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#### NUMBER FORTY-NINE

## "Serving Gorman For Over 106 Years" Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454

The Gorman Progress

**DECEMBER 14, 2006** 

# **American State Bank Donates To Gorman GROW**



Branch President James Bruton and Gorman GROW member Lori Dodd.

Employees of American State Bank, Gorman branch, recently made a contribution to the local civic club. Each employee of ASB is encouraged to give to the charity of their choice. Gorman employees chose to make a very generous donation of over \$500 to Gorman GROW, for local projects and community support.

## **Secret Santa Coming To Gorman**

## **Attention All Moms:**

It is that time of year again, to get rid of the old toys and make room for the new.

The Mission Friend Class at the First Baptist Church are taking up old toys and clothes for one of our projects. We send the toys and clothes to Honduras. We have met a new friend. His name is Craig Rodgers. He is a missionary in Honduras. He now lives here in Gorman. He was telling Miss Karen about how thrilled the children in Honduras are to get even used toys and clothes. Honduras is a poor country and people have a really hard time making ends meet.

We are trying to teach the children how lucky we are to live in the U.S.A. and how we are all rich compared to most children in Honduras. And how God loves all of these children as much as he loves us. God expects us to take care of the needy and to share what we have. So we through this would be a great way to start training these 4 and 5 year old.

So please take time and sort our the toys and clothes you can, bring them to the First Baptist Church or to Karen Guthery or Kathy Ervin's homes. Thank you so much and God will Bless you. Have a Merry Christmas and always remember the true meaning of Christmas.

**Mission Friends** 

## We Work For FREE!!!!

The students of Gorman High School are doing different Community Service Projects on Friday, December 15, 2006. If you need help cleaning or decorating your yard for the Christmas Holidays -WE WANT TO HELP YOU !!! Please contact Vicki Brown at the Gorman High School - 734-2614 or 734-6736 for more information. we will begin at 9:00 a.m. and work until 12 noon. Thank you for your support, The Student Advisory Group.

# **City Commission Minutes**

#### **DECEMBER 7, 2006**

The Gorman City Commission met in Regular Session on the above date. Those present were Mayor Robert, Commissioners Charlie Torrez, Don Underwood, Joe Casey, and Nathan Files. Also present were Barbara Fenley, Billy Carson, and Lori Dodd. Don led the opening prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge. Mayor Ervin called the meeting to order @ 5:32 p.m. Don made the motion to approve the minutes as read. Charlie made a second. Motion carried 4-0. Charlie made the motion to approve the bills for payment. Don made a second and the motion carried 4-0. Barbara was present for any questions about the monthly report. She also mentioned that there had been reports of problems with people dumping household trash in business dumpsters. Barbara informed the Commission that when anyone is caught or reported dumping trash they would be cited. In fact, some have already been given a citation. Tacy will place an ad in the paper in reference to this. Billy gave a report on the Dept. of Criminal Justice Vehicle Replacement grant application.

## **2006 GORMAN LIVESTOCK SHOW**

#### DECEMBER 16, 2006 @ 9:00 a.m.

Concession stand available in the cafeteria by Gorman Livestock Raisers Assoc.

Shawn Boles.....Show Director / Ag Science Teacher Curry Allen.....Judge, Retired Ag Science Teacher, Jim Ned ISD 9:00 LAMB DIVISION

Southdown Medium Wool Grand Champion Lamb **Reserve Grand Lamb** Showmanship Sr. Jr. and Pee Wee 10:00 GOAT DIVISION Light Weight Light / Medium Weight Heavy Medium Weight Heavy Weight Grand Champion Market Goat **Reserve Champion Market Goat** 11:30 STEER DIVISION

Grand Champion Market Steer **Reserve Champion Market Steer** Steer Showmanship 12:00 LUNCH BREAK

#### 12:30 SWINE DIVISION

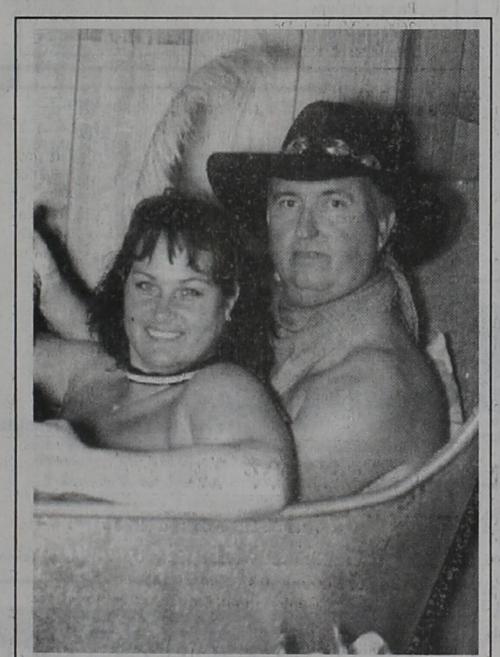
Berkshires Durocs Hampshires Polands Spots White OPB Yorkshires Crosses

Grand Champion Market Swine Reserve Grand Champion Market Swine Swine Sr., Jr., and Pee Wee Showmanship The Gorman Livestock Raisers Association would like to take this time to let everyone know how much we appreciate your loyal support. Your purchases of fruit, meat, candles, or a drawing help us raise the funds we need to buy our kids animals at county. To the businesses that contribute products, "cut us a great deal, or donate money we thank you so much. You do make a difference!

A generous donation has been made to the Gorman EDC to be distributed to the 40 families that lost their homes last New Years Day. Each of the families will be receiving a \$200 gift certificate in Gorman Bucks to be spent in any of the local businesses. Local merchants are being contacted, letting them know these families may be purchasing their products and services in the coming weeks and months.



For additional information contact Lori Dodd or Jessica Lara at 734-3933.



This day I will marry my best friend, the one I laugh with, live for, love Debra Miertschin daughter of Melvin and Mary Miertschin and

The officers discussed their overtime, and work schedules with the Commission.

Lori gave a report to the Commission.

Nathan made the motion to adopt Resolution #12-07-2006, DCJ Grant Application. Don made a second. Motion carried 4-0.

There being no further business for discussion, Don made the motion to adjourn with a second from Charlie. Motion carried 4-0. Time was 6:25 p.m.

