



# Gatica Pipeline

## Dolly

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Living in Mexico, there are days and even weeks that go by when I don't read a newspaper or listen to the news. There are a few times that I click on some headlines on the web. "**Dolly**" happened to be one of them. I keep forgetting that "south Texas" means "Reynosa, MX" as well, when it comes to weather. I will begin to pay more attention to the news. Thursday afternoon I told Jorge he probably should tie down or dismantle some of his contraptions he had up on the lot. Late

Thursday afternoon and evening, we were glad he did. Dolly came and went. We are thankful for many things. We give thanks for an 8" cement block wall that surrounds our property. This not only shelters us but two neighbors on our left and back. We give thanks that the hurricane did not do all that was predicted. We had high winds and rain but for the most part roofs stayed in tact. MUD is everywhere but that isn't unique to Dolly. We have MUD with any of our rains. Several trees



were uprooted and electric was out in certain parts of the city. Areas south and north of us were hit hard. Water in some areas was waist high. We give thanks for those of you who prayed for our safety.

### Tidbits:

Gasoline prices:

McAllen, TX \$3.36 gal

Reynosa, MX \$2.86 gal

Peso = 9.95



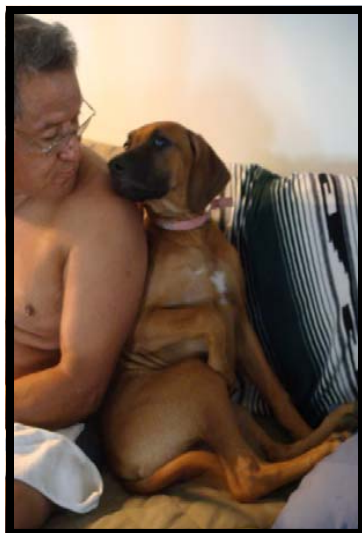
## Alondra Berman Cardenas

Alondra entered the world a few weeks premature. When Cely went for her checkup, the doctor realized that Alondra's breathing was somewhat labored so they decided to take her C-section that afternoon. The umbilical cord was causing problems. She was placed in an

incubator and remained a few extra days in the hospital after Cely was released but is home now and doing well...a bundle of Joy!

Jorge and I were honored to be named her "Godparents". Alondra was dedicated on Aug. 24th, 2008 at the Methodist Church here in Reynosa.





## Tinashe

Not too spoiled!  
The photo to the left shows Tinashe seeking refuge after I found three pair of Jorge's undies chewed to shreds. She thinks she is hiding but keeps one eye on me to see what I will do. She is so darn cute...all you have to do is buy more underwear I guess.

Sammy, our yellow lab, tries very hard to avoid her. Tinashe loves to play and now that she is almost the same size

as Sammy, it is becoming more difficult to come out on top. Tinashe will run right by him and then come back and nip him. He just rolls his eyes and growls but that doesn't mean anything in Miss Tinashe's language. She loves being Queen of the house.



She definitely is one BIG Pup.

### Our Gratitude Box

We are grateful for...

- a chance to serve
- our monthly supporters
- those who pray for us
- a busy but restful summer
- library books in Spanish
- Tinashe and joy she brings
- our family as it grows both north and south of the border
- a good start to the 2008-2009 school year and our 9th year in Mexico
- cooler weather on the way
- family and friends coming before the end of the year.

## Orlando-a chance to reconnect



My cousin Dan, his wife, Karen and daughter, Megan and Aunt Ruthie

I took the last of our vouchers we received last summer on our trip back from Guatemala and decided to fly in to Orlando to visit with my Aunt Ruthie. I told her that I just wanted to "chill". We got caught

up on some family history and had some good laughs.

While there, I was able to reconnect with my cousin, Dan, whom I hadn't seen since 1963. It was great fun bring-

ing things up to date with he and his family.

We took a day and drove up to Inverness, Florida where my Aunt Lida lives. While there, I was able to connect with another cousin, Linda and her husband, whom I hadn't seen in years either. On my way back home, American Airlines asked five to give up seats, so I did. The other four were able to get on but I spent the night in Dallas and got a voucher for \$300.00. Who knows where it will take me next summer!



Aunt Ruthie, my cousin, Linda and her husband, Aldo and Aunt Lida

## Truck Fund Update

In our last Pipeline, our Board of Directors sought help to purchase a new or used 4 x 4 truck for Lifting Burdens to replace the two 4 x 4's we have now that are costing us way too much to keep running. So far our "Truck Fund" has received \$ 340.00. I don't think we will be buying a truck soon.

