

# The Gorman Progress

2004 Member  
Texas Press Association

"Serving Gorman For Over 103 Years"

Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454

www.gormantexas.us - Official City of Gorman Website

NUMBER FIFTY

DECEMBER 23, 2004



*Best wishes for a joyous holiday season. It's folks like you who make being in business a pleasure.*

*From the Staff and Correspondents of  
The Gorman Progress*

*Joe - Lonnie - Marilyn - Estelle - Vonnie - Zelda and Nancy*

## First United Methodist Church Christmas Eve Service

The First United Methodist Church invite you to join them in a special Christmas Eve service on Friday, December 24th at 6:00 p.m.

## New Year's Eve Singing at New Hope Baptist Church

The annual New Year's Eve Singing will be held at New Hope Baptist Church on Friday, December 31, beginning at 8 P.M. This is a yearly community event to which all are invited. There will be an intermission at 10 P.M. for a time of visiting and fellowship. Refreshments will be provided. Singing will resume after the break and continue until midnight.

Come and be a part of a community tradition of over thirty years of ushering in the new year in song at New Hope.

# Obituary

## L.V. Collins

L.V. Collins, 86, of Bursleson, an elementary school/piano teacher, died Thursday, December 16, 2004.

Funeral services were Monday, December 20, 2004 at the Baptist Temple church in Fort Worth. Burial was Monday afternoon in Oaklawn Cemetery in Gorman.

L.V. taught third-grade at Poly Elementary School and class piano at the Fort Worth recreation centers and private piano lessons in her home and in student's homes for many years.

Survivors include sons, Harold Collins and Michael Collins and his wife, Linda; daughter, Moveta Simonson and her husband, Ed; sis-



ter, Ruby Dale Atchison; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

# Christmas Lighting Contest Winners

The Gorman Chamber of Commerce would like to thank all who participated in the Christmas Lighting Contest. This year, there were seven entries. This year's winners were:

- 1st place - Danny and Charla Burgess
- 2nd place - Jennifer Sparger
- 3rd place - Bob and Brenda Hammontree

## GORMAN MILLING

has openings for the following Positions:

**FEED MIXER**

**SACKER**

**GROUND MAINTENANCE**

APPLY IN PERSON AT 114 N. BRISCOE

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

**VET Science 4-H Project** - 4th Tuesday each Month. Technology Center / Gorman Community Center. Contact Lee or Amy Wood at 254-734-2973.

The Order of the Eastern Star holds its regular stated meetings on the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

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

### FOOD BANK

New Hours - 10 - 11:00 a.m.  
Second Thursday

### Boy Scouts

Meeting Week  
Tuesdays — 6:30 p.m.  
Methodist Church

**4-H** - Meets Second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall - Amy Wood - 734-2973.

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

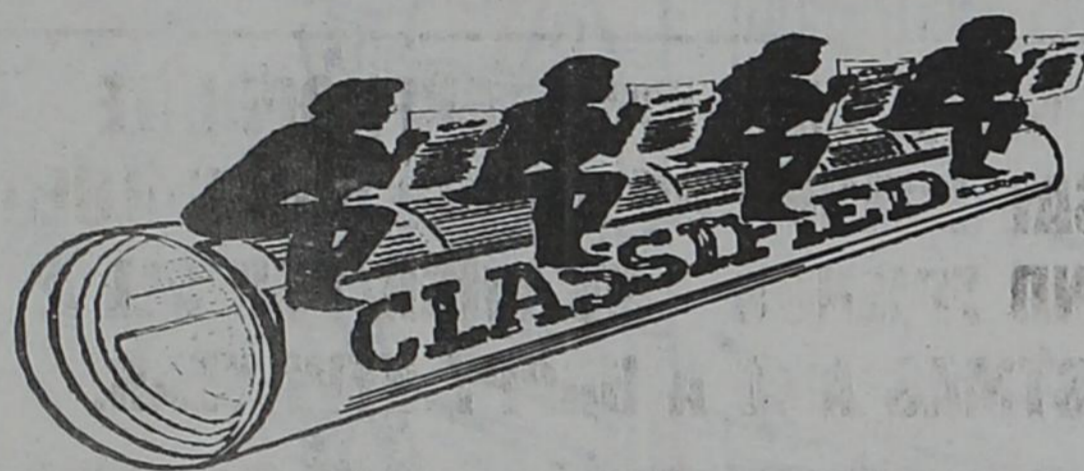
**Gorman Masonic Lodge No. 716 A.F. & A.M.** Regular stated meetings are 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Members are urged to attend. Visitors are always welcome. Bob Wilkerson, Master — Pat Moseley, Secretary.

**Oakland Cemetery Association** is accepting donations for the Care of the Cemetery. Donations can be sent to Oakland Cemetery Association, 503 N. Fisher, Gorman, Tx 76454, or American State Bank, Gorman, Texas 76454.

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

**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 Aline Garrett, P O Box 711, Gorman, Texas 76454, or American State Bank, Gorman, Texas 76454.

**FOR RENT:** Building downtown Gorman across from ZJ's Steakhouse. Available Now!!! Central Heat and Air, restroom and waterheater. Call Joe at Gorman Progress - 254-734-2410.



**Assistant Manager Position available at Eastland DQ.** Must be able to work flexible day and night shifts, be responsible for customer service, food cost, cash handling, etc. Vacation and holiday pay. Smoke and drug free working environment. Drug test and background check required. Call District Manager, Cindy Grubb 940-550-5724. 4-1-6-C



BARBARA LOVE, Broker  
317 E. Main St.  
254-629-1725  
EASTLAND, TX 76448

**PERFECT FOR THE GROWING FAMILY!** 3/2/2 brick home on 3.72 ac. This home has large rooms, CH/A, new carpet, paint & ceramic tile, workshop, barn, & water well. 03  
**ROOM FOR EVERYONE!** 3 BR, 3 1/2 bath home w/bedroom suite. Formal dining, fireplace, game room, built-in appliances, vacuum system, covered patio, DAG, fenced yard, & very clean. 07  
**GOOD NEIGHBORHOOD** - One block from school! 3 BR, 1 1/2 baths brick home with CH/A, office, screened porch, SAG, SACP, above ground pool, & nice sized lot. 09  
**GIVE ME LAND** - Lots of land! 10.5 acres, m/., and 4 BR home with city utilities. Near everything with CH/A, kitchen built-ins, FP, patio, screened porch, DAG, water well & city water. Quiet & Private. HA6  
**PERFECT PLACE FOR A BUSINESS!** This lot in Gorman on Hwy. 6 would be great place for any business. Drive by & take a look. 04  
**BARGAIN PRICED!** 2 BR, 1 bath, large utility, large kitchen, DACP. Great starter home. 02