## **Child Safety Seat Class Planned Dec. 20**

Eastland County Safe Kids & Tech\*Star EMS Education will be conducting a child safety seat class on December 20, 2006 at 7pm in the Teaching/Conference Room at Eastland Memorial Hospital. If you are unable to purchase a new child safety seat, you may attend this class to get a free seat. For more information, please call us at; 254-734-5989.

#### **Charlie Garrett Library** - Donation Charlie Garrett Memorial Library

has received another donation of good books. Several of the books are large print. We also have books that you can have for a donation to the library. If you like to read, come in and check out some books! We are open Monday thru Friday from 3:00 to 5:00, Saturday and Tuesday morning from 9:00 to 12:00. Also we have a hug amount of books that are overdue. If you have an overdue book, please return it. The drop box is always available if the library is closed.

Plate. Bank.

## **Address of Jack Harrison** For Friends To Write Him

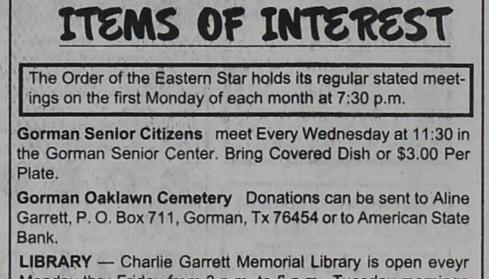
Jack Harrison is in a Texarkana Nursing Home. His daughter has given her address as a way to write to Jack:

**Patricia Phillips** 2600 St. Michaels Dr. Texarkana, TX 75503

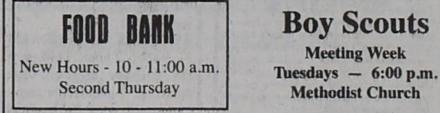
# **Gorman ISD "Wall of Honor"**

The Gorman Athletic Boosters would like to remind those who would like to purchase a memory brick, that we are still taking orders. Individual engraved pavers are 4" x 8" in size, and can include three lines with twelve characters. The price of the individual paver is \$25.00 each. We will also be offering a business, family, organization, or "special event" paver that will measure 8" x 8", and can include four lines with twelve characters. The price of the large paver is \$50.00 each. The initial installation will begin soon, and we would like to have as many bricks as possible to start the project.

We encourage everyone to buy a paver and let those memories be a permanent part of the landscape at Brogdon Field. We believe this project will be a great source of pride for our school, and for our community. Anyone who wishes to purchase a memory brick; please contact, Bob Powell at 734-3322, Becky Swanner at 734-2480, or any member of the Gorman Athletic Boosters.



Monday thru Friday from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday mornings from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and Saturday mornings from 9 to 12 starting September 2nd.



**Boy Scouts Meeting Week** 

SANDRA CAGLE WILL BE IN GORMAN AT THE CITY OFFICE TO RENEW AUTO LICENSE PLATES. HER NEXT VISIT - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20th FROM 9 - NOON 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.

Lonnie Bennett

son of Joe and the late Maxine Bennett

hope that you will join in this celebration on Wednesday, the twenty-seventh of December Two thousand and six at seven o'clock in the evening The Chapel on the Bosque 525 E. Washington

Stephenville, Texas

## Thursday, December 14th from 5:30PM-6:30PM

**MAXFIELD ELEMENTARY** 

**OPEN HOUSE** 

You Are Invited to The Resident's Christmas Party at Heritage Manor on December 14, 2006 Open House from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Come and join us for Food, Fun, and Fellowship

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.

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

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. Mark Wilkerson, Master - Pat Moseley, Secretary.