## Community Outreach

Lifting Burdens, Inc. has been able to purchase over \$1,500 worth of library books in Spanish for the students attending Regents School. Regents School was built for educating the children who stay at the Big Heart Children's Home here in Reynosa, MX. It presently contains a 1st-9th grade program. There are three Mexican teachers, one Mexican director, and one American teacher. Jorge volunteers to teach the high school Art class

once a week. This year we were able to add Music and Art to the curriculum as well as begin to build a nice library for the students. A big thank you goes out to Debbie Cooney, TN, Sue Garton, PA, who donated in memory of her husband, Bill, and to the children of Kids Zone at River Hills Community Church in SC. Through your donations over 160 books have been added to the shelves at Regents School.

You truly have been a blessing. Thank you.



## Sixth Grade Graduation at Nueva Amanecer

Jorge and I were the guest of honor at the first sixth grade graduation to be held at the new elementary school in Nueva Amanecer. This was the school that two of our Summer Mission teams built last summer. Jorge got to pass out diplomas while I took pictures. The ceremony was followed by TAMALES!!!



## Little Flock Tidbits...

I have spent much of my summer gathering school supplies for our kids. I pretty much cleared out our shelves since we haven't had many donations this year. We are being a little more careful with the donations this year. Last year we gave everything on the list to each child. When we went

in to feed them breakfast, the teachers said that the students were telling them they didn't get this or that. We had a list where they had each signed stating that they did receive supplies. When we investigated closer, we found out that many of the parents had sold their supplies. They assumed

we would continue to give when there was a need. We have since "stocked" the classroom rather than give to the individual student. It works a whole lot better and the supplies are always there when the teacher needs them. There is a lot of truth to the statement: "you learn by doing".

*"When we settle for good, we often lose sight of better and best."*

## *Little Flock tidbits... (con't)*



Meet Dulce Elizabeth. She prefers to be called Elizabeth. Elizabeth, along with 4 brothers were taken away from their parents about a month ago. Family members have taken the older brother who is 18, the smaller two who are infant and toddlers. Pastor Raul and Socorro have

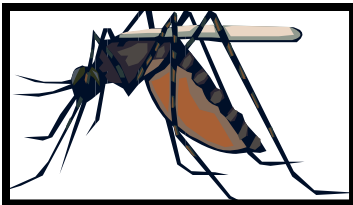
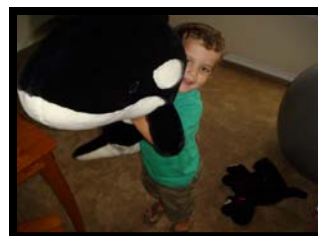
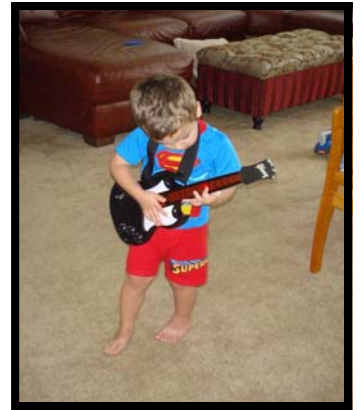
taken in Elizabeth and are now responsible for her 13 year old brother, Israel. Their mother is Pastor Raul's youngest sister. The oldest two children she had with a close cousin. The other three have two different dads. About a year or two ago she hooked up with a drug addict. Just recently they both became involved in drug trafficking so their children were removed from their home and they were sent to prison. Pastor Raul is struggling to keep his family afloat. He has asked us for help with the children's education so that he can provide food for their table. As it is, he has been working at the factory trying to make ends meet. Please pray as they struggle with a whole new life-style and challenges.

Helen and Lucy are former Lifting Burdens cooks. I usually try to visit with them 3-4 times a year. One of those times is always right before school starts. We provide their children with school supplies so that they are ready to go. Lupita and Yara are now in Jr. High and Heidi, Joaquin, and Alan are in elementary school. Our next visit will be around Christmas.



## *Jonny, Jr.*

Jonny, Jr. is now two years, seven months old. We finally were able to make it up to San Antonio for a few days the end of August. We hadn't seen him or the family since the middle of May so there were many surprises. HE IS TALKING! I am "Mam Ma" and Jorge is "Paw Paw". He loves to play the guitar. He has the finger movement, the strumming, the body moves and the booty swings to go with it. He definitely LOVES music. His favorite DVD has changed (finally) from Mickey Mouse to Ice Age. He wants nothing to do with the potty-"Potty all gone, Mam Ma." All in Jonny's good time!



## *Memorial All-Purpose Building Update*

Progress is being made despite the high temps and our friendly batch of "skeeters". Since we have had so much rain recently the mosquitoes have multiplied out of control...and as they say here in TX, "Everything is BIG in Texas". We will soon need a blood transfusion if they don't soon die or move on. We have had a good two weeks that we have had to stay indoors due to the amount of mosquitoes flying around. They have sprayed across the border in McAllen, TX but the chance of them spraying here in Reynosa is pretty much nil.

We are also finally experiencing double digits temps rather than the three digits that have pretty much been our summer.



Jorge making his way up the last wall.