footprints
Winter 2009

INSIDE:
♦ Homecoming preview
♦ President’s Ambassadors

LIVING OUT ISAIAH 61
Alumni are carrying out their ministry calling in a variety of professions
The Wayland Century: 100 Years of Presidents, Policies and Pictures is still available for purchase. This coffee table version of the Wayland history book includes a narrative of the highlights of the school’s first 100 years. It also includes memories from former and current students, a timeline of both Wayland and national events, and more than 400 images from the last 100 years.

The book sells for $40 and proceeds benefit student scholarships.

Available at the University Store or through the Office of Public Relations:
(806) 291-3586 or smitha@wbu.edu
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The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve in Zion – to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor.

Isaiah 61:1-3 (NIV)
Regardless of their chosen vocation, Wayland alumni are touching lives and speaking freedom to people through ministry in a variety of careers. They’re living out the words of Isaiah as the presence of Christ in a dark world.
TULIA – Steve Pond was all set for a career in the ministry when God derailed his plans a bit. Little did he know at the time he was still headed for ministry, just in a completely different way.

Raised in Oklahoma, Pond graduated from Lee High School in Midland, Texas, before heading off to college at East Texas Baptist University with the intention of becoming an activities minister. Needing a part-time job, he signed on with a local funeral home, having never attended a funeral.

After two years, he transferred to Hardin-Simmons to continue his education, soon meeting his future wife, Kim. Still intent on ministry, he applied at an Abilene funeral home where a friend was working. “When I went on the interview, I had long hair and a beard,” recalls Pond, who now co-owns and runs Kornerstone Funeral Home as the director of the Tulia location. “The first thing he told me was that I’d have to cut my hair. I said I would.”

While the nature of funeral home work never bothered Pond, he said he did wrestle with whether God was leading him away from his original career goal. He quit after a year and sat out three months, then finally went back and worked full-time, beginning to believe this was his life’s path. “The Lord just pulled me back into it. I fought it for a while, though,” he said. “I just knew it was a ministry and the Lord was calling me to it.”

A soft-spoken, gentle man, Pond said things began...
to fall into place after he finally surrendered to God’s call. After Kim graduated from HSU, the couple moved to the Metroplex, where he attended mortuary school, earning the equivalent of 52 college credit hours in the span of a year. He took morning classes and worked as a security guard from 4 p.m. to midnight, giving him a perfect place to study for the intensive mortuary study courses.

After completing the school, Steve moved his family to Plainview and began working for Lemons Funeral Home. After eight years, the company asked Pond to run Wallace Funeral Home in Tulia, and eventually he moved to family to the smaller community 25 miles north of Plainview.

Around that same time, Pond decided to pursue completion of his college degree at Wayland. With his various credits from the past, he was able to finish the Bachelor of Science in Occupational Education degree one class at a time, graduating in 1998.

A few years later, Pond and three co-workers decided to go in business together and eventually opened Kornerstone Funeral Home in Tulia in 2004. Later that year, Pond and his partners – Joel Culp, Matthew Gregory and Gabriel Gonzales – expanded the business into Plainview and built a new facility off Southwest Third Street in 2006.

Pond said he knows he is where he belongs and is glad to be in a ministry that fits him to a tee.

“We see people at the most difficult time of their lives,” he said. “Ministry is my lifestyle, and people know I’m a Christian. They know who I am. I enjoy being able to serve these families at those difficult times so they don’t have to worry about the details.

“It’s my job to walk them through that process as easily as possible.”

Pond said the faith component, while not required in the industry, is essential to his work in the funeral home and with grieving families... on both sides of the table.

“It’s easier on the families that have faith because they know where their loved one is, and it’s easier on me as well,” he said. “Knowing (their loved one) is in heaven eases the pain a little bit. We just tell them everything we’re going to do and then hold their hand and walk through it with them.”

The process of a funeral takes about 100 man-hours from start to finish, Pond said. After the first call notifying them of the death, they must go pick up the deceased and return them to funeral home for any preparation, including embalming if needed. They set an appointment time with the family for arrangements and get the obituary information together.

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AMARILLO – Being a pastor was always rewarding to Merle Houska, a calling he believed in enough to work bivocationally while serving in the pulpit.

But his current role is providing rewards in totally different ways as the 2007 BSOE graduate of Wayland Baptist University’s Amarillo campus serves as a prison chaplain in the Neal Unit in Amarillo.

Each day, Houska enters the confines of the Neal Unit, a free man who chooses to lock himself up with inmates who vary in age, ethnicity, background and sentence. At the end of the work day, he gets to do what many of his “congregation” cannot do: leave the prison for the free world.

But Houska, now in his early 70s, wouldn’t trade the role for the traditional church setting he held for so long as he believes the message of freedom through Christ is powerful.

“Just to see these guys change and see how they enjoy the services we have and get involved in Bible study makes it worth it,” he said. “Their whole life and demeanor change; they become a new individual. (As a chaplain,) you’re almost like a father to some of them.”

Houska pastored in small black churches for 17 years while working at various other places. After retiring from the military, he and wife Vernell lived in Wichita Falls and he worked for the city while pastoring there. When the couple moved to Pampa, he pastored at St. Mark’s Christian Methodist Episcopal Church and drove a school bus for several years before God began to move his heart toward the bars and barbed wire of the prison system.

While in Pampa, he began volunteering at the Jordan Unit with the chaplain and helped with services at the prison. He got involved with the Walk to Emmaus program and began leading similar programs in the area prisons, called Kairos. His prison ministry involvement kept growing, and he eventually felt the call toward full-time vocational ministry in that setting.

He resigned his post in the CME church and applied with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice as a chaplain, willing to locate anywhere there was an opening. After his month of training was completed, he started at the Neal Unit in Amarillo in January 1997, a medium custody female unit at the time. Nine months later, the facility became a male unit.

He immediately got confirmation that he was where God wanted him to be.

“I could see the way these men were when they came in on the first day of Kairos; they didn’t know what was going on. By the time they went through the four days, you could see a change and they knew there was a new way to go,” Houska said. “After I became a chaplain, I could see these guys progress up the line and really change and begin working for the Lord. I’ve got some that call me back periodically and let me know how they are doing.”

Houska said his job involves very little
routine other than the regular Sunday morning worship service he and Vernell lead for an average of 160 inmates each week. He leads the Kairos experience for inmates twice yearly and oversees a reunion group and weekly prayer and share times for past participants.

Aside from that, Houska must be flexible with the rest of his work week. He meets with inmates as needed, leads Bible studies, counsels with both inmates and prison employees who have concerns and remains available for any other spiritual needs that may arise.

The work parallels church work in many ways, as he focuses on evangelism to inmates who are not believers and does much pastoral counseling. But there is a distinct difference, he notes.

“One thing to my advantage is that I don’t have to worry about the nitty-gritty of raising money to keep the lights on in the church,” he said. “You just get to work with the men and let them know that God is good and if they open up their hearts, they can make a change.

“Some churches just want to stay inside and not welcome anyone. Here, we welcome anyone who wants to come on Sundays,” he said, adding with a chuckle, “I guess one thing you can say is you do have a captive audience here.”

Houska said the hardest part of his job is delivering news of a death in the family to an inmate or, worse, notifying a family that an inmate has died. And the stress of the job can make assimilating into the free world each night tough at times, so he relies on the support of his wife – who works in the records department at the Neal Unit – and on prayer to keep him strong.

Of his Wayland degree, Houska said he felt compelled to finish – even later in life – because he already had two associate’s degrees from Community College of the Air Force and Vernon Regional College. He also admitted he did it out of a desire to encourage and challenge the young men in his care to place an importance on their own education.

He completed the BSOE in 2007 after taking one class at a time for five years. He said he points out to his men that if he can overcome health issues – including a fight with cancer a few years back – and his age to get the degree, they can at least pursue their GED and maybe even take the next step. Many have taken up the challenge.

While the church might want Houska to come back to the pulpit, he said he’s not interested right now.

“I can do in here what I can’t do in the church.”
PLAINVIEW – Nancy Rodriguez’ tiny office bears subtle signs of her faith. Aside from her clean desk, peacefully swimming fish and comfy stuffed loveseat, a simple wooden bookcase bears testimony to things that are dear to her heart.

Family photos grace one shelf. Another bears four square plaques. “Faith to light the darkened sky” one reads. Others say “Rejoice in the Lord,” “With God all things are possible” and “Enter with grateful hearts.”

As a licensed professional counselor intern for Central Plains MHMR at Haven Center, Rodriguez is not allowed to promote her Christian faith as a solution to the problems of the clients she sees. But many clients open the door by asking questions and mentioning their own faith, and Rodriguez is able to then help them grab onto that anchor and find hope.

“Spirituality definitely plays a huge role in what I do here,” she said. “If people have even a flame of hope, especially if it’s faith, I just grab onto that. Nothing can beat that faith in helping them.”

In her current role, Nancy works with adults and teens, and previously she worked in crisis counseling and in a lockdown facility for teens and children, which was emotionally grueling over time.

A native of Hale Center, Rodriguez earned her bachelor’s degree from Angelo State University in psychology and sociology, a self-confessed people watcher who loves to study human behavior. When she moved back to Hale Center eight years ago, she took a job with Central Plains Center.

A few years in, some of her coworkers decided to try Wayland’s new Master of Arts in Counseling degree program and urged her to join them. Not sure what she would end up doing with the degree, she went along anyway. Somewhere along the way, she determined the role of licensed professional counselor was her calling.

She earned the master’s degree in 2007 and has stayed with Central Plains, though she changed center locations three years ago.

Through her various roles in the mental health field, several incidents have proven to Rodriguez that she is where God wants her to be and that her faith is critical in a profession that hears about traumatic experiences and depression day in and day out. One in particular involved a teenaged boy who had endured some difficult medical challenges as a child and was struggling with depression and behavior issues on top of learning difficulties.

“He had been home-schooled since the age of six and I started seeing him at age 15. I took him to a park one day to shoot hoops and he told me, ‘I live in a box. I have no friends and no life,’” she said. “He was angry, sad and just down. But
he had strong faith and some hope."

She helped him transition into public school, where he began making friends, good grades and was able to take regular classes and graduate high school, something his childhood doctors had predicted he would never do. He’s even going to college.

“His mom thanked me so much, but I know there was something in him, a fire. I was just a catalyst,” Rodriguez said.

Her crisis experiences have also led her to realize how important faith can be to healing for many people.

“When someone’s hit rock bottom and they’re ready to kill themselves, you have to find something to grab onto. The ones who have a higher belief found it easier to handle and climb out,” she said. “When folks are in a depression, it’s hard to see anything else. My role is to show them hope is still there for them.”

Rodriguez said spiritual issues come up in many of her counseling sessions, especially when she’s searching for some ray of support or hope that her clients need to begin the recovery process. When they bring up their religious backgrounds or beliefs, she is able to pull that out and encourage them.

She said modern counseling focuses heavily on cognitive behavioral therapy, which focuses on one’s thoughts, feelings and behaviors. The theory is that thoughts lead to feelings and then to behaviors, so changing the thinking patterns is the way to begin changing behaviors. In this method, faith often comes to the forefront as clients talk about their thoughts and beliefs.

“I think they wonder sometimes where I stand, but it’s not about me. I have to ask them questions and dig a little bit to see where they have any support in their lives,” Rodriguez said.

“Some of the things people have lived through would break me. You can’t tell me there’s not someone out there helping them hang on.”

Rodriguez feels her own faith is strengthened daily as she relies greatly on prayer and Bible study to keep her focused and hopeful for her clients and not dragged down by the often depressing tales she hears. Though raised in church as a child, she said she only came to salvation a few years ago while working at Whiteaker Youth Center. A group of coworkers met over lunch for prayer and she joined them for weeks before realizing she needed to take that first step toward Christ herself.

That ultimate decision has been rewarding as it gives her a sense of her own peace and hope as well as an anchor for the difficult profession to which God has called her.

“My own faith is strong. I still call the girls at Whiteaker for support often, and I like to read the Bible and take it in; it gives me comfort,” she said. “When I go home, I have to pray and stay on top of my faith. Because it is hard (to hear people’s life stories).”

Rodriguez and husband Jason, who is working on a history degree at Wayland, have a son, Xavier, 4.
PLAINVIEW – It’s amazing at times how a small cultural difference can lead to big changes in a person’s life.

That’s exactly what happened to Rodney Wallace when he entered Wayland Baptist University. A young man who grew up in Illinois and completed his last three years of high school on the Navajo reservation in Arizona while living with his uncle, Wallace was unfamiliar with some of the local customs in the small West Texas town.

Wallace, a 1996 graduate, attended Wayland because he felt it was far enough from his mother in Illinois and his uncle in Arizona for him to be on his own. He came to Wayland as a member of the track team, and it didn’t take him long to realize that students at Wayland kind of kept to their own groups. The track team hung out with the track team. The baseball team hung out with other baseball players and so on. For some reason, however, Wallace felt compelled to move outside of his comfort zone.