PAGE TWO

THE GORMAN PROGRESS

**DECEMBER 14, 2006** 

# Obituaries

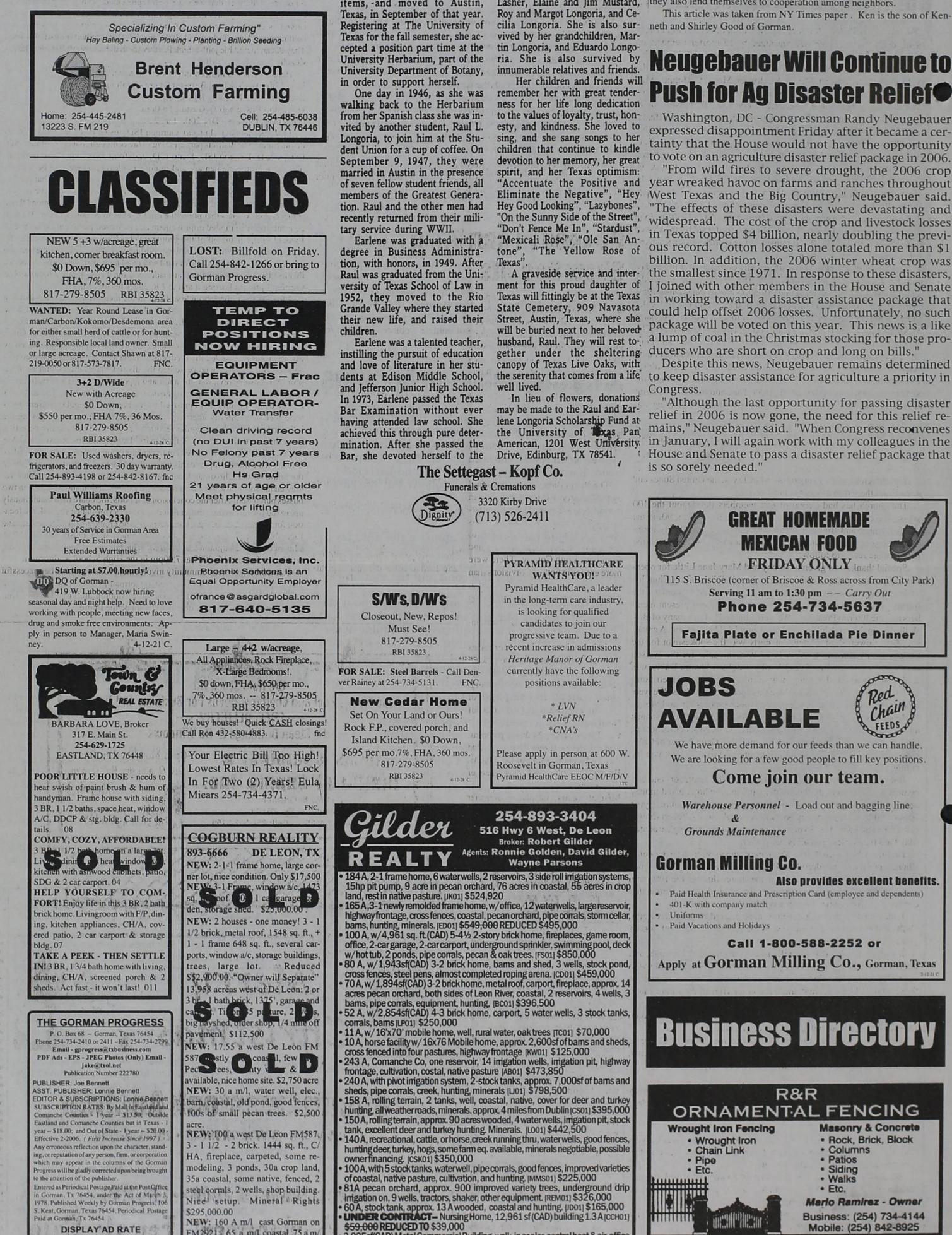
## **James W. Richards**

James W. Richards, age 59 of Proctor, Tx passed away on Wednesday, December 6, 2006 at Comanche Co. Medical Center. Graveside services were held Friday, December 8 at 3:00 p.m. at Capital Memorial Park in Pflugerville, TX. Masonic Rites were held.

James was a machinist; farmer/rancher; lived in Dublin area 18 years, having previously lived in Manor, Tx. He was a Baptist. He was a member Colorado Lodge #96 in Webberville, Tx.

He was born on March 15, 1947 in Austin, TX to the late Wilson L. Richards and Mary Elizabeth Rightmire Richards. He married Juanita Brooks on August 10, 1973 in Bastrop Co., Texas.

He is survived by his wife, Juanita Richards of Proctor; son James William Richards of Round Rock; daughter Shasta Richards of Proctor; two sisters Cathrine Cowan of Portland, OR and Elizabeth Wendland of Austin.



MARTHA EARLENE MOORMAN LONGORIA died peacefully on December 1, 2006 at the age of 81. Born on March 22, 1925 at Gorman, Texas, to Earl Clayborn Moorman and Sorentha Winters Claitor Moorman, she graduated from Gorman High School in 1942, ranked third in her class. In a day when no government assistance for higher education existed, she could not immediately pursue her goal of a higher education.

By September 1945, she had saved enough to begin her new life, buying a suitcase large enough to pack her personal items, -and moved to Austin,

practice of law and to her children to enable Raul to pursue his political career in the Texas Legislature. Through Earlene's tireless support as a political wife, he won loyal friends and 12 elections, to serve for 30 years as a State Representative, State Senator and finally District Judge.

Earlene and Raul had been married for 53 years, when Raul died on May 9, 2001. Throughout that time, Earlene loved and supported him. To her family she truly gave her all.

She is survived by her children and their spouses, Sam and Cher Longoria, Janiece and Steve Lasher, Elaine and Jim Mustard,

## Ken Good Keeping **Lights Moving In Tyler**

Ken Good, 45, a lawyer in Tyler, Tex., switched from a static to a computerized display last year. He said he uses 300 extension cords to run more than 30,000 synchronized lights in his Christmas display, which includes a 12-foot inflatable snowman on the roof and a multimedia show with a voiceover. As the lights dim, a machine fills his yard with fog and a moving spotlight appears. A drum roll sounds, and red lights flash in one tree, then another, then a third, in an accelerating but seemingly random sequence, to the strains of "Reflections of Earth," a k a the fireworks theme from Epcot. At the crescendo, white strobes shine on a different tree, creating a sparkling effect, and the original trees resume their dance in blue, green and red. Finally the entire yard is illuminated in green.

"It's dramatic," he said.

The music portion of Mr. Good's 25- to 30-minute show, which repeats for several hours each night, can be heard on car radios in his cul-desac. It includes "Believe" from "The Polar Express" and "Silent Night" and ends with "Amazing Grace."

Predictably, computerized light shows are becoming part of the annual display competitions sent up in the recent movie "Deck the Halls," but they also lend themselves to cooperation among neighbors.

# **Neugebauer Will Continue to** Push for Ag Disaster Relief

expressed disappointment Friday after it became a certainty that the House would not have the opportunity

"From wild fires to severe drought, the 2006 crop year wreaked havoc on farms and ranches throughout West Texas and the Big Country," Neugebauer said. "The effects of these disasters were devastating and widespread. The cost of the crop and livestock losses in Texas topped \$4 billion, nearly doubling the previous record. Cotton losses alone totaled more than \$1 billion. In addition, the 2006 winter wheat crop was the smallest since 1971. In response to these disasters, I joined with other members in the House and Senate in working toward a disaster assistance package that could help offset 2006 losses. Unfortunately, no such package will be voted on this year. This news is a like a lump of coal in the Christmas stocking for those pro-

Despite this news, Neugebauer remains determined to keep disaster assistance for agriculture a priority in

"Although the last opportunity for passing disaster

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FM2921; 65 a m/l coastal, 75 a m/ wooded, water well, pond, steel corral, indications show lots deer, turkey and hogs, mineral rights. \$2,900.00 NEW: 240 a south Gorman, 120a fields, 80a wooded, 40a coastal, 2 small ponds, water well, in an great hunting area, lots of deer sign, great place! Mineral Rights \$2,250.00 acre. We NEED Your Listings. The market is Good. Call Us. SELLING **GORMAN - DE LEON AREAS OVER 50 YEARS** 

3,925sf(CAD) Metal Commercial Building, walk-in cooler, central heat & air, office & storage areas, restrooms [BW02] \$75,000 See Pictures at: www.GilderRealty.com **Riley Gardner Memorial Represented By** JONELL TORREZ - 254-734-2535 GEORGE THOMAS GREEN 1944 - 2013 teed.



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**KOKOMO NEWS** 

**BY ZELDA JORDAN** 

#### **Dedication and 100th Anniversary Celebration of Kokomo Baptist Church**

Sunday, December 10, 2006 was a glorious day at the Kokomo Baptist Church as members, former members, a former pastor, former pastors families and many visitors gathered for the dedication of the new Kokomo Baptist Church Building and to celebrate 100 years of the church.