### THE GORMAN PROGRESS

P. O. Box 68  
Gorman, Texas 76454  
Phone 254-734-2410 or 2411 - Fax 254-734-2799  
Email - gprogress@txbusiness.com  
JPEG Photos (Only) Email - jake@txol.net  
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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  
NO COMMISSION DISCOUNTS  
CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS  
20 Cents a Word  
Minimum Charge - \$3.00 per issue - CASH Charged - \$4.00 First 20 Words plus 20c each additional word. \$4.00 Minimum Charged. No Commission  
Additional 50 cents for Borders. Wedding Announcements - \$5.00 / \$10 with Picture - Weddings - \$10.00 Minimum.  
ADVERTISING DEADLINE - TUESDAY NOON  
Card of Thanks - \$3.00  
An Extra Charge of 50 cents per issue will be added to Classified Ads for Tear sheets and Billing.  
THE GORMAN PROGRESS RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ANY ADVERTISING.  
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### COGBURN REALTY

893-6666 DE LEON, TX

www.cogburnrealestate.com

**NEW** : 2-1 frame, metal roof, storage bldg., 60' x 140' lot. \$14,500.

**NEW** : 2-1 frame, app. 950', single garage / carport, metal roof & siding. Also includes a small service station building. \$19,500

**NEW** : 2-1-1 brick, CH/A, 1745' L.A. fenced backyard, corner lot, 24x40 shop w/cement floor, nice home. Reduced to \$36,500.

**NEW** : 1.21 A., 3-2-2 brick, app. 1646', city utilities, well, corrals, paved st. \$69,500.

**NEW** : 10.45 A. south Duster: Improved variety pecan orchard, remote area, lots of wildlife. \$2,000 acre.

**NEW** : 11.69 A. south Duster: Old Pecan orchard, lots cover for game, located near a nice creek \$2,000 acre.

**NEW** : 14 A. 3-1-2 brick, app 1375', 10a Tifton \$5 bermuda, 2 wells, several sheds and outbuildings, good location. \$85,000.

**NEW** : 15a M/L edge town, nice remodeled 2 - 2 brick, central a/h, carpeted, fireplace, large game room, 24 x 60 metal garage - cement floor, guest house, water well + city water and sewer, pecans, pavement. Reduced \$130,000.

**32 A. Gorman on FM 2921:** 15A coastal, 55A pond, well, pond, large oaks, nice home site. \$1,450 acre.

**47.65 A.** 4 miles west of Gorman, 25A coastal, 20 A. cultivated, 2 ponds, barn / pens, good dear area, \$1,050 acre.

**NEW 58A.** Desdemona, app. 10 coastal, 50a wooded, water well, shed, pond, pavement, hunting, wildlife. \$1,800 per acre.

**NEW:** 105 A., Comanche Co., near De Leon, 30 A. Coastal, 52 A. cultivated, 23 A. pasture, 3 stock ponds, 2 wells (previously used for irrigation), steel corrals, electricity, paved @ CR frontage, deer/wildlife in area, combination stocker/wildlife property. \$1,900 per acre

**NEW:** 192 A. s/w Gorman, over 1/2 mile of Sabanna River frontage, remote, 70a wooded, 122a cultivation, stock pond, lots of deer & turkey. \$1,350 acre

**We NEED Your Listings. The market is Good. Call Us. SELLING**

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

### NITA DANSBY REAL ESTATE COMPANY

Nita Dansby - Broker / Owner  
Commercial - Residential - Farm - Ranch  
132 S. Texas - De Leon, Tx 76444  
254-893-6441

**83A., m/l - Hard to Find Small Acreage @ Reasonable Price!** Est. 35 A. Coastal; 5 wells, 4 ponds! South of Hwy. 8. Only \$1,150 per A!  
**BUSINESS Opportunity:** Coffee Shop & Antiques (Inventory Included!) \$35,000. Also - Tool Sharpening & Woodcraft Outlet (Includes Tools!) \$35,000. Both - Excellent Locations! Great For Retirees!

### Think Snow!!

## Gilder Realty

www.gilderrealty.com

Hwy. 6 W -- De Leon, Texas -- 254-893-3404

Agent: Ronnie Golden - Broker; Robert Gilder - Agent; David Gilder

74A. Eastland Co., 2 tanks, water well, 20' x 30' pole barn, corrals. \$111,000

New Listings: 201 Acre. on Leon River, several ponds, woods, pecans, pasture, hunting. \$331,650

90 A. Eastland Co., Hwy. frontage, 3 tanks, heavy cover for hunting, cultivation, home-site. \$157,500

210 Acres, irrig. Wells, tank, corrals, hwy. frontage. \$294,000

82 Acres at Proctor Lake, well, tank, home-site, hunting & fishing. \$164,500

596 A., 4/2, brick, barns, creek, pasture, wildlife. \$685,000. **SOLD**

512 A. on Sabanna River, 12 ponds, pecan trees, rural water, pasture, hunting. \$740,000. **SOLD**

382 A. large pond & irrig. pit, 4 small ponds, irrig. Wells, good fences, pecan trees, woods, coastal, hunting. \$515,700. **SOLD**

216 A.: excellent coastal, 2 tanks, irrig. wells, hwy. frontage. #270,000. **SOLD**

157 A. Callahan Co., 2 tanks, 6 wells, home site, coastal, cropland. \$196,250

99A/5/4, 4300 sf brick, metal barn, 5 water wells, large reservoir, rock drive, and much more. \$477,500

97A 5/4.5, 5632 sf brick, swimming pool, deck with hot tub, metal barn, pecan trees, tanks, corral, and much more. \$750,000

77 A. Palo Pinto Co., Woods, creek, hunting, might divide. \$240,000

58 A. Tank, water well, good home site. \$95,700

13 A. Hwy. frontage, tank, creek, barn. \$32,000. **UNDER CONTRACT**

3/2 1,750 sf brick, CH/A, large lot. \$56,500

3/2 1,342 sf frame, CH/A, screened porch. \$33,750

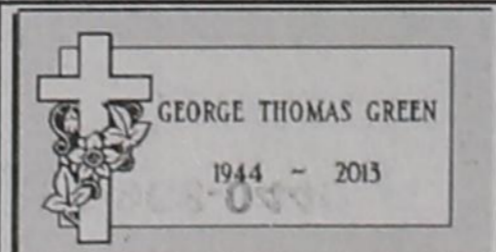
**Other house available from \$18,000 to \$105,000.**

— Other Listings Available — — We Appreciate All Listings —

## PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS

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.



