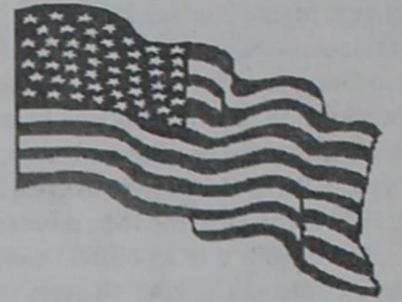


# Gorman Progress



2001 Member  
Texas Press Association

"Serving Gorman For Over 101 Years"  
Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454

NUMBER FIFTY

DECEMBER 27, 2001

# Happy New Year!!!



*Happy New Year from  
Joe - Lonnie and Marilyn  
and the Correspondents - Zelda, Vonnie and Nancy*

Deadline for getting news in the Progress is Dec. 28 at noon for Jan. 3rd issue. Sorry for the inconvenience. This is so we can meet our printing schedules.

New Hope Baptist Church New Year's Eve Singing, December 31st at 8:00 p.m. until midnight. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy singing in the New Year.

## Construction Continuing On New Texaco Station



## ITEMS OF INTEREST TO AREA FOLKS

**LIBRARY** — Charlie Garrett Memorial Library will be open Monday thru Friday from 3 to 5 p.m.

**4-H** - Meets Second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

**BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS** — Blood Pressure Checks by Heritage Manor of Gorman. Every week at Senior Citizens at 11:00 a.m. Other week at Gorman Hotel at 10:30 a.m.

**GORMAN GROW MEETING** — The Gorman Grow will meet on the Third Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Gorman Senior Citizen Building. Contact Payton Vaughn, Veronica Seaton or Lori Dodd.

Gorman Primitive Baptist Church has Services Every Sundays. Services begin at 10:30 a.m. Bro. Mark Waltenbarger - 1st Sunday; Elder Mike Webb, Pastor - All Other Sundays - Everyone Welcome To Attend.

The Order of the Eastern Star holds its regular stated meetings on the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. - Nell Ragland, Worthy Matron and Elwood Ragland, Worthy Patron.

**FOOD PANTRY**  
Second Thursday of Each Month

Gorman Oaklawn Cemetery Association is accepting donations for the Care of the Cemetery. If you would like to make a donation in memory of or In Honor of someone, please send to Rt. 3 Box 121A, or American State Bank, Gorman, Texas 76454.

Gorman Masonic Lodge No. 716 A.F. & A.M. Regular stated meetings are 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Members are urged to attend. Visitors are always welcome. Larry Majors, Worshipful Master — Pat Moseley, Secretary.

**SANDRA CAGLE WILL BE IN GORMAN THE THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT THE CITY OFFICE TO RENEW AUTO LICENSE PLATES. HER NEXT VISIT WILL BE DECEMBER 19TH FROM 9 - 12 NOON.**

Happy New Year!!!

### James Griffin Laid to Rest

James A. Griffin, age 90, passed away Tuesday, December 18, 2001 in Heritage Manor Nursing Home. Graveside services were Friday, December 21, 2001 at the Oaklawn Cemetery in Gorman with Rev. Bill Campbell officiating. Services were under the direction of Higginbotham Funeral Home.

Mr. Griffin was born September 14, 1911 in Gorman to Ivan Griffin and Maudie Parks Griffin. He married Frances Louise Andress on January 3, 1934 in Stephenville. She preceded him in death on November 29, 2001. Mr. Griffin was an oilfield compressor mechanic, retiring from Phillips Petroleum Co. after 40 years of service. He lived in Borger for 40 years before moving to Gorman in 1984. He was a Baptist.

He is survived by three sons, James L. Griffin of Columbus, MS, Mike Griffin of Flower Mound and James L. Griffin, Jr. of Fort Worth; one brother, Bill Griffin of Midland; one sister, Hazel Smith of Midland and two grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents.

### Agnes M. Rogers Passes Away

Agnes M. Rogers, 79, of Boise, Idaho, passed away December 18, 2001, of Alzheimer's Disease, at a local care center.

Agnes was born December 19, 1921, to the late Thomas and Wanda Grisham. She was the second of seven children raised in the Gorman area. Agnes married Raymond E. Rogers on June 8, 1940, and together they had three children. She was a seamstress for the public for many years and a caregiver to many of the elderly.

