

Calendar of Events

Deadline: 4 p.m., Friday

FREE TUTORING FOR COUNTY 3RD GRADERS

Calling mentors and ALL third graders! Durant Community Outreach will be tutoring, free of charge, third graders from now until state testing ends. Located at New Beginning Church dining hall in Durant. For more information call 653-6393. 2-9,16

ANNIVERSARY SET AT WAYSIDE NEW BEGINNING

Wayside New Beginning Church of Deliverance in Lexington will host its 9th Pastors Anniversary on Saturday, February 18 at 4 p.m. 2-9,16

ANNIVERSARY SET AT SECOND PILGRIM M.B.C.

Second Pilgrim Rest M.B. Church will celebrate Pastor Joe Bridges and Wife's 6th year Anniversary on Sunday, February 19 at 2 p.m. 2-9,16

HOSPITALITY SERVICE SET AT ST. PAUL C.O.G.I.C.

St. Paul Church Of God In Christ will hold a Hospitality evening service on Sunday, February 19 at 5:00. 2-9,16

MUSICAL PROGRAM SET AT WEST GROVE M.B.C.

West Grove M.B. Church in Lexington will present "A Musical" on Sunday, February 19 at 3 p.m. 2-9,16

THIRD THURSDAY MOVIE AT LEXINGTON LIBRARY

Lexington Public Library will hold its monthly Third Thursday movie event for children on February 16 at 3:15 p.m. Third Thursday is co-sponsored by Friends of the Lexing-



Bridal Registry

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June 3, 2017

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ton Public Library.

A parent or responsible caregiver must accompany any child under 9 years of age.

For movie title and further information, please call 834-2571. 2-9,16

MAYOR'S HEALTH COUNCIL TO MEET

The next meeting of the Lexington Mayor's Health Council will be Thursday February 23, at 10 a.m. There will be free screenings by Mid-Delta Home Health. 2-16

BLACK HISTORY PROG. SET AT WEST M.B.C.

West M.B. Church will hold its annual Black History Program on Sunday, February 19 at 11 a.m. 2-16

FAMILY AND FRIENDS DAY SET AT ST. JOSEPH

St. Joseph C.O.G.I.C. in West will host the Flemmings and Wade Family and Friends Day Program on Sunday, February 25 at 1 p.m. with Sunday School at 11:30 a.m. 2-16,23

BLACK HISTORY/VAL. PROGRAMS SET AT DPL

In recognition of Black History month, the Durant Library will be displaying various crafts, art, quilting, etc., during the month of February. If you or someone you know would like to display your work please contact the library at 653-3451.

Home-schoolers are invited to a children's Valentine program on Friday, February 10 at 10 a.m. for story time, a craft project and light refreshments. 2-9,16

GOSPEL EXTRAVAGANZA SET AT NEW BEGINNING

New Beginning Nondenominational Church in Durant will hold its Gospel Extravaganza 2017 on Sunday, February 26 at 3 p.m. All performance groups are invited. 2-16,23

INSTRUCTORS SOUGHT FOR SUMMER DANCING

Do All Things Children's Circle, Inc. is preparing for its upcoming 2017 summer program. We are looking for talent of the seasoned and the young to teach tap dancing, ballroom dancing and creative dancing. We welcome any degree of talent. To become involved contact Armita Knight at 601-660-2207. 2-16,23

HEAD START ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR KIDS

Community Development Head Start is now accepting applications for 3 to 5 year old children. Call 662-212-5289 for information. 2-16,23

ST. PAUL TO HOST MEN/WOMEN'S DAY

St. Paul C.O.G.I.C. will have its Men & Women's Day Program on Sunday, February 26 at 11 a.m. 2-16,23

ST. MARYLAND SET FOR BLACK HISTORY PROG.

St. Maryland C.O.G.I.C. will have its Annual Black History Program/Banquet on Saturday, February 25 at 6 p.m. at St. Paul C.O.G.I.C. in Lexington. 2-16,23

*D.C. Tour

(Continued from page 1.) memorial should be on everyone's bucket list. It was such a moving and powerful experience.

The travelers also saw where the first president, George Washington, was inaugurated. The group was able to (hopefully) gain some financial luck by touching the famous Wall Street Bull!

Later the group was taken to Times Square for a little free time, Starbucks, and shopping.

Afterwards, the group had dinner at Schnipper's. That evening, the travelers were treated to the Broadway show, *The Phantom of the Opera*. Many said this was the highlight of the entire trip.

On Wednesday, the group headed to Washington, D. C. by bus. That evening, the sightseers visited several famous sites including the Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, Vietnam War Memorial, Korean War Memorial, Martin Luther King Memorial, and the Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial. Platforms were erected in front of the Lincoln Memorial for the concert to be held before the inauguration. Groups and singing artists were there practicing their performances.

On Thursday, the travelers were delighted to visit the Newseum, which had such features as an IMAX theatre, four sections of the Berlin Wall, a rock and roll display that included costumes worn by the Village People, a display on artifacts of terrorism, the front pages of the day from every state in the Nation, and many other features of news media and its history.

