The Gorman Frogress

2006 Member **Texas Press Association**

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

NUMBER THIRTY-ONE

AUGUST 10, 2006

Desdemona Homecoming and School Reunion Set Aug. 12

Desdemona Homecoming and School Reunion will be held on Saturday, August 12th at the Community Center (former High School Gym). The Morning program will begin at 10:00 a.m. This is an annual affair, always on the second Saturday in August - same date been observed for over three-quarters of a century. There was some exception of years during World War II, when it was cancelled because of the shortage of gasoine and to wait for the return of our soldiers.

There is some difference of opinion as to the actual year of the begin- nole. Great grandparents are W. D. ning of the Desdemona Homecoming. Some of the oldest of the "Old Timers" say it began as far back as 1921. Others come up with a later Doyle and Nadine Fincher of Semiyear. The program has changed somewhat in the past fifty years or so.

In the early years, when the population during the "Oil Boom" was estimated at twenty eight thousand or so, a parade was formed, sometimes Patrick and Becky Guillot of Dalit was a mile in length.

Citizen's walked carrying comical signs and placards, several citizen's Guillot and Marian Nichols, both rode on horseback, covered wagons pulled by a team of horses carrying an entire family, a string music band rode on wagons and many shiny automobiles from the oldest to the newest made up a very enjoyable parade.

Beef for the noon meal was barbecued over an open pit near the Community Tabernacle. A "pitch fork" was used to turn the meat. Families from far and near brought baskets and boxes of food to spread together for the noon meal. We now have lunch catered, giving more time for visiting with friends.

Then as now, the meeting was opened with prayer, a patriotic song, welcome address, recognition of the oldest man and woman present. Also the memorial service and roll call of the ones who have passed on since the last meeting was the closing of the program.

The Homecoming was held each year at the Community Tabernacle until August 1972 when it was moved to the High School Gym. School Reunion is included with the annual Homecoming. Approximately 250 to 275 Ex-Students, Teachers and Friends attend each year.

First School Reunion was held August 1966 at the Desdemona First Baptist Church. A large crowd attended.

"Wall of Memories" has been completed on the right side in the entrance hall of the Community Center School Building. These rose colored memorial bricks are very pretty with names of Ex-Students, Teachers, Parents and Friends. Plans are being made to complete another wall on the left side. To purchase a brick contact this reporter at P.O. Box 187, Desdemona, TX 76445.

A beautiful "Throw" can be purchased - - very pretty colors and good pictures of all three school buildings, Magnolia Ball Tanks, Community Tabernacle, Oil Boom Scenes and others. To purchase a "Throw" contact this reporter at above address.

School Starts Monday, Aug. 14

School starts Monday, August 14, 2006 Maxfield Elementary is inviting you and your child to bring their school supplies early this year. We will have your student's classroom open Friday, August 11, 2006, from 12:30pm until 2:00pm for students to drop off supplies. This might be an opportunity for some of you to meet your new teacher. School begins Monday, August 14, 2006. Elementary students will start going in for breakfast at 7:45.

Gorman Peanut Festival Set For Saturday Sept. 9th

Final plans are being made for the 2006 Gorman Peanut Festival to be held on Saturday September 9th.

President for 2006 is Kevin Scitern, Vice President is Ina Smith, Secretary is Melinda Harrington, and Treasure is Janet Sanders.

Committee Chairperson are:

Goober Parade-Amber Scitern Peanut Parade- Robert Ervin

Shin Oak Spring Bar-b-Que cook-off-Shawn Boles & Tacy Warren

Booths-Kevin Scitern

Ads-Janet Sanders Queen's Contest-Lori Dodd

Entertainment-Ina Smith

Car Show-Jeannie Whittier

Drink Booth-Darrell and Pat Graham 42 tournament-James Tucker

Peanut Bake Show-Melinda and Martha Harrington

Publicity-Martha Harrington

Advertisement-Peanut Festival Committee

If you would like to serve on one of these committees please let us know. We are looking for someone to chair the 3 on 3 basketball tournament. If you are interested in doing this please or would like more information call Kevin Scitern at 734-4572.

Don't forget the Gorman Ex-Student school reunion.

De Leon Study Club Spahgetti Lunch

Come One, Come All! De Leon Study Club's Spaghetti Lunch, Saturday, August 12th at the Senior Citizen's, 133 Ball Park Loop, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Adults - \$6.00 - Children - \$3.00. Meal consists of Spaghetti with meat sauce, Salad, Garlic Bread and Homemade Cakes.

Duster Ex-Students Reunion

The Duster Ex-Students Reunion will be held Saturday, August 12th at 5 p.m. at the Heritage Hall of the First United Methodist Church in De Leon. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Desdemona Ex-Student Dinner

The Desdemona Alumni Reunion and Dinner will be held at the new Activity Center beginning at 4:00 p.m., August 11. All ex students are encouraged to attend. Call Floyd Moore, Jr. at 254-758-2610, Leave Message If Necessary.

Class of 1965 To Hold Reunion

The Class of 1965 will be holding a 41st Reunion on September 9th in conjunction with Homecoming events and The Peanut Festival. for further information contact Joy Campbell at 734-2121 or Doyle Welch at dwelch@texaspeanuts.com.

PRAY FOR RAIN

Look Who's New It's A Girl

Dru and Amanda Guillot are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Madeleine Ruth. She was born on August 1st at 7:12 p.m. She weighed 7 pounds and 21 inches long.

Maternal grandparents are Ted and Tracy Higginbottom of Semiand Genelle Parker of Odessa and,

Paternal grandparents are las. Great grandparents are Dutchie also of Dallas.

Thank You

The Senior Travel Club of 2007 would like to give a big THANK YOU to ZJ's STEAKHOUSE. We appreciate everything you have done!!!

Panther Football Starts With 2-A-Days

30 Hopefuls Report for Football

Welcome Site To See This Many Boys Out For Football More Info Later!