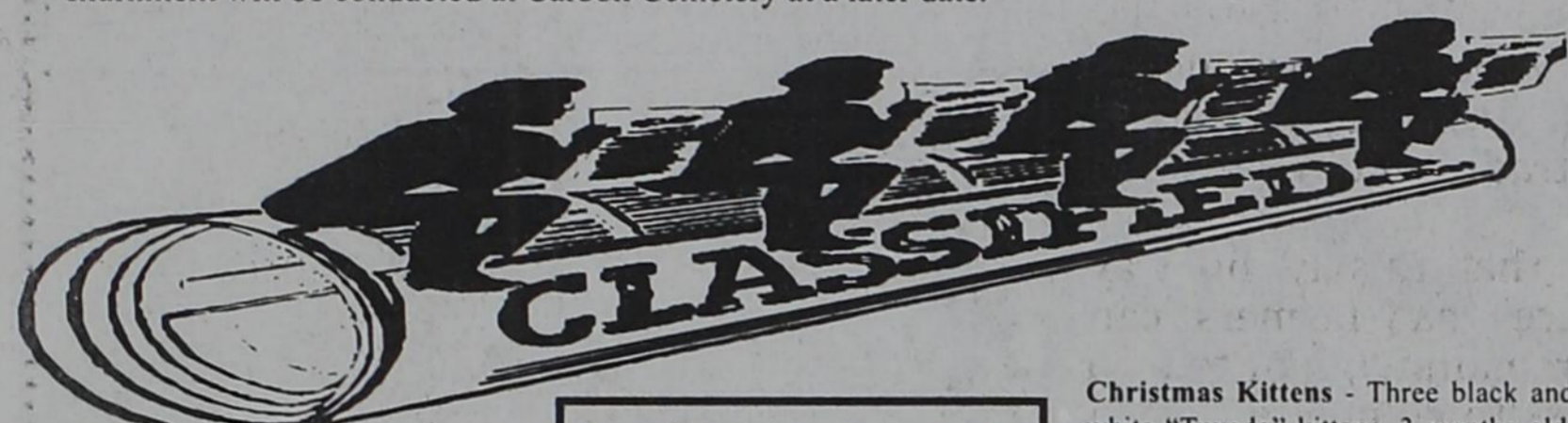
She was preceded in death by her husband; parents; four brothers, Thomas Franklin, Ronald Eugene, Melvin Leon, Marian Edward; and a sister, Mary Ann.

Agnes is survived by her children; Rae June (Larry) Moller of Vancouver, WA; Wanda Jean (Larry) Whipple of Boise, ID; and Douglas Grady (Susie) Rogers of Carson City, NV; two brother, Kenneth Phil and Billy Dean; six grandchildren; and seven great grandchildren.

Inurnment will be conducted at Carbon Cemetery at a later date.



Kennon Hornback, 12, killed this 8-point deer at 80 yards with a .243 bolt action Savage rifle using a Simmons 3 X 9 scope on Thanksgiving morning. Kennon loves to fish and hunt. He is in the 6th grade at the Gorman School. His parents are Lee and Sonja Hornback of Desdemona.



Comanche County Texas WWII Veterans Book Before Memories Fade © 2001 \$27.30. Alfred Evans 550 CR 138, Comanche, TX 76442. 2-12-27-P

**For Sale:** Frame house, 3 BR, 2 BA, living room, den, & kitchen on 1 1/2 lots. CH/AC, total electric, storm windows. 303 W. Hall. Call 254/629-3540 after 5 p.m. 8-12-27-C

**FOR SALE:**  
1999 Chevrolet Pickup  
1/2 Ton - Black - Single Cab  
Short Bed - 67,000 Miles  
Excellent Condition -- \$14,000  
Call Tom - (d) 254-968-6969  
(n) 254-965-4089

**ATTENTION ALL LEADERS!**  
Richeson Dairy Queens need YOU.  
The DQ of Cross Plains is looking for an Assistant manager who wants to work in a fast paced, high volume store. Good pay, non-smoking working environment, and unlimited potential. Call Dallas at 512/413-7037 or fax resume to 830/997-3835. Ophelia is expecting you!  
DQ SOMETHING DIFFERENT!  
4-12-20-C

**NITA DANSBY**  
REAL ESTATE COMPANY  
Commercial Residential  
Farm  
Ranch  
108 S. Texas - De Leon, Tx 76444  
254-893-6441

**PRICED Below Appraisal!** 5-3-2, 2 Story Brick on 4.48 A., m/1. Highway 8 East of Desdemona. Total Electric + WBFP in large den; large MB & Bath with Jacuzzi & walk-in shower! All this & much more! ~~\$105,000~~ \$99,950.  
**70+ ACRES - New On Market!** North of Desdemona; 2 ponds; native pasture & trees! Scenic view (great home location); run a few cows! \$975 per A.  
**218 ACRES, m/1 - FM Frontage;** 8 ponds; 1 lake; corrals, good fences! Owner states "Great Hunting!" \$800 per A.  
Please Call For Other Offerings!