**SEASON'S GREETINGS**  
May the warmth of this great holiday fill your stocking with joy and peace.

## Texas Creations

(At The Blinking Light) — 102 E. Lubbock  
254-734-5959 — Gorman, Texas

GORMAN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
TAX OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

DECEMBER 20, 2004 THRU JANUARY 3, 2005

ALL PAYMENTS POSTMARKED DECEMBER WILL  
BE POSTED AS A 2004 PAYMENT

## Season's Greetings

From

G & H Feeds, Inc.

and

Hirst Nut & Produce Co.

## Hirst Nut & Produce Co. Holiday Gift Specials

ASSORTED POUND  
**Homemade Candy \$4.95 - \$7.95**

**NUT SAMPLER \$9.95**

**MINI-NUT SAMPLER \$4.95**

Roasted and Salted FIVE POUNDS  
**SPANISH PEANUTS \$10.25**

**We Make Gift Baskets**

**On A Custom Basis**

**Come By Or Call In Your Order Today!**

## Hirst Nut & Produce Co.

P. O. Box 255

Gorman, Tx 76454 — Phone 254-734-4059

Daryl and Cecilia Hirst - Owners



Santa's Bag  
is Full  
of MONEY!

**LOANS BY PHONE**  
**\$100<sup>00</sup> to \$520<sup>00</sup>**

❖ **Guaranteed Approval** ❖  
W / VERIFIABLE INCOME & HOME PHONE

**AUSTIN FINANCE**

**254-965-9776**

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# Business Directory



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 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Tour of Homes sponsored by Gorman GROW was another delightful event. Each of the homes was decorated so lovely and the weather was perfect...maybe even on the warm side.

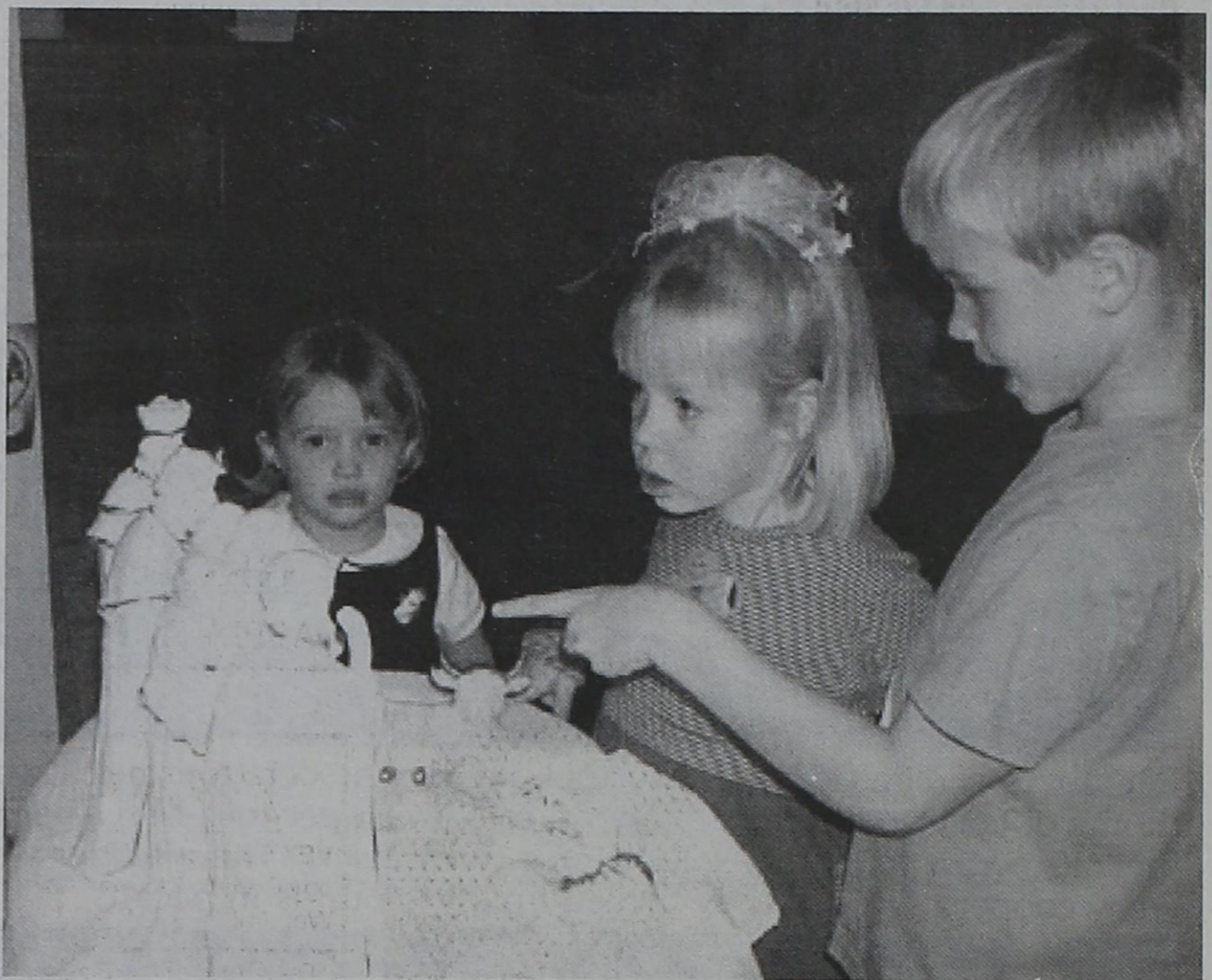
Gorman GROW members would like to thank the community for coming out and participating in this event, and we would like to thank Carolyn Gilbert, Tracy Carter, Ann Rainey, and Jerry Brown (and their friends and family!) for making this possible. We appreciate your generosity and enthusiasm of the Christmas Season. Thank you to the local merchants who helped sell tickets and to the volunteers who made the day so fun. It was just GREAT!



L to R-Tracy Carter, hostess, Lori Dodd, Gorman GROW, Jerry Brown, hostess, and Ann Rainey, hostess

## Gorman 4-H To Deliver Gifts To Heritage Manor

Please take a name tag and purchase a gift for the Heritage Manor Residents. Return the gift in a giftbag to American State Bank. The Gorman 4-H Club will deliver the gifts on Christmas Eve. Thank you.



