh meal for the day. Their job has been made easier, as the day before they did a lot of the prep work.

At 8:00 a.m. the office staff arrives. The volunteer coordinators are busy finding someone to deliver the 86 routes that are delivered by Abilene volunteers. In addition to 1,100 meals delivered in Abilene, they will deliver meals to 23 individuals in Hawley & Hodges, 27 in Potosi and 12 in Eula.

Before 10:00 a.m. a volunteer has driven in from Runnels County to pick up meals. As they drive back south they will deliver 21 meals in Tuscola, stop in Ovalo to drop off 6 meals for Ovalo and 6 for Lawn. When arriving in Winters they will have 86 meals to be delivered in Winters. A volunteer from Ballinger is also waiting to pick up 90 meals for Ballinger and 10 for Rowena.

A volunteer from Hamlin arrives before 10:00 a.m. to pick up 49 meals for Hamlin and 27 for Aspermont. When that volunteer arrives in Hamlin, a volunteer from Aspermont is waiting to pick up meals for their community.

Meals on Wheels would not be able to serve all of Abilene and those 13 communities without many volunteers willing to go the extra mile. Without both the volunteer and donor support home delivered meals would not be available in the Abilene area. We are most grateful to everyone who it possible to serve lunch to some 1,475 people each day. It makes a difference.



Help Us Share the Joy of the Season!

The holidays are a time for sharing with those less fortunate. Meals on Wheels has a number of very low-income meal recipients whose extended family probably won't be able to afford a special Thanksgiving or Christmas meal.

We would like to provide a holiday food basket for about 60 families at Thanksgiving and another 60 families at Christmas.

You can help make it happen!

If you would like to help provide a turkey (10 to 15 lbs) or a ham (8 to 15 lbs) it would be a great help. Other donations of canned or boxed food items used to prepare a holiday meal would be appreciated.



You can also drop off your donations at the Meals on Wheels office at 717 N. 10th St. Abilene. Thank You For Sharing.

Meals on Wheels Plus, Inc. does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, financial status, race, national origin, gender, creed, disability, religion or political belief. Special emphasis is given to frail/at risk senior adults and younger adults with one or more disabilities.

Meals on Wheels Plus, Inc. receives partial funding from the Texas Health & Human Services Commission. Meals on Wheels Plus is classified as a charitable 501(c)(3) organization by the IRS. All contributions are tax deductible.

The Scoop Page 8

TO A VOLUNTEER

I often sit and wonder.... As each day comes in view, What would happen to us old folk, If not for VOLUNTEERS like you!

It was you who painted a sunrise That touched the window sill, Of this lonely shut-in senior With a home-delivered meal.

You smile and spoke so clearly "How are you today?" How I longed for your time, For I had so much to say. You filled my glass with water, Brought in yesterday's mail.

You fluffed up my pillow ... Hung my robe on a nail. Then told me to be careful When I walked, not to fall. And your voice was like music As you vanished down the hall.

I lay here in the dark silence. My body throbs with pain. I think of all the VOLUNTEERS Delivering in the rain.

I pray for your safety... As from house to house you go. Delivering meals to old folks, That you don't even know.

As in the soon tomorrow... When we are laid to rest. May God hold you in His cupped hand; You give us all your best.

We each, are oh so thankful... Our aging hearts almost too cold to feel, Yet we have known God's grace and beauty Is a VOLUNTEER, with a Home-delivered meal!

By Juanita Sikes Canada

We appreciate all our Volunteers and Supporters who believe so strongly in our purpose and show it everyday by helping those less fortunate.

Upcoming Fundraisers & Events



November 13th - 27th

Support Our "Easy as Pie" Fundraiser!

Visit any United Supermarket or Market Street in Abilene for a free piel

For each donation you can provide a warm meal for someone in need this winter and in return "dessert" is on us!

Simply ask the cashier at checkout to make a donation to Meals on Wheels You will receive a coupon for a Free Pie for each \$5.00 donated.

It's that easy - \$5.00, one free pie, one meal served!

Head to any United Supermarket or Market Street location in Abilene, make your donation at checkout, and spread a little warmth this season.

It's As Easy as Pie!







FREE With a \$5 donation to Abilene Meals on Wheels

toliday Meals for the Homebound

Each \$10 donation provides a hot holiday meal to be delivered on December 24th to someone on our program.

When shopping at the Mall stop by to say "Hi" & help support Meals on Wheels this holiday season.



oin us for "Holiday Meals" fundraising event and make a difference for the homebound in our community.

From November 27th to December 24th, we will need volunteers to fill two-hour shifts to help spread the spirit of giving and holiday cheer.

Your time can help make a lasting impact, Sign up today and be a part of something truly special!

CAN'T MAKE IT OUT TO THE MALL OF ABILENE?

No problem, you can still donate for the Holiday Meals by visiting our website at: www.mealsonwheelsplus.com. You can also stop by our office or mail your donation at: 717 N. 10th St. Abilene, TX 79601. For more information please call JoAnne Glantz, at (325) 672-5050 or email jglantz@mealsonwheelsplus.com

DATE: Saturday, December 7, 2024

TIME: 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

WHERE: Frontier Texas - 625 N. Ist Abilene

Bring your "Furbabies" and join the fun!

Donate a five pound or larger bag, of Dog or Cat Food to receive a complimentary photo of your "Furbaby" with Santa & Mrs. Claus!

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Signature Sponsons



THANK YOU

TO ALL THE SPONSORS OF THE

19th ANNUAL MEALS ON WHEELS SPORTING CLAYS CLASSIC





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Abilene Gun Works ACS Heating & Air Pittman's Garage Tin Benders

FRIDAY NIGHT SPONSOR:

Dr. Paul Watts
In Memory of Marinell Watts

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Special Thank You for our Raffle Donations

Congratulations to Glen Pugh for winning the 2024 Kawasaki Mule Pro-FXT 1000 LE, an incredible donation from Crown PowerSports!

A heartfelt thank you goes out to
Crown PowerSports for their generous
contribution, making this opportunity
possible and supporting our community
in such a meaningful way.
Enjoy the ride, Glen!









Thank You to the Businesses & Individuals who contributed their services and prize donations.

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717 North 10th St. P.O. Box 903 Abilene, Texas 79604

> Phone: 325-672-5050 Fax: 325-672-6870

Website: mealsonwheelsplus.com E-mail: bbradley@mealsonwheels plus.com

Holiday
Volunteers
Needed
For more
information
call Volunteer
Coordinators
Nancy or Maria

Driving away hunger one meal at a time.

The Mission of Meals on Wheels is to enhance the quality of life for seniors and other eligible adults by providing nutritionally balanced meals and supportive services.

NON-PROFIT U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO. 356 ABILENE, TX 79604

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