**COGBURN REALTY**  
893-6666 DE LEON, TX  
www.cogburnrealestate.com  
**NEW LISTING:** 2-1-1 frame, some new floors, ceiling fans, outbuildings, storm cellar, shade trees. ~~\$25,000.00~~ \$22,000.00  
**NEW LISTING:** 3-2-1 frame, 1500' liv. area, 1 1/2 baths, large back yard, home is well kept, nice street. \$35,000.00  
**NEW LISTING:** 2.72 A., 3-1 frame, recent remodeling, numerous outbuildings, lots of shade trees, coastal, close to town. \$35,000.00  
**NEW LISTING:** 30.48 acres between De Leon and Gorman, app. 10 a coastal, 1 stock pond, some cultivated, small amount timbered. \$1,150 acre.  
**NEW LISTING:** 45 A. near Gorman, 3 year old 4-3-2 mfg home w/ 2240 sf, large covered patio, barn, large oaks, 2 wells, coastal, good fences, beautiful property! \$165,000  
76 A near Duster, heavily timbered, good deer & turkey hunting, one stock pond, CR frontage, good fences. \$900.00 acre  
**NEW LISTING:** 142A. app. 120 wooded, 20 A. field, great deer/turkey hunting, CR frontage. Reduced \$875 A. Owner Finance Possible.  
**NEW LISTING:** 156 A., western Comanche County, wooded/brushy, 3 ponds, (1 large), water well, 2-1 cabin, recent fencing, great deer/turkey hunting Reduced \$895.00 acre. "MAKE OFFER"  
We NEED Your Listings. The market is Good. Call Us.

**SELLING**  
**GORMAN - DE LEON**  
**AREAS OVER 40 YEARS**

**Christmas Kittens** - Three black and white "Tuxedo" kittens, 3 months old. Free for loving adoption. Boswells, 734-2631. 1-12-27-C

**ATTENTION ALL LEADERS!!!** Outstanding job opportunity for the right person. **DeLeon Dairy Queen** now looking for an individual who has loads of charisma, and the drive to take this store to a new level of Richeson excellence. **Manager** wanted, with a good personality to work in a non-smoking, friendly environment, you can't go wrong. Call wade at 940/328-3804 or fax resume to 254/965-4851.  
DQ SOMETHING DIFFERENT  
4-1-10-C

**ELDERLY HOUSING Available** at Hotel Apartments. Contact Brenda at Housing Authority or Call 254-734-2400. 4-6-FNC.

**GENERAL DIRT WORK:** Dump Truck, Sand Rock, Top Soil. Call Jerry Solomon - 254-893-2448. 2-8-FNC

**House for Sale:** 415 Coke St. 2BR, 2BA; carport, CA/H, nice inside utility room, outside storage bldg. \$19,500. Contact 734-3637 or 734-3773. FNC

**BUYING**  
Junk Cars and Pickups  
DeLeon Auto Supply  
254/893-6776  
FNC

*Happy New Year*  
To All Our  
Friends and Loved Ones  
*Lonnie Bennett - Debra Miertschin  
and Chance  
Lone Star Lanes  
Tony and Donna Williams  
Tommy and Sharon Henderson*

**The Ultimate Gift:**

**The Babe of the Manger**

**Shed His Blood On the Cross**

**First Fruits Christian Fellowship**  
Across from football field in Gorman  
**10:30 AM Sundays**  
Casual dress. *A place of new beginnings.*

**Riley Gardner Memorial Represented By**  
**JONELL TORREZ** - 254-734-2535  
Our Memorial Display Is Now Located Behind Higginbotham's Funeral Home. We Guarantee You Can Buy The FINEST QUALITY Memorial At The LOWEST PRICE. All Work Guaranteed.

## Do We Have Your Recipes Yet?

Gorman GROW is still collecting recipes for the community cookbook project to commemorate Gorman's Centennial in May of 2002. We would love to have your favorite recipes. Just type or print your recipes on an 8" x 11" sheet of paper and send them to: Melissa Osborne, Gorman GROW Cookbook Project, Route 1 Box 231, Gorman, Texas 76454. Recipes can also be emailed to gormangrow@hotmail.com.

We anticipate a great demand for these cookbooks. If you would like, we can reserve a cookbook in your name for a \$5 deposit.



**HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
*Here's hoping the brightest New Year awaits you and your family.  
Best wishes and thanks.*

**A. O. Easley Trucks**  
Phone 254-734-2673 Gorman, Texas

**A HAPPY HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**City of Gorman**  
City Council and Employees

## Business Directory

**Ken's Motorcycle Shop**  
Ken Chapman, Owner  
254-629-2382  
East Main - Eastland, Tx  
Polaris Watercraft & ATU's

**GRANDPA'S TOOL SHED RENTAL**  
254-629-3363 - Located Next Door To Ken's Cycle  
East Main in Eastland

**CUSTOM HOME BUILDERS**  
SINCE 1980  
Let Us Build Your New Home or Room Addition  
*If You Can Dream It, We Can Build It!!*  
**T. J. Clark Construction Co., Inc.**  
(254) 734-2755  
P. O. Box 176 -- 111 E. Roberts St. -- Gorman, Texas 76454  
General Building Contractors - All Work Guaranteed  
Custom Homes - Remodeling - Commercial - Industrial - Farm  
Financing - Free Estimates - Design, Engineering & Plan Services

