Community Thanksgiving Meal

By Wade Daffron
TJ Editor

Two years after her untimely passing, blessings from Betty Fisher continue to grace the community.

On Thanksgiving Day, the Second Annual Betty Fisher Memorial Thanksgiving Dinner will be held.

The event - spearhead by Fisher's daughter, popular WHVE 92.7 FM "The Wave" radio personality Lisa Clark - continues a longstanding tradition of offering free Thanksgiving meals to the community.

"We're having it on Thanksgiving Day because that's when Mom always wanted to have it," Clark said. "She felt like that could be a lonely day for some people, so Thanksgiving Day was always when she held it... for over 25 years!"

This year's event takes place this Thursday, November 24, from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Russell Springs First Baptist Church at 392 East KY. 80.

Anyone wishing to have a free Thanksgiving meal can visit the church during the designated time to "dine in," and as in the past, meals will be delivered to elderly or disabled

BETTY FISHER

residents within the city limits of Russell Springs or Jamestown.

(For special deliveries, please call (270) 250-5707 or (270) 585-9297 with the person's name, address & phone number.)

Clark said she is appreciative of the continued interest in, and support shown for the annual event.

"Thanks to a group from the Russell Springs First Baptist Church... who asked to be a part of it this year...there will be plenty of room and plenty of parking space," she said. "Live gospel singing - which was a 'must have' for Mom - will be back this year...and they'll be people to wait on you if you choose to dine-in."

A key to the dinner's success is the outpouring of volunteers willing to make the day special, and donations from across the entire area.

"If you have donated to the dinner in the past, we would appreciate your donations this year," Clark said. "It takes a lot of food, and it certainly hasn't gotten any cheaper, so donations are very important."

"If you've volunteered in the past, maybe you can help this year, too," she said. "We need delivery people, servers, cooks, etc. If you have made a dessert or other dish in the past, I hope we can count on you this year. Please call, text, or message me or anyone involved and let us know. God bless you all for helping because it certainly takes a lot of people to pull this off. We could not do this without your help!"

Clark said she remains amazed at the amount of organizing and work which goes into the massive meal.

"I still miss her so much," she said, "and still don't know how she organized this year after year!"

For more information, or to donate or volunteer, contact Clark at (270) 250-5707, Rada Morrow at (270) 585-9297, or Shawna Wallace at (270) 566-2844.

FAMILY, FAITH AND FAVORITE THINGS

Submitted by Linda P Stephens

Favorite thing ....The "New" intersection at Lakeway Drive and Steve Wariner Drive. This intersection was re-designed several months ago and what a positive change! No longer does one feel like he's risking his life when he drives through this intersection. Whoever is responsible for the decision to make this safe change, you have our greatest thanks and appreciation. (Now if we could just have the speed limit lowered to 45 on Hwy 379 at Esto.)

Thanksgiving ... a time to remember. As we celebrate this special holiday of Thanksgiving, we can't help but remember loved ones who are not with us. I know you are remembering, as I am, those family members and friends who have passed on. Five years ago, my sweet Momma died a few days before Thanksgiving. She lived a good life, raised five children, was widowed young and worked in a missionary hospital. She was a woman of strong faith and belief in God. I knew she was with Him in heaven, which gave me great peace. But I still missed her.

A few days after Mom died, this Thanksgiving Day Upper Room devotional really spoke to me. It was written by Irene Rodriguez, from Bolivia.

She wrote, "When I was ten years old my mother died, and my grief was profound. Her death left a vast emptiness in my heart, and at that age I simply could not comprehend it all. I had been taught to always thank God, but should I thank God for this?"

"What I have learned is that from the moment we begin to pray, God provides the strength and the words we need. God knows our needs even when we cannot put them into words."

"With the passing of time, I have become thankful for what God has given me each day. Through blessings and problems, God has helped me remain anchored in faith, trusting that God will be with me. As we pray with confidence through times of deepest grief, God will sustain us and lead us forward." We can pray, "Merciful God, thank you for your promise to sustain us in all circumstances.

I still miss my Momma and think of her often, especially around Thanksgiving. But like Irene I'm thankful for what God has given me each day and so very thankful He gave me Frances, whose nickname was "Pinkie", as my Momma.

Grateful Giving. The story is told of a man and woman who gave a sizable contribution to their church to honor the memory of their son, who lost his life in war. When the generous donation was announced to the congregation, a woman whispered to her husband, "Let's give the same amount in honor of each of our boys."

The husband replied, "What are you talking about? Neither one of our sons was killed in the war."

"Exactly," said the woman. "Let's give it as an expression of our gratitude to God for sparing their lives!"

All of our charitable giving in life produces benefits in three ways: 1) it helps those in need, 2) it inspires others to give, 3) and it builds character in us ---- selflessness, self-control, generosity and compassion.

Keep in mind that when you give, you are ultimately giving to people, even though your gift might be made to an institution or organization. Churches and other charitable organizations are comprised of people. Your giving not only brings sunshine to the lives of others, but to your life as well.

One more thing ..... By the Numbers: Shallow Waters. A lingering drought is wreaking havoc and draining the river shipping industry.

A minus 10.79 feet. The water level on the Mississippi in Memphis on October 17th. Drought in the Midwest and Mid-South has left the Mississippi at record-low levels, threatening the transport of nearly $130 billion in goods, including corn and soy beans that move along the river each year. (It's estimated the drought has reduced the flow of harvested good by about 45 percent.)

500 Million Tons. The weight of the cargo transported up and down the Mississippi River every year.

8. The number of barges that ran aground in the Mississippi during the first week of October, bringing traffic to a halt.

2,000. The estimated number of barges caught in a traffic jam created by stuck vessels and waterway closures. The shipping holdup is expected to raise consumer food prices even further.

In closing, Barney Cat says, "You can tell more about a person by what he says about others, than by what others say about him." We say our readers are wonderful and we thank you for reading our column. We hope you and your family are having a wonderful Thanksgiving Day and weekend. Till next week.

Solemn ceremony

A dedication ceremony was held last Monday for the new Veteran's Cemetery Section at the Russell Springs City Cemetery. Several dignitaries participated in the event - at which the city officially dedicated a specific area for veterans who paid the ultimate sacrifice in service to their country.

Reading the Newspaper Helps Your Brain Grow!