L to R-Caitlyn Clark, Kayce Dodd and Austin Carter enjoying a Nativity setting at the home of Jerry Brown

### Customer Notice

Comanche County Telephone Company, Inc. (Comanche County or the Company) has filed a request with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) seeking approval to implement minor rate changes to revise residential and business local exchange line charges.

The proposed effective date for the minor rate changes is April 1, 2005, for all exchanges served by Comanche County. The estimated annual revenue increase recognized by the Company is \$68,164 for the first year of service, which is less than 1% of the Company's gross annual intrastate revenues.

Current and proposed rates for Local Exchange Rates are:

	Current	Proposed
Residential Local Exchange Service Rate	\$9.60	\$10.56
Business Local Exchange Service Rate	\$14.10	\$15.51

Persons with questions or who want more information on this application may contact the Company at 6100 Hwy 16, DeLeon, Texas 76444 or call (254) 893-2003 during normal business hours (8:00 am - 5:00 pm). A complete copy of the application is available for inspection at the address listed above. The Commission has assigned Tariff Control Number 30508 to this application. Persons who wish to formally participate in the Commission's proceedings concerning this application, or who wish to express their comments concerning this application should contact the Public Utility Commission's Office of Customer Protection at (512) 936-7136 or reach the Commission's toll free number through Relay Texas at (800) 735-2988.

Requests to participate in the proceedings and comments should reach the Commission no later than February 11, 2005. If the Commission receives a complaint(s) relating to this application signed by the lesser of 5% or 1,500 of the affected local service customer to which this application applies by February 11, 2005, the application will be docketed. The 5% limitation will be calculated based upon the total number of customers of record as of the calendar month preceding the Commission's receipt of the complaint(s).



Residential



Commercial

### SKY WALKER ENGINEERING AND FOUNDATION REPAIR

- Inspections • House Leveling • Multi Story Buildings •
- Welding • Remodeling • Minor Plumbing Jobs •

Harvey and Cheryl Coffey, Owners

254-734-4424

Gorman, TX

**THERE IS NO MORE TIME MORE APPROPRIATE THAN THIS TO SAY THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VALUED CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS. WE WISH YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.**

## DUBLIN LIVESTOCK AUCTION

No Sale Friday, Dec. 24th or Dec. 31st

### Fifth Annual Winter Replacement Sale Wednesday, December 29th

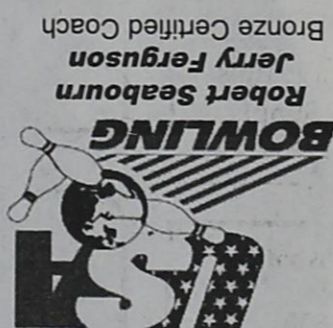
Expecting 1,000 to 1,200 head of young cows, pairs, and breeding age bulls. • All cows will be aged & pregnancy tested • All bulls will be fertility tested.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR CONSIGNMENT CALL  
(254) 445-1734 SALE BARN • HWY 6 DUBLIN  
(254) 485-1289 DALE & MARLA MCKINNEY**

At Lone Star Lanes In Stephenville, Tx



1815 Lingleville  
Stephenville, TX 76401  
BUS: (254) 968-0440



**TXOL INTERNET**  
\$9.95 For 50 Hours  
to \$23.50 Unlimited  
See Lonnie At The Gorman Progress  
Call 254-734-2410

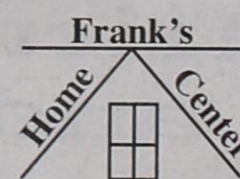
**Lone Star Lanes**  
254-968-0440  
Stephenville

"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  
BYOB On Friday Only - 9 to 12  
- Pro Shop On Site -  
New Fall Leagues Planned

We Teach Bowling  
Lingleville Hwy.

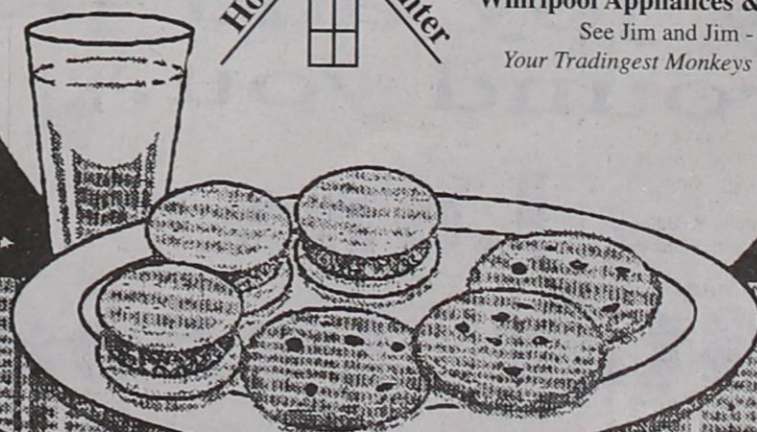
We would like to extend our warmest wishes for a wonderful holiday season and to thank all of our customers for their continued patronage thru the years. Thanks for making **Frank's Home Center** your store when you need appliances, furniture, and floor covering.

## Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year



125 N. Texas • De Leon, TX 76444

Carpet • Vinyl • Tile  
Whirlpool Appliances & Service  
See Jim and Jim -  
Your Tradingest Monkeys Around



## Gorman Livestock Raisers Association Fund Raiser



Members of The Gorman Livestock Raisers Association met at the home of Lori Dodd on December 4 to harvest pecans. Lori offered her 30 pecan trees to G.L.R.A. for a fundraiser. The weather was very cooperative and they picked up 250 pounds in pecans.



## Giving Thanks at this Time of Year

I would like to take this opportunity to say how I appreciate our little community. At this special yet hectic time of year, I am thinking about how pleasant it is to live in Gorman. It's good to live in a place where everyone knows you, and your children. It's good to live in a place where neighbors are friends and everyone is ready to be hospitable and kind.