**THE GORMAN PROGRESS**  
P. O. Box 68  
Gorman, Texas 76454  
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**DISPLAY AD RATE**  
\$3.00 Per NAA COL. INCH  
NATIONAL AD RATE  
\$3.75 Per NAA COL. INCH  
Advertising Line Rate - .2678  
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Additional 50 cents for Borders, Wedding Announcements - \$5.00 / \$10 with Picture - Weddings - \$10.00 Minimum.  
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POSTMASTER: Please Send Change of Address To: GORMAN PROGRESS, P. O. Box 68, Gorman, Texas 76454-0068

# Happy New Year

**Higginbotham Funeral Home**

254-734-2272

Gorman, Tx

## Gorman ISD Tax Office Closed for Holidays

The Gorman ISD Tax office will be closed for the Christmas holidays Dec. 22, 2001 through Jan 1, 2002.

Please mail payment to P.O. Box 8, Gorman, Texas 76454.

All payments postmarked December will be processed as a 2001 payment.

Thank you have a happy holiday

## Statement by Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman

December 19, 2001

"The Senate today appears to have ended debate for the year on a farm bill. The Administration had hoped that a bipartisan consensus bill would be developed, as all Senate farm bills of the past have been. However the process has yet to produce a bipartisan bill that provides a strong and certain safety net for producers, strengthens conservation and rural development programs, is pro-trade, and meets the budget targets.

"We want to reaffirm that this in no way jeopardizes the assistance that farmers can expect next year. We remain committed to working with the Congress to complete a farm bill quickly and expect this can be accomplished soon after the Congress returns. We must work together to complete a farm bill that is fair, responsible and helps a broader range of farmers and ranchers.

"This year, our farmers have faced many challenges. Natural disasters, drought, low commodity prices, and global surpluses have hurt producers. We have been there when they needed our help. Together, we worked with the Congress to provide \$5.5 billion in supplemental assistance. And, we will be there in the future.

"There is now a new opportunity to come together to develop a truly bipartisan farm bill that provides adequate funding and producer certainty. The Administration will continue to work with Congress to achieve this important goal."

## Bradberry Builders Supply

- Metal Building Producers -

C-Purlin	Metal Studs
I-Beam	Painted Sheet Metal
Square Tubing	Culverts

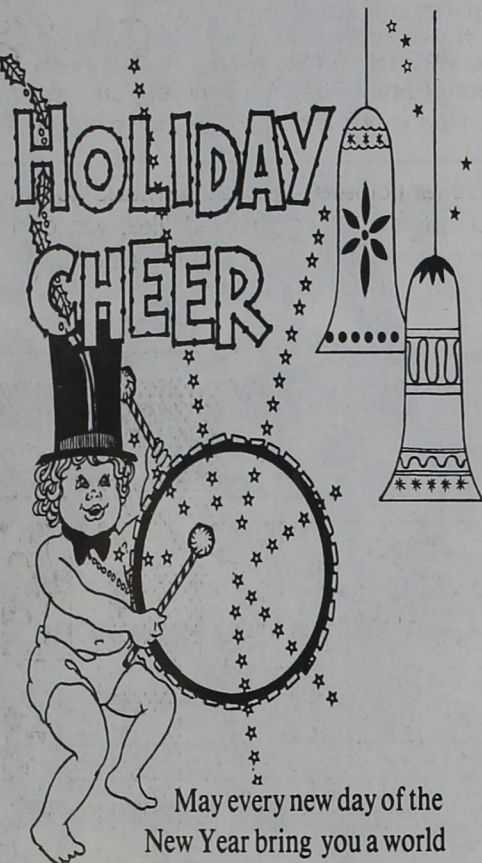
We Are A Complete Metal Building Supply Company

"We Want Gorman Business and We Will Work For It"

- All Steel Framed Homes - Barns  
- U-Store It Buildings & Much More  
Call Today

254-445-4030

Dublin, Tx



May every new day of the New Year bring you a world of sunshine.

### Gorman Pharmacy

Phone 254-734-2859

117 S. Kent

Gorman, Tx

### Gorman Video - 734-3810



Have a full measure of health and happiness this New Year. We thank all our patrons.

