

# The Gorman Progress

"Serving Gorman For Over 108 Years"  
Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454

2008 Member - Texas Press Association

NUMBER FIFTY

DECEMBER 19, 2008

## Christmas Luncheon Held For Air Medical Providers

On Sunday, December 14th, Tech\*Star EMS Education & Trans\*Star Plus Medical held its Third Annual Christmas Lunch for the area air medical providers. "This is something that we started 2 years ago for these providers in addition to our annual lunch during Texas EMS Week in May", states Wynne Dennis, EMTP, CEO/Program Director for Tech\*Star EMS Education & Trans\*Star Plus Medical.

"This is our way of showing our appreciation for our fellow EMS providers who have to work during the holidays", Dennis states. The flight crews always look forward to both our EMS Week and now our Christmas Luncheon as this gives these providers a chance to also socialize with their fellow flight crews in the area, plus they look forward to the good food they are served at ZJ's.

This year we had crews from CareFlite in Ft. Worth and Air Evac in Brownwood. Due to another commitment, Life Star in Glen Rose was not able to attend this year. We look forward to having all of these providers back in May for our EMS Week lunch also. Also, thank you to the Gorman Fire Dept for setting up our LZ downtown.



Top L-R: Jason Dush, EMTP CareFlite, Doug Miller, Pilot-CareFlite, Erin Ingals, RN-CareFlite - Bottom: L-R: Lee Christensen, Pilot-Air Evac, Bryan Keen, EMTP-Air Evac, Tim Dennis, EMTP - Program Director, Tech\*Star EMS Education & Trans\*Star Plus Medical, Chantell Williams, RN - Air Evac & James Boss, Assistant Director-Waco Division, Tech\*Star EMS Education & Trans\*Star Plus Medical.

## Twelve Days Of Christmas - A Christmas Carol

There is one Christmas Carol that has always baffled me. What in the world do leaping lords, French hens, swimming swans, and especially the partridge who won't come out of the pear tree have to do with Christmas? This week, I found out.

From 1558 until 1829, Roman Catholics in England were not permitted to practice their faith openly. Someone during that era wrote this carol as a catechism song for young Catholics. It has two levels of meaning: the surface meaning plus a hidden meaning known only to members of their church. Each element in the carol has a code word for a religious reality which the children could remember.

- The partridge in a pear tree was Jesus Christ.
  - Two turtle doves were the Old and New Testaments.
  - Three French hens stood for faith, hope and love.
  - The four calling birds were the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke & John.
  - The five golden rings recalled the Torah or Law, the first five books of the Old Testament.
  - The six geese a-laying stood for the six days of creation.
  - Seven swans a-swimming represented the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit-- Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation, Contribution, Leadership, and Mercy.
  - The eight maids a-milking were the eight beatitudes.
  - Nine ladies dancing were the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit-- Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self Control.
  - The ten lords a-leaping were the ten commandments.
  - The eleven pipers piping stood for the eleven faithful disciples.
  - The twelve drummers drumming symbolized the twelve points of belief in the Apostles' Creed.
- So there is your history for today. This knowledge was shared with me and I found it interesting and enlightening and now I know how that strange song became a Christmas Carol...so pass it on if you wish.

### Merry (Twelve Days of) Christmas Everyone

The People of the First United Methodist Church of Gorman invite you to spend sometime with us and your neighbors as we begin the Christmas Celebration on December 24th @ 5:30 with a Candle-light Service! Bring your family, friends and neighbors and join us as we welcome the Holy One, Jesus the Messiah

### ITEMS OF INTEREST

SANDRA CAGLE WILL BE IN GORMAN AT THE CITY OFFICE TO RENEW AUTO LICENSE PLATES. HER NEXT VISIT IS WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21ST FROM 9 TIL NOON.

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 Plate.

**Food Bank**  
New Hours - 10 to 11 a.m.  
Second Thursday

**Boy Scouts**  
Meeting Weekly  
Mondays - 6:00 p.m.  
Methodist Church

Oakland Cemetery Association is accepting donations for the Care of the Cemetery. Donations can be sent to Oakland Cemetery Association, P. O. Box 532, Gorman, TX 76454 or to 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. Gerald Ragland, Master - Roscoe Reeves, Secretary.

Senior  
Travel  
Club

Selling Tickets  
on a \$200.00

Wal-Mart  
Gift Card.

We will hang  
your

Christmas Lights

or

Rake Your Yard  
for a Donation.

Call 254-631-2706  
or 254-734-6100

## 2008 GORMAN LIVESTOCK SHOW DECEMBER 20, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.

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

Shawn Boles ..... Show Director / Ag Science Teacher  
Jordan Blout..... Judge, Ag Science Teacher, Community High, Nevada, TX

9:00 Showmanship Clinic

10:00 LAMB DIVISION

Fine Wool  
Fine Wool Cross  
Medium Wool  
Grand Champion Lamb  
Reserve Grand Lamb  
Showmanship Sr. Jr. and Pee Wee

10:45 GOAT DIVISION (or immediately following Lamb show)

Light Weight  
Medium Weight  
Middle Weight  
Heavy Weight  
Grand Champion Market Goat  
Reserve Champion Market Goat  
Sr. Jr. and Pee Wee Showmanship

11:45 Angora Goats

Grand/Reserve  
Sr. Jr. and Pee Wee Showmanship

LUNCH BREAK

1:00 Swine Division

Swine Sr. Jr. and Pee Wee Showmanship  
Berkshires  
Durocs  
Hampshires  
Spots  
Black OPB  
White OPB  
Yorkshires  
Crosses  
Grand Champion Market Swine  
Reserve Grand Champion Market Swine!