The service began with an organ concert from 9:30 to 10:00 A.M. by Mr. Burton Patterson, who donated the organ to the church. At 10:00 Chairman of Deacons Joe Bond welcomed the very large crowd (the church was full). Then Woodrow Browning, Music Director, led the congregation in singing the hymn, "Serve The Lord With Gladness" with Helen Browning at the piano and Glynda Bond at the organ. Bro. Andy Hansen gave the opening prayer. The congregation then sang "Victory In Jesus". Joe Bond led the church in the Dedication Service of the new building, and Rev. Jim Haggard gave the prayer of Dedication. The Special Music, "Standing On Holy Ground" was by Daryl Hirst.

A former pastor, Rev. Jim Andrews of Eastland, gave a brief history of the church. The church was organized by 13 charter members on June 9, 1906. The charter members were: Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Hendricks, Mr. and Mrs. John Lasater, Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Hopper, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. McBeth, A. S. Shugart, Mrs. R. W. Hopper, Mrs T. C. Hopper, Mrs. A. W. Jones, and Mrs. Betty Hammett. The fourteen pastors of the church were: T.H.B. McAlester, J.L. Mayes, E. E. Mason, B. F. Clements, W. E. Holley, Willie Skaggs, Leslie Tonn, Jack L. Heath, Buel Bryan, J. W. O'Neal, Bob Watson, Jim Andrews, Bob Watson, and Clarence Wilson. The church is without a pastor at this time. S. F. Hendricks was the first deacon. Other deacons ordained by the church were: O. O. Mann, W. H. Whitley, J.N. Jordan, Jesse Parker, A. B. Eaves, Odis Rodgers, Glenn Jordan, Jimmy Little, Joe Bond and J. C. Clearman. Other deacons accepted from their previous churches were: Dr. Shelly Roaten, Wayne Eaves, Wayne White, Allen Crosby, Lee Bishop, Woodrow Browning, Horace Browning, Ottis Griffith, John Rice, Joe Hodges and Bobby Little. Ministers ordained by the church were Preston Frasier, L. R. Higginbottom and Jim Andrews. Euell Allison was licensed for the ministry.

Services were held once a month, usually on Saturday and Sunday, until 1937, and twice a month until 1959. They met in brush arbors, the schoolhouse, under a tabernacle and in the community center until 1959, sharing the buildings with other churches of the community. In 1959, a church building was purchased and moved to a tract of land donated by Albert and Nancy Hendricks. Fire completely destroyed that building during a severe ice storm on December 29, 1969. The church met for services in the Higginbotham's old funeral chapel in Gorman until a new brick building was completed in November 1970. That building was completely destroyed by the wild fire that came through the Kokomo Community on January 1, 2006. The church met in the home of Bobby and Mary Jane Little until this beautiful new building was completed.

### **DESDEMONA NEWS BY VONNIE GUTHERY**

THE GORMAN PROGRESS

Ladies Monthly Social was held on Monday, December 11 at the Desdemona Community Center School Building. Twenty five ladies attended this Christmas Luncheon. Ladies attended from Gorman, Stephenville and other area towns. Lots of good food and fellowship was enjoyed by everyone. The tables and entire room was decorated with Christmas decor. Gifts were exchanged followed by Bingo games, dominoes, etc. Hostess was Linda Lindley. Next Ladies social will be held on Monday, January 9 at the same location. Visitors are always welcome to attend.

Dorothy Roberts spent last Monday in a Fort Worth Hospital having several tests done on her heart condition. No reports on the results at this time.

Homer Joe Sparkman of Stephenville is scheduled to have back surgery this week. Home Joe and Dorothy were classmates all thru the years and they graduated with the Class of 1946 from Desdemona High School.

Remember these and others in our small community with your cards and prayers. Take time our during this busy "Holiday Season" to visit the sick and shut-ins. Also remember the needy with your gifts.

Roy and Angela Powledge hosted a birthday party for their son, Colin at the Bowling Center in Stephenville on Friday night, December 8. Colin celebrated his 11th birthday with family and friends.

Happy 13th Birthday to or great granddaughter, Lorin Kaye on Friday, December 22 from Granny Coon and Granke of Desdemona.

Mildred Million attended the Christmas Band Concert last Monday night at the Dublin School Auditorium to see her great granddaughter, 111 26 3 Halie Million play her instrument.

"Birthday Card Shower" for Roy Lee Whitlock c/o Heritage Manor in Gorman, Texas 76454. His birthday is on Wednesday, December 20th and will enjoy hearing from his "Hogtown" friends,

Have a Great Day, Coon

# **De Leon Pecan Bake Show Results**

Robin Rodrigues of Comanche was named Grand Champion winner of the Youth Division of the 2006 Pecan Bake Show on Friday afternoon, December 8, for her German Chocolate Pecan Pie. Makayla Robbins, also of Comanche, won Reserve Champion for her Pecan Caramel Candies. In the Adult Division, Grand

Champion was awarded to Jane Sims of De Leon for Toll House Pie, and Cake class among Youth. Placings in the Adult Division include: Cookies: 1st place - Valarie Tynes, 2nd place - Anna Thompson of

Dublin, 3rd place - Jeannie Moore of De Leon. Candy: 1st place - Jeannie Moore, 2nd place - Jane Sims, 3rd place + Suzann Thompson of Dublin. Pie:1st place - Jane Sims. Cake: 1st place - Jane Sims. Bread: 1st place - Jane Sims. Miscellaneous: 1st place - Jane Sims.

# **Super Notes**

By David K. Perry

dperry@gorman.esc14.net - - 734-3171

Christmas is going to be here before we know it and it looks like we have something going on almost everyday until we get out on the 19th. I hope your schedule is not so busy. This is the time of year when we all need to take. time to reflect on why we celebrate Christmas and focus on Jesus and the wonderful gift that He was to the world; a gift of love. To me, this is the real reason we exchange gifts with our friends and family. It is simply a time to express love. I would like to wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a happy and blessed New Year! And, as always, thank you for sharing your children with us!

Sorry about my article not running in the Gorman paper last week. It was lost somewhere in cyberspace between the school and Gorman Progress. This will be my last article until after the Christmas break. I will start up again after the students return in January. I would like to thank both newspaper organizations for running my article each week. It provides the school with a means by which to keep you informed about what we are doing and we do appreciate them and their contributions to our community!