### Hwy. 6 Cafe

Phone 254-893-7766

De Leon, Texas



### Cook Insurance Agency

Phone 254-893-2466

De Leon, Texas

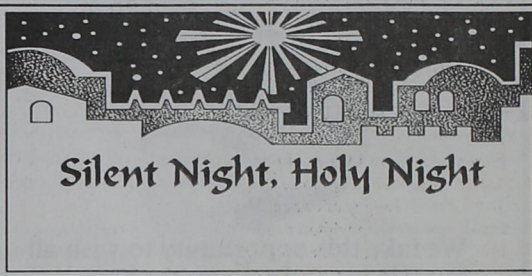
### Sleep Well, Do Well

For kids to do their best in school or at play, they should get at least nine hours of sleep every night. **Kids can be Star Sleepers like Garfield.** Visit <http://starsleep.nhlbi.nih.gov> for sleep tips and fun activities.



NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH  
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute  
Public Health Service  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

**Internet TOXL**  
Starting at \$9.95 for 20 Hours per month to \$23.50 for Unlimited "Not Dedicated". Set-up Fees from \$25 to \$40 Get the Best, for little more than the rest! Come by the Gorman Progress to see the internet in operation. See Jake or call 254-734-2411.



Silent Night, Holy Night



## JOY TO ALL

May the warmth of friendships and contentment be with you every day of the New Year.

### G & H Feeds

254-734-2501

Gorman, Texas

## BAYER MOTOR CO. INC.

DUBLIN • TEXAS

(254) 445-4807 • 1-800-859-9205

1 MILE NORTH OF DUBLIN ON HIGHWAY 377

### CARS

'00 Pontiac Grand Am	Loaded, 2 dr., 10K, warranty	\$12,000
'00 Ford Mustang	Leather, Loaded, 25K, warranty	\$14,000
'99 Honda Accord	Loaded, 2 dr., auto, 51K	\$13,000
'99 Pontiac Grand Am	4-Dr., Loaded, 37K, warranty	\$10,500
'97 Chevy Camaro	Auto, V6, only 61K	\$10,500
'94 Chevy Cavalier	Auto, 4 dr., only 62K	\$ 4,500
'93 Chevy Caprice Classic	Loaded, V8, only 60K	\$ 6,500

### TRUCKS

'01 Chevy 1/2 ton X-Cab	V8, loaded, 9K, warranty	\$19,950
'01 Dodge 1/2 ton Reg. Cab	Loaded, V8, 13K warranty	\$15,500
'00 Ford 1 ton X-Cab	Diesel, loaded 6 spd., 41K	\$23,500
'99 Chevy Suburban LT	Leather, loaded, 60K	\$19,950
'99 Chevy 1/2 ton X-Cab	Loaded, V8, 45K	\$17,000
'98 Chevy 1/2 ton X-Cab	Auto, 350, loaded, 76K	\$14,500
'97 Ford 1 ton Crew Cab	Diesel, loaded, 5 spd., 63K	\$18,000
'97 Chevy S-10 Blazer	Loaded, 4-dr., only 71K	\$10,500
'93 Chevy 3/4 Ton X-Cab	Auto, 350, loaded, 57K	\$ 9,950
'91 Ford 1/2 Ton X-Cab	Loaded, auto, V8	\$ 5,500

We have financing for challenged credit.

254-968-0440

Stephenville

## Lone Star Lanes

"Take The Family Out For A Night of Bowling"

Birthday Parties and Church Lock-Ins Available  
Acquire Entire Bowling Center For Private Parties  
Friday and Saturday Night Specials  
- Pro Shop On Site -

Plan Your Christmas Party With Us

We Teach Bowling

Lingleville Hwy.

**Houston Mailing Address  
For Allen and Dena Scitern**

Anyone wishing to correspond with Allen and Dena Scitern while Allen is having treatments in Houston may write to them at the following address:  
4202 Del Bello Rd.  
Manvel, Tex. 77578

**Together Against Drug Abuse Kicks Off**

Together Against Drug Abuse kicks off Friday, January 4, 2002 at 2:30 p.m. at the High School Auditorium. Together

Against Drug Abuse is a Masonic program to help young students make correct choices when confronted with the temptation to use alcohol, tobacco, prescription or hard drugs. With the help from teachers, parents, law-enforcement officers, local and state community leaders, local masons and Masonic lodges, and the local business community. We can help them fight a problem they cannot fight alone.

The program brings leaders from the business community, local law-enforcement officers, local and state leaders and masons together in their communities to help their children, grandchildren and children in their community to give them insight to what happens to them if they make bad choices now and in the future when confronted with the use of these drugs.

The program is designed for students in the fifth grade. Our program is designed to be presented to the students by

a uniformed law-enforcement officer in their school and their room. The officer will present the program every week starting the fourth day of January 2002 until the first or second week of May. The instructor's manual has enough material to make about fifteen sessions in the classroom. The lessons are assisted by work problems in the manual and videotapes. Each student will receive his/her own T-shirt with the logo on the front to wear to class the day the officer presents the program. Upon completion, each student will receive a certification with his/her name. The certificate is nice enough to frame and keep and is signed by the officer teaching the class and the school principal.