When the students received notification about a BSU meeting, Wallace thought that would be perfect. What could be better than attending a meeting of the “Black Student Union?”

“I’m from Illinois,” Wallace grinned. “I didn’t know Baptists. I was looking for all the black kids.”

Wallace was surprised when he attended a meeting of the Baptist Student Union. But through that simple misunderstanding and chance encounter, Wallace developed a relationship with then-BSU director Jeff Box, who was instrumental in leading him to salvation.

“Meeting Jeff Box and going to Happy Union Baptist Church with Richard Miller (BS ’87) being a mentor, I wanted to change,” Wallace said.

Through that transformation, Wallace found a new calling. He met and married Sarah Silva (BSIS ‘99) and they continued to attend Happy Union. But the desire to work with youth led them to Hale Center, where they served as youth ministers for three years. In 1999, they returned to Plainview and Happy Union. Ordained in 2004, Wallace now serves as the youth pastor at the church located in a lower socio-economic section of town. His duties include overseeing all of the ministries for children and young adults. Sarah works with him, specifically with the children’s programs.

Teaming with Miller, the Wayland grads have set in motion a plan to help reclaim the youth of Plainview and give them hope for a better future.

“The need is so huge,” said Miller, who has been a member of the church since the mid-1980s and has served as
pastor for the last nine years. He said a look at the number of arrests and the drug-related problems in that area shows that kids need a safe haven where they can play a game of pool without worrying about being shot or getting into a gang fight.

Happy Union has purchased a large section of land and has already constructed the James D. Hearn Activity Center. The facility is used for the youth and children's ministries. It is also rented out for various community functions. Along with the activity center, the church has constructed a small playground for children and has received an 18-hole miniature golf course that was donated to the church. Plans include setting up the course inside a fence and building an awning over the top of it, hopefully by next spring. There are also plans to construct a soccer field on some of the open land.

The church is building a second structure that will be used for many church and community events. Wallace said they hope to have the facility completed by April 2010. Once the center is completed, the plan is for the church to begin offering summer programs to train the youth and others in the community in order to make a better life for themselves and those around them. The church will also offer fun activities for kids to keep them off the streets.

“We saw that there is a need,” Wallace said. “Part of the town is dying. Kids don’t have any place to go. No place to feel safe. We said if God provides us a way, let’s do it. We don’t want to miss out on anything God is willing to give us.”

Wallace, who teaches math in the public school system, tries to build trust with students through individual relationships and through opening up about his personal life. He hopes these relationships will influence students to attend the summer programs. The church will offer training in etiquette, job interviews, planning for college and more.

“We are trying to throw it all at them so they won’t have any excuses,” Wallace said. “Too many

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times, people have excuses. And not just the kids; it’s the parents, too. We want to offer them training so that can’t say, ‘We weren’t prepared.’”

Miller hopes to see this program branch out and reach kids from other troubled areas of town who don’t have any place to go or participate in activities during the summer months.

“This is a very good focal point to just minister,” Miller said. “The need is so great that we are looking for an overflow of kids.”

Along with special training, Wallace and Miller are introducing the people of the church to different cultures and experiences in how other groups worship.

“When it comes to church overall, I don’t think God has called us to be separated,” Wallace said. “I feel the more people we get together, the more power we have to change this town for all of us.”

Happy Union has started visiting other churches once a month and has formed some strong bonds among the church-going community. One group donated a couple of pianos to Happy Union and the youth have started going on mission trips with First United Methodist Church. The groups have combined for two trips so far, one to Chicago and another to San Marcos. Happy Union’s ribbon dance team, lead by WBU professor Debra Lavender-Bratcher, has teamed with Primera Iglesia in Lockney to start a ribbon dance team there. The groups will join forces for a Christmas program this year.

Yet while all these programs are designed to positively impact the community, Wallace’s dream doesn’t stop there. Wallace spent 13 years teaching seventh grade and just this year moved up to the high school. The new vantage point has shown him another area of need for the troubled youth of Plainview.

“I see a lot of kids getting kicked out of their home,” Wallace said. “What if we made a refuge place? A place where they can stay.”

His dream is to open a safe house where kids can stay for a few days under adult supervision in order to stay in school and continue to try to make better lives for themselves.

Wallace’s desire to help comes from personal experience. He knows that if he can change, so can these troubled kids.

“When I look back at my life, I was known for many reasons other than Christ,” Wallace said. “Many people thought I would be in prison by now. I look out there and some of these kids give up before they ever start trying.”

Wallace said the problems aren’t racially specific. He is proud of the way his church reaches across cultures to minister to anyone, regardless of color, and he hopes to continue to build on that trend.

“It is not a black thing. It is not a Hispanic thing,” he said. “It’s a Jesus thing, no matter what. He bled the same for all of us.”
At the appointment, Pond guides the family to determine the service format and location and choosing everything from the casket to the cemetery plot. Then he does the footwork, contacting the church, minister, cemetery and other outlets to put all the pieces together on the family’s behalf.

All this, of course, has to be done in a short period of time, which can mean some stress on the funeral home director if there are many details or several funerals happening at once. Add the fact that Pond lives in a small town where he knows everyone, can lead to some pretty heavy emotions when all is said and done.

“I’ve learned that I have to focus on the task at hand and get the details done but also be compassionate with the families. Then after everything is over, I can go home and cry,” Pond said. “You can’t detach yourself; you just have to push forward.”

His own grieving is a natural part of the process, especially when the deceased is known to him or a young person or child. But his faith and the knowledge that he’s had a role in imparting some peace to hurting families sustain him.

“At the end of the funeral, when we take the plants and the guest book back to the family’s home, and they say ‘thank you’ and are pleased, that’s what matters to me,” he said.

Pond and wife Kim, an adjunct instructor in religion at Wayland who is working on her doctorate at Talbot Seminary, have four children. Wil, 22, is a senior criminal justice major at Wayland, while Daniel, 20, is a freshman at WBU. Steffanee, 17, is a senior at Tulia High, and Jeffrey, 15, is a sophomore at THS.

Pond is active in the community, serving on the Tulia school board for 11 years, and plays softball and golf. He is also involved in Tulia sports and following his children in their various activities.
Homecoming schedule has classic feel

By Teresa Young

Last year’s homecoming took on a feeling of grandeur due to the Wayland Centennial, with many special emphases. This year’s homecoming weekend will feel a bit more like past events, with the exception of one exciting addition. After WBU added dancing for students during the centennial – the first dance was held as a centennial ball in April – the alumni committee felt a dance would be a welcome addition to the weekend and a way to involve current students more in the festivities.

“We think having an Alumni-Student dance in the Laney Center will be a great venue and will be a fun way for our alums to meet our students and enjoy a great time together,” said Alumni Development Director Danny Andrews. “I’m prejudiced, of course, but some of the best music of all time was from the 1950s-60s-70s era and most of our Homecoming attendees are from that span as well. Even if alums don’t choose to dance, we encourage them to come enjoy the music, fellowship and refreshments.”

The dance will be held Friday night from 9 p.m. to midnight and is open to both alumni and students.

Themed “Rockin’ and Rollin’ into the Second Century” with an oldies feel, the weekend will feature the athletic events, theatre production and Friday’s chapel honoring the Distinguished Alumni Award recipients.

Classes ending in zero are the honorees for the weekend, with 1960 celebrating their Golden Anniversary with a special breakfast on Friday morning. Graduates from 2000, 1990, 1980, 1970 are featured, and anyone graduating prior to 1960 are invited free to Friday’s Legacy League Luncheon. Class reunions will be held Saturday morning on campus.

Guests are welcome to attend any of those luncheons with the purchase of a ticket as well as the Friday night banquet and the Saturday luncheon. Ticket prices are listed below with the events. Theatre productions are $4 for alumni and $8 for guests.

Other traditional events on the lineup include the International Choir reunion and mini-concert, and the Athletic Hall of Honor induction ceremony, both Saturday morning.

Registration for homecoming is open and a form can be found on the alumni Web site at www.wbu.edu/alumni. For more information, call (806) 291-3600.

Tentative Schedule

Thursday - Saturday:
Art Gallery Exhibit: Tom Curry: Paintings and Prints – Distinctively Texas-themed work by Alpine-based artist, featured for many years in Texas Monthly.

Thursday, February 25:
6 p.m.: Basketball doubleheader
8 p.m.: Theatre Production: “The Odd Couple (female),” $4 for alums, $8 guests

Friday, February 26:
7:30 a.m.: Golden Anniversary Breakfast, Complimentary for Class of 1960;
Guests: $7
9-11 a.m.: Registration and Coffee
11 a.m.: Homecoming Chapel
Includes recognition of Distinguished Alumni Award recipients.
12:30 p.m.: Legacy League Luncheon, Free for graduates of 50 or more years; Guests: $11
1 p.m.: Math and Science Guest Alumni Speaker
2 p.m.: Math and Science Hall of Honor ceremony
2 p.m.: Baseball doubleheader
5-9 p.m.: Children’s Activities, free
6 p.m.: Homecoming Banquet, $11
8 p.m.: Theatre Production: “The Odd Couple (female),” $4 for alums, $8 guests
9-12 p.m.: Alumni-Student Dance, free

Saturday, February 27:
9 a.m.: Registration
9 a.m.: University Store Open House
9-11:30 a.m.: Class Reunions
10 a.m.: International Choir Reunion and Mini-Concert
10:30 a.m.: Athletic Hall of Honor Inductions
Noon: Alumni Luncheon, $10
1 p.m.: Baseball game
2 p.m.: Basketball Doubleheader
Coronation of Homecoming Queen, Presentation of Hall of Honor Inductees and Presentation by WBU Band and Cheerleaders
8 p.m.: Theatre Production: “The Odd Couple (female),” $4 for alums, $8 guests
Kassie Hughes laughs when she recalls the moment her professor, Dr. Gary Gray, visited them in the lab to see their final analysis results.

“He jumped for joy, that’s for sure,” said the WBU senior chemistry major.

“It took them a while to realize what they had done,” Gray said. “You just don’t see something that appears to kill (cancer) cells like this.”

Hughes and fellow student Asenath Arauza, a junior chemistry and molecular biology major, were participants in Wayland’s summer research program in chemistry, funded in large part by a grant from the Welch Foundation.

While they haven’t exactly discovered a cure for cancer, what Hughes and Arauza did over the summer months does have quite a bit of value both in terms of scientific research and in their own personal education and edification, Gray noted.

The pair technically started their research in the spring 2009 term, doing an extensive literature review once they chose a topic.

They chose to follow a path started by May 2009 graduate Joanne Jacob, who had experimented with 12 different herbs and their effect on tumor growth in mice. One in particular had significant results in Jacob’s research, and the two coeds decided to further check out Ashwagandha, commonly known as Indian Ginseng and used by many to treat depression, inflammation and neurological disorders.

Using a powdered form of the root, Hughes and Arauza liquified the extract into a more usable form. Using thin-layer chromatography on glass plates, the team was able to separate the extract into various compounds. Through nearly 30 plates – a time-consuming process itself – the duo was able to identify one particular compound that was strong every time. They eluded the compound from the plate and tested it on 4T1 breast cancer cells grown in Petri dishes to determine how it would affect the cells. The results were astonishing.

“This was really annihilating the breast cancer cells,” noted Arauza, pointing to a chart of the results that showed the cell growth was dramatically reduced compared to even the full extract. “This one was very potent; none of the others were even close.”

The next step was to characterize the isolated compound at Texas Tech University’s lab, utilizing their mass spectrometer, a machine the WBU lab does not possess, to determine exactly what the size of the molecule is. A larger sample will be needed, however, to get a better reading and study using the Tech equipment.

The girls will repeat the project to get a purer, larger sample and then run the cell culture test again before moving to the next stage, which is to inject the cancer cells in mice, then inject the compound and measure the results. They are excited about the next step, as is their faculty mentor.

“This raises all kinds of interesting questions since this appears to be different than the compounds that are already known,” Gray said.

In terms of the educational benefit of the summer research, both girls laughed that patience for the often tedious lab processes was a natural byproduct. But there was more.

“This summer made more things make sense to me,” said Hughes, a Plainview native who hopes to pursue a career in the lab science field. “It makes the things you learn in classes really come together. We learned that you can actually use this stuff in real life.”

By Teresa Young
WBU to explore San Antonio expansion

Facing a packed San Antonio campus with more than 1,500 students enrolled currently, the Board of Trustees at Wayland on Oct. 22 approved administrators to investigate options for expanding the campus’ capacity.

In its regularly scheduled October meeting, trustees discussed at length the options available to the campus for purchasing additional space that would allow the campus to expand its programs in the city.

Specifically, the growing room would permit the relatively new School of Nursing – currently housed completely on the San Antonio campus – to grow its enrollment. The potential for that, noted Executive Vice President and Provost Dr. Bobby Hall, is nearly unlimited due to the great shortage of nurses both in the South Texas metro areas and nationwide in general.