Coach Talbert put all the information in the paper last week about the District Honors received by individual Panthers on the football team and I think you will agree that we were well represented. Our young men did an excellent job this year, but he forgot to mention one award; the one he received as coach of the year. I want to take this opportunity to praise and congratulate Coach Talbert and all the coaches that coached football this year. They did an incredible job! I think Panther football has a bright future. Thanks Coach!

Here are a few dates you might want to remember: Dec, 15th - High School Basketball here - 4:00pm Dec. 18th & 19th - Early Release-12:30 Dec 19th - Basketball @ Gustine 5:00pm Christmas Holidays - Dec 20th- Jan. 2nd.

Last Tuesday and Thursday Gorman ISD hosted this year's U.I.L. Academic Meet. The districts participating in the competition were Gorman ISD, Ranger ISD, DeLeon ISD, Santo ISD, and Tolar ISD. We came in fourth place at both the elementary and junior high level. There will be another submission to the paper by the sponsors that will show everyone that participated and how they placed in their events. I don't have a copy of the results, but I understand that we earned more points than last year. Tcommend those students and coaches that put in the time it takes to be competitive. We will concentrate on continued improvement and increased participation next year. I would like to thank all of the people involved in our hosting the competition, but especially the two primary coordinators: Mrs. Jackie Gutierrez and Mrs. Shanna Lewis. It is a lot of hard work and they did a great job. A special thanks goes out to everyone that made food for the hospitality room and to Carolyn Little for hosting it and to J.R. Jones for assisting.

Monday night the school board met in the auditorium and the following people were present: Trustees - Mr. Rich, Mr. Seaton, Ms. Harrington, Mrs. Underwood, Mr. Thompson Mr. Hirst, and Mr. Simmons; Administrators -Mr. Perry, Mr. Panter, Mrs. Reeves, Mrs. Hampton, and Coach Talbert; Guest Burl Lowery. The meeting was called to order and a prayer was offered by Mr. Rich and then he led the Pledge of Allegiance. President Rich then recognized Burl Lowery who presented the district's annual financial audit report. Mr. Lowery reviewed the audit and reported the District to be in excellent financial condition; reporting no accounting irregularities. The audit was accepted and unanimously approved by the board. The regular consent items were then unanimously approved (approving previous minutes, paying the bills, and payroll). Next regular reports were received that require no action from the board from Coach Talbert, Mrs. Hampton, Mrs. Reeves, and Mr. Panter. Mr. Perry then reviewed contract negotiations taking place with Cadco, discussed the district report cards that will be sent to all parents, and informed the board of the Christmas luncheon at ZJ's. The superintendent then reviewed the form to be used next month for his evaluation and reported on two busses purchased. After the conclusion of reports, the board then unanimously approved the following: the annual employee performance stipend, the location for the new L.E.D. sign, conditions for the employment of Schwartz and Eichelbaum, P.C., and the Interlocal agreement with TASB BUYBOARD. The meeting was adjourned at 8:31pm. The January School Board meeting show this year. These are sold for will be on January 15, 2007 at 7:00pm in the High School Auditorium. Remember, it takes community involvement for a school to be successful and you are welcome to get involved at Gorman ISD anytime. This is your school; these are your children; and these children are your future! Your

The first service in the new church was on Sunday, October 29. 2006. Many interim preachers filled the pulpit throughout the year.

The church supports many missions in Texas, the United States and throughout the world as well as local needs.

The church has had a total of 652 members throughout the 100 years. The current membership is 86. Johnnie B. Griffith, 90, is the oldest member and Breckley Little, 11, is the youngest. Many members have gone on to be with the Lord, but they left a wonderful Christian heritage for us to follow.

Special thanks was given to Bobby and Mary Jane Little for opening their home to us to worship during the rebuilding of our Church.

Following the history of the church Jimmy Little recognized the former pastors and pastor's families, former members, present members and the Interim Preachers. We were honored to have many of Bro. Willie Skaggs's grandchildren and great grandchildren present. A grandson, Bro. Lowell Dean Skaggs, of Early was the spokesman for the Skaggs family. Mrs. Bob (Vera Jean) Watson spoke for the Watson family. A letter from Bro. Joe O'Neal's daughter, Sharon Davis, was read. It was wonderful to have many former members and their families and many visitors come to share this special day with us. We were honored to have some descendents of charter members Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Hendricks: Patsy Collins of Eastland, Sylvia Hendricks Buchanan and Nancy Hendricks of Gorman, and Mrs. A. W. Jones descendents, E. G. Henderson of Lake Leon and Mr. and Mrs. Gene Parker of Colorado City present. We love and appreciate everyone. Thank you for coming.

Bobby Little gave special recognition to all the volunteers and carpenters who helped build the building and to all who donated money and special items such as pianos, the organ, pulpit furniture, hymn books, children's toys and toy box, kitchen appliances, kitchen shower gifts, time and labor. Ken Lynch of Carbon was the finishing carpenter. May God richly bless you all is our prayer.

Dr. Jimmy Nelson, a Baptist Missionary who grew up in the Kokomo Church, brought a wonderful challenging message from God's Word reminding us how God has been with the church through the 100 years and that He will continue to bless us as we faithfully serve Him in this community. Bro. James Hunter gave the closing prayer.

Following the service, a delicious meal catered by Dale and Kathy Collum of Huckabay, was enjoyed in the fellowship hall with lots of visiting until mid afternoon.

It truly was a day that we will always remember and cherish, and thank God for His blessings and guidance and for every member who faithfully served Him through this church the last 100 years, and for those who will be a servant and witness for Him in the future years. Visitors are always welcome at the Kokomo Baptist Church.

Deliah and Chris Lewis of Ennis spent the weekend with her dad, Delmon Eaves and attended the Church celebration.

Shannon, Stephanie, Raegan, Sydnie and Joey Bond of Copperas Cove, and Brian Bond of Dallas spent the weekend with their parents, Joe and Glynda Bond and attended the Church celebration.

Richard and Teresa Nachtigall of Morgan Mill visited on Sunday with Joe and Barbara Fields and they all attended the church celebration.

Billy and Sheryl Burgess of Granbury and daughter Alissa Burgess and Aline Garrett of Gorman visited with Durwood and Aletha Burgess and attended the church celebration.