The Gorman Masonic Lodge would like to thank the following sponsors for their support. Sponsors were: Ron's Pump Service, Gorman Progress, Gorman Milling, G & H Feeds, Bob's Grocery, Seaton Mills, Inc., Z.J.'s Restaurant, Birdsong Peanuts, Smith's Service Station, Gorman Pharmacy, Gorman Masonic Lodge #716, Marvin and Louise Rich, Con-Spec Roofing, City Grocery, American State Bank, Comanche County Telephone Co., Hagood Electric, A.O. Easley Trucks, Foster Floral, Hwy. 6 Cafe, Gorman Chevron, Clark Construction, A.E. Smith Peanut Dryers, Larry and Jerry Majors.

**New Date for 2002 Peanut Festival Tentatively Set**

The Gorman Peanut Festival Committee has tentatively set Oct. 12 as the new date for the 2002 Peanut Festival. This will be the 2nd Sat. in Oct.

In the past the West Texas Fair Parade in Abilene was held the same day as the Peanut Festival and most of the area towns have taken their floats to Abilene. The committee hopes with the changing of our Peanut Festival we will have more out of town entries in the parade, both spaces and attendance.

If you know of another local event happening on this date please let the Peanut Festival committee know so that a definite date can be set.

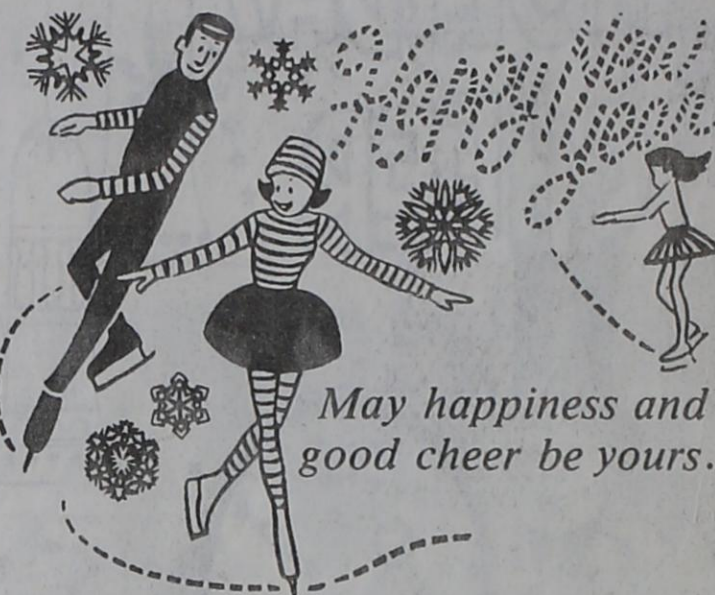
**HAPPY  
New Year**



We take this opportunity to wish all our friends and patrons the best.

**Ken's Cycle**

Located Next to Grandpaw's Tool Shed Rental  
Eastland, Texas -- Phone 254-629-2382



May happiness and good cheer be yours.

**Comanche Co. Telephone Co.**

Phone 254-893-2003  
De Leon, Texas



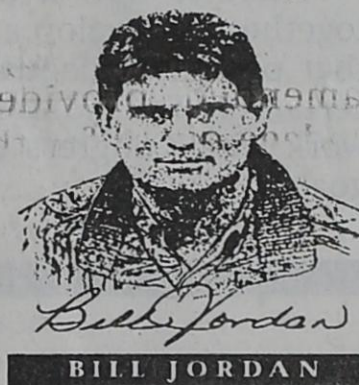
Ring in this brand new, wonderful year with good friends.



**Birdsong Peanuts**

Shellers and Crushers of Peanuts  
254-734-2266 P. O. Box 698  
Gorman, Texas 76454

**ADVANTAGE tips**



**The Secondary Rut**

If you are fortunate enough to live where the deer season extends into December or January, you can take advantage of the secondary rut. All adult does and some yearlings that were not impregnated during the primary rutting period come into heat again some 28 days later. This revival of rutting activity may pull some wary, old "survivor" bucks out of hiding.

But they won't come out far. Remember, these are the survivors, the ones that took your best shot about a month ago and won.

Secondary rut sign is subtle. Suddenly, a few old scrapes are freshened up or a few new ones are made. Just as suddenly, a few fresh rubs show up where you haven't noticed them before. The bucks are on the prowl but are keeping a low profile.

The usual rut strategies, involving grunting, rattling and sex scents, are useful but should be used with equal subtlety. Keep your strategy low-key in the second half of the secondary rut.



**Happy New Year**

To all our friends, both old and new, we say "Thank You" and have a happy holiday.