The board also approved an executive committee recommendation to proceed with repairs to the roof of Gates Hall, the four-story administration and classroom structure built in 1909, and replacement of the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system in Moody Science Building – completed in 1970 and still bearing the original HVAC units. Included in that proposal was a campus-wide lighting retrofit that will increase substantially the energy efficiency of the campus and save more than 646,000 kilowatt hours annually.

WBU noted for work with military students

Wayland was recognized in two fall publications for its work with and attitude toward military service personnel.

G.I. Jobs released its 2010 list of Military Friendly Schools, including WBU in the list that honors only the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools which are embracing America’s veterans and servicemen as students. The list was derived after surveys of more than 7,000 institutions nationwide.

Also, Military Times EDGE magazine recently unveiled its list of the top 50 colleges enrolling military students, deemed its “50 most popular colleges” as chosen by active duty service members. Those rankings are based on Department of Defense data based on usage of the military tuition assistance provided by the government. Wayland ranked 20th on that list, with military students enrolled in 10,202 courses. When hours are broken down by service branches, Wayland ranks 7th among members of the U.S. Air Force.

Through most of its external campuses around the country and even to a small degree on the more traditional Plainview campus, Wayland enrolls a large number of active servicemen and women as well as their dependents and veterans taking advantage of the GI Bill for their education. At least 50 percent of the 6,000+ students in the Wayland system are either active military or veterans.

Lubbock campus honors area homebuilder for longtime support

Students and employees of Wayland Baptist University’s Lubbock Campus gathered Thursday, Oct. 8, to honor a special local company that has invested around $250,000 in students over the past five years.

A reception was held at 10 a.m. to honor Betenbough Homes, a Lubbock-based homebuilder that contributes funds annually to provide scholarships...
for students working in ministry in churches or church-related fields.

During the event, ministry director Holly Betenbough presented the campus with a $20,000 check as their latest gift for students. Students chosen for the grants typically receive a set amount for four terms while they pursue their degree and a career in ministry. Betenbough has been committed to advancing the kingdom of God and believes the scholarships are a great way to help future and current ministers build skills for ministry.

Hall returns to WBU in student services role

Tom Hall, the voice of the Plainview Bulldogs, was named Executive Director of Student Services and Dean of Students at Wayland, taking the position on Oct. 5.

Hall returns to Wayland after an 11-year hiatus. During that time he served as the operation manager at KKYN radio in Plainview, where he was best known for his “Wake Up Kickin’” morning show as well as his play-by-play broadcasts of Plainview High School athletics.

“I am so excited to be back at Wayland,” Hall said. “I know a lot of those people and have a lot of good friends who work at Wayland, and a lot of great memories of the university.”

Hall worked at Wayland from 1981-98, including 14 years within the student services umbrella as director of student services and student activities director. He served as Director of Contracted Services prior to leaving Wayland.

“(Tom) is very excited about engaging our students at this important time in their lives,” said Dr. Claude Lusk, vice president for enrollment management. “He has a passion for developing young people academically, emotionally and relationally that will serve us well.”

The Executive Director of Student Services will oversee student discipline, housing, health services, counseling, student activities and the office of Baptist Student Ministries.

Family dedicates new scholarship for dear aunt

Family members of Clara Brian Frazer gathered Oct. 22 at the Board of Trustees luncheon to dedicate the plaque marking an endowed scholarship in her memory.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P.K. Brian of the Texas Panhandle, Clara began her education at Wayland in 1919, and that experience sparked a love of learning that lasted a lifetime. With that came a desire to help others develop their potential.

She went on to complete her bachelor’s degree at West Texas State College and then served as an educator in New Mexico, Idaho and Washington. She earned her master’s degree in administration from the University of Washington.

Frazer served as dean of women for the Northern Branch of the University of Montana. Her final move was to Santa Monica, Calif., where in 1953, she joined the staff of Santa Monica City College as dean of student activities. After retiring, she and her husband, Judge John S. Frazer, a retired Superior Court Judge of California, enjoyed traveling throughout the world. She died in 1994.

Gathering sets five major goals for missions center in coming years

During a fall vision meeting hosted by WBU missions center director Dr. Rick Shaw, a group of area leaders identified five areas of focus for the center in coming years.

The No. 1 goal identified is to have a facility in which to house the missions center. Wayland is addressing that goal as it raises funds for a new Flores Bible Building within its ongoing capital campaign.

The second goal involved increased publicity and communication for the center, possibly through the development of a specific Web site. The third goal is to develop an endowment through which to aid the center’s objectives. The fourth goal is to increase student involvement. Currently about 18% of the Plainview campus students are involved in missions projects of some kind, whether that is through the missions center’s mentoring program, or through mission trips planned by both the missions center and the BGCT.

The fifth goal outlined for the group is for increased connections between the center and churches that can use it as a resources and guide for training and implementing mission work of their own.

Students and Baptist convention reps participated in the meeting.
Wayland Baptist University is once again setting a standard for other schools to follow, announcing in October that it will add men’s and women’s wrestling to its intercollegiate athletics offerings. With this addition, Wayland will become the only college or university in the state of Texas to compete in intercollegiate wrestling.

“Intercollegiate wrestling is a win-win situation for the university. It will generate additional students while providing an additional competitive sport for the university community,” said Athletics Director Dr. Greg Feris.

The WBU wrestling program will compete in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) beginning with the 2010-11 school year. Thirty-seven NAIA schools currently sponsor wrestling for men, 10 for women.

There are currently no intercollegiate wrestling programs in the state of Texas, despite recent statistics that show an excess of 245 high school boys' wrestling teams and 198 girls' teams in the state. In the Texas Panhandle area, there are approximately 375 boys and more than 125 girls participating in the sport. The boy's team from Randall High School and the girl's team from Caprock High have recently won state championships.

“The sport is growing and is very popular in many regions of the country,” added Feris. “Wayland is fortunate to be located in an area where several communities have embraced the sport at the high school level. I think we are going to fill a void in the area for fans of the sport. In addition, we are excited to be able to offer these young student-athletes a new opportunity to continue to participate in a sport that they love while at the same time obtaining an outstanding education in a Christian environment.”

Search for a new coach will begin right away. Feris says he hopes to have someone in place sometime after the first of the year.

Among those present at the press conference announcing the move were Mike Moyer, Executive Director of the National Wrestling Coaches Association, and former Olympic gold medalists Brandon Slay and Dan Gable. Slay, a graduate of Amarillo's Tascosa High School who is currently the resident freestyle coach for USA Wrestling at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, won the gold medal in freestyle wrestling at the 2000 Summer Olympic Games in Sydney. Gable, who did not give up a single point on his way to the gold at
the 1972 games in Munich, won two individual NCAA titles as a student-athlete at Iowa State University and 15 NCAA team titles as head coach at the University of Iowa.

The new WBU teams will practice in the Pete and Nelda Laney Student Activities Center. Duel or tournament events will be held in Hutcherson Center. The addition of the wrestling programs brings Wayland’s athletic offerings to a total of 14.

Cross Country

The Wayland men’s cross country team headed into the Sooner Athletic Conference meet ranked No. 15 in the nation after a strong showing at the NAIA Mid-States Classics in October. The men’s team outran all of its NAIA competition at the Mid-States Classic, placing second overall behind NCAA Div. II opponent Colorado College.

Three cross country runners earned the right to advance to the national meet with top performances at the 2009 Sooner Athletic Conference Championships held Nov. 6 in Lubbock. Senior Timmy McCune and freshmen Catherine Leubner and Milca Villegas will compete in Vancouver, Wash., on Nov. 21.

Both the women’s and the men’s teams finished fourth at the SAC meet.

Pioneer Soccer

The inaugural men’s soccer season was a struggle to say the least. The Pioneer men were winless with a 0-16 record, 0-9 in conference play. The men scored only 11 goals on the season with 168 shot attempts for a scoring average of 0.7 goals per game. Conversely, Pioneer opponents scored more than 5 goals per game.

The women’s soccer team struggled this season as well, finishing with a 3-13-1 record, 1-8-1 in conference play. The women chalked up a 3-0 victory over conference foe Northwestern Oklahoma State University and managed a 1-1 tie against Mid-America Christian University. The Pioneer women scored 11 goals with 222 shot attempts this season, averaging 0.6 goals per game. Pioneer opponents scored 55 goals on 318 shots averaging more than 3 goals per match.
Pioneer Volleyball

Heading into the final week of the regular season, the Wayland volleyball team was standing in second place in the conference standings, trailing Lubbock Christian University. With a 7-4 conference mark (19-5 overall), the Pioneers were tied with Oklahoma City University, but held the tiebreaker, having beaten the Stars twice during the season. Still, after a three-set loss at John Brown University on Halloween, the Pioneers could not stand to lose any more matches if they wished to hold on to their second-place seeding heading into the conference tournament. The conference tournament was scheduled for Nov. 13.

Unfortunately for the Pioneers, they were forced to play the final five matches of the regular season and the conference tournament without outside hitter Kimberli Harger. A sophomore from Lubbock, Harger suffered a season-ending knee injury in the opening set of a home match against Southern Nazarene on Oct. 24. The Pioneers went on to win the match in five. Harger was leading the team in kills.

Pioneer Basketball

With 10 new faces on the roster, fans of the Wayland Baptist men’s basketball team can’t be faulted for assuming that the 2009-10 season will be another rebuilding year for the Pioneers. Truth is that’s not what Coach Robert Davenport and his staff have in mind. Of the 10 newcomers on Davenport’s squad, most are upperclassmen that have plenty of collegiate experience under their belts. When you combine those with the three regulars back from last year’s team, this new Pioneer squad has a chance to make some national noise.

“Two of the new guys were point guards for extremely successful junior college programs, one was a key player on a team that reached the NAIA National Tournament, and another was an All-Conference performer for a successful Division II program,” points out Davenport. “The guys we have back from last year spent the off-season working hard...
There is no substitute for experience. The kids that we have back have played in some big games and have been through the rigors of playing in the Sooner Athletic Conference. Hopefully they will have that same hunger, drive and passion that showed at the end of last season.

Flying Queens Head Coach Tory Bryant

Wayland’s Taylor Janowicz (#40), a junior center from Scottsdale, Ariz., watches intently as Andrew Davenport (#23), a junior guard from South Hayward, Calif., passes him the ball amid a flurry of defenders from Dallas Christian College during the Pioneers’ season opener on Oct. 30 at the Hutch.

and improving their game. I believe this team is ready to do some big things this year.”

That’s good news for fans who witnessed a Pioneer team that went 15-16 a year ago and finished near the bottom of the Sooner Athletic Conference standings. The lone senior returning from that team is shooting guard Jason Griffin, who scored 12 points a game and was the team leader in three-pointers, hitting just over 46 percent of his shots from behind the arc. Sophomores Joao “Johnny” Terra, a 6’8 guard, and 6’5 forward Bobby Watkins, both saw more than 22 minutes of playing time per game a year ago. Terra started in all 28 games that he played, averaging 7.4 points and 3.7 rebounds. Watkins was third on the team in scoring and rebounding (10 ppg, 4.6 rpg).

Others back include Josh Teague, a 6’0 junior guard, who saw action in 25 games, hitting 15 of 37 long range shots. Junior Jaren English, a 5’10 guard, also saw limited action in a varsity uniform last year, while 6’0 senior Colby Schniederjan has been a regular for the past several years on the Pioneer junior varsity team.

Flying Queens

In the two seasons since Tory Bryant took over as head coach, the Wayland Baptist women’s basketball program has shown significant improvement, going from 15-17 his first year to 22-12 and a berth in the NAIA Championship Tournament last year. Bryant is looking to continue to build on that improvement during the 2009-10 season with his most experienced roster yet.

“There is no substitute for experience. The kids that we have back have played in some big games and have been through the rigors of playing in the Sooner Athletic Conference.

Hopefully they will continue to have that same hunger, drive and passion to get better that showed at the end of last season,” Bryant said.

Among the returners are three seniors, guards Edite Kresa and Jessica Walker, and post Shamon Doss. Kresa, who is in her fourth season at Wayland, set the school record for most three-pointers made (75) and attempted (225) during her sophomore campaign. She played in all 34 games a year ago, hitting 40 treys and averaging 5.3 points and 1.7 assists.

Walker transferred to WBU last year from Blinn Junior College. She started in 18 games at the point for the Queens, averaging 6.4 points and a team-high 3.3 assists. Like Walker, Doss also came to Wayland via Blinn JC. She missed the first 10 games of the season due to minor knee surgery, but came on strong after the Christmas break, finishing up as the team’s second leading rebounder with a 7.5 per game average and fourth leading scorer (6.8 ppg).

Honorable Mention All-Conference selections Jessi Howard, Erika Raymond and Alex Williams are also returning for another year with the Flying Queens, as is 6’0 junior post Staci Murphree (4.6 ppg, 3.5 rpg).
Thanks to you...

Dreams can come true!

You may not think your $25 or $50 donation to the Annual Fund at Wayland makes a difference, but consider this:

- If every living alumnus of Wayland Baptist University gave just $25, it would total $803,800.
- If every alumnus gave $50, it would total $1,607,600.