NOTICE

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT EVEN THOUGH WE DON'T NOT HAVE AN ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER, IF YOUR PET IS NOT CONFINED TO YOUR PROPERTY BY PEN, OR TIED, YOU WILL BE CITED. DO CITIZENS ARE TIRED OF PET OWNERS LETTING THEIR PETS ROAM THE NEIGHBORHOOD. IF YOU DO NOT CLAIM TO OWN THE PET, OR THE OWNER CANNOT BE DETERMINED, THE DOG WILL BE HELD IN THE SHELTER FOR 72 HOURS ONLY

THE CITIZENS WHICH ABIDE BY RULES WHERE THEIR PETS ARE CONCERNED ARE TIRED OF THE PET OWNERS WHO HAVE NO CONSIDERATION OF THESE RULES. ALSO CITIZEN WHO DO NOT OWN PETS DON'T WANT YOURS IN THEIR YARDS. IF YOU OWN A PET PLEASE TAKE MEASURES TO INSURE THAT IT STAYS ON YOUR PROPERTY. PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE OF YOUR NEIGHBORS. WE ARE ALL TIKED OF PEOPLE LETTING THEIR PETS, MAINLY DOGS, JUST ROAM AROUND. CITIZENS WHO WALK AND EXERCISE WOULD APPRECIATE NOT BEING CHASED, OR HARASSED BY THE DOGS THAT ARE NOT PROPERLY RE-TAINED AT THEIR OWN HOME.

THE CITY OFFICE RECEIVES NUMEROUS COMPLAINTS ABOUT ROAMING ANIMALS. THIS SHOULD NOT BE A PROB-LEM. IF YOU WANT PETS, YOU SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE ENOUGH TO KEEP THEM AT YOUR HOME. CITIZEN ARE TIRED OF THEIR PROPERTY BEING DESTOYED BY YOUR "AT LARGE"

THANK YOU

Maxfield Elementary School Registration For New Students

Maxfield Elementary School will be holding registration for new students August 10th and August 11th, from 8:30a.m. until 2:00p.m. in the Elementary Office. Please bring Shot Records, Social Security Card, Birth Certificates, and a copy of student's report card from previous school. We will also need identification of person registering student.

This is for students that have not enrolled or previously registered for the coming 2006-2007 school year. Pre-Kindergarten students who registered in the spring or summer need not register again.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

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

Gorman Senior Citizens meet Every Wednesday at 11:30 in the Gorman Senior Center. Bring Covered Dish or \$3.00 Per

Gorman Oaklawn Cemetery Donations can be sent to Aline Garrett, P. O. Box 711, Gorman, Tx 76454 or to American State

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. LIBRARY — Charlie Garrett Memorial Library will be open Monday thru Friday from 3 to 5 p.m. Open Tuesday 9 to 12 a.m.

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

Boy Scouts

Meeting Week Tuesdays - 6:00 p.m. **Methodist Church**

SANDRA CAGLE WILL BE IN GORMAN AT THE CITY OFFICE TO RENEW AUTO LICENSE PLATES. HER NEXT VISIT - WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23RD FROM 9 - 11 A.M.

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.

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.

Carbon Volunteer Fire Department Treated Like Royalty June 22



Twenty-one people associated with the Carbon Volunteer Fire Department were treated like royalty on June 22 at Ameriquest Field - home of the Texas Rangers in Arlington. This special time was through the efforts of Jim Sundberg and friends.

We enjoyed wonderful food, great baseball (Rangers beat San Diego) and visiting. John Rodgers had the Honor of Throwing out the first pitch his dream come true.

Our special thanks to Jim Sundberg and his crew for our day as "big shots - sky box and all." Some more good memories made this day.

So many have done so much in recent months for our Fire Department - we are truly grateful and most appreciative to each and every one. Be sure to mark your calendar for Saturday, October 21st at 6 p.m. at

Carbon - a fundraiser for our Fire Department. Wild game cook-off free meal – door prizes – live quality entertainment – lots of fun. Ya'll come support the Carbon Volunteer Fire Department.

More details later.

2006 Gorman Ex Students Homecoming

State Winning Football Team of 1976 to be Honored!

The Gorman Ex Students Homecoming will be held on Saturday, September 9 along with the Peanut Festival. Events are as follows: Ex Student Registration Booth downtown from 8:00AM until af-

ter the parade. Program and business meeting at the Gorman High School Auditorium at 2:00PM. Registration will also be held at the business meeting.

 An Ex's dinner will be held at Z.J.'s Steakhouse in Gorman at 7:00PM on Saturday night. Tickets available at registration.

Many have very special memories of 1976! Call your classmates and encourage them to attend!

Note: The Blackwell Hospital Historical Association will have a special ceremony to dedicate an historical marker at the hospital site on Saturday just after the parade. Make plans to attend!

Child Safety Seat Distribution Program Set Wednesday, August 16 at 7 p.m.

Eastland County Safe Kids will be conducting their child safety seat distribution program on Wednesday, August 16th at 7pm in the teaching/ conference room at Eastland Memorial Hospital. To sign up for this class, please call Eastland County Safe Kids at 254-734-5989.

> Thanks, Wayne Dennis, EMTP Child Safety Seat Technician

Obituaries

Mary Ruth Beschorner

Mary Ruth Beschorner entered into rest on July 28, 2006 at the age passed away on August 1, 2006 in of 80. She is preceded in death by her husband William Jr. Beschorner, Friday, August 4th at 1:00 p.m. at her parents Avery and Aletha Kay Nowlin Funeral Home Chapel in De Yarbrough, brother Arthur Ray Leon with Father Scott Brown offi-Yarbrough. She is survived by two ciating and Maxine Mayes singing. daughters, Kay Lee of Plesant Hill, of St. James, MI, Jean Smith of Irv- Brown. ing, TX. Three grandsons, five great grandchildren.

Mrs. Beschorner was a devoted Baptist. wife and mother and an active member of Bellaire Baptist Church. She Martha Lou Pence of Plano, Tx. retired from Civil Service after 29 years of service.

Her hobbies included poetry, oil George Edmond Brown. painting and she had an unique skill in creating assorted crafts.

Wednesday, Aug. 2 at 9:30 a.m. at ton National Cemetery.

Wanda Faye Brown

Wanda Faye Brown, age 71, Austin, Tx. Services were held on

Wanda was born on July 13, CA., and Brenda Beschorner of San 1935 in De Leon to George Sterling Antonio, TX; Sisters, Betty Gurlin and Willie Murtis Henderson

> Wanda was a Loan Officer for Bullard and Associates. She was a

> She is survived by one sister, She was preceded in death by

two brothers, James C. Brown and

Brookhille Funeral Home Chapel. Funeral services were conducted Interment was at Fort Sam Hous-

Darlene VanZandt Scoggir

Darlene VanZandt Scoggin, age 85, of Stephenville, Tx passed away on August 1, 2006 at Community Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Stephenville, Tx. Graveside services were held Thursday, August 3rd at De Leon Cemetery with Bro. Emil Becker officiating, under the direction of Nowlin Funeral Home.

Darlene was born on July 6, 1921 in De Leon, Texas to Kleiber M. and Lois Cumi Dry VanZandt. She married Thomas Oscar Scoggin on March 31, 1943 in Coffeeville, Kansas, he preceded in 1974.