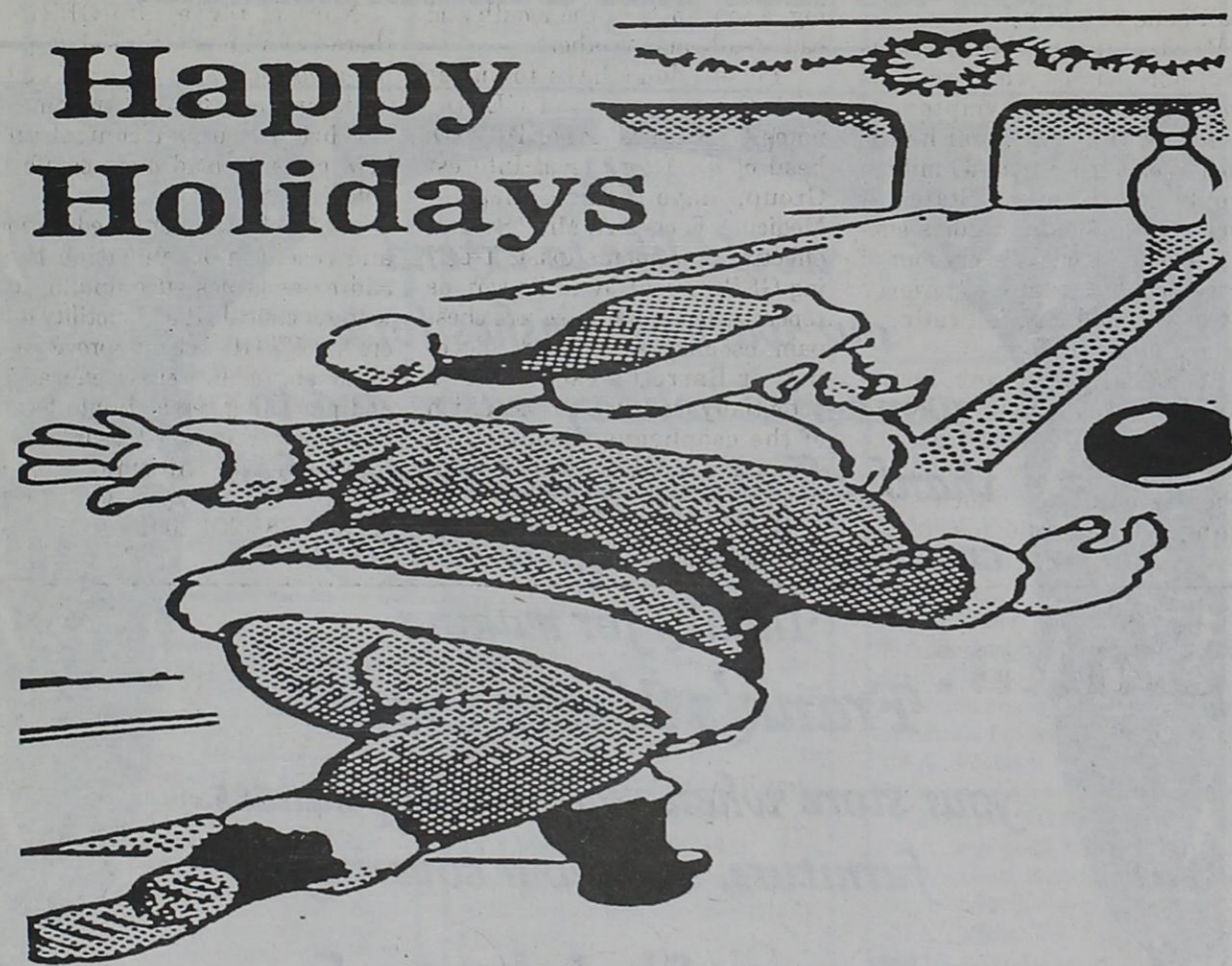
One day last month it was an unusually busy day at work and I was running very late getting back to Gorman. I was met at the door by dear Mrs. Price who was watching Kayce that day. And instead of being met with an irritated huff for being an hour late—I was welcomed into their home, seated at their dinner table, and had a glass of tea and a piece of pie in front of me before I even could say hello.

I know my story is similar to dozens each of you could tell with your own friends and neighbors. I tell this to remind everyone that this sort of kindness is not found just anywhere. And we are fortunate to live in a warm, caring little part of rural Texas that has an abundance of this goodness.

I just wanted to say Thank You, to all the loving friends and family in my life—for all you give during the year.

Merry Christmas!  
Lori Dodd

## Happy Holidays



Our single thought is to say, "Thanks" for your friendship. May joy and peace surround you.

## Lone Star Lanes

254-968-0440

Stephenville

## The Dorcas Class Sending Gift Baskets to Armed Forces in Iraq

The Dorcas Class of the Gorman Church of Christ is sending a gift basket to the men and women of the Armed Forces in Iraq. If anyone else would like to participate with us, please contact Francis Simpson. Suggested items for the basket are shampoo, conditioner, lotion, powder, soap, socks, sunscreen, baby wipes, chapstick, toothbrushes, toothpaste, antibiotic ointment, shaving gel and cream, cards, dominoes, paper, pens, books, magazines, disposable cameras, flavored drink mixes, beef jerky, tea and breakfast bars and handmade items. The box will be sent in mid January. Watch for participating merchants who will have boxes available in their stores.

## Red Hat Society of Encores Celebrates Christmas

-Fay Tucker

The Encores Red Hat Society and their friends celebrated the Christmas season at the beautiful ranch home of Pam and Sid Waynick on December 11 with food, fun, and Christmas carols.

This chapter of the Red Hat Society was founded by Queen Peggy Golden the first part of the year with members from DeLeon, Comanche, Gorman, Carbon, and Eastland. Spearheaded by Peggy, in true Red Hat spirit, they have held several events (not meetings) since its formation, from game days to fishing events. Peggy was unable to attend this event due to caring for her husband Jim in a Lubbock hospital.

Unlike most events, members were encouraged to bring their spouses or guests to celebrate the season. Upon arrival, they were greeted by a beautifully-lit driveway with valet parking by Ally and Lindsey McGaha. Hors d'oeuvres brought by members filled the formal dining room, adorned with fresh flowers, plus the spacious kitchen.

Members attending were Lavern Everett, Jean Ann Price, Pink Hat Tracy Plum, Sandra Overman, Elnora Lindley, Sallie Kinnaird, Pat Shoemake, Faye Tucker, Eula Mears, Joy Rogers, and Pam Waynick. In addition to spouses, special guests included Dub and Jean Hoffman, Bob and Mary Lou Perkins, Ann Mears (from Stephenville), and Hershell and Laura McAlister (from Ranger). Everyone enjoyed a fun evening visiting with old friends and making new ones.



Members attending were: Back row (from l to r): Lavern Everett, Jean Ann Price, Peggy Golden stand-in, Sandra Overman, Eula Mears, Sallie Kinnaird, Joy Rogers, and Pat Shoemake. Front row (from l to r): Tracy Plum, Elnora Lindley, Faye Tucker, Pam Waynick and Foxy Waynick



Lindsey and Ally McGaha served as valets.

## Gorman EDC Minutes from November

The meeting was called to order by President Judy Warren at 5:45 pm with the following members present: Joe Casey, Becky Laminack, Kim Sharp, Cliffla Vaughn and EDC Director Lori Dodd.