## Correction on All-District Team

The Gorman Panthers ended a great season by making it all the way to the top sixteen in the State. In last weeks paper (Lonnie) left out some information - Sorry Sean and Drew for not getting all your information in the paper:

**FIRST TEAM - ALL DISTRICT 15-1A**

SEAN BATES - MVP Defensive Player

DREW McCRELESS - First Team Defensive Outside Linebacker

## Is Your Child Riding Safe for Christmas

By: Tim Dennis, EMTP - Child Passenger Safety Technician - Eastland County Child Safety Program

With Christmas only being one week away, many of you will be traveling out of town to see family for Christmas. Whether this is for the day or several days, whether you are traveling 5 miles or 500 miles, is your child or children riding safely in a seat belt or child passenger restraint device?

Children who are under 4'9" and 5 yrs old are required by Texas law to be secured in a child passenger safety device. This can be a booster seat or a regular car seat. Does your child/children have one or need one? To find out, please contact our office.

The number 1 killer of children in Texas under the age of 14 is unintentional death, which included those involved in car crashes that were not restrained or improperly restrained. Best practices states that a child under 13 is safest when riding in the back seat, secured with a seat belt or in a child passenger safety device.

If your child is riding in a seat, please remember that these are made for adults, so some adjustments need to be made for children. The lap portion of the belt should be low and be placed across the bony portion of the hips and pelvis area, and should not be allowed to "ride up" on the abdominal area. The shoulder portion of the belt should be placed across the bony portion of the upper shoulder, across the collarbone, and not across the neck. In the event of a crash, these bony areas will help absorb the crash forces better than the soft tissue area of the abdomen or neck. In a crash, if the belt is across either of these soft tissue areas, it can cause severe internal damage. If the child is riding in a belt positioning booster, high back booster or no back booster seat, the same principal applies when using the lap/shoulder belt to secure the child.

If your child is not old enough to ride in a seat belt or booster seat, then they should be restrained in a conventional car seat or infant seat depending on their age. Children birth to 1 yr and less than 20 pounds should be in a rear facing and in an infant seat or appropriate rear facing seat. It is recommended that even after the child reaches the 1 yr and 20 pound mark that they remain rear facing as long as possible, again this depends on the seat they are in. The 5 point harness straps in the seat of a rear facing child should be at or below their shoulders. If the child is old enough to travel in a forward facing seat, then these should be at or above their shoulders. When the child is secure in the seat, whether they be rear or forward facing, these straps should be snug, where you can get a finger under the straps. If you can pinch more than an inch of the strap, the strap is not tight enough.

If you are under sure if your child or children are riding safely, please contact our office and we will evaluate your seat for free. I would also like to remind everyone that we still have car seats available for those that are not able to purchase a new seat for their child. These seats are provided for FREE. We have a few booster seats left, but have plenty of the regular car seats available. You may contact our office at 254-734-5989. We provide this service to everyone in Eastland County as well as the counties surrounding Eastland County. Again, if you need a seat, please give us a call.

Senior Travel Club To Hold Bake Sale on December 20th  
ZJ's Steakhouse In Gorman, 5 p.m. - till??

## Card Of Thanks

A heart felt Thank You to everyone in Gorman who was our Mother's friend. Thank you for being a part of her life the past 37 years. Especially the last 4 1/2 years, while she was at the nursing home. All the cards, calls and visits she received.

She loved Gorman - The people - The land and most of the Gorman Panthers. Keep her in your hearts always.

James Morris Family  
Pam Hulse Family

**GARAGE SALE** at the corner of Hwys 8 and 6,  
December 19th and 20th.

Thank you all for your prayers and support.

Please Take A Name From the Display in the American State Bank Lobby and purchase a Gift for the Homestead Nursing Residents. Return the gift in a gift bag to the Bank by Tuesday, December 23rd. The gifts will be delivered on Christmas Eve.

# Obituaries

## Mildred Florence Dennis

Maxine Florence Dennis, age 78 of Midland, passed away Tuesday, December 9, 2008 in an Austin hospital.

Services were at 2:00 P. M. Saturday at the Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Barry Schahn officiating. Burial was in Oaklawn Cemetery.

Maxine was born September 16, 1930 in Bloomfield, Colorado to Quincy and Viola Stewart Fuller. Her family moved to Gorman where she attended school and graduated from Gorman High School in 1948. She married Roy Dennis on July 22, 1950 in the Midway Community in Eastland County. She was a wife, mother, homemaker and a member of the Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband of 58 years, Roy Dennis of Midland; one daughter, Vicki Hamm of Midland; one son, Roy Lyn Dennis of Midland; one brother, Russell Fuller of Robinson; two sisters, Arlene Hooper of Pampa and Lorene Eldridge of Seattle, WA; five grandchildren, Holly, Wendy, Valerie, Aaron and Christopher and four great grandchildren, Kimberlyn, Ashlyn, Kaylee and Logan. She was preceded in death by her parents and three brothers.

## Mary Louise Tarver

Mary Louise Tarver, age 87 of DeLeon, passed away Sunday, December 14, 2008 at a Stephenville hospital.

Services were at 2:00 P. M. Wednesday at the Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel with Durward Webb officiating. Burial was in East End Cemetery in Lingleville.