She was a secretary and homemaker. She was a Baptist.

She is survived by one son, Thomas Patrick Scoggin and wife, Betty Lou of Pryor, OK; 5 grandchildren, all from OK: Billy Scoggin, Brian Scoggin, Christa George, Angela Salisbury and John Scoggin; 10 great-grandchildren.

2 p.m. Shift and 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. shift.

Please contact Cheryl Wilson, DON at

Valley View Healthcare Center at 700 S.

Ostrom, Eastland or by phone at 254-629-

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2-8-17 P.

FNC.

Melvin Terry McCormack

Melvin Teryr McCormack, 79, of Eastland, passed away Monday morning, February 20, 2006 in a Fort Worth hospital. Services were held at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the Edwards Funeral Home Chapel with Gary Montgomery officiating. Burial followed in the Oaklawn

Mr. McCormack was born October 28, 1926 in Sulphur Springs, Tx to George Terry and Mary Margie (Barrett) McCormack. He moved to Gorman area prior to entering the U.S. Army in December of 1944. After his honorable discharge in December of 1946, he worked in a service station in Gorman for a time, in the oil fields of West Texas, a telephone company, a pharmaceutical company and the Fort Worth Independent School District, where he was the head custodian at the Mary Louise Phillips School. He married Beatrice Earline Lowrance on August 1, 1958 in Fort Worth. He moved to Gorman in 1966 and began working for V/C Menus in Eastland, retired from Victor Cornelius on Baptist and enjoyed fishing, garden-Full Time positions available for 6 a.m. to ing and especially cooking for his

> Survivors include his wife, Earline McCormack of Eastland; a son and daughter-in-law, Terry J

and Aline McCormack of Moran; a daughter, Vicki Lyn Brown of Killeen; a brother and sister-in-law, George Clinton and Jean McCormack of Sundown; and four grandchildren, Anne Marie Stevens of Oklahoma City, OK, Lois Elizabeth McCormack of Abilene, Jennifer Rene Stevens of Killeen and Brittany Michelle McCormack of Moran.

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4-8-31 C.

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TAKER for Elderly Gentleman. References Needed. Call 972-922-0111.

GARAGE SALE: Friday ONLY - 7:30 a.m. till ?? -- 309 Hwy. 8 -- Tiller, trees, lots of toys, baby stuff, kitchen stuff, dresser. Crystal Snider. 1-8-3 P.

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THE GORMAN PROGRESS

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NEW: 3-1 Frame, window a/c, 1473 sq. ft., roof 2004, 1 car garage, garden, storage shed. \$25,000.00.

NEW: 3-2 Frame, 1564' La, window a/c rnace ths r nodele centre f, 2 orts, enced storage bldg., home in excellent condition. \$39,500.00.

NEW: 2 houses - one money! 3 - 1 1/2 brick, metal roof, 1548 sq. ft., + 1 - 1 frame 648 sq. ft., several carports, window a/c, storage buildings, trees, large lot. \$59,900.00

NEW: 10.43 A. near Duster, Pecan trees, cond cop vater in luded, elec. available paved to ac. Owner/ agent, possible finance. \$33,900. 13.958 acreas west of De Leon: 2 or 3 br. - 1 bath brick, 1375', garage and carport. Tifton 85 pasture, 2 wells, big hayshed, older shop, 1/4 mile off pavement. \$112,500

NEW: 17.55 a west De Leon FM

available, nice home site. \$2,750 acre NEW: 26A, north of De Leon on 16: Nice 1 - 1 central a/h apartment inside a 0' 8' r etal sao bldg. Large Oaks, 10A coastal 2 ponds,

water well, small creek, wooded area, most fences new. \$135,000. NEW: 30 a m/l, water well, elec., barn, coastal, old pond, good fences, 100s of small pecan trees. \$2,500

NEW: 73 A N/W Comanche Co. Remote, great hunting, app. 1/2 wooded, 1/2 field, wet weather creek, small pond, old well. \$2,250 A. 97a S/W Gorman: Secluded, good hunting, seasonal creek, oak/mesquite, pond, fenced. Will divide into

27a and 70a tracts. \$1,750 acre. We NEED Your Listings. The market is Good. Call Us.

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Creek. \$2,750 A. Approximately 1540 A. North of Ranger, stock tanks, wildlife, rolling terrain/oaks & mesquite, \$1,450 A. NEW LISTING! Hubbard Creek Lake -1085 sq. ft. 3BR,1Bath, C/H Air, Boat

dock w/jet ski lift. \$59,900 Lake Hubbard, 2 store 4 BR-3 bath, capor tyra vac dck ha Boathouse. \$187,000

301 acres N. of Breckenridge. Hwy frontage on 2 sides, cabin, rural water, good fences, abundant wildlife, minerals. \$1,500 A.

NEW LISTING! 163 acres Recreational Retreat in Stephens Co.- Owner financing, \$2,450 A.

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194 A NE of Throekmorton adjacent to Bras. I ve A undar ildlife. \$2,000 A.

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235A 3/2 2,400sf.brick, carport, 3-tanks, improved pasture, minerals, hunting, \$589,000. 243A Comanche Co., large reservoir, 14 irrig, wells, irrg, pit, hwy, frontage, coastal, and cultivation. \$473,850

240A Comanche Co. with 5-tanks, woods, hwy. frontage, rural water, hunting. \$396,000 150A with 6 water wells, reservoir, irrigation pit, approximately 60% wooded, rolling terrain. \$452,100. 150A with water well, rolling terrain, woods, cultivation, pasture. \$375,000.

100A Comanche County 5-stock tanks, pipe corrals, improved and native pasture,

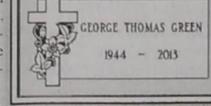
100A 3.1.5 1,440 sf. Brick, 3-tanks, 2-water wells, corrals, hunting, \$249,500. 26A with 2/1 Frame, water well, stock tank, woods, coastal, hunting. \$79,500 50A with large reservoir, water well, hwy frontage, trees. \$137,500 11A with mobile home, water well, rural water, large oak trees. \$70,000.

- Other Listings Available -- We Appreciate All Listings

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TRAVELING ON A SHOESTRING

Books, magazines, movies, television, websites, and even video games fill our heads and hearts with places of action and adventure, rest and relaxation, even fun and games. They take us to places and events we feel are a world apart from our own daily lives. They present a place of escape, of fantasy, enjoyment and even employment! These things cause you to ponder your dream home, your dream vacation, or your dream job.

If you have ever desired to go to one special place or you have always dreamed of traveling to dozens of places, around the state, the United States, or the globe, this session might be for you!