Scott, Caye, Zack and Zane Mauney of Santo visited with Charles from diabetic eye disease, the and Carolyn Little and Alan, Justin, Ally and Emma Little and they all National Eye Institute (NEI), one of attended the church celebration.

Reserve Champion was awarded to Valarie Tynes of Rising Star for Rocks (cookies that her husband also raved about!).

The Pecan Bake Show, sponsored by the De Leon 4-H Club, was held in conjunction with the Country Christmas at De Leon City Hall, and was open to anyone living in or going to school in Comanche County, Eastland County or Erath County. There were more entries in both age divisions than last year, and the club was excited to have participation from neighboring counties.

Placings in the Youth Division include:

Cookies: 1st place - Mercedes Rodrigues of Comanche, 2nd place -Mackenzie Robbins of Comanche, 3rd place - Katherine Bean of Newburg, other entries - Eva Frederick of Dublin and Kimberly Burks of Newburg.

Candy: 1st place - Makayla Robbins. Pie: 1st place - Robin Rodrigues, 2nd place - Keely Kasberg of Comanche. Bread: 1st place - E. J. Cotten of Comanche.

Miscellaneous: 1st place – Jennifer Sims, 2nd place - Michael Burks of Comanche. There were no entries in the



#### **Diabetes And Your Vision**

(NAPSA)-Learning more about eye disease could save your vision, especially if you have diabetes.

Each year, thousands of Americans experience vision loss as a result of diabetic eye disease, a group of eye complications of diabetes.

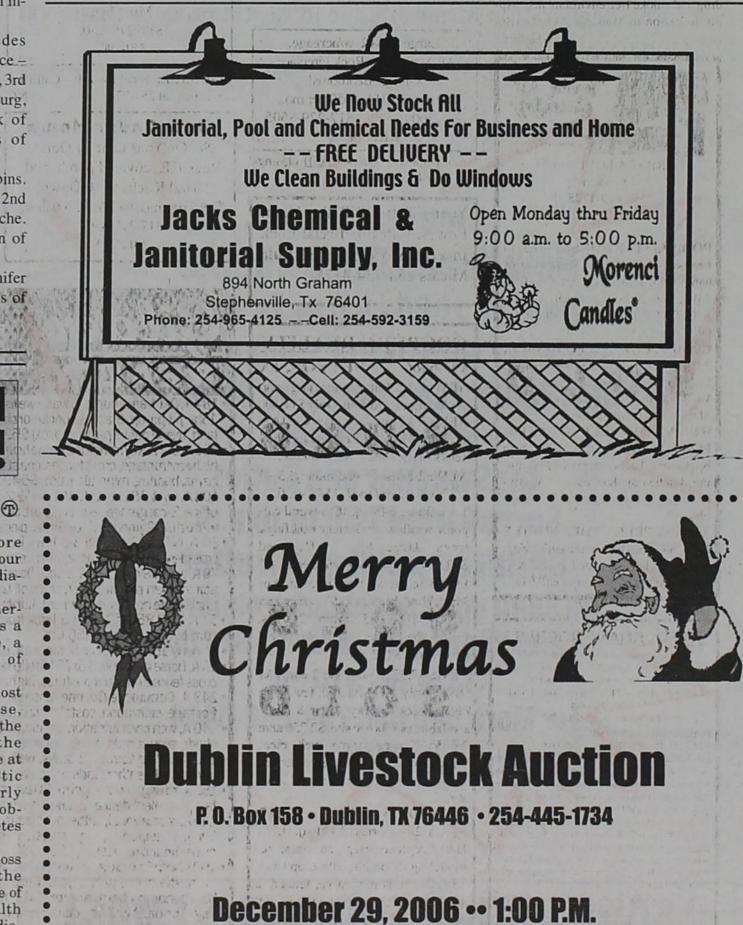
Diabetic retinopathy, the most common diabetic eye disease, occurs when diabetes damages the tiny blood vessels inside the retina, the light-sensitive tissue at the back of the eye. Diabetic retinopathy often has no early warning signs. Other eye problems that can result from diabetes include cataract and glaucoma.

To reduce the risk of vision loss the National Institutes of Health (NIH), encourages people with diabetes to have a dilated eye exam at least once a year and recommends behaviors to help people keep their health on TRACK: Take your medications as prescribed by your doctor. • Reach and maintain a healthy weight. Add more physical activity to • Control your ABCs: A1C, blood pressure, and cholesterol levels. • Kick the smoking habit. Getting annual eye exams, timely treatment and appropriate follow-up care can reduce the risk of blindness by 90 percent. To learn more, visit www.nei.nih.gov/ diabetes/.

Over the next twelve months, practice with your recipes and be ready to enter the Pecan Bake Show next year!

A booklet of recipes entered in the 2005 show was available at the 25¢ each to cover the cost of printing. The recipes entered in this year's show will be available at next year's show.

input is always welcome. Come help us shape the future.



Glenda Black of Abilene spent the weekend with her mother, Zelda Jordan and attended the church celebration.

Gary, Donna, Lesley and Garrett Gatlin and Gary, Rebecca, Emily and Lance Browning of Graham visited with their parents, Woodrow and Helen Browning and attended the church celebration.

Dale, Kathy, Scott and Matt Collum visited with Gene and Kay Snider and Mike, Crystal, Rachel and Michelle Snider and attended the church celebration. Dale and Kathy catered the meal served at the church. Dale's parents Bill and Helen Collum of Desdemona, and the your daily routine. ladies of the church assisted in serving the meal.

Larry and Paula Morrow and their sons, Lance, Lavne and Lenny and their families all attended the church celebration

I would like to list all who came for the church dedication and celebration, but there were just too many, around 250, and I might miss someone.

## We look forward to seeing you. No SALE December 22nd.

Winter Replacement Female Sale

**Bred Cows • Pairs • Young Bulls** 

PAGE FOUR

**DECEMBER 14, 2006** 

# **Senior Citizens News**

Carol Ward

We enjoyed our Christmas evening meal on December 7th at 5 p.m. There were 30 in attendance and Bro. Barry Schahn blessed our food. There were many delicious different kinds of desserts and vegetable dishes. Ann Maxfield and Barbara Bush prepared the meats, and outdid themselves. We enjoyed Ham and Turkey breast. Also Anna Rush made her delicious dressing as only she can, so very good.