Mary was born October 22, 1921 in Lingleville, Texas to Charles Allen and Annie Pearl Bays Allen. She married Samuel Tarver, Jr. on August 19, 1944. He preceded her in death on August 3, 2000. Mary was a homemaker and a member of the Gorman Church of Christ.

Survivors include: one daughter, Pat Byrd of DeLeon; one brother, Charles Allen and his wife, Hazel of Stephenville; eight grandchildren, fourteen great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, two sons, Paul Allen Tarver and Phillip Alden Tarver, two grandsons, Charlie and John Tarver and two sisters, Loretta Kelly and Juanita Ramseur.

## Jimmy Sparks

Jimmie Sparks passed away on December 8, 2008 in Dallas, Texas. He was born on October 23, 1925 in Gorman Texas to Felix and Cora Sparks. He served his country in the Navy during WWII and worked for the Alaskan pipeline for several years. He was a member of the Church of Christ and is survived by his wife of 58 years, Dorothy Jean Eckols Sparks.

Visitation was from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 9, 2008 at Midlothian Funeral Home. Graveside Services were held at 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 10, 2008 at Howard Cemetery, Desdemona, Texas.

Arrangements By: Midlothian Funeral Home, 200 East Avenue E, Midlothian, Texas 76065 - 972-723-9884 - www.midlothianfh.com

## Carole Jean Nowlin

Carole Jean Nowlin, age 72 of De Leon passed away on Tuesday, December 9, 2008 at her residence. Services were held on Thursday, December 11th at 2 p.m. at De Leon Church of Christ with Geof Litke and Kris Groda officiating, Music by Gene Foster. Burial was in De Leon Cemetery.

Carole was born February 10, 1936 in Lubbock to the late Volney Hamm and Pauline Leard Hamm. She married T. A. "Cap" Nowlin on August 11, 1952 in Odessa.

She was a retired school teacher, having taught in De Leon Independent School District for 30 years. She was a homemaker and a member of De Leon Church of Christ.

Survivors include: her husband, T. A. "Cap" Nowlin of De Leon; one son, Mark Nowlin and his wife Lisa of De Leon; 2 daughters, Deborah Kelly and husband Bobby of Highland and Dee Dee Wright and husband Ronny of De Leon; one brother Jimmy King of Colorado Springs, Co.; 6 grandchildren, Dathan Wright and wife Amy, Sawyer Wright, Cole Dame and wife Kasey, Came Dame, Shalor Nowlin and Marki Nowlin; and 3 great-grandchildren, Kalee Dallynn Wright, Brenner Cap Wright and Kaylee Dame.

She was preceded by her parents. Pallbearers were Dathan Wright, Sawyer Wright, Shalor Nowlin, Cole Dame, Ronny Wright and Bobby Keith. Honorary Pallbearers were Glenn Burton, Jerry Clark, Bob Puckett, Gayle Graham, Jimmy Wommack, Billy Earl Simpson, Bill Medart, Bill Robertson, and J. R. Coan.

## Santa Letters

### From Gorman Elementary

#### First Graders - Mrs. Lewis's Class

Dear Santa,  
I would like a Trampoline and my sister would like a peek a boo house and I also would like a diamond and I would like an i-dog and my sister would like you to make an i-pod. My mom would like a gift card to the Great Wolf Lodge and my Dad wants a car. Thank you Santa Clause for all the stuff that you have done.  
Love, Rachel  
1st grader

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas I want a dirt Bike with an mp3 player on the dirt bike and a thing for putting my drink.  
Asael  
1st grader

Dear Santa,  
I would like a new Christmas tree and a tent and a Remote Control car and a toy fish. Christmas is fun.  
Love, Keaton  
1st grader

Dear Santa,  
I would like an mp3 player, gold, king Mario, jump in the pool pool, poppy pop bottle, key golden dollar, hand cuffs. So, how are your reindeer?  
From Ramiro  
1st grader

Dear Santa,  
Thanks for the TV. I would like a poly boat. I Love you. You are the best.  
Love, Destiny-1st grader  
P.S. What are the reindeer names?

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas I will a funny, funny toy and it is a clown toy. I want a funny, funny toy a jack in the box and an orange basketball.  
Love, Michelle  
1st grader

Dear Santa,  
How are the reindeer? I want a bike.  
Love, Reid  
1st grader

Dear Santa,  
I went to my Gammie's house I went to my dad's house He lives in DeLeon. I went to my home at night with my mom and sister and it was dark. I went to bed. I am wishing for a Hannah Montana doll.  
Love, Kaylee  
1st grader

Dear Santa, I love you because you love me and I love the reindeer and the reindeer love me and I want a toy for Christmas. I want a Barbie doll and I want a reindeer. I want a bike and I want a basketball, a bear, a playhouse, play church, play dress, play goose, play sun, and a jump rope.  
Love, Karsyn  
1st grader

Dear Santa, I think you have 6 reindeer. I hope I get lots of presents. I hope your okay and have a wonderful Christmas. I want a drum set and an i-dog.  
Love, Justin  
1st grader

Dear Santa, I want a MP3 player for a Christmas and I want a purse, a necklace, and a bracelet.  
From Caitlyn-1st grader

Dear Santa, I hope that your reindeer are okay. Santa Clause I hope that you are safe. Maybe you can give me gold and only five gold to me, Santa Clause. I wish that I could have a lot of Hannah Montana stuff. I love Santa Clause and I love your reindeer.  
Love, Diana -1st grader

Dear Santa,  
How have your reindeer been? Santa you are the best Santa. I want a drum set that has a book with a base.  
Love, Kacen-1st grader

Dear Santa,  
I would like a baby bed set and baby clothes.  
Love, Jasmine  
1st grader

Dear Santa,  
I want two motorcycles and I want two trucks and I want real ponies.  
Love, Cesar -1st grader

## NEW YEAR'S EVE SINGING AT NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

The New Year's Eve Singing at New Hope Baptist Church will begin at 8 p.m. We will break at 10 p.m. For a Time of Food and Fellowship, then sing in the new Year until Midnight + "Specials Welcome" and Lots of Congregational Singing!!! New Hope Baptist Church is located at 109 Country Road 321, West of Gorman - Church Phone Number is 254-631-8938. MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND.