Later, on Thursday afternoon, the Kosciusko group was able to visit several Smithsonian Museums of their choice. Of course, Mrs. Sample and some of her students headed straight for the Museum of Natural History when they saw a Triceratops and a Tyrannosaurus Rex. The travelers also went to the National Archives where they were in awe to view the original Constitution, Bill of Rights, and the

Declaration of Independence. Another highlight was going to the American History Museum to view the original flag which inspired Francis Scott Key to write the Star-Spangled Banner.

The travelers were able to attend the Make America Great Again Concert which took place in front of the Lincoln Memorial. The group was able to see everything well from the huge jumbotrons that were dotted all along the National Mall.

On Thursday evening, the students were treated to their own Inaugural Ball where they were able to dress in their finest. Thousands of students were at the ball from all over the nation. The travelers sat down to a nice dinner, and there was also a DJ there who provided dancing for the students.

Every four years America witnesses democracy in action – the U.S. presidential inauguration.

The travelers were able to stand with hundreds of thousands of their fellow Americans to discover how our political process shapes this country and experience the nation's past, present and future uniting. They were able to observe President Trump take the oath of office and to listen to his inaugural address. They can say that they truly lived history that day. No matter what your political loyalties are, it is truly amazing to see the peaceful exchanging of political power right before your eyes. This is what makes America so unique and great!

Inauguration Day, Friday, was not for the faint-hearted, as the trekkers actually walked 14.6 total miles during the entire day. There were barricades all over DC surrounding the Capitol that rerouted all the human traffic. It took the travelers 5½ hours to walk three miles because of all the rerouting. Once they got to the gate, they had to go through security. The Kosciusko group got in to the National Mall area with only ten minutes to spare before the inauguration began.

They were very lucky to get in as there were literally thousands

behind them who were not able to get in at all. The whole group felt like the trek had been worth it to be able to actually attend an inauguration of an American president.

After a brief rest at the hotel, the students went bowling in Annapolis. At first the students did not want to leave their hotel rooms because they were so tired, but after they got there, they were having so much fun, they did not want to leave!

On Saturday morning the sightseers spent their morning at Arlington National Cemetery where they saw the John F. Kennedy grave site, including the eternal flame. The travelers also witnessed the awe-inspiring changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. One student remarked that this was the highlight of his trip. The group arrived back in Memphis around 9:15 p.m.

Mrs. Sample's next trip will be in June, 2018, and she plans to take a group to Switzerland and Italy.



NOAH COFFEE
Officer of Year Named

Durant Police Department Senior Officer Noah Coffee was selected as Officer of the Year last week.

Coffee has 26 years' experience in law enforcement began with Attala County Sheriff Department as a Deputy Sheriff, Pickens Police Department, and Lexington Police Department. Coffee also worked with the North Central Narcotics Task Force as a narcotics agent. Coffee retired from the Goodman Police Department, where he held the title of Chief for the last 12 years, and a previous stint as a school resource officer (SRO) for Durant Public Schools.

Coffee is a certified firearms instructor where he has trained numerous officers from multiple agencies over the past 9 years.

Coffee, who nominated by Durant Chief John Haynes, was lauded as "a tremendous asset to this department with his extensive knowledge in law enforcement, and we sincerely thank him for being a part of Durant Police Department."

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UPWORDS

The nonprofit teaching ministry of Max Lucado

Grace for the Mess

The wasted years of life. The poor choices of life. God answers the mess of life with one word: grace! Grace. We know the word. The bank gives us a grace period. The seedy politician falls from grace. Grace shares the church parsonage with its cousins: forgiveness, faith, and fellowship. But do we really understand it? We've settled for wimpy grace. It politely occupies a phrase in a hymn and

fits nicely on a church sign.

Have you been changed by grace? Shaped by grace? Strengthened by grace? Softened by grace? God's grace has a drenching about it. A wildness about it. Grace comes after you! From insecure to God-secure. From afraid-to-die to ready-to-fly. Grace is the word that calls us to change and then gives us the power to pull it off!

From *God is With You Every*

WEST REPORT

by West Civic Club

Gayle Smith and Dr. Connie McCaa were in West this week-

Day

UpWords, with Max Lucado is a popular daily Bible devotion. This Max Lucado devotional offers wisdom and insight for applying Biblical truths to the ups and downs of everyday life. Reading daily devotions provides strength and encouragement in your daily walk with Jesus Christ.

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end visiting with friends and family. It was a good weekend for visiting and enjoying the bursting of the spring flowers.

Sara McLellan's children and grandchildren gave her an early birthday dinner Sunday, Happy Birthday Ms. Sara.

Toni and Allie Grace Borst, daughter and granddaughter of Glyn, and Inez Dickerson spent the weekend visiting and making valentine cookies for Allie Grace to take to her college friends.



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Notice of Closing

In honor of President's Day,
we will be closed all day
Monday, February 20.



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