Just think how far that could go to meeting student needs and seeing their dreams become reality.
Undesignated donations fund a variety of needs on all of Wayland’s campuses. But first and foremost is seeing student dreams come true as they find their calling in life and hone their skills.

“Probably the only reason I have a college degree today is because of basketball and the Hutcherson Flying Queens. I was from a small town in South Texas and had always dreamed of playing for the Queens. I was asked by Coach Harley Redin to try out, and I got a scholarship. Without that, I would probably not have gone to college. I was the first person in my family to get a college degree.

“It was so great being able to walk down the sidewalks to class and know all the students you were meeting. I would not trade my four years at Wayland for anything in the world.”

Judy Wallek Stridde, BS’66
Former Flying Queen
Retired Math Teacher

“I knew teaching was the right route for me... but I didn’t think I could do college work. I also didn’t think I could afford school, and I thought I might not be accepted by the younger students. I probably wouldn’t have been able to complete my degree at any other school. There’s just something about the people and the personal touch at Wayland. I knew I could go talk to my professors, and they were so supportive.”

Sandee Hancock, BSIS ‘06
Sixth-Grade Social Studies Teacher
Ash Sixth Grade, Plainview

Want to make an even greater impact? For your $100 gift, you will receive membership in the Century Club for support of the Annual Fund at an even higher level. Won’t you consider helping Wayland further the dreams of current and future students through this endeavor?

Count me in on the 2009 Annual Fund!

Name ________________________________
Address _______________________________
City __________________ State ________ Zip _______
Phone __________________ Email __________________

☐ Check Enclosed for $__________
☐ One-time credit card gift of $__________
☐ Enroll me in the Century Club (available with $100 gift).
☐ Draft monthly from my credit card $__________
☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Discover

Name on card ____________________________
Card number ___________________ Exp. ________
Signature _____________________________

Contact me regarding a monthly bank draft, estate planning options, gifts of stock or insurance or the life insurance program.

Clip card and return to:

WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY
1900 W. 7th, CMB 621
Plainview, Texas 79072

or give online at https://give.wbu.edu
An elite group of students, the President’s Ambassadors represent the best of the Wayland student body by serving the Office of Advancement and the Office of the President in fostering relationships with university constituencies, including alumni, donors, Board of Trustees, campus visitors, guests of the President and the community at large.

These goodwill ambassadors serve as student PR representatives and hosts at university functions including but not limited to:

- Presidential-hosted events on campus and in the President’s home
- Institutional Advancement events
- Board of Trustees meetings
- Homecoming and special university events
- Community events both on and off campus
- Limited travel with Advancement officers.

Students applying for the position of Ambassador must be at least juniors of good academic standing and character, be personable, energetic and engaging, demonstrate leadership skills, and represent Wayland’s Christian values and the student body well.

Ambassadors receive the Plainview Rotary Club Scholarship that recognizes and provides financial assistance to outstanding student leaders.

Hope English, director of development, oversees the Ambassadors program and coordinates their activities.

“President’s ambassadors was a great organization that allowed me to learn valuable networking and general social skills. Being part of President’s Ambassadors allowed me to break away from my comfort zone and begin talking with people. These skills have helped me in my new career. I am now the one up and around networking when we have in-service meetings at school. If it was not for the experience I had with President’s Ambassadors, I would not be where I am today.”

Mario Munoz, BBA 2008
Business Teacher and Coach, Plainview ISD
President’s Ambassadors serve in multiple capacities

Mary Beth Arnold
- Junior Spanish Education Major
- Hometown: Waxahachie, Texas
- Involved in Senate, Student Foundation
  “I have been involved in Student Foundation and greatly enjoyed promoting Wayland, giving tours and having an opportunity to be more involved at WBU than simply attending classes.”

Garrett Breazeale
- Junior Molecular Biology Major
- Hometown: Gladewater, Texas
- Involved in Senate, SGA
  “Becoming involved in the President’s Ambassadors program was a good decision for me. It has allowed me the opportunity to get to know friends, donors and alumni of the university. I also enjoy the friendship with the other Ambassadors.”

Kevin Burrow
- Senior Religion Major
- Hometown: Tulia, Texas
- Involved in Ministerial Fellowship, Apostolos
  “Wayland has been such a positive experience for me, so it is an honor to represent the university, Dr. Armes and the Advancement office. I especially enjoy engaging with our donors and friends.”

Lauren Davis
- Senior History and English Major
- Hometown: Red Oak, Texas
- Involved in SGA (Student Body President), Student Alumni Council

Bethany Netherton
- Junior Psychology Major
- Hometown: Tucson, Arizona
- Involved in Student Foundation
  “I enjoy Wayland because of the people. Wayland has become my second home and the people here are just like family to me.”

Ben Perkins
- Junior Christian Ministry Major
- Hometown: Centennial, Colorado
- Involved in BSM, Student Foundation
  “Interaction with people who better the school is always a plus not only for me but also for the student body.”

Khrystyne Eckerd
- Senior Religion (Missions) Major
- Hometown: Ruidoso, New Mexico
- Involved in BSM, Apostolos
  “It is such an honor to tell others about this college that I have grown to love and the people who have made this dream of mine possible.”

D’Anna Kellum
- Junior Early Childhood Education Major
- Hometown: Plainview, Texas
- Involved in Koinonia Task Force
  “I love the atmosphere of WBU, relating especially to the class size and my professors. I could not imagine going anywhere else for my education.”

Rosemary Ribera
- Junior Molecular Biology Major
- Hometown: Canyon, Texas
- Involved in BSM, Pioneer Health Service Corps
  “While at Wayland, I have been challenged and encouraged and like to share about the impact that this university has had on my life and others.”

Colby Schniederjan
- Junior Biology Major
- Hometown: Dalhart, Texas
- Involved in Student Foundation, Basketball
  “Being a direct representative of the university, as well as gaining the opportunity to showcase and highlight it, interests me.”

Bradley Sell
- Junior Religious Education Major
- Hometown: Clarendon, Texas
- Involved in Track & Field, BSM
  “As a President’s Ambassador, I strive to joyfully share how God has used Wayland to develop me as a student, as a leader and as a servant.”

Nicole Taylor
- Junior History Major
- Hometown: South Fork, Colorado (native of Zimbabwe)
- Involved in Student Foundation, BSM
  “I love Wayland and would like to use my experience here to help others see the benefits of this wonderful university.”
Fulfilling the call: The Great Commission doesn’t stop at salvation

Have you ever thought about how many times the Gospels record the fact that Jesus “taught” His followers? On a hillside, in a garden, walking along the road, strolling along a seashore, in an upper room—any place Christ walked or sat or visited could become a classroom. He seemed to sense that His time was limited, and that the single most important part of his mission was to be a mentor/teacher.

He also challenged those who were His followers to be teachers.

The Great Commission of Matthew 28:19-20 contains two primary challenges: 1) to encourage people to come to faith in Christ (“baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit”) and to instruct them regarding the truths of life and faith (“teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you”). The old Texas Baptist wizened saint Dr. J.B. Tidwell used to remark that even if the contemporary church baptized every person on the face of the earth, it would have fulfilled only half of the Great Commission. All those new disciples would also need to be taught about God’s Son and His ways.

People need to be taught if life is to be full, complete and joyful.

That’s precisely why Wayland Baptist University exists: to teach the discovered truth of our universe with all of its beautiful complexity and to teach the revealed truth of God’s word—God’s Son.

Individuals armed with such truth can and will and are changing our world. Just ask our WBU students, staff and faculty. We are in the process of making a profound difference in many different places around this globe on which we all live.

It is an incredible adventure...and you are an important part of that adventure. Your prayerful encouragement and your faithful financial support help make Wayland’s journey and adventure possible.

Words cannot adequately express what we feel in our hearts but permit me to write it in its simplest form.

We are grateful for you.
May your holiday season be filled with the life and love and joy of Christ!
Grace and peace...

What the President is reading: Experience and Education by John Dewey; Excellence without a Soul: How a Great University Forgot Education by Harry Lewis; Masters of the Air: America’s Bomber Boys Who Fought the Air War Against Nazi Germany by Donald L. Miller; Highest Duty: My Search for What Really Matters by Chesley “Sully” Sullenberger; Born to Run by Christopher Mcdougall; Ivanhoe by Sir Walter Scott.
Give... for such a time as this

For the past few months, I have been “preaching” to anyone who will listen about the idea of Wayland graduates, former students, friends, supporters – all who have an interest in our University and its future – to consider a systematic gift to our Second Century Campaign.

As you have been reading in Footprints over the past several issues, the major goals are to build a new Flores Bible Building with chapel and missions center; expand our fine arts facilities and renovate Harral Memorial Auditorium; upgrade our technology and increase our endowed scholarships.

I have used this: “If I walked up to you and said, ‘Could you give me a check right now for $1,000 for the Second Century Campaign?’ the vast majority would have to say, “Sorry, wish I could, but I don’t have it.”

“Well, could you pledge to give $28 a month by bank draft, debit card, credit card or check over the next three years? If so, you’d contribute $1,008 – a very significant gift for most people.”

Of course, some could do much more... some less.... but almost everyone can do something on a systematic basis that wouldn’t break the family budget.

We have folks who are contributing about $150 a month... some $100... some $50... some – like a young, single schoolteacher – $25 and, bless his heart, a retired pastor in Oregon who is on a fixed income but has just increased his gift from $5 to $10 a month.

If we could find 10,000 folks to make what we are calling the “Grand Commitment,” it would raise $10 million over the next three years and that would be a tremendous benefit to Wayland.

We in Advancement realize the economic downturn has affected everyone. We’re all hoping things will get significantly better but a lot of experts are saying the recovery may be slow. So, when is a “good” time to give?

Well, we think it’s right now.... especially if you can do it systematically.

I have yet to cross paths with any alum who has not had good things to say about their Wayland experience – everything from “enjoyable” to “life changing” – nor anyone who does not believe in the mission of providing an excellent education in a faith-based atmosphere.

But, to be honest, financial support of Wayland by former students is not very strong. I have asked myself – and others – a rather blunt question: “If those who love Wayland don’t support the University, who will? And when will they begin?”

Our director of public relations, Teresa Young, wrote a piece regarding a Beth Moore Bible study series for our campus newsletter – strangely enough the very day I had read the same story in Esther.

Teresa said a particular statement caught her attention: “For such a time as this.”

Esther’s uncle, Mordecai, uses the phrase in his encouragement of his niece to use her role as queen to save the Jews from death, asking her “Who knows but that you have been put in this position for such a time as this?”

Teresa continued: “I thought about this in terms of life at Wayland. Most of us were here last year as we celebrated our Centennial and remembered our rich heritage and the pattern of God’s hand upon us. And now, we’re here as Wayland moves into the second century and faces new challenges and choices for a changing world. I think neither of those are by chance, just as it was not chance that God had Esther reigning as queen during a critical time.

“Have you ever thought about being where you are ‘for such a time as this?’ You are where you are for a reason, and you have a role to play in Wayland’s success and, more importantly, God’s glory.

“This ‘time’ is critical for the University and for the Kingdom...and I believe firmly God has put you in this place for a divine reason. Who knows, but He may be using YOU to start a revolution.”

If the Lord impresses you to make a Grand Commitment – or do what your budget allows – and be a part of a revolution of support for our Alma Mater, then God bless you. We desperately need you “for such a time as this.”

(See the alumni site or call our office at 291-3603 for a pledge card.)
Young alumni couple starts giving back to WBU through Century Club

AMARILLO – Joey and Christie Parsons know they want to give back to the university that gave them so much and headed them on the road to their current careers. But as young alumni who just completed master’s degrees as well, their debt load doesn’t allow them to make big gifts just yet.

That’s why the couple chose to join the Century Club at Wayland as a way to begin their giving pattern while they are still young. For their $100 contribution to undesignated funds, the Parsons are able to impact their alma mater even as they are just beginning their careers.

Their desire to give comes from a gratitude for the guidance, wisdom and knowledge they received while at Wayland, for the mentoring from faculty and staff and the shaping of their characters. Both attribute their current success and confidence to their Wayland experience.

A native of Amarillo, Joey came to Wayland on a baseball scholarship after looking into junior college options to continue his playing career.

“What ultimately sold me on Wayland that I told (Coach Brad) Bass that I wanted to go into law after school, and he talked to me about starting at a university that would be more challenging and allow me to finish on time,” he said.

For the Pioneers, Parsons played outfield and designated hitter, enjoying the camaraderie and friendships he made while on and off the field. On the academic side, he majored in political science and business, hoping to fulfill a lifelong dream to practice law one day. He found the Wayland experience helpful in preparing for law school.

“Dr. (Geoff) Wells is a great professor. A lot of people are frightened of him because he’s brilliant, but the way he conducts his classes really prepare you for a master’s level education,” Joey said. The foundation of research and multitude of term papers he completed at the undergraduate level really set him up for success in law school.