## Business Directory

**CUSTOM HOME BUILDERS**  
SINCE 1980  
Let Us Build Your  
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If You Can Dream It, We Can Build It!!!

**T. J. Clark Construction Co., Inc.**  
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General Building Contractors - All Work Guaranteed  
Custom Homes - Remodeling - Commercial - Industrial - Farm  
Financing - Free Estimates - Design, Engineering & Plan Services

# Classifieds

**HELP WANTED** - Weekend RN Supervisor - Please apply in person to Bell Spencer, RN, D.O.N., De Leon Nursing and Rehab, 809 E. Navarro in De Leon. 1-12-18 C.



**LOST** -- Large white male dog, 1/2 Great Pyrenees, long hair, red collar. Answers to "Max" Please call 254/842-4232 or 254/893-2366.

### REWARD

**WANTED:** Wanted - DRIVERS - For Local Trucking Company. Home nights!! Must have CDL and Clean MVR, 2 yrs. Experience Required. Weekly Pay and Paid Vacation - 254-968-7068. 4-1-8 C.

**Town & Country REAL ESTATE**  
BARBARA LOVE, INC. Broker  
317 E. Main St. - 254-629-1725  
EASTLAND, TX 76448  
www.tcrealty.net

**READY FOR SOME COUNTRY LIVING & SOME GROUND TO SPREAD OUT ON?**  
This place is the one for you! 3.7 Acres surround this 3 BR, 2 bath brick home. Living, dining, office, utility & DAG. Also included are a metal barn w/elec, 2 sheds, stg. Bldg. w/elec., RV shed & several outbuildings. Make your call today to see this one! 03  
VERY PRODUCTIVE - 40 ACRES, M/L, NW OF GORMAN Good coastal and native grasses, good fences and cross fence, County Road frontage, 1 stock tank and water in the area. Call us today to take a look!! A19  
INVESTORS - INVESTORS - INVESTORS - This property consists of 2 structures. A 2 story office building, old cafe. This property has a lot of possibilities!! C19 DO A LITTLE AND SAVE A LOT! Great potential for this 3 or 4 bedroom, 3 bath brick home nestled in 7 wooded acres with outbuildings at the edge of Gorman. SAVE \$\$\$ HA17

## Now Accepting Bids

The City of Gorman has two vehicles up for public bid. Please submit your bid in writing and take it to the City office at 116 S Kent St., or you may mail it to City of Gorman, P O Box 236, Gormam Tx 76454 The City of Gorman reserves the right to refuse any or all bids submitted.

## LOOKING TO LEASE:

Looking to Lease Up To 1,000 Acres For Cattle.  
Please Call Denver Rainey at 254-734-5131. FNC.

**PAUL WILLIAMS ROOFING**  
CARBON, TEXAS  
FREE ESTIMATES  
254-839-2330

Senior Travel Club To Hold Bake Sale on December 20th ZJ's Steakhouse In Gorman, 5 p.m. - till??

*Please Take A Name From the Display in the American State Bank Lobby and purchase a Gift for the Homestead Nursing Residents. Return the gift in a gift bag to the Bank by Tuesday, December 23rd. The gifts will be delivered on Christmas Eve.*

**Gilder REALTY** 254-893-3404  
Comanche Office: 325-356-3739  
Broker: Robert Gilder  
Agents: Ronnie Golden, David Gilder, Wayne Parsons, Bobby Newman, Debbie Gilder, Neal Butler

455 A, wells, tanks, creek, tree covered, hunting, Hwy.6 frontage [RS01] \$1,912,000  
320±A, on Turkey Creek, creek, wildlife cover, tanks, well, hunting [ET01] \$880,000  
SOLD 250±A, on Gopperas Creek, wooded, coastal, lake, cabin, rural water [LB01] \$795,000  
243 A, reservoir, wells, irrig. pit, on hwy., cultivation, costal, pasture [AB01] \$2,500/acre  
REDUCED 236±A, wells, tanks, rolling terrian, hunting [DS02] \$2-195/acre \$1,995/acre  
SOLD 231 A, on Leon River, wells, pecan trees, hunting [DK01] \$665,200  
81 A, Pecan Orchard, 900± improved variety, underground irrig., wells [REM01] \$405,000  
52 A, 4-3 Brick Home, carport, wells, tanks, corrals, barns [LP01] \$239,500  
51 A, highway frontage, spring creek and hunting [RP01] \$182,000  
45 A, 7 irrig. wells & pit, buried mainline w/risers, minerals available [NF01] \$2,500/acre  
30 A, 3-2 1/2 Custom Home, garage, porch, shed/shop, barn, wells, tanks [DB01] \$450,000  
21±A, 2-2 16x72 mobile home, well, World Feeder Costal Bermuda grass [MS03] \$105,000  
20 A, excellent home site, costal, rural water avail, hunting, minerals neg. [WM01] \$75,000  
19±A, rolling terrain, Live Oaks, hunting, near Proctor Lk, will divide [LR03] \$2,750/acre  
4+A, 4-3 Remodeled Brick Home, additional recreational room, water well [RH02] \$149,900  
REDUCED 5 A, 3-1 Frame Home, near Proctor Lk., barn, rural water [LC01] \$92,500 \$89,500  
5 A, 4-2 Brick Home, metal roof, carport, pecan trees, wells & tank, fenced [WK01] \$90,000  
3-2 Frame Home, CH&A, water well, carport, storage building, large lot [LR04] \$39,900  
REDUCED 2-2 Mobile Home 14X70, 12x28 add-on, strg. bldg./carport [PA01] \$29,900 \$22,500  
REDUCED 2-1 1/2 Frame Home, attached garage, storage building [ST01] \$75,000 \$69,000  
2-1 Frame Home, 2.3 A, screened porch, water well, storage bldg. [GB02] \$55,000  
2-1 Fleetwood 14x52, shaded corner lot, well, underground sprinkler, carport [JT03] \$35,000