**Seaton Mills, Inc.**

Phone 254-734-2566  
Gorman, Texas



**HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
We're sending you our best wishes for a very happy holiday. Thanks.

**Miears Butane**

254-734-2517 Gorman, Texas



Best New Year wishes and heartfelt thanks for your patronage.

**Foster Floral**

Gene and Carolyn Foster  
Phone 254-734-2519  
Gorman, Texas



**new year Blessings**

To you and yours we wish happiness and prosperity.

We will be closed on Dec. 31st and January 1st for Holidays.

**Burnett - Nowlin, C.P.A.s**

254-893-6060 254-893-6248  
516 N. Texas Street  
De Leon, Texas 76444

# Gorman NHS Students Help Distribute Gifts

# News From Gorman 4-H Club

# Exit TAAS Tests To Be Taken February 19-21



The Gorman 4-H Club met Thursday December 13 at a special time in order to bake cookies for the residents of Heritage Manor. Those members participating were: Tasha Ritter, Carrie Shipps, Sarah Flores, Kaci Seaton, and Kristina Everton.

We want to thank Amy Wood for all the preparations for the cookie baking.

The 4-H members also sponsored the gift tree at American State Bank. We want to thank everyone who took a nametag and brought a gift for that resident of The Home.

The drawing for the club fundraiser was also held. The lucky winner was TJ Jay. To everyone who purchased tickets, we want to thank you for your support and we appreciate it very much. The money raised will go toward supplies for community service projects.

Other business taken care of at the meeting was the election of an alternate council delegate to represent Gorman on the Eastland County 4-H Council. The new delegate is Sarah Flores. Others from Gorman already on the Council are Tasha Ritter, president of the Gorman 4-H Club, and Carrie Shipps.

We all wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The TAAS tests will be offered this February at Gorman High School to those students who need a passing score in one or more parts of the test. By current state law, students must pass all sections of the test in order to receive a high school diploma.

Anyone in the community who has completed all graduation requirements except for passing the TAAS may take these tests to try to earn a high school diploma. A person only has to take that portion of the test that he or she did not pass in high school. Individuals who are no longer enrolled in a Texas public school and who wish to retake a portion of the TAAS may pick up a registration packet at any high school campus. At Gorman High School registration forms are in the Counselor's office. Registration forms may also be completed online by accessing the web site at <http://k12testing.tx.ncspearson.com/oos>.

Forms must be completed and are to be received in Iowa City, Iowa, no later than January 18, 2002. Students who are currently enrolled in Gorman High School do not need to register for this test.

Persons who have not finished high school and who are interested in obtaining their diplomas, must fulfill the requirements for graduation that were in effect when their class graduated. Therefore, if the TAAS was not required for a person's class, it would not be required today. Texas Tech also has a correspondence program enabling a person to receive a high school diploma through correspondence courses. GED tests are offered monthly at Ranger College and Cisco Junior College.

For more information in any of these areas contact Linda Glover, Gorman High School Counselor.



# USDA Announces 2002-Crop Peanut National Poundage Quota

The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced a national poundage quota for peanuts for the 2002 marketing year of 1,180,000 short tons, (2,360,000 billion pounds) unchanged from the 2001 level.

James Little, Administrator of USDA's Farm Service Agency, said this level has been determined to be the quota level which will provide peanuts for domestic use in accordance with the statutory formula for establishing the quota. The announcement of the final national poundage quota must be made by December 15, 2001 for the 2002 marketing year, which begins August 1, 2002.

The Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, provides that the national poundage quota for the 2002 crop of peanuts shall be a formula quantity equal to the estimated quantity of peanuts needed for domestic edible and related uses, excluding seed, in the 2002 marketing year. The formula quantity, together with an allowance for the possibility of under deliveries up to 10,500 short tons, totals 1,180,000 short tons.

The 2002-crop national poundage quota price support level is set by statute at \$610 per short ton. The price support level for additional peanuts must be set by February 15, 2002.

The Farm Bill currently being considered by Congress would dramatically change the peanut program. Poundage quotas would be eliminated and price support would be replaced with a target price and deficiency payment plan. If pending legislation is enacted as law, the 2002 poundage quota and price support announced by this release may be altered or rescinded.

Eastland County FSA

# HOLIDAY HINTS

## Keep Your Holiday Buffet Fresh—And Safe

(NAPS)—'Tis the season for parties and family gatherings, and good food is at the top of the invite list. However, even the most carefully planned menu can be spoiled if food isn't properly prepared and served.

When planning a holiday buffet or dinner party, be sure to keep that holiday spread fresh and safe to eat. Wal-Mart and the Partnership for Food Safety Education's "Fight BAC!" campaign recommend following these simple, safe food-handling steps when entertaining during the holiday season:

**Serve safe.** Foods that are left out for long periods of time—such as a party buffet—should be kept at a suitable temperature:

- Place hot cooked foods in chafing dishes, crock pots and warming trays to keep them 140°F or warmer.