A motion to approve the minutes was made Becky Laminack. Cliffla Vaughn made the second to the motion, motion carried 4-0.

A motion to pay the bills was made by Kim Sharp. Joe Casey made a second, motion carried 4-0.

## Under old business/new business:

The Leon-Bosque RC&D Annual meeting will be Nov. 17 from 10 am to 1 pm. Lori, Cliffla, Kim and possibly Becky will be attending.

HIF (Housing Infrastructure Funding/ORCA) workshop will be in Austin on Nov. 15-16. Lori will attend this workshop.

Regarding the Community Technology Center—we have had some complaints that individuals are abusing the time limit on the computers, playing loud music, cursing among users and some of the equipment is missing. We will be asking for volunteers to monitor the center and install a closed-circuit camera that will be viewed by the police dept.

Becky Laminack made a motion to adjourn at 6:20 pm with Cliffla Vaughn making the second, motion carried 4-0.

Minutes submitted by Judy Warren.

# Santa Visits On Monday At Dairy Queen In Gorman



## Kokomo News By Zelda Jordan

I want to wish all who read the Kokomo News a very Merry Christmas. As we celebrate Christmas with family and friends may we remember that Jesus is the reason for the season and it is His birth that we celebrate.

A large crowd attended the Christmas Program at the Kokomo Baptist Church on Wednesday night, December 15. The program began with congregational singing of Christmas Carols led by Woodrow Browning with Helen Browning at the piano and Glynda Bond at the organ. Then the choir presented several carols. As we sang 'Here comes Santa Claus', Santa appeared through the door much to the delight of the children. After passing out bags of fruit and candy to each one attending, Santa was ready for the children to sit on his lap for a visit and so pictures could be taken. Several of the older children helped Santa pass out the gifts from under the beautifully decorated Christmas tree, and what a wonderful time all had unwrapping their gifts.

Bro. Clarence Wilson thanked everyone for coming and closed the program with a prayer and voiced the prayer of thanks for the fellowship and food to follow. Then it was time to go to the fellowship hall for a Christmas dinner of Barbecue sandwiches, chips, cobbles and cold drinks, and a wonderful time of visiting with friends.

The Sunday morning service at the Kokomo Baptist Church began with the congregation singing Christmas Carols directed by Woodrow Browning, with Helen Browning at the piano and Ruby Lee Kinser at the organ. Raegan Bond of Copperas Cove was a visitor. "Happy Anniversary" was sung to Jimmy and Verna Lee Little who were celebrating their 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary on Sunday. The special music, "Beautiful Star Of Bethlehem" was rendered by Aletha Burgess, Norma Webb, Leona Wilson, Helen Browning, Oren Webb, Jimmy Little, Joe Bond and Raegan, and Woodrow Browning with Ruby Lee Kinser at the piano.

Joe and Glynda Bond visited in Copperas Cove on Monday night, December 13, with Shannon, Stephanie, Raegan and Sydnie Bond and attended the Christmas pageant at the Faith Temple Church in Killeen. The pageant was the combined presentation of twenty area churches. Stephanie Bond was a member of the choir.

Joe and Glynda Bond and Shannon, Stephanie, Raegan and Sydnie Bond attended the Wilson Family Christmas get-together at the home of Glynn and Debbie Wilson in Stephenville on Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. Raegan came home with her grandparents for a visit until Monday when Joe took her home and then went to Uvalde to join Shannon for a deer hunt.

The Snider Family had their Christmas "get-together" on Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at the home of LaVon Snider. There were 37 who were able to attend. Everyone had a fun time visiting and eating. Those attending were LaVon Snider; Ted and Charlotte Snider; Gene Snider; Dan Snider; Mike, Crystal and Rachel Snider; Belinda, Audriana, Isaac, Daniella, and Isabella Segura all of Gorman; Dwayne and Connie Snider of Stephenville; Jamie, Stephanie, Kael, Craig, Matthew, Anna, and Andrew Snider of Hollis, Ok; Justin Snider of Pierre, S.D.; Toby, Angie, Karina, Karle, and Klarissa Snider of Lake Brownwood; Dale, Kathy, Scott and Matt Collum of Huckabay; Clay, Susan, McKinsey, Caitlin, and Kyann Wheat of Ranger.

Those who were unable to attend and were missed were: Kay Snider who was not feeling well; Sandra Snider was at home recovering from a broken bone, therefore she and her mother, Dianne Snider were not able to attend; and Erik Segura was working. We also missed Lisa Snider of Raleigh, N.C. and Sheri and Brandon LaBonte of Fairfax, Va. who could not come to Texas for Christmas this year.

Jimmy and Verna Lee Little were shopping in Abilene on Thursday.

Word was received in the community on Sunday of the death of L. V. Collins. We extend sincere sympathy to her family. L. V. was a former member of the Kokomo Baptist Church and later visited in the church with her parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Brown.

Have a wonderful holiday season. Please call me with your holiday news.

**Why get your local news anywhere else?**



Post Oak Gun Club held their Holiday Drawing for a Ruger M77 Stainless Steel 270 Rifle on December 18th. Chris Brown of Georgetown won the rifle. Drawing the winning ticket was 8 year old Joseph Woodall.

## DESDEMONA NEWS

BY VONNIE GUTHERY

Dixie Pack and some friends of Ranger met the City Link Bus at the Mall in Abilene last Tuesday night and this large group took a tour all around Abilene to view the beautiful Christmas lights, decorated homes, yards, etc. they enjoyed the fellowship with each other followed with refreshments for everyone.

Brad and Priscilla Keith and children Jenna, Brett, Andrea and Brian of Louisville, Kentucky spent a few days this past week with his parents, Bernard and Ann Keith. Other visitors in the home on Saturday for an early family Christmas dinner were De and Vicki Robinett of DeLeon; Bill and Tami Sanders and daughter, Robyn of Liveoak (near San Antonio); Derek Robinett of San Antonio; Nikki Febinger and children, Christopher and Allison of Stephenville; Johnny and Sandy Cameron; Danny Cameron and son, Justin of Sanger; Belinda Guthery; Pug and Vonnie Guthery of Desdemona.

Lee and Sonja Hornback and Kennon; Donal and Kandice and son, Dylan spent last Sunday visiting with Eddie and Dawna Martin and daughter, Darcy in Millsap. They enjoyed an early Christmas dinner and gift exchanges.

Burney and Helen Olivo spent the past two weeks visiting near the Texas border with his brother.

Merry Christmas to our friends and neighbors from Pug and Vonnie Guthery.