More Info & Pictures at: [www.GilderRealty.com](http://www.GilderRealty.com)

**COGBURN REALTY**  
254-893-6666 DE LEON, TX

NEW: De Leon: Nice older 3-1 Frame home, 1308 sf, new roof & Plumbing, 2 car garage, fenced yard, corner lot, large Pecan trees. \$33,900.  
NEW: Desdemona, 4 A., older 3-1 frame, well & septic, workshop, beautiful location, large trees. \$59,900.  
NEW: S/E Gorman: 45 A, sandy land, few Pecan trees, 7 water wells, irrigation reservoir, close to pavement. \$2,500 Acre.  
NEW: S/E Gorman: 60 A., good sandy soil, some coastal, good fences, elec., nice pond site. \$2,800 Acre.  
38 A M/L south Gorman: Fronts FM 679, about 10 A. large Pecan Trees, nice location for pond, good fences, sandy land. \$2,500 Acre  
40 A m/l, south Gorman, pasture, fenced, small cabin, water well, small pond, elec., sandy soil, paved road. \$2,500 acre.  
77A Sipe Springs, deer, turkey & 2 stocked ponds, Live and Post Oak, mineral rights. Insulated 30x40 steel Bldg., a/c, 7 living quarters. Nice Getaway! \$3,250 A.  
NEW: Gorman, 44A, 2-2 bi-level frame home, 1728 sf, central a/h, metal roof, covered upper deck, several wells, buildings, coastal, Deer & other wildlife \$250,000.00  
100 A west De Leon FM587, 3 - 1 1/2 - 2 brick, 1444 sq. ft., C/HA, fireplace, carpeted, some remodeling, 3 ponds, 30a crop land, 35a coastal, some native, fenced, 2 steel corrals, 2 wells, shop building. Nice setup. Mineral Rights. \$2,950.00 A.  
NEW: 130 A, West Carbon, approximately 40a cult., 35a coastal, pond, elec., county water. \$2,400 Acre.  
NEW: S/W De Leon: 131 A with 12 acre lake! 66a coastal, 53a farm land, well, 3 ponds, great fences, good horse place, hunting. \$3,000 Acre.  
156 A, Carbon, 1/2 wooded - 1/2 fields, deer, turkey, 3 ponds, nice 2 - 2 mh, central a/c, barn, corral, county water. \$4,000 acre.  
179 A, south of Gorman: Part wooded, part old fields, deer & hogs, 2 nice ponds, sandy soil, elec., several water wells, condition is unknown. \$1,950.00 acre. **SELLERS SAYS MAKE OFFER!!**  
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**The Gorman Progress**  
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MINIMUM CHARGE - \$4.00 PER ISSUE  
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ADDITIONAL 50c FOR BORDERS. WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS - \$5.00 OR \$10.00 WITH PICTURE  
WEDDINGS - \$10.00 MINIMUM  
ADVERTISING DEADLINE - TUESDAY NOON  
CARD OF THANKS - \$5.00

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: By Mail in Eastland or Comanche Counties - 1 year - \$15.00; In Texas - \$20.00 per year and Out of State - \$22.00 per year. Effective January 1, 2008.

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm, or corporation which may appear in the columns of the Gorman Progress will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the Publisher.

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# Dena Scitern's - Kindergarten Class Santa Letters

Dear Santa,  
I've been good sometimes at school. I want a cat and a rabbit.  
Love, Braeden

Dear Santa,  
I love you. I would like a jewelry box for Christmas and a pony.  
Love, Kaitlyn

Dear Santa,  
I cleaned the house with my Daddy. I want an Xbox 360.  
I love you, Steven

Dear Santa,  
I raked the yard and I have been good. Can I get a four wheeler?  
From, Jeremy

Dear Santa,  
OK, I did 99 dishes. So for Christmas I want Superheroes transformer.  
Love, Collin

Dear Santa,  
I cleaned the house. I would like a tractor.  
Your Friend, Hayden R.

Santa,  
I am a nice girl and share my toys. Please bring me a real pony.  
Your Friend, Brylee

Santa,  
I helped my momma and Dad clean my room. I would like a real pony.  
Love, Rose

Santa,  
I been good to my friends. I want a remote control race car for Christmas.  
Love, Anthony

Santa, I played with my sister. I want a real dirt bike and a Wii.  
I Love You,  
Luis

Santa, I cleaned my room when my Mom told me to. I want a remote controlled four wheeler and a spiderman with webs.  
Love, Jordan W.

