

## **Fun in the summertime!**

Whenever I was growing up in Cresson, my mom would always be looking for fun, educational activities for us to do in the summer. Now, she insisted that we work, too! I learned during the Watergate hearings how to iron pillowcases and handkerchiefs while watching the hearings on our television. The pay was not so great, but it sure beat having to mow the yard which was my older brother's job!

Mom would drive us to Godley to take painting lessons. This was quite fun. We normally took piano lessons during the school year in Godley as well. Our teacher was Mrs. Vickers, who was the grandmother of Grady and Ed Randle. Mom did a lot of sitting and waiting. We didn't have a cell phone to play games on, but mom busied herself with crossword puzzles or hand work (this involved a needle and thread-not my forte!).

Our parents also sent us to Glen Lake Methodist Camp every summer. Donna Youngblood Mosher was my partner in crime, and I do recall Tommy Holmes attending as well. This was the hottest place on earth in the summer months. I often wondered why mom and dad has sent me to the camp. What had I done to deserve this? However, the fun and fellowship outweighed the heat. We swam daily and that was a big deal to us.

Speaking of swimming, we would also get to swim at Cresson's Pate Museum on occasion. Cresson's Diane Miles would invite us, and we were always a 'YES'! Many fun times with her kiddos spent swimming in what I recall was a huge pool. Wonder if it really was huge?

We begged to swim all the time. When we took a vacation, the first thing we did as kids, was to inspect the pool at the hotel. It was a critical factor in deciding upon a hotel. We hardly ever had reservations in advance mainly because of the pool factor. We did not have the internet to go and peruse the options and amenities.

In Granbury, we would go to the very large swimming pool at the City Park. I took swim lessons with Craig Meyer in the early part of the summer to ensure we could swim. The water was freezing as I recall, and our moms would faithfully sit through the lessons in observance. Again, lot of sitting! Thanks to all us moms that sit! Suzy Knight Tidwell's mom ran the pool. She was in charge, and she was tall as I remember making a statement to us little kids. The best part was after swimming, we could buy candy! We would be starving, and a treat was extra special.

I met with Jeff Thomas from the Hood County YMCA this week and I was so happy to learn that they have reached out to different elementary schools in GISD to offer free swim lessons! My tour included seeing all the folks working out, playing pickle ball, kids in the nursery, chair yoga to name a few. It was a packed house. We look forward to working with Jeff closer in Cresson to see what we could do for Cresson!

Also, met with Crystal Moore with the Hood County United Way. She's an energetic superstar who, too, asks, 'what can we do in Cresson'? It was refreshing to hear that question posed to me for our little city.

Summer is coming and the warm heat is already upon us. My hope is that it brings hours of fun in the sun (wear your sunscreen and hats) and that it's a super safe time when you are out and about in our pools and on Lake Granbury. And, lastly, I'd be remiss if I didn't share that the Methodist camp now has air-conditioning in the cabins!

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