- Keep cold foods 40°F or colder by placing them in bowls of ice. To add festivity to your table, use food coloring to give some color to your ice cubes.

- Place small quantities of food on the buffet table and replenish it often using clean dishes. Be sure food is not left out longer than two hours.

**Clean.** To help avoid the spread of bacteria, wash everything—including your hands—with hot, soapy water.

- Use plastic or other non-porous cutting boards. Cutting boards should be run through the dishwasher—or washed in hot, soapy water—after use.

- Use paper towels to clean up kitchen surfaces. Or, if using cloth towels, wash them often with bleach in the hot cycle of the washing machine.

**Separate.** Keep raw meat, poultry and seafood—and their juices—away from ready-to-eat foods.

- Store raw meat, poultry and seafood on the bottom shelf of the refrigerator so juices don't drip onto other foods.

- If possible, use one cutting board for raw meat products and another for salads and other foods which are ready to be eaten.

- Never place cooked food on a plate which previously held raw



When setting up a holiday buffet, be sure that foods are properly prepared and served.

meat, poultry or seafood.

**Cook.** Cook foods thoroughly to safe internal temperatures.

- Use a food thermometer, which measures the internal temperature of cooked meat and poultry, to make sure that the meat is cooked all the way through. If a thermometer is not available, do not eat meat or poultry that is still pink inside.

- Cook eggs until the yolks and whites are firm, not runny. Don't use recipes in which eggs remain raw or only partially cooked, unless the eggs are pasteurized. When making eggnog, be sure to only use pasteurized eggs.

- Cook fish until it is opaque and flakes easily with a fork.

- Bring sauces, soups and gravy to a boil when reheating. Heat other leftovers thoroughly to 165°F.

**Chill.** Refrigerate or freeze perishables, prepared food and leftovers within two hours. Food safety experts recommend setting the refrigerator at 40°F and the freezer unit at 0°F and occasionally checking these temperatures with an appliance thermometer.

- Never defrost food on the kitchen counter. Use the refrigerator, cold running water or the microwave.

- Divide large amounts of leftovers into small, shallow containers for quick cooling in the refrigerator.

- With poultry and other stuffed meats, remove the stuffing and refrigerate it in a separate container.

For more information on practicing safe food handling during the holiday season and year round, visit [www.fightbac.org](http://www.fightbac.org) or [www.walmartstores.com/news/](http://www.walmartstores.com/news/).

# RAWLINS MONUMENTS

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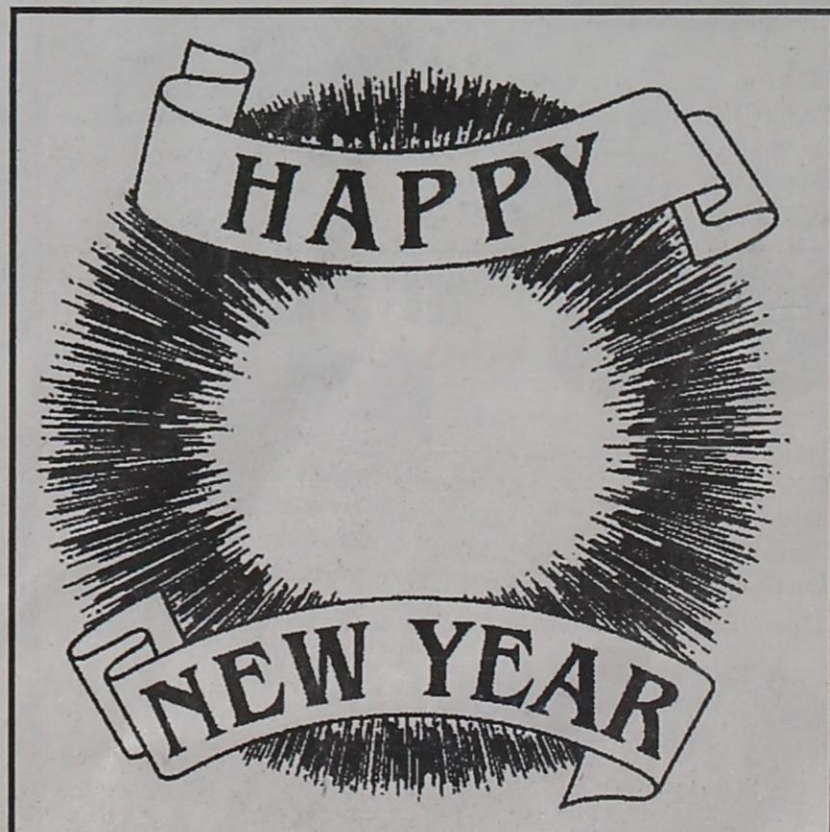
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