We played Chinese X-Mas so all received a gift, and lots of fun. Several of us went together and gave Barbara a large poinsettia. Just beautiful, from Shondas. We certainly do appreciate her and all she does for us. There are several of us who help her, so it all doesn't fall on her to accomplish.

After our meal about a dozen of us stayed to play games. It was a good evening. We also had several ladies from Desdemona with us. Always good to see them.

I nearly forgot to mention, Estelle Lindley made her very good bread for our supper. It was think sliced coarse grained, reminded me of the delicious bread they use to have at the old Lowake Steakhouse.

Betty Regian and I were in Stephenville for her daughter Faye's surgical procedure. She is doing fine and all looked good. While there we visited Melba Frazier who had surgery. She is OK, naturally some soreness in her neck and I know she is looking forward to coming home.

A Thought for the week -

"The unselfish effort to bring cheer to others will be the beginning of a happier life for ourselves." Helen Keller **Pig Tales From Hogtown** 

The last two weekends here in Desdemona have given us all the Christmas Spirit! Thanks to everyone who shopped at the Christmas Store. We had some really nice things this year and a wonderful place to display them. Did you all enjoy breakfast on December 2? Remember to come to the DAC for breakfast on the first Saturday of January and every month of the New Year.

Our computer is in operation and connected to the Internet for anyone who is interested. The DAC will be open every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 3:00 P.M. until 6:00 P.M. Students, do you have papers to write or research you must do while on Christmas break? Adults, do you want to do some research or just "play" on the computer? Please come during one of the above times and someone will be at the DAC to help. At least we will try to help. Maybe we can learn from you!

Watch for details about the opening of the library. A very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

Carol Pell



#### Tax Equality For Texas

The holiday shopping season is upon us, and over the next few weeks, Texans will spend millions of dollars purchasing gifts for friends and loved ones. Added to each purchase price is a sales tax, which is higher in Texas than most other states. In the past, these purchases were essentially taxed twice – first by the federal government on the earnings used to make the purchase, and then by the state on the purchase itself. However, a bill passed by Congress in the last days of our December session allows Texans to deduct the sales tax from their federal income taxes.

Extending the state sales tax deduction was one of my top legislative priorities this fall. The Texas Comptroller's Office reported that the sales tax deduction saves a family of four \$310 a year, or a total of about \$1 billion each year for the state's residents who itemize deductions.

Maintaining this deduction is an issue of fairness. Taxpayers in Texas, Alaska, Florida, Washington, Nevada, South Dakota, Tennessee and Wyoming were set to be penal-



#### **Type 2 Diabetes: Screening Can Save Lives**

During the last few decades, Type 2 diabetes has become a major health epidemic both throughout Texas and across the country. Unlike some chronic diseases, Type 2 can be prevented, delayed, or managed through sound lifestyle choices. We should all know more about this process.

Type 2 diabetes occurs when sugar builds up in the bloodstream, instead of being transferred into cells in the body where it can be used as fuel. When this buildup occurs, cells are starved for energy. Over time, high blood glucose levels can harm the eyes, kidneys, nerves and heart.

Before people are afflicted with Type 2 diabetes, they often develop "pre-diabetes," blood sugar levels that are higher than normal, but not yet high enough to be diagnosed as full Type 2. An estimated 54 million people—one in six Americans—have pre-diabetes, and this puts them at risk for long-term damage.

The disease tends to hit several U.S. demographic groups especially hard, including Hispanics, African Americans and senior citizens. The growth of Type 2 diabetes is a serious public health concern, and has huge financial consequences for U.S. taxpayers through federal programs especially Medicare and Medicaid.

Type 2 can often be prevented by maintaining healthy eating habits, a healthy weight, and a regular exercise schedule. If not completely prevented with these measures, the disease can often be controlled successfully with an early diagnosis.

Left untreated, Type 2 can have debilitating effects, including severe cardiovascular disease, blindness, kidney disease or failure, amputation of affected body parts, and nervous system damage. In severe cases, this disease can be fatal.

Medicare beneficiaries with diabetes account for 32 percent—nearly one in every three dollars—of Medicare spending. According to a recent study in Diabetes Care, of the estimated 35 million Medicare beneficiaries age 65 or older, 21 million—over 60 percent—are afflicted with either diabetes or pre-diabetes.

According to the American Diabetes Association, some people with Type 2 diabetes experience symptoms, but others may have the disease for up to a decade without obvious symptoms. Also, some Type 2 symptoms resemble other diseases or conditions, making it harder to predict an accurate diagnosis without additional information.

Of the seven million Medicare beneficiaries with Type 2, nearly half of them are not yet diagnosed. Virtually all of the 14 million Medicare beneficiaries with pre-diabetes are undiagnosed.

In 2004, nearly 18 percent of Texans aged 65 and older had diabetes. According to the Texas Diabetes Council, diabetes is the sixth leading cause of death in our state, and is likely underreported as a cause of death, as well,

Many of the consequences of this disease could be prevented or successfully managed by early diagnosis, modest treatment, and better diet and exercise decisions. A landmark National Institutes of Health clinical trial—the Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP)—showed that even modest changes in exercise and diet can prevent Type 2 in 58 percent of people at high risk for the disease.

# February 2007 EXIT Level TAAS and TAKS Registration Information

st Administration:
TAAS
Writing
Mathematics
Reading

TAKS Exit Level Test Administration:

Dates	IAKS
February 20	ELA
February 21	Mathematics
February 22	Science
February 23	Social Studies
are the make property of the weather these	The state of the s

All out of school TAAS and TAKS examinees must complete a registration form. If you have any questions about which test to take or how to register, contact Mrs. Hampton at 734-2614 or call toll free, 800-552-0302. You can register by accessing the website http://k12testing.tx.ncspearson.com or by completing a registration form. Registration forms are due in Austin no later than 5:00 pm January 19, 2007.

I non Star Lanes New Year's Eve Sweeper Dec. 31, 2006 - 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Sweeper with Buffet Sunday Night Sweeper with Buffet Sunday Night Subserved 's Eve - Come On Come All Subserved 's Eve - Come On Come All Subserved from 7:30 to 10 p.m. Children Bowl and Buffet Starber Bowl and Buffet And Under Free - 5 to 12 - \$10.00 I a to 18 - \$20.00 To More Info Call 254-968-0440 BYOB ized had this deduction not been reinstated. In states where revenue is collected through state income taxes, residents have long been allowed to deduct state income taxes on their federal tax returns. From 1986-2004, the residents of states without a state income tax were penalized because of their state's choice to collect revenue through sales taxes.