In the fall of 2004, just a few months before he graduated from Wayland, Parsons met longtime Plainview attorney Paul Lyle at Dinner with the President, sparking a working and mentoring relationship that has been mutually beneficial. Lyle encouraged him to pursue law school, and Parsons took the LSAT in December 2004 just before graduation. But it would be a while before he took the plunge.

Parsons worked for Lyle for the 18 months or so following gradua-
tion, doing research and marketing for several books that Lyle was publishing on educational law. He also helped manage Lyle’s rental properties. Though he had begun the admissions process for law schools, he admittedly was dragging his feet through the lengthy process. Finally, Lyle and Parsons’ other Wayland mentor, Hope English, strongly encouraged him to finish the applications and get serious about law school.

At the same time, Parsons’ girlfriend, Christie Smith, a native of Kingwood, was wrapping up her psychology degree at WBU, so it seemed a natural time for a change of scenery. His LSAT scores resulted in a full scholarship from Washburn University’s School of Law in Topeka, Kan., and after a visit to the campus, both Joey and Christie decided to pursue their graduate work at the small school.

While in law school, Parsons was the secretary for the Business Law Society and earned a certificate in business and transactional law with distinction along with his Doctor of Jurisprudence degree. Graduating a semester early in December 2008, Parsons was the highest ranking graduate among Washburn’s law school grads in that ceremony. He also worked for a plaintiff’s firm for the majority of his law school time, gaining valuable experience part-time in the semesters and full-time in the summers.

From his office window overlooking downtown Amarillo, Parsons admits his dream become reality is still somewhat surreal. He passed the bar exam and is now employed with the Mayfield, Crutcher and Sharpee firm back in his own hometown, a firm that handles litigation in insurance, medical and family law cases.

Meanwhile, Christie, whom he married in May 2008, is beginning her new job at the Panhandle Assessment Center, an emergency shelter for foster children, where she counsels children about their backgrounds and experiences. She admits she’s found her niche, and she credits much of that to her Wayland professors who helped her discover her interests and career path.

“My brother Mike went to Wayland, and I had visited him one weekend but didn’t think that’s where I would end up,” she recalls. “After that visit, I knew that was where I was supposed to be. I just loved the people and their love for each other and for God and wanting to be better people.”

She enrolled in 2002, admitting she had no idea what she’d study. After four different majors, she finally settled into psychology, knowing she wanted to work with people but unsure about the counseling route. As she researched the social work program at Washburn, the master’s degree seemed appealing. She also had the opportunity to work in several areas of social work so she could hone her interests. She worked at a facility for teen girls and at a family guidance center and completed her practicum at Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). Her clinical rotation at a substance-abuse treatment facility was particularly eye-opening.

“I fell in love with that, and I never thought I would,” she said.

After they both graduated in December 2008, the Parsonses moved to Fort Worth in search of jobs, and Christie worked in drug prevention education and for a nonprofit. But things just didn’t seem to be working out and the pair began considering the panhandle area for options.

“The minute we decided to pursue Amarillo, God just opened door after door and He’s still opening them,” Christie said. They both found jobs quickly, bought their first home near where Joey grew up and have already found a church home in Hillside Christian Church, all in the span of a few months.

Life feels like it’s coming full circle for the young couple who began their climb at Wayland, and Christie said the small, family atmosphere at WBU contributed greatly to her blossoming into a confident young woman.

“At Wayland, you can’t slip through the cracks. It helped me break out of my shell and learn to be more confident in myself,” she said. “It really has made me who I am.”

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**About the Century Club**

- Membership requires a $100 annual donation, payable in installments at the donor’s convenience and undesignated.
- Businesses are encouraged to join, adding a dollar for each year of the business’ existence in Plainview.
- For info contact Mike Melcher, Director of Corporate Giving, at (806) 291-3431.
- Gifts can be made online with a credit card at https://give.wbu.edu and specifying the Century Club.
BILL BURKETT, former development director at Wayland in the mid-1980s, and later at Palm Beach Atlantic and Georgetown College, lives in Lexington, Ky., with his wife, Jean. Bill, who has had two heart bypass surgeries, retired three years ago as a fundraising consultant for colleges and churches. Since that time, he has served as an interim pastor, interim minister of music and also part-time chaplain at the Hartland Hills Retirement Center in Lexington. He also teaches a Sunday school class and has served on the board and as treasurer for the past seven years at the condo complex where they live.

“I just celebrated my 84th birthday and my 65th anniversary as an ordained Baptist minister and am still supplying at every opportunity,” Bill writes. “I consider my time at Wayland, though brief, some of the best of my ministry and wish we lived close enough to visit the campus once again.” (395 Redding Rd. #173, Lexington, KY 40517; burkett10933@insightbb.com)

BETH DURBIN, academic advisor and site supervisor at Wayland’s Fairbanks Campus at Eielson Air Force Base, and husband EARL recently were honored with the Gold Level Volunteer Award for 2009 from the 354th Fighter Wing at Eielson. The award recognizes a contribution of at least 250 hours of community service to the base and the surrounding communities. The Durbins are the first married couple to earn the award. Beth is an adjunct instructor at WBU as well. Earl retired after 22 years in the Air Force and will earn his BSOE from the campus in December 2009 with plans to continue in the master’s program. The couple has two children, Jonathan, a sixth grader, and Dianna, a junior. They are members of Moose Creek Baptist Church and volunteer in Boy Scouts, the school booster club and Dining In. (durbinb@wbu.edu)

WILL FLEMONS, MEd’07, coach of the Flying Queens from 2003-2007, is now head boys coach at Lake Jackson High School after two years as girls coach. The team includes his son, 6-3 junior Colman Flemons. Will and wife LORI GREEN FLEMONS, EX’07, also have two other children – Collin, 12, a 7th grader, and Caylin, 9, who is in the third grade. (223 Dogwood Street, Lakewood, TX 77566-4509)

Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of CECIL H. GOLDEN, 81, Spanish teacher at Wayland from 1971-96, who died Oct. 29 in Plainview. He received degrees from Samford University, the University of Alabama and Southern Baptist Seminary and served as a Southern Baptist missionary to Honduras from 1957-65. He also taught Spanish at Jacksonville State and the University of Alabama. He served as interim pastor of 30 different churches. He is survived by his wife, Claire; a son, PHILLIP, BA’78, pastor of FBC Denver City; daughters LINDA RASOR, EX’77, and son-in-law GEORGE, BS’79, of Dimmitt; Debbie Fort and her husband Ben of Happy, and Lisa Cox and her husband Bobby of Abilene; and 12 grandchildren. (Claire: Claire: 1600 Dallas, Plainview, TX 79072)

ALAN B. McNEAR, professor of education and administration at the San Antonio campus, was recently inducted into the Nazareth (Pa.) High School Wall of Fame by the Blue Eagle Foundation. McNear, an Air Force Academy graduate, is a 1964 Nazareth graduate. (7107 Saybrook, San Antonio, TX 78250)

MIKE MELCHER, MAM’08, adjunct business professor, and wife Deb, have recently welcomed two granddaughters. Brogan Bohn was born June 16, 2009, to Lee and Kaci Bohn of Amarillo and Blakely Melcher was born Aug. 6, 2009, to Russell and Elizabeth Melcher of Amarillo. Brogan weighed 6 pounds, 12 ounces, and Blakely weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces. Mike is Director of Corporate Development and Deb, formerly an assistant in the president’s office, now is in marketing for the Santa Fe House assisted living facility in Plainview. (melcherm@wbu.edu)

JOE SHUNKAMOLAH, who has recently moved back to Oklahoma and is a candidate for the Osage Indian
The Association of Former Students and the Senior Ministry of First Baptist Church of Plainview will sponsor a joint appearance of Christian comedian Dennis Swanberg and gospel recording artist Larry Ford at 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29, in Wayland’s Harral Auditorium.

Ticket information will be announced soon via various media including Facebook and the Wayland Web site.

Proceeds will benefit the general Wayland scholarship fund.

“We are thrilled to be able to present two incredibly talented men like Dennis Swanberg and Larry Ford on the same program,” said Danny Andrews, director of Alumni Development.

Swanberg had his own television program called “Swan’s Place” for several years, and Ford is seen on Gaither Homecoming videos. Both are in great demand throughout the country for various programs.
Lewis makes career of farming, cowboy poetry

By Teresa Young

He may not spend hours in a tractor these days, but the life of a farmer and rancher is still a familiar memory to Raymond “Cotton” Lewis, a 1948 graduate of Wayland Baptist University. Thankfully, his memories and the creativity inspired by a career working the land are preserved forever in the poetry that Lewis has made a hobby for decades.

Now, at age 83, Lewis admits he’s not as prolific with the pen as he used to be, namely due to health problems he attributes to aging. But his sense of humor and smile are still sharp, and he said he still pulls out a pencil and paper to jot down a verse when the moment hits.

A native of Anton, Lewis earned the moniker “Cotton” from a school bus driver who noted his white hair even as a child. The nickname stuck.

Right out of high school, Lewis enlisted in the U.S. Navy, participating in the invasions of Iwo Jima and Okinawa before his discharge in 1946. Lewis said he ended up at Wayland because he decided to pursue college late in the process and it was one of the only places still accepting enrollments.

“It was small but a very good school, and I would have liked to stay the whole time,” he said, noting that since Wayland was still a junior college, the best he could do was earn an associate’s degree. He was a member of the last class to graduate from the junior college, as Wayland moved to senior college status that next year.

But Lewis had already transferred to Sam Houston State to study agriculture, then returned to Anton High School to teach vocational agriculture for four years. He and wife, Gailya, whom he met while at Wayland, moved to Olton and farmed and ranched on the same land for 38 years, retiring in 1997.

Though busy with his farming responsibilities, Lewis had a hankering to follow-up on a talent he discovered as a young man: writing. He had won writing contests at Wayland and in high school, but noted, “I wasn’t qualified in any way to do any of it.”

He saw an advertisement for a night class on cowboy poetry and music offered in Lubbock, and decided to check it out. After 8-10 sessions, he felt more comfortable with the art form and was already getting some notice. Alvin Davis, organizer of the Cowboy Symposium held annually in Lubbock, was putting together his first such event and invited several members of the class to speak and read their work.

Lewis went that first year and has been invited back every year, participating for many years before his health limited his involvement.

“(The symposium) has been the most rewarding thing for me,” Lewis said. “I’ve met some very successful people there.”

While farming, Lewis said he carried a small spiral notebook in his shirt pocket, pulling it from time to time to jot a line or phrase that came to him while working. After several years, his poetry writings were growing into quite a collection and he began to consider publishing them.

He opted for a cookbook company that provided templates he typed himself. That first volume, printed in January 1989, was titled “Summer Stories,” and he chuckled in explanation, “because some are true and some are stories.”

“I always liked the old timers talking, and my daddy was a good storyteller,” he said of the art he still enjoys. “It’s a good conversation to have instead of bellyaching.”

He’s printed 1,200 to 1,500 of that first book, then published a second titled “Cowboy Poetry” and then “Four-Letter Words.” In all, Lewis has five books, and he designed a series of notecards using his simple sketches and verses. He describes his writing style as “pretty country.” His books have sold primarily through word of mouth, at events at which he has spoken, and through mail order in a longtime ad in the Texas Electric Co-Op magazine.

“I did it for fun, and I might not have made a profit, but I didn’t lose anything,” he said.

For years, Lewis was a sought-after speaker at a variety of events from Chamber of Commerce banquets to the GED commencement ceremony at the Marshall Formby Unit in 1998. A highlight was getting to share his work at the World Congress of Poets held in Plainview in June 2004.

Lewis was named Farmer of the Year in 1973 and received the Distinguished Leadership Alumni Award from Wayland in 1984. In 2009, the Olton Chamber honored him as Citizen Through the Years for his longtime service the community.