Rural Texas Access will be hosting Backstage International in the month Cemeteyr in Gorman, under the di- of August. Backstage International presents a two-hour seminar on travel. It rection of Edwards Funeral Home. will include regional and international travel. How to budget, how to plan, how to start with a three day-weekend or Christmas break and turn it into a month of travel as your retirement years arrive. This 'training' is for ANY-ONE! Any age, any stage in life, whether you are retired or just about to enter college, there is good information for you if you desire to travel.

CLASSES WILL BE THE FOLLOWING DATES AND TIMES: Eastland Chamber of Commerce Aug. 10 12-1 pm Eastland Chamber (part 2) Aug. 11 12-1 pm Ranger Ranger City Library 6-8 pm Aug. 21 Cisco Hillside Village/Wheatley Aug. 22 6-8 pm Rising Star tentative/ RSHS auditorium Aug. 24 6-8 pm

Classes are free, and open to the public. For more information please contact Rural Texas Access at 629-6010 or e-mail rta@txol.net.

Gorman Police Activity Report

The Activity Report for the Gorman Police Department shows: No arrests for the Month.

There were 27 Citations written, covering 10 violations as follows: Speed; 3 - Exp. Reg.; 4 - No Insurance; 2 No D.L.; 3 - No Inspection; 1 Rec. Driving; 2 - Disc. Conduct; 2 - Stop sign; 1 - Simple Assault; and 8 - Warn-

Offenses: There were 5 investigateable offenses reported. Other activites: moving to Eastland in 1967. He There were 27 other contacts made with the public, where investigations, information or assistance was required:

August 4, 1992. He was Southern Animal Calls - 2; Accidents - 1; Disturbances - 19; Unattended death - 1; Suspicious vehicle/person - 1; Locked vehicle - 3; Medical emergencies - 0; Fire Assist - 1; Funeral escorts - 4.

> Redchain Feeds is currently hiring **Drivers** Class A & B

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- 1 Sack Feed Loader
- 1 Yard Truck Driver
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Gorman Milling Co. Also Provides Excellent Benefits: A. Paid Health Insurance and Prescription Card

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- C. Uniforms Furnished D. Paid Vacations and Holidays

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Apply At 114 N. Brisco - Gorman, Texas

POLITICAL CALENDAR

PROGRESS POLITICAL

ANNOUNCEMENT FEES: U.S. Offices \$75.00 District Offices \$50.00 County Offices \$50.00 Justice Prec. Offices \$50.00

All political advertisements paid for by friends and/or candidates must bear at lease one signature and address. All ads must be paid for in advance. (Political advertising charged for at a rate of \$3.00 per column inch).

Constable

Any political advertising reflecting adversely upon the character of a person will be refused.

The Gorman Progress is authorized to make the following political announce-

ment, subject to the action of the General Election, November 8th. **Eastland County Judge:**

Eastland County Clerk: Cathy Jentho - (R)

Eastland County Justice of Peace - Prec. 1: Wesley N. Warren - (D)

Directory



CUSTOM HOME BUILDERS

SINCE 1980 Let Us Build Your New Home or Room Addition If You Can Dream It, We Can Build It!!

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General Building Contractors - All Work Guaranteed Custom Homes - Remodeling - Commercial - Industrial - Farm Financing - Free Estimates - Design, Engineering & Plan Services

EDC Talk

Phase I of "A Walk in the Park" project is near completion. Eight decorative lights have been ordered from Sternberg Lighting and will be shipped on August 25. They will make a wonderful addition to our park. Eventually, these lovely dark bronze lights will have custom banners hanging from them. You will also see additional benches and trash cans in the park soon as well.

This week, Howard Hagood and Bill Miears have marked out where the lights will stand and where to trench for the electrical lines. Shawn Boles is running the trencher. And I have to say that Shawn's good attitude does not diminish with the heat or sweat. This has been such a wonderful team effort. Jimmy Woodall will be using a sandblaster in the next few weeks and all the picnic tables will be looking better than new. Diane Casey is working with Tommy Clark to find just the right wood material for the new swings, and any additional playground equipment we can budget. Keep watching the park for new additions!

Don't forget that Peanut Festival is just around the corner. And although it is not directly involved with economic development, it is certainly a significant part of our community development program. The tourism from this event stimulates our tax base significantly. Not to mention it is just a great way to honor our Homecoming STATE CHAMPIONS and remember how good the Peanut Industry has been to our community for many years. If you would like to participate with a booth, or work on the Parade or have any questions, contact Kevin Scitern at 734-4572.



Howard Hagood marking area for trench for electric line at the City Park

KOKOMO NEWS

BY ZELDA JORDAN

Bro. Jimmy Nelson preached at the Kokomo Baptist Church on Sunday, August 6. The morning message was from Exodus 25: 1-9 "Let them make me a sanctuary: that I may dwell among them". Other visitors were Maggie Nelson, Cassie Brasher, Cody and Jarad Fails of Arlington and Kari Rodgers of Georgetown. "Happy Birthday" was sung to Verna Lee Little. "Without Him" was beautifully rendered by the choir: Aletha Burgess, Crystal and Rachel Snider, Helen Browning, Kay Snider, Tho Seay, Ruth Rodgers, Woodrow Browning, Joe Bond, Ann Warren, Sylvia Buchanan, Jimmy Little, Oren Webb and Cody Fails, with Glynda Bond

Bro. Nelson's message on Sunday night was from 1Corinthians 15: 1 26, telling us that we serve a risen Savior. Our hope is in the risen Lord Jesus Christ. Sunday night visitors were Kari Rodgers and Julia Hall of Georgetown who were visiting with Kari's grandparents, Ed and Ruth Rodgers. "Happy Birthday" was extended to Betty Little.

Joe and Glynda Bond visited in Copperas Cove on Wednesday with Shannon, Stephanie, Raegan, Sydnie and Joey Bond and attended the Wednesday night services at the First Baptist Church where Shannon brought the message.

Joe and Glynda report that their son, Brian, who is moving from Florida to Dallas lost most of his clothes and household goods when the moving van that was transporting them caught fire and burned before reaching

Jimmy and Maggie Nelson, Cassie Brasher and Zelda Jordan enjoyed lunch together in Eastland on Sunday.

union in Ranger on Sunday. Cody and Jarad Fails of Arlington visited during the weekend with

their grandparents, Jimmy and Verna Lee Little.

Beverley and Bob Phariss of Haskell visited with Betty and Larry

Kathy, Dale, Scott and Matt Collum of Huckabay, Mike, Crystal, Rachel and Michele Snider and La Von Snider visited with Gene and Kay Snider on Thursday.