Congress approved a two-year sales tax deduction in 2004, but that expired at the end of last year. Had Congress not reinstated this deduction for 2006 and 2007, Texans would have been unfairly penalized again. Thankfully, Congress did and ensured tax equity. However, this unfair limitation is set to return in 2008. I remain dedicated to making this deduction permanent, so Texans are not treated like secondclass citizens in regards to paying taxes.

The tax extenders package included several other measures that benefit our state's students, citizens and businesses. Among them is a deduction for college tuition and fees. This saves families thousands of dollars and allows a greater number of students to attend college each year. It allows those who earn up to \$65,000 (or \$130,000 for a married couple) to take an educational deduction worth up to \$4,000. Families with higher incomes (up to \$80,000 for an individual or \$160,000 for a couple) may qualify for a deduction worth up to \$2,000. Another important part of this bill benefits classroom teachers, who will be allowed to deduct \$250 for classroom supplies and expenses. Our teachers certainly deserve a break for reaching into their own pockets to improve the learning environment of our children.

Technological innovation makes crucial contributions to long-term economic growth, and research and development is the lifeblood of innovation. To support this, the research and development tax credit was also extended. Supporting research and development helps American manufacturers and the U.S. economy remain competitive with increased competition from foreign countries and leads to additional American jobs in high-tech industries. Low tax rates continue to stimulate our economy and create jobs. The economy has grown for 20 consecutive quarters. In the past year, almost 2 million jobs have been created, and the unemployment rate is 4.4 percent, which is lower than the average rate of the 1960s, 1970s,

The federal government has been attempting to encourage early intervention, but has experienced only modest results. A major reason: We haven't done a good job of alerting people about the problem, and the resources available to those who may be at risk due to medical factors.

One way to improve our chances of fighting this disease is through increased diagnosis, and Medicare beneficiaries at risk for Type 2 are eligible for annual diabetes screening. So last week, I wrote U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Michael Leavitt to encourage increased promotion of this screening benefit, and colleagues from both sides of the aisle joined me in this effort. Under Medicare, those found to have prediabetes may be re-screened at six month intervals thereafter. These tests are a vital first step in preventing Type 2 and heading off its most serious consequences.

Participants over 60 years of age are the greatest potential beneficiaries. Simple steps can prevent onset of Type 2 in 70 percent of high-risk seniors.

If everyone who is eligible would take these screening tests, we would save, or improve the quality of, many lives. We would also be able to conserve resources for the hard-pressed Medicare program, which is increasingly strained as the Baby Boom population begins to retire.

Complications from Type 2 can be delayed indefinitely by taking relatively simple steps to improve your health. If you suspect that you, or a loved one, may be at risk for Type 2 or pre-diabetes, take the initial screening test: The course of the disease may be dramatically improved.

Sen. Cornyn is a member of the following Senate Committees: Armed Services, Judiciary, Budget, Small Business and Entrepreneurship, and Joint Economic. He is the chairman of the subcommittees on Immigration, Border Security and Citizenship and Emerging Threats and Capabilities. Cornyn served previously as Texas Attorney General, Texas Supreme Court Justice and Bexar County District Judge.



A Weekly Newsletter from Congressman Randy Neugebauer December 11, 2006

#### House Wraps Up 109th Congress

Last week the House wrapped up its legislative business both for 2006 and for the two-year 109th Congress. We covered a lot of issues that ranged from extending tax relief to protecting the unborn. Here is a rundown of some of the action that took place on the House floor:

• Both the House and the Senate passed a comprehensive tax relief package that extends items such as sales tax deductibility, the college tuition tax credit and the teacher tax deduction through 2007. These key provisions institute fairness into our tax policy and also help support education.

• I supported and voted for the Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act of 2006, H.R. 6099. Recognizing the significant body of medical research showing that babies in utero are able to feel pain, this bill would require abortion providers to give information on fetal pain to mothers seeking an abortion after 20 weeks of pregnancy. The bill received majority support in the House, but failed to pass under rules requiring two-thirds support for passage.

• The House also voted to help out physicians who offer care to Medicare beneficiaries. This bill prevents a decrease in reimbursements to doctors that was scheduled to go into effect in January. This was a much-

# EARN MONEY FOR CHRISTMAS!

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- · NEEDS to use every month
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No inventory to buy No product to sell No monthly quotas No inflated prices Simple plan with 3 streams of income including an excellent RESIDUAL INCOME!!!

- Immediate income you can earn \$500.00 within your first 2-3 weeks
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You get to save money on your own electric bill every month AND make money on hundreds of electric bills every month. Plus you can enjoy the tremendous tax advantages of owning your own thriving business!

Many single mothers as well as married couples have made hundreds within their first 1-14 days!

Please visit my website: <u>www.thumperenergy.igniteinc.biz</u> and click on Powerful Opportunity for a 10 minute multimedia presentation!

You are welcome email me at jake@txol.net The road to prosperity is just one decision away!

1980s, and 1990s. I firmly believe that taxpayers know better than the government how to spend their money, and I will continue to support pro-growth policies, because our nation benefits when taxpayers are allowed to keep more of what they earn.

needed fix that allows Medicare patients, especially those in rural areas, to continue to receive quality health care.

• The House also approved a package that includes several free trade initiatives. I am supportive of portions of the bill, such as one that would have opened up markets in Vietnam to U.S. products. However, I voted against the bill because it includes a provision that would hurt the denim mill in Littlefield, its employees, and the West Texas farmers who sell their cotton there.

A few issues will need to be revisited when Congress reconvenes in January. At the top of this list is disaster relief for those farmers in Texas and across the country who have suffered tremendous losses from this year's drought. My statement on these efforts is posted on my website www.randy.house.gov. Funding for much-needed upgrades to the housing at Dyess Air Force Base will also be on the agenda at the beginning of the next Congress. Funding approval for the final phase of this initiative is included in a bill that should be considered by early February. Stay tuned to future Roundups for updates on both of these important issues. --Randy