## Heartburn Does Not Have To Cause Heartache Know When Symptoms May Signal A More Serious, But Treatable, Condition

(NAPSA)—Many of us are painfully aware of how our diet affects our digestive system. What we may not be aware of, however, is that what we think is simple heartburn or "indigestion" may, in fact, be a condition known as gastroesophageal reflux disease, or GERD.

In fact, GERD affects an estimated five percent to seven percent of the world's population, and many of those people with it go untreated because they don't know that the symptoms may signal a more serious condition. "It's unfortunate that people are unaware that their discomfort can be treated in many cases," says Nancy Norton, president and founder of the International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders (IFFGD). "Worse, without correct treatment some of these cases can develop complications that if left undiagnosed, may endanger a person's health and well-being."

Persistent heartburn, occurring more than once a week, is the most common symptom of GERD. While occasional heartburn affects more than 60 million people in the United States at least once a month, studies suggest about one out of every four of those people actually experience it every single day, indicating a more serious condition.

Technically speaking, heartburn is caused by the backward flow, or reflux, of acid from the stomach up into the esophagus. When stomach acid touches the lining of the esophagus, it can



cause the burning sensation called heartburn. It also can damage the esophagus.

But heartburn is by no means the only symptom of GERD. In fact, some people with GERD do not experience heartburn at all. Other symptoms include belching, difficulty or pain when swallowing, chronic sore throat, erosion of tooth enamel, hoarseness in the morning, a sour taste in the mouth and bad breath, among others.

"People don't have to suffer with the symptoms of GERD," notes G. Richard Locke III, MD, head of the Esophageal Interest Group, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, Rochester, MN. "Several effective treatments exist. Treating GERD might avoid its serious repercussions such as severe chest pain, esophageal stricture, bleeding, or Barrett's esophagus, a potentially precancerous condition of the esophagus. People with symptoms of GERD should mention this to their physicians." Once diagnosed, however,

GERD can be treated and, in most cases, patients can begin to lead far more comfortable lives. Often, treatment involves lifestyle modifications. These changes to one's daily routine might include avoidance or reduction of certain foods and beverages and changes in eating habits. Though diet itself does not cause GERD, certain foods can aggravate symptoms in some people; chocolate, caffeine, fried or fatty foods, alcoholic beverages and even peppermint may cause reflux. Physicians also might recommend that patients lose weight and stop smoking if necessary.

When lifestyle modifications alone do not alleviate the symptoms of GERD, your doctor may recommend medications, which can reduce the amount of acid your stomach produces. Other treatments include surgery, or procedures using new devices or implants to help prevent reflux.

None of these cure GERD—there is no known cure—but seeing a doctor for an accurate diagnosis and appropriate treatment can bring it under control and help patients lead more comfortable lives.

IFFGD is a nonprofit education and research organization that addresses issues surrounding life with functional GI and motility disorders. IFFGD helps improve care by enhancing awareness, educating and promoting research into treatments and cures for GI disorders.

For more information on GERD, visit [www.aboutgerd.org](http://www.aboutgerd.org) or call 1-888-964-2001.

## Letter To Santa:

DEAR SANTA  
I WANT  
FACE CARBS  
BASKETBALL  
WALLLET  
ROOM  
SPIDERMAN  
SANTACLAUSE  
PIPER  
PUPPY

WILLAGE  
POLA EXPRESS  
OSTAR  
HORSE  
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## Heritage Manor News By Nancy Hendricks

### I'm Sorry, I Have No Room

When Joseph came to the inn that night,  
he was tired, weary, and worn;  
And Mary, his wife, was weary, too, her  
child about to be born.  
The innkeeper told them, "I have no room,"  
and started to send them away.  
"But wait," he called, "I think I can help;  
though it's only a barn with some hay."  
They said they'd be grateful for even a barn—  
at least it was some place to stay.  
Then Joseph thanked the innkeeper there as  
he settled his wife in the hay.  
The stars seem to shine that first Christmas night  
as they never had shone before,  
And as Jesus came into the world for us,  
they seemed to shine even more.  
Shepherds strayed to the manger scene,  
worshipping as they came.  
Three wise men were led from the orient far,  
searching to do the same.  
It wasn't exactly the place for a king;  
why, it wasn't even the inn!  
No, out in a barn, in a manger poor,  
He was born, to take away sin.

Some guests were Sylvia Estes of Carbon, James and Mary Jesse of Ft. Worth, Freddie Rodgers, Dr. Michael and Marsha Whitehorn of Abilene.

Heritage Manor states that residents love to get Christmas cards. You may deliver them in person or leave cards in Janet's office and they will be delivered. Each resident has a Christmas stocking beside their door.

Recent guests were Mark and Tamara and Marque Landers of Boyd, Crystal Russell and Richochet Russell of Weatherford, Glen and Nancy Lawless of DeLeon, Marjorie Treadway and Ernestine Campbell.

On Sunday morning, coming from the First Baptist Church for Sunday School were Tootie Campbell and Vicki Seay. Tootie taught the lesson, "Follow Jesus the Messiah." Life question—Why should I follow Jesus? Bible passage John 1:35-50. Key verse John 1:40-41. A resident gave the opening prayer and another the closing prayer. There were twenty three residents and guests Howard and Pat Hagood.

Some visitors were Robin Blankenship, Melissa Blankenship, Jarrett Blankenship, Kay Ann Craddock, Mary Margaret Hudson and Estelle Craddock.

On Sunday afternoon, those coming from the Kokomo Baptist Church were Rev. Clarence and Leona Wilson, Joe Bond, Jimmy and Verna Lee Little, Helen Browning, Zeld Jordan and Nancy Hendricks. Guests were Mark and Tamara Landers and Marque Landers, Crystal Russell and Richochet Russell. Jimmy led singing and Helen played the piano. Bro. Clarence's message, "Hope and Peace" and why we observed Christmas. Bible passage 1 Peter 1:1-3.

Recent guests were Bobby and Peggy Ingram, Maudie Husband and Bill Moll of Cisco, Sue and Lee Pettigrew of Desdemona, Larry and DeLinda Snider, Diana Snider, and Kenneth Welch.

Residents send Dorothy LeBleu 'Get Well Wishes' and a speedy recovery.

Some visitors were Kennard and Doylena Roberts of Gustine, Rodney and Vicki Roberts of Stephenville, Bo and Anna Lee Roberts, Shannon and Trinity Roberts, Shaylor Roberts, Kendra Roberts, Levi Roberts and Winston Brown.