Delmon Eaves visited with Oren and Norma Webb.

Construction on the new Kokomo Community Building has begun. The slab has been poured and I understand that they were to start putting the walls up today. It will be a metal building so maybe it will go up pretty fast. It will be a nice addition to the community when it is finished.

Norma Webb and Zelda Jordan were in Eastland on Saturday to take a few things to the Kokomo Room in the Eastland County Historical Museum. We are having some pictures copied so more displays can be made. We still urge anyone who ever lived at Kokomo, or their families lived here, to look through your pictures and newspaper clippings of special events at Kokomo and copy them and share them with us. We especially need articles and pictures about the early years at Kokomo, but any year will be welcome. They can be mailed to Zelda Jordan at 917 Hwy 2689, Gorman, TX 76454 or to Norma Webb at 501 Hwy 2689, Gorman, TX 76454 or taken to the Museum at Eastland.

Kay Snider and Norma Webb visited with Zelda Jordan on Monday. Please continue to pray for rain.

ESTATE AUCTION

Saturday, August 12 – 1:00 P.M.

314 Winkler Ave. - Gorman, Texas

In Gorman at intersection of Hwy. 8 and 679 (beside school) proceed North on Crescent for 1 Blk. - then East on Winkler.

Due to the death of Jim Adams the following will be sold by Public Auction.

FURNITURE - HOUSEHOLD

Entertainment center; 2 - hardrock Maple bedroom suites; curved sectional sofa; sofa; recliner; 2-table mod. TV's & VCR's; table & floor lamps; coffee & lamp tables; sm. modern roll top secretary; dining table w/6 spoke back chairs; older stereo; Frigidaire gas range; trash compactor; microwave & cart; upright vacuum; Dearborn radiant gas heater; Dearborn heater; sm. chest freezer; pedestal table; treadle sewing machine base; child's toy bench & chest; 4-painted oak dining tables; Mountain bike; exercise bike; treadmill; baby carriage; HR maple bed; china cabinet; invalid eqpt.: luggage; bird cage; toys; fans; ladies bicycle; Regina steamer; stoneware dishes; usual kitchen ware; many VHS movies; linens; oil lamps; Bud Lite beer sign; curios; minatures; wrought iron patio table & chairs; 2-metal porch swings; Many Box Lots.

TOOLS - MISC.

Portable twin tank air compressor; 3 1/2 hp air compressor; propane grill; rollaround tool box; vise; hand & power tools; screw cabinets; car ramps; elec. lawn mower; yard fert. spreader; push mower; gas edger; leaf blower; metal shelving; ladders; yard tools; single section drag harrow; 4 ft. spring harrow; lawn dethatcher; chain saw; screen doors; alum. PU tool box; app. 200 hadite tile blocks; wooden picnic table & benches; 2-dog houses; 4-nice Martin houses; many pcs. yard artplanters-bird bath-pink flamingoes-etc.

Storey & Associates, Auctioneers **Brownwood, TX - TXS 6487** For Info Call 325-646-5712 or www.storeysales.com



Shawn Boles running the trencher at the City Park

ISD School Mei

Week of August 14 thru 18 BREAKFAST

MONDAY - Cheese Toast, Hash Browns, Juice and Milk. TUESDAY - Oatmeal, Biscuit, Juice and Milk. WEDNESDAY - Cereal, Toast, Juice and Milk. THURSDAY - Eggs, Biscuit, Juice and Milk. FRIDAY - Biscuit, Sausage, Gravy, Juice and Milk.

MONDAY - Chicken Fried Steak or Chicken Rings, Cream Potatoes, Green Beans, Pineapple, Rolls and Milk.

TUESDAY - Chicken Tetrazzini and noodles or Steak Fingers, Quick Baked Potatoes, English Peas, Tangy Cherry Salad, Rolls and Milk. WEDNESDAY - Sub. Sandwich or Tuna Melt Sandwich, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Pickles, Tater Tots, Apple Crisp and Milk.

THURSDAY - Chicken Fajitas or Meat and Cheese Nachos, Tossed Salad, Refried Beans, Spanish Rice, Fishes of the Sea, Milk.

FRIDAY - Honey Lemon Chicken or Pigs in a Blanket, Potato Salad, Ranch Beans, Fresh Carrots, Bread, Rice Pudding and Milk,

Senior Citizens News Carol Ward

We gathered on Aug. 2 for our weekly luncheon with 30 present. Ann Maxfield was out guest Mediator. She is wonderful, may have to make her permanent. John Rice gave the blessing of our food.

It was so good to see John and Willo Rice. Know how they feel, some-Betty Little and Karen Patterson attended the Bennett Cousins retime you just don't feel like getting out. Especially in this terrible heat. We sent a get well card to Sharlene Schuan. It was wonderful to hear

her good news. Now maybe she can finally enjoy he new home. Her and Bro. Schuan are such great people. Wilburn Overstreet has been ailing. We do miss him when he's not mail at nancy.smith@workforcesystem.org.

Good to see Bernice Hewson back and feeling somewhat better. She does help keep all the games going.

We really appreciate Betty Regian for making her delicious rolls. She and Wynogene Smith keep us in good bread.

I don't know what I would do without my ladies to help get hte attendance count correct. Thanks to Jerry Overstreet and Icy Munn.

Our game playing has fallen off on Fridays. Hope when cooler weather comes, more will come out. I don't even feel like goin anywhere that time in the evening.

I've been talking to Dixie Pack. Maybe her and I will make it to Playday sometime. It would be nice to have her back with us, also for the

Thanks to everyone who come and bring delicious food.

Gorman City Commissioner Minutes

The Gorman City Commission met on the above date. Those present were Mayor Robert Ervin, Commissioners Nathan Files, Charlie Torrez, Joe Casey, and Tony Carter Others present were; Chuck Abbey and Lisa Keep-

Joe 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.

Charlie made the motion to approve the minutes. Tony made a second. Motion carried 4-0. Joe made the motion to approve the bills for payment with a second from

Charlie. Motion carried 4-0. Under Citizens In Put: Lisa Keeping was present. Mrs. Keeping had had

some sewer stop problems. The problems were a result of sewer lines on the city's end. Mrs. Keeping was present to ask if the City had ever reimbursed anyone for plumbing costs when it was actually on the city side. Glenn confirmed that it was on City lines. Joe made the motion to reimburse the Keepings for the expenses incurred. Tony made a second. Motion carried 4-0.