See Web'prints online to read some of Lewis’ poetry.
Wayland, daughter MARY LOICE EGGER, BS'71, and daughters Debra Gentry and Helen Wilson; 14 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. (Wanda: 1313 S. High Street, El Dorado, KS 67042; Mary: 115 Holly Dr., Statesboro, GA 30458)

1950s

Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of JUNE WHITE PEMBERTON, EX'52, who died Oct. 17, 2009, in Athens at age 76. She married BILL PEMBERTON, BA'52, in Pampa. June dedicated her life to supporting her husband in his pastoral ministry and served in children's ministries for more than 50 years in Texas, Oklahoma and California. Survivors include her husband, a daughter, a brother, sister and two granddaughters. (6051 Sunrise Ct., Athens, TX 75752)

DOROTHY WEBB ALBRECHT, EX'55, is retired and lives in Burleson. She enjoys her four children, nine grandchildren, two great-granddaughters and one great-grandson. Dorothy retired from the Postal Service in 1996, suffered a stroke and has had a series of brain and scalp operations. She has a page on the Internet and teaches Bible interpreting from the original languages. She loves to work jigsaw puzzles online and listen to her pastor’s Bible lessons. While at Wayland, Dorothy played the housekeeper in the stage production of “Jane Eyre” plus a part in the “Healing of the Blind Beggar.” She also sang alto in the International Choir under Dr. Shelby Collier. At lunchtime, Dorothy participated in the ‘Wayland Wonder Band’ on the snare drums. She would love to hear from Wayland friends. Dorothy included in her note a copy of an original work of art by Wayland student MISAKO HIRABI NAGASHIMA, BA'55, who is deceased. (619 Todd Court, Burleson, TX 76028)

ALICE ‘COOKIE’ BARRON, BS'57, will be among 12 high school athletic directors inducted into the inaugural Hall of Fame Class of the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association. She was a music and education director in various churches from 1950-63 and taught school in Buckeye for 25 years. She died in May 2002. She has three children and seven grandchildren. “The Lord has placed me in a marvelous, Bible-teaching church where there are ways for even an old lady to serve,” Flo writes. “I still hear from some of the Waylandites of my day. I would appreciate contact from anyone who remembers me.” (1300 S. Watson Rd., A-114, 186 Buckeye, AZ 85326; SidFloDav@AOL.com)

ROBERT L. DAVIS, BA'58, who writes under the name Rel Davis, has written a self-help book, “An Existential Operating Manual,” which starts with the premise that the reader already knows all they need to know to live a healthy and successful life; all they need are a few gentle nudges in the right direction. Based on existential principles and the author’s quarter-century as a pastoral counselor, the book, subtitled “Simple Guides to a Successful Life,” is presented as a three-month series of daily meditations. The book is available from Lulu Press and from Amazon.com. To see a complete list of all Davis’s books, search for “Rel Davis” on Amazon or go to www.lulu.com/relDavis. Rel was the long-time minister of the Unitarian Fellowship of South Florida, in Hollywood, Fla. After retirement, he and his wife, Edith Sloan, served two years in Bulgaria as Peace Corps volunteers. They now live in the Ouachita mountain community of Mena, Ark. (relDavis@yahoo.com)

FLORA E. FAVOR DAVIS, BA'51, is a retired teacher who recently moved from her home of 40 years in Buckeye, Ariz., to a new development north of town. Her husband, SIDNEY E. DAVIS, BA'50, was a music and education director in various churches from 1950-63 and taught school in Buckeye for 25 years. He died in May 2002. She has three children and seven grandchildren. “The Lord has placed me in a marvelous, Bible-teaching church where there are ways for even an old lady to serve,” Flo writes. “I still hear from some of the Waylandites of my day. I would appreciate contact from anyone who remembers me.” (1300 S. Watson Rd., A-114, 186 Buckeye, AZ 85326; SidFloDav@AOL.com)

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Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of JAMES W. “BILL” ELLIS, BS'50, who died Aug. 20, 2009, in Dumas at age 82. A Wayland trustee for nine years, he was a U.S. Navy veteran. A co-founder of Growers Ag Service, he retired in 1992 but served as a consultant until 2003. He taught a fifth-grade boys Sunday school class for 42 years and was a deacon at FBC Dumas before moving to Amarillo. Surviving are his wife, Dot; a daughter, two sons, two brothers, a sister, and 18 grandchildren.

REV. EARL FORT, BS’51, recently received the Bronze Star for “heroic or meritorious achievement or service” 64 years late. Fort, 88, was wounded in the nose and leg.
while trying to locate a German machine gun nest near Cologne on April 14, 1945. Though wounded, Fort was able to tell his lieutenant the location of the fire and the gunner, a 14-year-old boy, was captured. Fort, who pastored churches in Texas before moving to Oregon to pastor, and his late wife Sandy adopted three sons. He started a Baptist church in Cornelius, Ore. and retired in 1996. A nephew heard Fort’s military story earlier this year and worked to get the Bronze Star awarded to go with his Purple Heart. It was presented by Mayor Bill Bash whose father, a retired Lutheran minister, helped Fort and his congregation acquire their building. (373 S. Tarrybrook Ct., Cornelius, OR 97113)

Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of Rev. TOMMY R. JONES, JR., BA’57, who died in October in Macon, Ga. Tommy was a Southern Baptist pastor for more than 50 years, leading seven churches and many mission trips to home and foreign locations. He served as president of the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention and was on the Sunday School Board as well. In the last few years, he had started a Web site called AccessBibleChurchOnline.org and worked with churches to serve and reach people with disabilities. Survivors include his wife, BARBARA (BARNES) JONES, EX’57, daughter JEANETTA JONES, EX’82, son Jeffrey and daughter Jerilyn as well as four grandchildren. (Barbara: 90-4871 Guerry Dr., Macon, GA 31204; Jeanetta: 1190 Parkland Run, Smyrna, GA 30082)

Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of Martha Lea Scott, who died April 26, 2009, in Wichita Falls at age 50. She was a teacher’s aide for Wichita Falls Regional School for the Deaf.

Surviving are her husband, William “Billy” Scott; her parents, MARVIN KNOX, BA’56, and MARGARET MOORE KNOX, BA’56, of Marlow, Okla., and two brothers. (P.O. Box 387, Marlow, OK 73055)

Dr. LEON McBETH, BA’54, was honored Oct. 30 with the 2009 T.B. Maston Christian Ethics Award in Dallas. McBeth is a leading historian of the Baptist movement who taught at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary for 43 years. In addition, he wrote a history of Texas Baptists highlighting their strong bent for religious liberty. The award was presented at a dinner sponsored every other year by the T. B. Maston Foundation. Maston was a pioneering Baptist ethicist and longtime SWBTS faculty member. Leon and wife Thelma have three grown children. (6120 Saddlebrook Dr. #7, Benbrook, TX 76116)

Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of BOBBY JACK “BOB” SHIELDS, BS’57, who died Oct. 8, 2009, in Winters at the age of 74. He played on three Pioneer teams that advanced to the national NAIA tourna-
Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of ROBERT BUNNER, BA'64, who died August 9, 2009, at age 69. He and wife SUE ANN (BUNDICK), BA'61, had been married 48 years. The couple is also survived by two sons, Brett and John. A memorial service was held in Austin on Aug. 29, and the family asked that memorial gifts go to Wayland or St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, where they were members.

JANE WHITE DOOLY, EX'67, is a retired legal secretary for the United Auto Workers and now lives in Georgia. Her late first husband, BILL ALEXANDER, BA'67, pastored churches in Texas, New Mexico, Missouri and Michigan before his death in 1994. After retiring in 2004, Jane moved to Mineral Wells to care for her parents, L.E. WHITE, BA'49, and ZELMA WHITE, BS'50. They died within four months of each other in 2005 at the ages of 92 and 91, respectively. Her sister, KAREN WHITE DONOHO, BA'75, is an Accreditation Administration Specialist at Cisco College and recent first-time grandmother. Jane moved to Temple in 2005 and met John Dooly, a widower from Georgia, on e-Harmony. They married in November 2007. John has five children and six grandchildren in Georgia and Jane has three daughters and 14 grandchildren in Texas. “John and I are enjoying our late-in-life romance as we visit with family, travel in our motor home, take a cruise every now and then and work in our church with a couples class. Two of those grandchildren attend Wayland: Bart Staton and Shaney Staton Brewer, who married Cody Brewer on Aug. 8. I would love to hear from Wayland friends.” (3972 Ridge Road, Buford, GA, 30519; doolyj@bellsouth.net)

Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of JERRY GENTRY, EX'62, who pastored Woodrow Baptist Church near Lubbock for 15 years. He died Aug. 1, 2009, at age 68. After teaching school in Staton and Crosbyton for 22 years, he served Highland Baptist Church in Denton and First Baptist Church in Big Spring before taking the Woodrow church. Surviving are his wife, Ella Mae; two daughters, ELISA GENTRY, BME'88, of Crosbyton, and PAMELA GENTRY WELCH, BBA'89, of Milton, Fl.; two grandchildren and three brothers. (Elisa: lisagentry@windstream.net; Pamela: welchdp@hotmail.com)

Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of VERA HOPE STORY OTT, BA'68, who died Oct. 17, 2009, at the age of 82. She taught first and second grade at Thunderbird Elementary School in Plainview from 1968 until retiring in 1986. She was very active in First Baptist Church, the Covenant Hospital Auxiliary and the Hale County Historical Commission. Surviving are her husband, Angus; one son, three daughters, including HOPE ENGLISH of Plainview, Director of Development at Wayland; and seven grandchildren. Memorials may be directed to the Angus and Vera Ott Endowed Scholarship at Wayland Baptist University. (Hope: hope@wbu.edu)

1970s

RICHARD DYE, BS'78, reports that his daughter, Rachel, who has battled a brain tumor and other health issues for several years, graduated with honors from Glen Rose High School last May and is majoring in Human and Family Studies at Tarleton State in Stephenville. Richard, who is head boys basketball coach at Glen Rose High School, writes: “Considering all Rachel has been through, Sarah and I are truly blessed...”
Remember the GREAT TIMES you had at Wayland?
We bet you know of a student in your town or elsewhere that would be a PERFECT FIT at WBU.
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Student Information

Name: _________________________________________ Phone: (_____)____________________
First                                      Last
Address: ______________________________________
                                               City                      State                  Zip
Email: _________________________________________

Parents: _________________________________________
Father                                      Mother

Extracurricular Interests:  □ Music □ Athletics □ Art
                             □ Theatre □ Cheerleading □ Yearbook

Possible Major: ________________________________

Please mail to:    Admissions Office
                   1900 W. 7th CMB 712
                   Plainview, TX 79072
Attention former members of Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly:

A reunion of staff is being organized for August 12-14, 2010, with hopes of bringing back all who served at the North Carolina retreat center. To make reservations, call (800) 588-7222. For more information, call Neil Nation at (615) 395-7664.

by your kind thoughts and prayers.” (dyeri@grisd.net)

ROBERT L. “BOBBY” HENDRICKS, BA ’76, has been elected board member and chair of the Commission on Advocacy of the Association of Professional Chaplains headquartered in Schaumburg, Ill. The association has about 4,000 members and is the chief certifying body of the chaplaincy profession. Hendricks is director of chaplaincy services at San Antonio State-Supported Living Center. Concurrently, he serves as discipline head for chaplaincy for the 11 state-supported living centers of Texas. He earned his master’s degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has served in various APC leadership positions since his board certification in 1995. As chair, he will address the social justice, long-term care, religious and public policy interests of the association. Commission members network with state advocacy chairs as well as external local, national and international groups with similar interests to APC. He and his wife, Becky, have two children. (243 Patricia, San Antonio, TX 78216; bobby-hen_99@yahoo.com)

RITA A. SMITH ISBELL, EX’73, is a retired educational diagnostician who recently moved to her husband Bob’s hometown of Paducah. Her son and his family are at Dyess AFB in Abilene, where he is the chief crew on a B-1 Bomber. (risbell@cebridge.net)

TOM JOHNSON, BA ’74, and PEGGY BATES JOHNSON, BA ’73, of Waco, have retired from Texas public school education after 31 years. They taught in Kress, Ropesville, Friona, Three Way, Whiteface, Monahans and Alvord. Peggy taught first and second grade and high school English for a good portion of those years, and Tom coached and taught for several years, then became a principal in 1983 and later was an assistant superintendent. “Peggy works in service and tech support for CEI (Creative Education Institute), and I work as a consultant and in sales. The company specializes in software to assist struggling students in reading, math and science.” Tom writes. Daughter Andria, 32, is a physical therapist and lives in Fort Worth with her husband Cary, an electrical engineer. Their children are Braden, 5, and Kate, 2. Son Ben, 27, is Director of Housing at Hardin-Simmons University, where he also attends Logsdon Seminary. His wife, Ashlee, is a teacher. We enjoy our retirement jobs and love spending time with our kids and grandkids. We would love to hear from old friends.” (P.O. Box 8482, Waco, TX 76714; tijjohnson@yahoo.com)

ROBERT “BOB” MAGAL-LANES, BA ’77, is currently working for the U.S. Department of Labor as a Wage and Hour Investigator in Lubbock. He taught and coached in Plainview for 29 1/2 years before retiring in 2005. He worked in management for UPS for 2 1/2 years. His wife, Frances, an RN who attended Texas Tech, works in administration for Community Health Centers in Lubbock. They have three sons: Robert Brian, 37, has two children and lives in Fate; Texas; Daniel Lee, 34, has three children and lives in Plainview, and Brian Lee, 22, is senior at Texas Tech. (5009 Itasca, Lubbock, TX 79416; robert.magal-lanes@gmail.com)

Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of MIKE SAMFORD SR., BA ’77, who died Sept. 8, 2009, in Lubbock at age 54. He worked for the State of Texas for 25 years. Surviving are his children, Michael and Jessica; four grandchildren; and four brothers.