Resident appreciate Rose Hamilton doing their fingernails. Guests were Jimmy and Verna Lee Little of Eastland, Clarence and Leona Wilson of Stephenville, Joe Bond, Nell Files of Carbon.

On Monday morning, Karen Guthery came and opened the beauty shop for residents.

Some guests were Landon and Shirley Morgan of Garland, Bonnie D. Stewart and Jewel Dean Morris of DeLeon, Annie Fay Foster, Becky Smith of Cross Plains.

Monday morning Pat Graham and Ina Smith had bingo for ten residents. Prize winners received treats.

Visitors were Becky Green and Princess, Emily Green, Monica Moore of DeLeon and Robert Moore.

Monday afternoon those coming for the Monday Gospel Singing were

## Tips To Create Imaginative Play Time

(NAPSA)—Imaginative play is plentiful in U.S. toy rooms these days. Kids and parents are finding a renewed love and appreciation in all things that are active and engaging during play time. There's no need to pick up that joystick. Instead, you can get your family involved in the next big play trend sweeping playrooms across the country—using your imagination. Imaginative play and role-playing have many parents going back to their roots and the playroom floor as they pretend to be pirates searching for a long lost treasure or the zookeeper in charge of all the animals.

Luckily, this year's top toy picks include plenty of great options to help get those creative juices flowing. Playmobil, the toy company, which has been making imaginative play worlds and figurines for 30 years, has several options to keep the kids playing. In fact, their Crane and Zoo were recently listed as Parents' Choice award winners and won the platinum Oppenheim Toy Portfolio award. Not only do these activities keep kids off the couch and in the playroom, they are proven to help children develop and grow in mental and motor skills.

"A more elaborate brain comes with a more elaborate play life, which means that children are better able to break down real-life barriers," said Peggy Stewart, New Jersey Teacher of the Year 2005. "These skills will help children find success in the school years to come."

Helping your kids unleash their creativity and imagination is easy—but beware, you may find yourself on the floor wanting to join in on the adventure. Here are a few easy suggestions to make your children's next play session an adventure they'll never forget:



- Take a trip—An imaginative play trip to a far-off land can whisk you and your child away. Grab plastic swords and the Playmobil pirate ship and figurines for a fantastic voyage on the high seas.

- Dress up—Are your old clothes, bridesmaids dresses and old costumes cluttering up the attic? Use them in the next exciting role-playing adventure. Help children interact by having them dress as their favorite superhero or fairy tale character. Kids improve communication skills while enjoying being the man or woman of their dreams.

- Host a play party—The next celebration you have for your child can evolve into creative play time for your youngsters and their friends. Action figures, such as the Playmobil Zoo or Treehouse, let children's imaginations go wild.

- All the world's a stage—Cut out a hole in a piece of cardboard, add a bit of colorful paint and you have terrific props for a puppet play. Kids can use old socks, toy figurines, even their hands to put on a show for their friends and family. For instance, one mom took her old shelving unit and turned it into puppet theater for her kids.

A few props and some ingenuity can get your children exploring the wonders of their own imaginations.

Jackie Gutierrez, Billy Joe and Betty Sue Dennis, Woodrow and Helen Browning, Ruby Lee Kinser, Ernestine Campbell, Marjorie Treadway, Zeld Jordan, Daisy Slaton, Annie Fay Foster and Nancy Hendricks. Bringing special music were Jackie, Billy Joe, Ruby Lee, Woodrow and Helen. Billy Joe voiced the dismissal prayer. There were fourteen residents present.

Recent guests were Stanley Porter, Vicki and Thomas Seay, Daisy Slaton, Zeld Jordan, E.G. Henderson of Eastland, Jordan Scitem, Kevin Scitem, Amy Johnston, John and Georgie Lee Hopper of Georgetown, Frank and Ella Reeves of Irving.

On Tuesday morning, it was RYBG—red, yellow, blue and green. Ina and residents had a Christmas Trivia. It was fun to talk about the green Christmas trees, red bows and decorations.

Some visitors were Jerry Brown, Carolyn Gilbert, Pat and Howard Hagood, Irene West, Durward Webb, Maxine Frasier of DeLeon, Don and Joe Carey of Midlothian.

### December Birthday Party

On Tuesday, December 14 was the December resident's birthday party. Four residents were honored for having a December birthday. Betty Duke of Desdemona came played the electric organ and led singing and led the "Happy Birthday" song. Refreshments of angel food birthday cake and punch were served. A large number attended.

Recent visitors were James Tucker, Ann Warren, Nancy Hendricks, Bonnie Croft of Lake Leon, Max and Janice Grice of Brownfield, Tisha and Daniel Grice of Stephenville and Irene West.

It was sure nice and helpful for Amy Wood to come and help decorate the halls.

Visiting were Jerry Majors of DeLeon, Steve and Derenda Menten, Jarad Majors, Eric Ryon, George Rodgers.

On Wednesday morning, Rev. Bill Campbell of First Baptist Church came and had chapel. The message was "Make Room for Jesus." Bible passage Luke 2-7. A resident voiced the opening prayer and another

## Experience Works Public Service Announcement

Are you 55 or older and looking for a job? Would you like to learn new skills? Experience Works is a national nonprofit organization that provides employment and training for older workers with limited or no income. Their dedicated staff in your community can help you find the job or training you need. Whether you are returning to the workforce of have never worked, call to let them put your experience to work. For more information visit their web site at [www.experienceworks.org](http://www.experienceworks.org), or call 254-734-3275.

resident led the closing prayer. There were eleven resident present.

Some visitors were Clyde Richard Kinser of Eastland, Ruby Lee and James Kinser, Billy Joe and Betty Sue Dennis, Jackie Gutierrez.

Wednesday afternoon Judy Killebrew, Jason Killebrew and Ina Smith had 'crazy bingo' for several residents.

Some guests were Woodrow and Helen Browning, Winelle Brown, Nelda Mauney and Tootie Campbell.

Thursday morning, residents enjoyed 'snow ball fight' with Ina Smith.

Some guests were S.E. and Melba Carter of Eastland, Paul and Pat Johnson of Lubbock, Roy and Charlotte Johnson of Desdemona, Clyde and DeSha Johnson of Stephenville.

Thursday afternoon residents enjoyed 'crafts' with Ina Smith.

Visiting were Emmitt and Kay Lynn Lasater of Eastland, Larry and Colene Barnett of Wylie and Wilbur Overstreet.

On Friday morning, Pat Graham, Judy Killebrew, Jason Killebrew and Ina Smith had bingo for ten residents.

Recent visitors were Sky Lewis of Desdemona, Harold and Tody Zink.

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