Nathan made the motion to officially hire Jason Foster @ a rate of \$9.50 per hour, place him on the regular ninety day probation period, and if at the end of the probation time if the Commission feels his performance is satisfactory he will be placed on health insurance benefits. Tony made a second Motion carried 4-0.

Nathan made the motion to have Jimmy Woodall put the grill guards that were given to the city on the patrol cars for a cost of \$40.00 per car. Tony made a second. Motion carried 4-0.

Joe made the motion to grant Deed Without Warranty to Chuck and Melinda Abbey via Ms. Norma Merworth the .211 acre of Potter Street, which is not an open street. Charlie made a second to the motion. Motion carried 4-0. The Commission wants the new fire hydrants installed. All of them as soon as possible.

Nathan made the motion to retain William (Bill) Barrentine as a regular part time employee, to work only sixteen hours each week on a regular basis. His salary will remain as it is, and as a part-time employee, he will

not have benefits. Joe made a second. Motion carried 4-0. Joe made the motion to accept the resignation of Tony Carter. Charlie made a second. Motion carried 3-0. Tony and his family are moving to

There being no further business for discussion, Nathan made the motion t adjourn with a second from Charlie. Motion carried 3-0. Time was 7:21

Desdemona News

By Vonnie Guthery

Desdemona Homecoming and School Reunion will be held on Saturday, August 12th at the Community Center (former High School Gym). The Morning program will begin at 10:00 a.m. The noon meal will be catered by Texas Bar-B-Que of Stephenville, Texas. Following the noon meal, the afternoon will be spent visiting with former classmates and friends. Make plans to attend for an enjoyable day.

The Ladies Monthly Social was held on Monday, August 7th at the Community Center School Building. Hostesses were Linda Lindley and Rena Maltby, both of Desdemona. Lots of good food and good fellowship was enjoyed by everyone. The Ladies Monthly Social will be held on Monday, September 11th at the same location. Visitors are always welcome to attend.

"Wall of Memories" has been completed on the right side in the entrance hall of the Community Center School Building. These memorial bricks are very pretty with names of Ex-Students, Teachers, Parents and Friends. Plans are being made to complete another wall on the left side. To purchase a memorial brick -- Contact Vonnie Guthery, P. O. Box 187, Desdemona, TX 76445 or Gay Moore, 1301 CR 495, Desdemona, TX

"Thanks" to Donald and Wilma Holder and the son, Donald Wayne -they spent several hours in the heat repairing and painting the pipe fence all around the old school yard. We appreciate each and everyone doing their part to keep our Community Center looking good.

Workforce Board to Present Awards



Lori with our board chair, Sammy Garcia, and Board Vice-Chair, Katy Lord.

Abilene, Texas--In an effort to show appreciation to the many individuals and organizations who have supported the efforts of the West Central Texas Workforce Center System, the Workforce Board created the Friend of Workforce Award. Nominations for the award are submitted by Board staff, and recipients will be recognized on a bi-annual basis.

The Board began taking nominations for this awards cycle in January 2006. Individuals to be recognized at the awards presentation in August are: Travis Floyd, Knox County Judge; Larry Zelisko, Abilene Reporter-News; Lori Dodd, Gorman Economic Development Corporation; Dr. Monty Lynn, Abilene Christian University; and John DeLille, Development Corporation of Snyder.

Individuals, groups of individuals, or organizations may be nominated for the Friend of Workforce Award for any of the following: 1) personal or corporate involvement in workforce efforts, 2) positive communication to others regarding workforce services and the regional workforce system, or 3) creating awareness and/or affecting positive change in the regional workforce. According to Mary Ross, Workforce Board Executive Director, "This award is one way that we can say 'Thank You' to those who partner with us, who promote our services, and who make our jobs easier." The five recipients will be recognized at a luncheon, to be hosted by the Workforce Board on Thursday, August 3, 2006 at the Workforce Center.

The West Central Texas Workforce Development Board is one of 28 boards in the state charged with oversight and policy-making responsibility for workforce and training programs in a nineteen county region. For more information on the Friend of Workforce Award, contact Nancy Smith, Community Relations Coordinator, at (325) 795-4306 or by e-

Stephenville Summer Tennis Classic Set

Entries are now being accepted for the Stephenville Summer Tennis Classic, which has been set for Aug. 11-13 at the Tarleton Tennis Center in Stephenville. The event is sponsored by the Cross Timbers Tennis Association, a non-profit organization formed to promote and develop the game of tennis in the area.

The tournament is open to both juniors and adults in singles, doubles and mixed doubles divisions. Entry fee is \$8, plus one can of United States Tennis Association (USTA) approved tennis balls. Adults will start on Friday the 11th at 6:00p.m. and Juniors will begin on Saturday the 12th.

Entry forms and further tournament information may be obtained at www.crosstimberstennis.org, or by calling 254-968-9370, or 254-965-4559.



After my husband Lloyd Viles broke his hip, we chose Mulberry Manor for his care. And we're glad we did!

Mulberry Manor has given us great care from all the nurses, nurses aides and especially the occupational therapist. They are all dedicated and caring people.

Our meals are always good & our activities are always fun. Since Mr. Viles has been here we have made life long friends.

Mulberry Manor, A place we call home! Thank you Mulberry Manor! Wife of Lloyd Viles, Margie Viles.

Mulberry Manor

Those you know taking care of those you love. 1670 W. Lingleville Rd

254-968-2158

Thank You From VFW #4136



Left to right - Greg Simmons, Larry Monroe, Rhonda Pipkin shown with electric scooter.

The VFW Post 4136 of Eastland would like to extend a very special Thank You to Rhonda Pipkin, Greg Simmons and Janet and Clinton Eaton who represent Allegro Mobility and the Eastland Fire Relief Center who donated an electric scooter for use at the VFW and in our van. These folks do a great job in the Community and we thank them.

Larry Monroe, Comander Ronnie Jones, Quartermaster Charles Carlisle, Adjutant

Denny J. Roach Joins American Angus Association

Denny J Roach, Carbon, Texas, is a new member of the American Angus AssociationSM, reports John Crouch, executive vice president of the national breed registry organization in Saint Joseph, Missouri.

The American Angus Association, with more than 34,000 active adult and junior members, is the largest beef cattle registry Association in the world. Its computerized records include detailed information on more than 14 million registered Angus.

The Association records ancestral information and keeps production records on individual animals for its members. These permanent records help members select and mate the best animals in their herds to produce high quality, efficient breeding cattle which are then recorded with the American Angus Association. Most of these registered Angus are used by the U.S. farmers and ranchers who raise high quality beef for U.S. consumption.