DAVID NALL, EX’70, was awarded the 2009 Male Songwriter of the Year at the Texas International Music Association awards show in Irving in October and also sang one of the many songs he has written in the last several years, “The Cross on I-40.” David’s songs continue to rank high on national and international charts. He is a pharmacist in Justin, near Fort Worth. (pharmnall@yahoo.com)

MARK S. CLARK, BS’87, is serving as a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force and recently started a new assignment as commander of the ROTC detachment and as professor of Aerospace Studies at the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville. He and his wife, Teresa, a homemaker,
er, have three children: Rachel, Josh and Adam.
(11124 Bear Drive, Farmington, AR 72730; mark.clark1@cox.net)

JOSEPH R. DAVIS, BSOE’86, is new Minister of Singles and Counseling at East Memorial Baptist Church in Prattville, Ala. He had been executive director of The Center for Biblical Counseling and Discipleship, Inc., in Paris, Tenn. (1320 Old Ridge Road, Prattville, AL 36066; jdavisbiblicalco@gmail.com)

Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of DR. DAVID EDWARDS, BA’80, who died in a two-vehicle collision near Waco on Oct. 9, 2009, at age 51. David, who received his PhD from Southwestern Seminary, had been pastor of First Baptist Church in Corsicana for 3 ½ years. He pastored Main Street Baptist Church in Georgetown for 12 years before moving to Corsicana and had been involved in several mission trips overseas. David was a talented writer and scholar and his works were published in the Biblical Illustrator, newspapers, and online. Surviving are his wife, LYNDY DAWSON EDWARDS, BA’82; two daughters; a son; his mother and two brothers. David and Lyndy, who attended a gathering of Wayland alums in Grapevine last June, had planned to go to China to begin the process of adopting two children. (3701 NW County Rd #0004, Corsicana, TX 75110)

FREDERICK FORD, BS’82, is back in Texas after teaching three years at Elizabeth City State University in North Carolina. “I have taken a professorship at Wiley College in Marshall. It is a United Methodist college, but it is the closest I could get to my Baptist roots,” writes Fred, who just finished his PhD in juvenile justice. (P.O. Box 1632, Marshall, TX 75671-1632; fdavis@live.com)

CAROL O. ARRINGTON GRiffin, BSOE’81, received a master’s degree in Organizational Management in 2004 from the University of Phoenix and a Doctorate in Human Resource Management from Madison University in 2008. (4838 11th Ave., Circle E, Bradenton, FL 34208-5884)

Pee wee HALSELL, BS’81, MEd’85, former assistant track coach at Wayland, is in his 23rd year as head indoor and outdoor track and field and cross country coach at Western Washington University. He has received the league Coach of the Year honor 16 times, region honors three times and area honors once. Under his guidance, 63 athletes have earned All-America honors in track and 20 in cross country. His teams have had 10 Top 10 national meet finishes in cross country and two in track. A native of Brownfield, Pee Wee also served as president of Division II U.S. Track Coaches Association for two years after a two-year stint as vice president. He and wife MARIA (Haley), BS’85, a nurse who was NAIA national champion javelin thrower at WBU, have two daughters: Sarah and Laura. (3928 Ruston Way, Bellingham, WA 98226; Peewee.halsell@wwu.edu)

The Royal Priesthood praise team at Happy Union Baptist Church in Plainview, pastored by richard Miller, BS’87 – an adult probation officer and member of the Pioneer basketball team that advanced to the NAIA finals in 1985 – recently recorded its second gospel album, Priesthood Praise. CDs may be purchased by contacting Sheron Collins at (806) 774-0401. (Richard.miller@myc-scd.com)

MIKE Smith, BA’81, and wife NAOMI (GOODWIN), BS’82, welcomed another grandchild to their family recently. They are pictured above with all their little ones, including (clockwise from left), T.J. Smith, Cassidy Smith, Camden Smith, son of ChristoPher Smith, EX’08, and wife Sarah, who live in Delaware; Jeremiah Smith, and Courtney Smith. T.J. and Courtney are the children of JASON Smith, BA’06, and wife AMBer (WATSON), BS’07, who live in Plainview. Cassidy and Jeremiah are the children of Jeffrey and Cheryl Smith of Lubbock. (Mike and Naomi: 5721 69th, Lubbock, TX 79424) (Jason and Amber: 801 Quincy, Plainview, TX 79072; smitha@wbu.edu) (Chris: 7045 Coconut Cove, Dover, DE 19901)

Sharon Lankford Wright, MEd’89, whose education career spans 35 years, recently was named first vice president for the Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association. Sharon has served as a district officer since 2002 and participates in the TEPSA CLASS Fellows Program. TEPSA has about 5,800 members and these administrators supervise more than 150,000 teachers who direct the activities of more than 2.4 million Pre-K through eighth grade school children in Texas. Sharon and her husband, Walter, BA’75, choral director at Plainview High for 30 years, have a son and two grandchildren. (2411 W. 12th; sharon.wright@plainview.k12.tx.us; walter.wright@plainview.k12.tx.us)

Sarah Hewett Battle, BA’90, keeps the books for

1990s

Sarah Hewett Battle, BA’90, keeps the books for
New savings program benefits WBU alumni, friends

The Association of Former Students is announcing the addition of a new service to the Wayland family. Through the Wayland Savings Connection, members can enjoy substantial savings on movie tickets, travel, shopping and more. The best part is that it’s free for all of our members!

To save, find the special URL link on the alumni Web pages under “Services,” then set up your membership access with an email and personal password you create.

After setting up your account, you can get in with your email address and password.

If you need help saving, call toll-free 866-681-2347 for assistance. Members can use this number for help maneuvering through the website, looking for specific merchants, etc. Member service hours are Monday-Thursday 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Friday 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. (CST). They are closed on Saturday and Sunday.

With the Wayland Baptist University Savings Connection, you get:

■ **NATIONWIDE SAVINGS.** Save on clothing, electronics, footwear and more at over 100 popular retailers like Target, Cold Water Creek, Foot Locker and Dick’s Sporting Goods.

■ **DISCOUNT TRAVEL.** Discover big savings worldwide on hotels, car rentals, cruises and travel packages. Simply log in and make your travel plans online at our new travel savings center.

■ **ONLINE FACTORY OUTLET.** Visit our online “mega-mall,” packed with factory-direct products from top merchants and enjoy savings of up to 50 percent off Manufacturer’s Suggested Retail Price.

■ **DISCOUNT MOVIE TICKETS.** Receive discounted rates – up to 30 percent below box office prices – at all major theater chains.

Battle Landscape, owned by her husband, Jeff, in Celina, north of Dallas, and also does some part-time administrative assistant work from home. Sarah writes: “We have three children, the oldest of which was born severely handicapped and went home to be with his Heavenly Father just before turning four years old in March 2000. Grace was born on Christmas Eve of 2000, and Bethany was born on our son’s birthday – June 17, 2007 – 11 years after our son, Caleb, was born. We are very active in our church. I have really enjoyed reconnecting with WBU friends on Facebook.” Her parents, RAYFORD and NORMA PERSONS HEWETT, are Wayland exes and also live in Celina. (Sarah: 605 W. Cedar St., Celina, TX 75009; oneinheaven@cebridge.net; Hewetts: 614 W. Oak St., Celina, TX 75009)

Christian love and sympathy to JEANNE (JAMES) BROWN, BS’90, and husband Johnny Mac at the death of their daughter, Alexandria “Alex” on Nov. 10, 2009, at age 17, in an automobile accident in Lubbock. Alex was a senior at Seagraves High School. (Browns: PO Box 55, Wellman, TX 79378.)

CHRISTOPHER “C.L.” COBB, EX’92, has opened his own business, Time of My Life Productions (www.timeofmylifeproductions.com) in Houston after 13 years as a television sports anchor/reporter and photographer. C.L. writes: “It specializes in using news techniques telling two people’s love story as they get married – kind of in the fashion of ‘Biography’ or ‘E! True Hollywood Story’ and is very interview-driven. I also do ‘legacy preservation and tributes’ for funerals as well as all sorts of photography.” He married Sandra Lopez on Oct. 20, 2007. She is the owner/operator of a house cleaning service and assists C.L. in his business. (10940 Meadowglen Lane #357, Houston, TX 77042)

Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of ROBERT FITCH, BSOE’94, a graduate of the Anchorage campus, who died June 10, 2009, in Huntsville, Ala., at the age of 65. He was an engineer for Adesta, a security systems provider for the military. Surviving are his wife, Cathie; four children and three grandchildren. (116 Kelly Spring Road, Harvest, AL 35749)

E. ELLIS GOINS, BSOE’96, a graduate of the Hawaii campus, recently received his master’s degree in physical therapy from the University of Texas Health Sciences Center. (6814 Crested Quail, San Antonio, TX 78250; egojr_99@yahoo.com)

LISSA GOEBEL, BA ’92, was married on Sept. 5, 2009, to Theophile Guimbelleaux at Broadview Baptist Church in Lubbock. Lissa is an assistant
advisor in the College of Education and Texas Tech. Theophile, who goes by the nickname “Hatter,” owns Mad Hatter’s House of Games. (lissa.guimbelleaux@ttu.edu)

DAVID GUTIERREZ, BSOE’92, a graduate of the Lubbock campus, was appointed in September to the Texas Board of Pardon and Paroles. Gutierrez had worked for the Lubbock County Sheriff’s Office for 32 years, the last 11 as sheriff. During his tenure as chief, Gutierrez led a major clean-up effort in the department, creating an internal affairs division and eliminating some administrative positions to remove some of the problems facing the county, including failed jail inspections and unlawful actions by staff. He also began planning for a new jail, which is set to open in the spring.

REBEKAH GRAY KING, BA’98, husband JOHN C. “J.C.” KING, BS’99, live in Borger with their children, John, 7; Reid, 4; and Sadie, 1; and Samuel Journey King, born Sept. 29 and weighing 7 pounds. They lived in Plainview for 14 years and taught at Lockney High School for 10. J.C. teaches science, and Bekah is a homemaker. (723 Montana, Borger, TX 79007; bekahbekah-bekah@gmail.com)

KEVIN NOACK, BS’91, is serving as superintendent of schools in Palmer, located 30 miles south of Dallas on I-45. His wife, SUSAN BARNETT NOACK, BS’84, teaches high school chemistry. They have three children. Shannon is married and works at Texas Tech; Laurissa is working on her master’s in marine biology at Texas A&M; and son Kelby works in Austin. They also have one grandchild. (Box 95, Palmer, TX 75152; Kevin.noack@gmail.com)

VICTORIA “VIKKE” SANCHEZ SHERRARD, BA’93, owns Sylvan Learning Centers in Phoenix, Glendale and Anthem, Ariz. She and her husband, Rodney, an architect and Texas Tech alum, welcomed Lola Rae Sherrard on July 4, 2009. (6324 E. Sandra Terrace, Scottsdale, AZ 85254; Toris817@aol.com; Blogs: http://toris817.blogspot.com /; Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/Toris817)

TOMMY WIDENER, BSOE’98, a graduate of the San Antonio campus, was recently promoted to the rank of lieutenant in the Metro Nashville Police Department. A nine-year police veteran, Widener will be leading the South Precinct’s overnight shift in his new assignment. He has a master’s degree from Cumberland University.

Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of Sgt. VICTOR ANTHONY ALMARAZ, EX’09, who died Aug. 22, 2009, at age 52 in a motorcycle accident near his home in the Bear Springs Ranch subdivision near Medina Lake. Victor had celebrated his 30-year anniversary with the San Antonio Police Department on Aug. 21, the same day he attended his first class at the city’s Wayland campus. He had three children.

LESLEE HOLLOWAY BARNES, BA’03, was named 2009 Secondary Teacher of the Year for the Crowley ISD as well as campus Teacher of the Year. She also was a Region 11 Teacher of the Year nominee. She received a mini laptop computer, attended a Dallas Stars hockey game and was included in the Teacher of the Year Appreciation Night at the Rangers Ballpark, where she got to be on the field for the opening pitch and got to shake the hand of legendary pitcher and Rangers President Nolan Ryan. Leslee teaches many professional development sessions for teachers.

MARK EUGENE COGGIN, BSOE’02, a graduate of the San Antonio campus, who died on Aug. 19, 2009, at age 48. A native of Salisbury, S.C., Mark served in the U.S. Air Force from March 1983 to March 2003, when he retired with 20 years of service and the rank of Master Sergeant. He was stationed at various bases during his career. Survivors include his wife, Deana, sons Joshua and Jeremy, his mother, Nancy Coggin, a sister, Lynne Walters, and a brother, Gary Coggin. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

Mark Eugene Coggin

Sgt. First Class DARIUS DOWDY, BSOE’03, who graduated from the San Antonio campus, has retired from the U.S. Army after 20 years of service. A graduate of Brainerd High School in Tennessee, he entered the Army in 1989 and trained as a medical lab specialist. He served in the Fifth General Hospital in Stuttgart, Germany, then moved to Darnall Army Medical Center.
JENNY AHRHART EISENHAUER, BA'01, is a photographer and has a studio at her home. Her husband, Chris, is a chiropractor in Austin. They have two sons, James, 5, and Ivan, 15 months. (12218 Old Stage Trail, Austin, TX 78750; ds_hb@hotmail.com)

DOUGLAS FIFER, BSOE’04, a graduate of the Anchorage campus, was recently named to the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development’s Native American 40 Under 40. Fifer is a police officer in Anchorage since 1996 and has been the union representative for 10 years. He and his family have owned a WineStyles franchise for two years and organize many charity benefit events in the community. He was also named to Alaska’s Top 40 Under 40 by the city’s chamber of commerce. Fifer has been involved in many volunteer efforts, including serving on Cook Inlet Tribal Council’s Board. He and wife Kim have three children. All are involved in activities celebrating their Alaska Native heritage. (3077 Bay Loop, Anchorage, AK 99515)

PAUL HAMILTON, BA’05, MAM’07, was married to Amanda Leigh Cutbirth on July 25, 2009, in Abilene. Both Paul and Amanda recently earned their master’s degrees from Logsdon Seminary at Hardin-Simmons University. WBU alums among the wedding party were best man ERIC KAISER, BBA’07, and groomsmen TYLER KRAFT, BS’03, and TRAE SWEATT, BA’09.