Dear Santa, I cleaned my closet. I would like a baby doll and a stroller.  
Love, Jordan H.

Hi Santa, I helped momma do the dishes. Please can I have a trampoline?  
Love, Hannah

Dear Santa, I share my toys with my brother. I want a motorcycle, dirtbike, and a go-cart. I love you  
Santa,  
Jordan S.

Dear Santa, Every morning I turn the radio off for Mom. I want a horse to ride to school so I don't ride the bus.  
From, Elyanna

Dear Santa,  
I helped my Nanny clean windows. I want a go-cart with flames. A real one.  
Yours truly, Braylan

Dear Santa,  
I help my mom wash dishes. I would like a playstation  
Yours truly, Gustavo

Dear Santa,  
I cutted brush for my Mema. Can I please have real pony?  
Love, Jessica

Dear Santa,  
I saved my brother from drowning. Please can I have a playstation 2.  
Your Friend, Jonathan

Dear Santa, I take out the trash so my Dad doesn't have to. I want a playstation.  
Love Hayden H.

Dear Santa,  
I want a four wheeler. A black one. I am good. Santa clause loves me.  
Bryson

Dear Santa, I cleaned my room and mind my momma. Please have a four wheeler for me.  
Love Mya

Dear Santa, I share toys with my sister. I want a ride on motorcycle.  
From Garrett

# T-Shirts For The Hope For Martha Fund

Hello everyone, we are selling T-shirts for the Hope for Martha fund. They will be gray with orange writing. The front will say fighting MS--one stem cell at a time. The back will have Hope for Martha with Isaiah 40:31 on it. They are \$15 each, youth XS-XL and adult S-XL (2X will be \$16 and the 3X will be \$17) We will need orders in by December 8 and payment is due at time of order. They will be here around December 22. Orders can be placed at City Hall, American State Bank, First Baptist Church, Methodist Church and Church of Christ, or you can call (254)734-2317 and talk to Jill or Tacy.

Thanks, Jill Torres - cityofgorman@ccre.net

# HOME COMING PICTURES

All Homecoming pictures that were taken by Kyle Riley from Riley Studios are online and may be viewed at this time. Mr. Riley took action photos of the game and he took halftime pictures of all of the couples presented. He also took some special request pictures of certain family groups. All of these pictures may be seen by going to rileystudio.com and clicking on the online proofing link. Any pictures may be ordered by contacting Kyle at Riley Studio in Comanche. Phone number is 325-356-3199 or toll free at 888-356-3110.

# Pig Tales From Hogtown

I would like to thank everyone who visited our Christmas Store this year. We had a great time as usual. There were lots of Christmas items, gift items and yummy food items. I hope all of you who were not able to come this year will plan to come next year. We do have fun at the DAC!

We here at the DAC hope all of you are planning to come to our New Year's Eve party on December 31st. Bring a snack and a favorite game and we will ring in the New Year together. The fun begins at 7:00P.M. There will be no charge for this event.

Please remember that the burn ban is on in our area. There have been several fires recently and we sure do not want to see the damage that we have had in recent years. This time of year is dangerous not only outside with our dry landscape but indoors as well. Live Christmas trees dry out quickly and become a fire hazard. Check the lights that you put on your tree to see that they are in good condition. Did you change the batteries in your smoke detectors at the time change? Take a moment to test your detectors and replace the batteries if needed.

The general meeting of the DAC members will be on January 22nd - the wrong date was given last week. If you would like to become a member of the DAC, please come to this meeting. Becoming a member entitles you to vote in our general elections.

Johnny Johnson & the Memory-Makers will be back at the DAC on Thursday, January 29th. Polish up your dancing shoes and come join us then.

To our library patrons: The library will be closed the week of Christmas and the week of New Year's.

Merry Christmas!  
Carol Pell

# Texas Forest Service Urges Texans To Use Caution With Fireworks

Many areas across the state will be in danger of accidental wildfires this month as some Texans celebrate the holiday season with fireworks.

Fireworks are commonly linked to Christmas and New Year festivities, but Texas Forest Service warns the outcome can be disastrous if proper safety precautions are not taken.

"Many Texans will be using fireworks to celebrate Christmas and the New Year," Texas Forest Service Fire Operations Chief Mark Stanford said. "TFS wants Texans to use fireworks safely in order to protect themselves and to avoid accidentally starting wildfires."

Under Texas law, county government officials have the authority to restrict certain types of aerial fireworks when drought conditions exist or when hazardous fuel conditions are present during the winter months. County officials also consider drought conditions when determining outdoor burn bans for their counties. Texas Forest Service does not make decisions regarding restrictions on fireworks or outdoor burning bans. The state agency does, however, provide drought condition information to counties.

Currently, many parts of Texas are in danger of accidental wildfire because of continued drought. Most of Central and West Texas is experiencing drier than normal conditions. In Southeast Texas, debris from Hurricane Ike and vegetation killed by saltwater is contributing to the problem, as is cured debris that remains from Hurricane Rita.

### Tips for the safe use of fireworks:

- Adhere to all county and city fireworks laws.
- Use fireworks outdoors away from dry grass and buildings.
- Read firework labels and use only as directed. DO NOT ALTER THE PRODUCTS.
- Use only with adult supervision.
- Keep water, wet towels and a garden hose nearby.
- Allow fireworks to cool completely before handling.
- Discard used fireworks into a bucket of water.