Tarleton's A Honor Roll. Distinguished Students Named

The A Honor Roll and Distinguished Students list for the Spring 2006 semester has been released at Tarleton State University.

Dr. Gary Peer, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs at the University released the names of students recognized on both the Stephenville and Kileen campuses.

There were 416 students listed on the A Honor Roll for the spring semester. To qualify, these students had to maintain a 4.0 grade point ratio (GPR) on the 4.0 system while taking a minimum of 12 hours.

There were 1,216 students who received the designation as Distinguished Students. To be named a Distinguished Student, freshman and sophomore students must have a minimum GRP of 3.25 with no grade lower than C; junior and senior students must be in good standing with the University and have a minimum GPR of 3.25 with no grade lower

On the list from our area are: Lacy Howard - A Honor Roll; Rebecca White - A Honor Roll; Kerry Baker - A Honor Roll; and Melanie Lasater - A Honor Roll; Destinguished Students are: Carolyn Escue, John Howard, Angela Porter, Anna Sauceda, Courtney Koonce, and Sarah Lewis.

38th Anniversary of National Fair Housing Law

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the National Fair Housing Law. To promote fair housing policies, the West Central Texas Council of Governments encourages potential homeowners and renters to be aware of their rights.

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, prohibits discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap, familial status or national origin in the sale or rental of units in the housing market.

For more information on fair housing or to report possible fair housing discrimination, call the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's toll-free hotline at 1-800-669-9777.

USDA Proposes Addition of Brown Rice to WIC Food Packages

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service yesterday announced proposed changes to the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) food packages that for the first time would add brown rice to the packages as an allowable substitute for whole grain bread.

"Accomplishing a fundamental policy change takes a great deal of effort, and the proposed changes represent a significant step in the right direction," said Charles Trahan, USA Rice Federation Domestic Promotion Committee chairman. "USA Rice has worked hard for the last two years to secure the inclusion of brown rice in the revised packages," Trahan said.

of Medicine (IOM) and the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Under tion drug costs." the proposal, the food packages would be revised to add new foods such as fruits, vegetables and whole grains, while amounts of some current foods would be modified.

"While we are pleased with this proposal, USA Rice in its formal whole grain," Trahan said.

USA Rice commissioned research to demonstrate the specific nutritional benefits of brown rice to the WIC population, and additional research through Tufts University to show the nutritional superiority and cost-effectiveness of brown rice over other whole grains.

WIC provides nutritious supplemental foods to pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, infants and children up to age five. The program also provides nutrition education and referrals to health and social services. About 8 million participants receive WIC benefits each month. Federal food costs for the program were \$3.6 billion in fiscal year 2005.

Neugebauer: "America is One Nation Under God"

Washington, DC-Congressman Randy Neugebauer believes that the United States is one nation under God and argues the Founding Fathers who wrote the Constitution would agree with him.

"The judges and activist groups who are trying to strike the words 'Under God' from the Pledge of Allegiance are attempting to write God and faith out of public life," Neugebauer said. "This was never the intent of our Founding Fathers, who themselves understood that faith is a part of public life."

To prevent judges from unilaterally striking the words 'under God' from the Pledge, the House approved the Pledge Protection Act, H.R. 2389, by a vote of 260-167. The legislation removes cases involving the Pledge from the jurisdiction of federal courts. In turn, the bill gives state courts the authority to rule on the constitutionality of the Pledge for their state only.

"The Pledge of Allegiance reflects the truth that faith in God has played a significant role in America since the days of the founding of our country," Neugebauer said. "Therefore, it is appropriate that when we pledge our allegiance to Old Glory, we recognize that America is, indeed, one nation under God."

4-H LIVESTOCK EXHIBITORS -STATE FAIR IN DALLAS

If you plan on exhibiting animals at the State Fair in Dallas, entries MUST be completed and entry fees paid by Wednesday, August 16, 2006, in the Eastland County Extension Office. Remember that all market animals must have been state validated. All animals will require health papers. Market steers and heifers also require a negative TB Test.

If you have any questions, or need further clarification, please call the Eastland County Extension Office at 629-1093.

The Pasture To Packer Program for 4-H and FFA members will begin agin this fall. This is an excellent opportunity for youth to learn feeding, health care and management with hands-on training in the beef cattle industry. Enrollment deadline for youth in this program is September 1st!

Producers are needed to supply cattle for the program. Cattle will be purchased from the producer at market price. Please call Dale Dunlap at the Eastland County Texas Cooperative Extension Office at 254/629-1093 if you have cattle or if you have any questions and need further explanation.

-- Randy's Roundup --

A Weekly Newsletter from Congressman Randy Neugebauer August 7, 2006

Mid-Year Review

With Congress adjourned for the month of August, this is a good opportunity to look back at a few of the highlights from the first part of the

Clearly, border security has been the top domestic issue of the year, and rightly so. Securing our borders is an essential aspect of our national security. Several different House committees are holding hearings throughout the country during August in order help craft sound border security reform policy. Multiple proposals have already been laid on the table. I support the House bill, H.R. 4437, which focuses on securing the border first and does not give amnesty to those who have broken our immigra-

Expanding health care options for seniors has also been a big issue in 2006. On January 1 of this year, Medicare's new prescription drug benefit went into effect. Reports thus far indicate that this program has allowed millions of America's seniors to gain access to affordable prescription drugs. More than 90 percent of seniors are now saving an average of \$1,100 a year on their prescription drugs. In the 19th district alone, the number of Medicare beneficiaries with prescription drug coverage has increased by more than 34,000.

On the agriculture front, the House Agriculture Committee has already begun to focus on the 2007 Farm Bill. The committee has been traveling the country in order to gain feedback from farmers. I have personally attended six of these hearings, including one held in San Angelo. At each stop, farmers expressed support for many of the current programs. With this valuable input in mind, I look forward to beginning work on this important legislation in the coming months.

Our continued strong economy has been another important story this year. Budget deficit projections keep getting smaller, while the number of jobs in America keeps getting bigger. In fact, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported last week that the economy once again added jobs in July. This means the economy has experienced 35 straight months of job growth, resulting in 5.5 million new jobs since May 2003.

Finally, as we continue to fight the War on Terror, it is appropriate that Congress has also focused on veterans issues this year. The House has passed legislation that funds Veterans Medical Services at \$25.4 billion for 2007, which equals a more than \$4 billion increase over this year's total. In fact, spending per veteran has more than doubled over the past 10 years.