JARED HARDY, BM’03, assistant choral director at Frenship High School in Wolfforth, west of Lubbock, and choral director of the combined boys choir of Frenship Middle School and Terra Vista Middle School, recently was featured in the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal. He is devoted to recruiting young men to become involved in choir. He started with seven middle schoolers four years ago and now has 122 students in the two schools. He and his high school teacher, Carl Brown, have increased the number of Frenship choir students in grades 6-12 from 228 to 635 in five years. “He’s a very charismatic person,” Brown said. “Kids relate to him very well.” Hardy adds: “What they learn through choir is confidence. They learn it is completely cool and fun to be in choir.” In his four years as a middle school choral director, Hardy’s choirs have won four sweepstakes. With the work of his wife, the former CARLA RENEE DOUGLAS, BA’02, and Miss Wayland 2000, who is head vocal coach at Frenship High School, the school has had 17 All-State Choir members, up from five the school had before they began working. (6315 35th Street, Lubbock, TX 79407; jarcarhar@yahoo.com)

DR. SCOTT HERRINGTON, professor of music and director of choral activities, and wife SARAH GREENWOOD HERRINGTON,
BM’00, welcomed John Mac Herrington on Aug. 18, 2009. He weighed 9 pounds, 2 ounces. He has a big brother, Jackson, 2. Sarah is an adjunct instructor of music, accompanist and director of Wayland Singing Women.
(herrins@wbu.edu)

GRANT JASPER, BA’08, is engaged to be married to Kori Mahoney on May 8, 2010. He is program director for YMCA Camp Crosley, located near Lake Tippecanoe in Indiana. Grant was a regular on the WBU Theatre stage while a student. (5600 Creekway Drive, Argyle, TX 76226; Fran@royalseal.com)

MEREDITH SAMUEL ‘BUDDY’ MERRICK, BSOE’86, a graduate of the Hawaii campus, received the Doctor of Divinity degree from Masters International School of Divinity in Evansville, Ind., on Aug. 1. He also received the Outstanding Graduate Award. (141 Highland Terrace Circle, Dennison, TX 75020-2677)

Navy Seaman SEAN W. McVEY, BA’06, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

JOSH MILNER, BS’04, and wife MELISSA (O’BRIEN), BSIS’04, live in Surprise, Arizona. The couple has two children, Ryann and Travis. Josh played baseball for Wayland before graduating and taking the position of assistant coach under Head Coach Brad Bass, noting that he was saved during his time at Wayland. Melissa was involved in many campus activities and was a Mary Kay consultant while in Plainview. (14514 W. Wendover Dr., Surprise, AZ 85374; josh.milner@hotmail.com)

Navy Lt. Cmdr. WILLIAM A. PALMER, MA’05, recently was promoted to his current rank while serving with Strike Fighter Wing Atlantic Fleet, Virginia Beach, Va.

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class ADRIAN PENA, BSOE’06, was selected as the Senior Sailor of the Quarter for the first quarter 2009 and received a Letter of Commendation while serving as a cryogenic technician assigned to Medical Treatment Facility, USNS Mercy (T-AH 19), San Diego, Calif.

CHANCE PERKINS, BSOE’06, and wife Chrissy have moved to Fort Worth, where he is attending Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Chance had served as youth minister at College Heights Baptist Church for three years under Rev. DON ROBERTSON, BA’68, and was working on the master’s degree at WBU. The Perkines moved in the summer to continue his education at Southwestern. Chrissy works for an insurance company. The couple have a son, Luke, 4. (4120 William Fleming Ct., Apt. D, Ft. Worth, TX 76115)

Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of ASHLEAH RICHARDS, EX’07, who died in an automobile accident on Oct. 11 near Hale Center at age 21. Richards, who played for one season for the Pioneer Volleyball team, had many friends on campus and stayed involved in many campus activities. She was a member of New Life Church in Plainview. Ashleah was raised in Portales, N.M., and graduated from Portales High School in 2006.

Survivors include her parents, Mark and Lorraine Richards, who moved to Plainview a few years ago; a brother, Dakota Richards; a sister and brother-in-law, Kasandra and Micah Howard of Plainview, and a niece, Demrie Jo Howard. A memorial service was held in Plainview and her funeral was held in Portales.

BECCA WHITTLE WILHITE, BA’00, and her husband James welcomed Robert Chord Wilhite on July 10. Becca, a former Flying Queen, is taking some time off from teaching and coaching at Estacado Junior High in Plainview. James is a painter for Harris Homes and Interiors.
(becwilhite@gmail.com)

REGGIE WINTERS, BSOE’01, a graduate of the San Antonio campus, was named city manager of Aransas Pass, Texas, starting the new position in October. Winters had served as city manager in Kenedy since April 2007, and previously he was an administrator in LaCoste for five years. He spent 20 years as an environmental and safety coordinator in San Antonio before the career change to city management.

survivors include two children and eight grandchildren.

CALLIE WHEELER, BA’07, married DANIEL BARGE, BA’09, on August 8, 2009, in McKinney, Texas. The couple is living in Florida. (2363 Nautical Way, Apt. 205, Winter Park, FL 32792)
LUBBOCK – Lubbock Impact seeks to heal the sick, cloth the naked and feed the hungry.

Recently, it took another significant step to that end, opening a medical clinic Aug. 5.

“Our desire is to meet people’s physical needs in the inner-city world so that they have to ask why we do this, and we can point to Jesus,” said Dan Reynolds, pastor of Family Church and director of Lubbock Impact. “As Christians, we are supposed to be ready to account for what we believe. This is what we’re doing.”

The community clinic held a dry-run July 29 to work out kinks in the system and train volunteers and medical staff on procedures. The organization’s future goal is to be open five days a week and provide a wide-range of services.

But until it accumulates enough funds and resources, the clinic will perform acute medical procedures Wednesdays at the same time the soup kitchen serves its weekly dinner.

“There will be a sign-up sheet and people will write their names and needs on the list,” Reynolds said. “We will then help as many people as we can.”

Lubbock Impact already feeds more than 250 people each week at Family Church and gives them a bag of groceries when they leave. Additionally, the ministry donates resources to the homeless and runs a free clothing closet. Through these ministries, volunteers have the opportunity to engage the community and share God’s love.

“Christ did not walk for 30 years on this earth pounding theologies,” Reynolds said. “He met people where they were by meeting their physical needs first, and then revealed who he was.”

Reynolds said his desire is to equip and train the community to emulate Jesus’ ministry on earth. The clinic is just part of this overall perspective.

The clinic will be run completely by a volunteer staff, including three licensed physicians. Depending on the health needs, Reynolds hopes each physician will help four people per hour. Many Texas Tech medical students and other professionals will perform services, and other volunteers will help with the check-in process.

The clinic also is partnered with Lubbock Ambulance so patients faced with emergency situations will receive free transportation to a hospital or clinic that can provide necessary procedures.

Kelly Bennett, who leads the clinic, believes the ministry will benefit the community and will affect volunteers.

“You can make medicine nothing more than the mechanisms of the body, or you can make it a spiritual mission,” she said. “It’s easy to be competent in a field, but it’s challenging to be courageous and caring with your talents and skills.”

John Silva, BGCT church starter who helped facilitate the launch of Family Church and the Lubbock Impact ministry said the organization, located on 34th street and Boston, has been a huge help in the community.

“This place really is Lubbock’s miracle on 34th Street.”

Dan Reynolds attended Wayland previously and his wife, Barbie, is a senior music major at WBU. She is the sister of Debbie Flournoy-Buford, director of vocal music education at Wayland and an ex of WBU herself.
New Miss Wayland hopes to make dramatic impact

By Teresa Young

Lesley Gatlin had to be absent the night contestants for the Miss Wayland pageant drew numbers for their spot in the lineup. She drew No. 13, the last spot in the pageant and, for many, an unlucky number.

Not for Gatlin, as she was named Miss Wayland 2010 at the 39th annual pageant.

Gatlin is probably most excited about the public platform the title gives her to share her passion for theatre, which is her major, and using it for ministry and mentoring. She said in the weeks leading up to the pageant, her ideas for building up community theatre and working with children and churches became more vivid, and she realized being Miss Wayland might open even more doors to seeing that dream come true.

“I started thinking about the responsibilities (of Miss Wayland), and I thought about all the things I want to do in life – theatre and missions and how I want to combine them – and I thought about how I could incorporate the title into this,” she said. “Once I started thinking about all that, I really wanted to (win it).”

Gatlin said she was approached by her theatre fraternity, Alpha Psi Omega, to represent them if she had interest in the pageant. She decided to enter the competition because she knew several of the other contestants and thought it would be more fun.

Her talent entry was a song called “If You Hadn’t, But You Did” from the Broadway show “Two on the Aisle,” and she enlisted the help of her boyfriend Thomas Hoffman, a 2009 theatre graduate of Wayland and veteran of the WBU stage himself, as a “prop.”

Gatlin said she felt pretty confident through the entire process, and after hearing the final question posed to the finalists – what one experience at Wayland will stay with you for the rest of your life – she felt better about her chances.

“I’m excited to get to perform more, because that’s my favorite thing to do,” she said. “Not only do I want to represent Wayland for the alumni and the donors that benefit us financially, I also want to inspire a whole generation of perhaps future Wayland students. I also want to encourage others to express themselves and not to be afraid to pursue that kind of life.”
WBU supporter reprints 1939 book on two Baptist pioneers

Sid Alford, a Petersburg cattleman and Wayland supporter, has compiled a well-illustrated book on two of his ancestors who were early-day Texas Baptist preachers. "Remembering Two Baptist Pioneer Preachers in Texas" chronicles the lives of his great-great-great-grandfather Issac Reed and his grandson, also named Issac Reed.

While doing research at the B.H. Carroll Library at Baylor University in 1992, Alford found a small 1939 book by Della Tyler Key about two early Texas Baptist preachers named Issac Reed.

Turns out, Ms. Key was Alford's cousin. He updates her material with numerous color photographs of monuments and churches related to the two ministers. Among those are scenes of North Baptist Church near Nacogdoches, which the elder Reed organized in 1838, and Bethel Baptist Church in Clayton, which he organized in 1843.

"While I was doing research I visited the family cemetery plot in the Old Bethel Church Cemetery, which is beside a building now being used by a black congregation. After they found out that I was a descendant of Issac Reed, they opened up and helped me with my research," he explained. That included being able to view Reed's handwritten will that is still on file at the old jail that has now been converted into a museum.

Alford writes that the elder Reed was born in South Carolina one month before the signing of the U.S. Declaration of Independence and ministered in western Tennessee for 25 years before moving to Texas. He was a licensed Baptist preacher from 1808 until he died in 1848. He is buried beside his wife and a son, named Issac Jr., who was shot and killed in an Indian attack in 1838.

The younger Reed, who began preaching in 1860 and was ordained in 1861, mostly pastored in Hico and Dublin. He was active in starting churches, organizing associations and encouraging mission and Sunday school endeavors.

Affectionately known as "The Old Irishman," the younger Reed normally carried a six-gun for protection and road horseback to his various preaching appointments. Often during church his gun and Bible would be laid side-by-side. He died in 1908 and is buried in the Old Dublin Cemetery.

The book is priced at $15 and is available at Hastings in both Plainview and Lubbock as well directly from Alford at P.O. Box 772, Petersburg, TX 79250.
My first Wayland tee

Lauren Davis, a senior from Red Oak who is a President’s Ambassador and the Student Body President, helps a kindergartener at San Jacinto Elementary in Amarillo into her new Wayland t-shirt during a classwide presentation recently. The school is a “No Excuses University” elementary, focusing children as young as kindergarten on aiming for college as an educational goal. Doug Curry, MEd’98, serves as principal of the school, and kindergarten teacher Lindsey King Kraft, BSIS’05, adopted Wayland as her classroom motif. Ambassadors delivered shirts for the class as well as pennants and posters to decorate their walls.

Stay in touch with Wayland!

The Association of Former Students of Wayland Baptist University

- Call us at 806.291.3600

- Contact us by e-mail at andrewsd@wbu.edu or susiev@wbu.edu for Class Notes, address changes, chapter information