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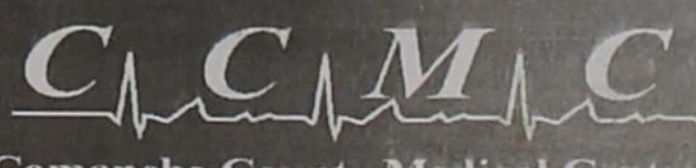
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# Super Notes

By David K. Perry - dperry@gorman.esc14.net - www.gorman.esc14.net - 734-3171

## Desdemona News

By Vonnie Guthery

**Desdemona Monthly Musical** will be cancelled for the month of December due to the busy "Holiday Season." This musical will start back in January 2009 on the fourth Saturday night of each month. This is a "Smoke Free" environment and the admission is "FREE".

"Congratulations" to Jody Walston of Desdemona. She graduated from Tarleton State University in Stephenville on Saturday, December 13th with a degree in Criminal Justice and a Minor in Psychology. Jody is a niece of Bernard and Ann Keith, Pug and Vonnie Guthery all of Desdemona.

Hallie Million was honored as being the Outstanding Student in Dublin Middle School. Hallie is the great grand-daughter of Mildred Million of Desdemona.

Friends of Desdemona sends sincere sympathy to the family of Jim Sparks of Midlothian. Graveside service was held this past week at the Howard Cemetery north of Desdemona in Eastland County.

Carol Kent won a seat in the Texas House of Representatives, Dallas District 102. Carol is a niece of Mildred Million of Desdemona.

During this busy "Holiday Season" please remember the sick and shut-ins of our Community with your cards and prayers.

Bernard Keith was rushed to the Abilene Hendrick Hospital on Saturday morning after he passed out while visiting friends in Eastland. Friends and Family of Desdemona send "Get Well Wishes" to Bernard.

Karen Fair, Vonnie Guthery, Holly Guthery and daughter, Karsan Jade attended the "Band Concert" last Sunday afternoon in De Leon to be with Lorin who is a member of the High School Band.

"Congratulations" to Eliza Mathwig of Desdemona. She was First Runner-up in the Distinguished Youth of Texas Scholarship and Recognition Program held November 28th thru November 30th at the Renaissance Hotel in Austin. Eliza is a fourth grader at De Leon Elementary School. Eliza is the lovely daughter of John and Carrie Barfield of Desdemona.

Please Contact This Reporter with a Your Weekly News. Your Help Will BE Appreciated. Thanks, Have a Nice Day, "Coon"

## Senior Citizens News

By Carol Ward

We enjoyed our weekly dinner on the 10th of December at 11:30. There were 25 present in spite of the cold morning. I was happy to see so many here after low attendance last week. Sure was good to have Frank and Beth Shirley with us. Frank, gracious always gave the blessing of our food. Beth brought a great Mexican casserole, all enjoyed.

Our meal was great with baked chicken, ham, chicken noodle casserole, Mexican casserole, Cole slaw, peas and carrots, green beans, greens, cabbage and beans. Always have corn bread and Betty Regians good rolls. Our desserts were good with 2 cakes, 2 pies and an apple crunch dish. Also Icy Munn's delicious deviled eggs. We look forward to them every week.

Erma Jane Larch always brings her delicious cakes and a casserole of some type. Well She made us a stew, perfect for the cold weather. While loading in her car she spilled most of it. I was sick for her, after all that work. I've had the same thought many times while loading, hope I make this there in one piece and not all over the car. So sorry for her.

This cold weather has really been some thing. Its better today with out the wind. Thank God there was no ice here. How devastating the ice storm is back East.

Our family all attended on the 14th, Adrian Wright Ramirez, 1st Birthday at ZJ's. He is my grandson-in-law, Ryan Wrights nephew. His mom Holly, Ryan's sister. His party was great with many presents in spite of the conflict with FBC Christmas Supper. We all enjoyed hamburgers and trimmings. Also Socarro Ramirez, his grandma, treated us to her enchiladas. He had a sports motif in decorations that was really neat. Cecilia Hirst made a big cake then a baby cake like a baseball with a 1". He really enjoyed eating his cake, so good. The kids also had a big time hitting the basketball pinata filled with goodies.

My grandson, Tyson Swanner made it all through football with no serious injuries then starts basketball and sprains his ankle. He jumped up then came down on some ones foot. So now he is on crutches. Will be able to play again after the holidays.

I was contacted by Sandra Brudnak and she and her Harpist will give us a concert. I'm quite excited about us having some culture in this little town. I really appreciate her offering to give us the chance at some great music. This will be on January 7th and hope a good crowd will come to enjoy. This is our regular dinner day and will happen at noon. I believe Sandra plays the violin and other instruments.

Hope all is well and see you next time, Carol.

## Happenings At FBC!!

Prioritize! Who is number one on your Christmas list? Make Jesus number one and the rest will come!

Mark your calendars:

**Dec. 21st - 9:45am** - Special Sunday School Party - Happy Birthday, Jesus!

**Dec. 21st - 6:00pm** - Candle Light Service and Lord's Supper.

**Dec. 24th** - Christmas Eve - No evening service.

**Dec. 25th** - Merry Christmas to all!

**Dec. 31st - 8pm** - Join us at New Hope Baptist Church to sing in the new year!

Children's Sermon: One of Liz's favorite parts of Christmas are the lights, and how they light up the dark. Liz showed the children a bundle of lights, and told about how she and Shane wanted to hang them but they were all tangled up. The Bible tells us about John who came to see and to witness the true light of Christmas. Jesus is the true light of Christmas. Let Jesus help you untangle your life, and lead you out of the darkness into His light.