This is just a snapshot of some of what has been the congressional agenda in 2006. These issues, in addition to supporting our troops at war and increasing America's energy capacity, will remain top priorities for me and for my colleagues in Congress. I look forward to discussing these and other issues with you during August at one of the many "Coffee with the Congressman" events I have scheduled. Please check your local newspaper or my website - www.randy.house.gov - for details on the coffee nearest you.

Previous Roundups can be found on my website at http:// www.randy.house.gov/newsroom/roundup_date.shtml

Help Is Available For Low-Income Medicare Beneficiaries

The Medicare RX Access Network of Texas is reminding thousands of low-income Texans that additional help is available for their prescription drug costs

"Even though the initial May 15 enrollment deadline has passed, there is till time for many low-income Texans to sign up for a Medicare pre-This change, when adopted, will effectively open a new market for scription drug plan," said Angela Garcia, League of United Latin American Citizen (LULAC) board member and past LULAC national vice presi-The Federal Register notice of proposed changes to WIC reflects rec-dent for the elderly. "The extended enrollment period is an opportunity ommendations made by the National Academies of Sciences' Institute to ensure that those who are most in need to get hlep with their prescrip-

Texas who may be eligible but have yet to apply for the Medicare prescription drug benefit's low-income subsidy don't have to wait until November 15 through December 31, 2006 (when the next open-enrollcomments will ask for brown rice to be a primary rather than substitute ment period begins) to join a plan. They can apply now for the lowincome subsidy and receive extra help paying for the coverage.

"If a senior qualifies for the extra assistance, they are offered a special enrollment opportunity and coverage can begin right away," said Garcia. "Most importantly, Texas seniors who qualify for the low-income subsidy will not be subject to a late-enrollment penalty."

Beneficiaries who wish to find out if they qualify for the low-income subsidy can get assistance by going to a local Social Security Administration (SSA) office, by calling SSA (1-800-772-1213), or by going on-line (www.ssa.gov.prescriptionshel, then click on "apply for help"). Beneficiaries may also call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) for help.

Panther Football Important Dates To Remember

- Aug 9/10/11 6:00 to 9:00 P.M. (just one practice) Wed/Thurs/Friday
- Saturday Aug12th 9:00 to 10:30 A.M. Red/Blue scrimmage
- Aug14th Monday 1st day of school (practice 2:30 to 6:00)
- August 19th Saturday 1st Scrimmage
- Evant/Johnson City Time - TBA @ Evant
- August 24th Thursday 2nd Scrimmage @ Miles Time TBA
- September 1st Friday
 - Game One vs Roby @ Gorman
- Jr. High practice begins 1st day of school (supply own cleats)

2006 Football Schedule

August 19th Scrimmage Evant/Johnson City		Evant	TBA
August 24th Scrimmage Miles		Miles	TBA
September 1st	Roby	Gorman	7:30
September 8th	Covington	Covington	7:30
September 15th	Ben Bolt	Taylor	7:30
September 22nd	**Sterling City	Gorman	7:30
September 29th	*Ranger	Ranger	7:30
October 6th	*Perrin	Gorman	7:30
October 13th	*Santo	Santo	7:30
October 20th	open		
October 27th	*Cross Plains	Gorman	7:30
November 3rd	*DeLeon	DeLeon	7:30
November 10th	*Tolar	Gorman	-7:30
**Homecoming 2006		21 1 1	
*District 12A Games	GE THE RESERVE	The state of	E TO KE

AGRICULTURAL VIEWPOINT

By: Dale Dunlap

CULLING COWS DURING DROUGHT

The drought is beginning to take its toll on cattle producers across the area. Pastures are being over grazed and hay supplies are limited. Producers must now make decisions that will affect their livelihoods and the future of their ranches. Culling cows or destocking can be a tough decision for livestock producers. The primary objective of partial herd reduction is to optimize annual performance of the remaining herd in relation to forage supply. Three (3) primary rules in destocking are: 1.) The sooner the problem is identified, the sooner action can be taken; 2.) The sooner stocking rate adjustments are made, the less severe herd reductions will need to be; 3.) Maximize available options to minimize long-term impacts on the forage supply.

Common mistakes ranchers often make during droughts when faced with cow herd liquidation are: 1.) Doing nothing in hopes it will rain; 2.) Reducing the herd by early weaning calves in hopes of not having to sell cows; 3.) Retaining cows less than 4 years old at the expense of more productive middle ages cows (4-7 years old) when culling is finally initiated.

Culling calves under six months of age does not decrease forage demand substantially. A calf only consumes 15% - 25% of the forage consumed by their mothers. Use early weaning to improve cow condition, only, not to decrease forage demand. Many producers try to hang on in hopes of rainfall, but the longer a producer waits to cull cows the sooner the forage supply is exhausted and the more cows the producer will have to cull. Research in the Rolling Plains shows that 60%-80% of annual forage production occurs by the end of July. Ranchers who are short on forage today should make culling decisions immediately. The "wait and see" approach will only have negative results on forages for short and long term. Forage plants have a minimum residue requirement in order to maintain plant health.

Ranchers generally cannot afford to purchase enough hay to survive drought or overstocking. Decreasing forage demand on pastures is imperative during drought and requires selling cows. Do not sell cows to buy hay for the remaining herd. The ranch will come out of the drought without

Consider the following strategies when culling cows from your herd: First, cull spring and summer calving cows that do not have a calf at their side. If a cow has lost her calf, sell her regardless of pregnancy or age. You cannot wait for next year's income. Contrary to belief, replacement heifers should also be culled in the first round or culling during a drought. First calf heifers will wean the lightest calves and have the lowest rebreeding potential of any age class. Supplemental feed requirements are also higher because replacement heifers have higher nutrient requirements. Next, cull all short bred cows commonly referred to as slow breeders. While cattle are penned, cull all cows with bad eyes, feet, legs, teeth and udders.

A continued decline in forage condition could require culling cows raising the current year's calf crop. Cull all marginal cows with poor production history. At this point all the easy culling decisions have been made. Culling deeper in the cow herd may be needed if animal demand is still greater than forage supply. Now, cull cows with the lowest rebreeding potential which is cows that are then with a body condition score of 3 for middle aged cows and a body condition score of 4 or under for first and second calf cows. Both of these groups will have lower conception rates. Beyond this point, herd liquidation may be the only option. Destocking decisions are tough and costs ranchers financially, but a drought management plan is always needed in Texas. Consider your options. A financial plan will also be needed to prepare for the negative impacts destocking and income tax liability. Remember be good stewards of the land. Long-term effects of overgrazing can be detrimental to our ranges and pastures for years into the future.

Should you need more information or clarification, please contact the Eastland County Extension Office, Dale Dunlap County Extension Agent-Ag at 629-1093