Special Reading: Gary Mauney shared a powerful poem. It was called "A Different Christmas Poem" from the perspective of one of our service men. America has remarkable service men and women. They feel it is their duty to stand their post at the front line like our forefathers. Never forget our service men and women, and thank them for their courage and dedicated service.

Bro. Barry's message was "Prescription for Overcoming Holiday Stress?" - Romans 5:5. Jesus was, is, and is to come! The busyness of the Christmas season can cause us to lose our focus. This season should be filled with joy and warm souls, however, a lot of times it is a miserable mess of heartburn and depression. What causes stress? Time, money, and emotions. Imagine the stress Joseph felt when Mary told him she was pregnant by the Holy Spirit. Mary gave birth to the reason and purpose for our Christmas season!

Things will go wrong and the rolls may burn, so remember these seven things:

- 1) Pray, Pray and Pray some more.
- 2) Decide what's important and what's NOT.
- 3) Something will go wrong, but it's all right.
- 4) Use Common Sense and Plan Ahead.
- 5) Simplify your Life.
- 6) Celebrate Christmas in ways that are truly meaningful. Keep your traditions!
- 7) When trouble comes your way this Holiday Season, and it will.

Give the problem to God in prayer and leave it there. Don't TAKE it with you when you say AMEN!

Our Worship Service begins at 11:00AM on Sunday mornings - please come and join us!

Remember: God loves you like no one else! Email us at fbcgorman@hotmail.com

We did it again! Gorman High School has been recognized for the second year in a row as one of the top high schools in America by the "America's Best High Schools" in U.S. News & World Report. We are one of eleven schools throughout the Big Country that were recognized and just over 100 in the entire state. I hope all of you are as proud of our students and teachers as I am. They have done and are doing a great job! Congratulations Mr. Panter to you and all of your faculty, staff, and students for this great recognition! You know as we build this new building that you can keep track of the progress by simply watching what is going on from the outside, but you never see the things going on, the inside of the school; all the planning; the research; the meetings, the counseling, etc. We are constantly striving to make our school the best it can be and to deliver the best education possible to your children.

Thank you to all of the folks involved in helping with our Junior High U.I.L. Academic Meet last week, especially in the concession. Our school placed second in the meet with Tolar winning as usual. They have the numbers needed to cover all of the events and then some where most of our kids have to compete in several things for us to even come close. This is the best we have done in four years. I want to congratulate all of the teacher/coaches involved. They have worked hard to prepare our kids for competition. One of these days we are going to take all of the big schools with whom we have to compete by surprise and win first place. I know we can do it. Our kids are the best!

A Christmas Program will be presented by the Kindergarten, Fifth Grade and Sixth Grade in the auditorium on December 18th. It will begin at 9:30am. The High School Christmas Program will be presented December 18th at 6:00pm in the auditorium. I am sure everyone will enjoy the entertainment; after all, Santa is watching and listening!

The annual Gorman Livestock Show will begin early on the morning of the 20th. These students in this competition work very hard preparing their animals for show and they deserve as much support as we can give them. Please come out and support these young people. They are your future!

School will be dismissed early on Thursday and Friday (December 18th and 19th). Buses will run at approximately 12:30pm. It may be 12:45pm by the time we get everyone loaded and on their way. Christmas Break is December 22nd thru January 2nd. Your children will return to school Monday, January 5th.

Now and in the future, in case of bad weather, please listen to the following radio stations: KSTV 93.1 or KYOX 94.3, or tune in to the following television stations: KTAB-Channel 32, KTXS Channel 12 or KRBC-Channel 9 in Abilene. We don't like to cancel school or change our usual schedule because we know what a burden it places on the parents of our students, but sometimes we can't help it for safety sake. Please rest assured that we take our responsibility very seriously and won't ever intentionally place your child at risk. We appreciate the trust placed in us and will always act with your child's best interest at heart.

We had to move our board meeting to this past Monday night instead of our regular night (the 8th) due to illness and work related issues. We met in the conference room by my office rather than our usual location in the auditorium so that Mr. Howard could keep all of his equipment and chairs set up on the stage where they are practicing for the Christmas Program. We thought it was a small sacrifice. The board meeting began promptly at 6:00pm. They passed the consent agenda and moved right into reports. Mr. Perry reported on each board members training hours to date and reviewed the procedures for his evaluation next month. Ms. Harrington, board president, reported on issues discussed at the last TASB board meeting and handed out several pieces of information for each trustee to discern. Their actions taken were: approved the first reading of TASB Policy update 84; approved a commitment to a food purchasing coop at Region 14 ESC for next year; approved the color board selections for the building project interior and the insulator board to be used on the gables. The board then discussed under personnel that they expected our coaches to see that our athletes were good examples regarding their behavior on and off the court, field, etc. and Mr. Perry said he would visit with Coach Hendrix about the problems discussed. The board then adjourned at 8:34pm. The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be January 12th, 2009.

This will be the last of my articles until we return from the Christmas break. Mrs. Perry and I wish you all a safe and blessed Christmas and pray that you will all keep the reason for the season in focus, the birth of Jesus, God's greatest gift to us all!

The new high school is still on schedule and the roofing has begun over the gym. We hope the cold weather does not slow things down too much. They will still be working on the building over the school holidays.

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 input is always welcome. Come help us shape the future. Thank you for all you do to support us!

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Bonus Cash	\$ 3,000	

SALE PRICE \$ 33,511 + TT&L

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