

The Gorman Progress

"Serving Gorman For Over 109 Years"
Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454

2009 Member – Texas Press Association

NUMBER EIGHTEEN

MAY 7, 2009

Gorman Sports Banquet Set Monday, May 18 at 7 p.m.

The Gorman Athletic Booster Club and Gorman High School will be hosting the Gorman Sports Banquet on Monday, May 18 at 7:00 p.m. The banquet location is the Gorman High School gymnasium, and the meal is being catered by Cook's Fish Barn. It would be appreciated if tickets to the banquet be purchased in advance for \$10.00 per adult and \$5.00 for children 10 and under. Advance tickets can be purchased at Gorman High School. All athletes are being asked to get tickets for family members in advance so that we have an estimated count of attendance. Tickets may also be purchased at the door. We hope to see all of the Gorman Panther fans there!



Thank You

Kindergarten would like to say a BIG thank you to City Grocery and Bob's Grocery for their donation to Kindergarten. We went to the Ft. Worth Zoo on May 5th and we thought it would be a good idea to all have white shirts and the donation helped in this purchase. The shirts will enable the teachers and parents to easily spot the children. Each shirt has an iron on picture of a zoo animal of their choice. We greatly appreciate these businesses for their donations and their support. Next time you are in their store please tell them thank you for supporting the kindergarten kids.

Thank you again for all you do in this community,
Kindergarten

Gorman High School One Act Play Team Competes At Zone Competition in Ranger

On March 25, Gorman High School competed at the Zone One-Act Play competition at Ranger High School. This year, Gorman High School performed Amber Waves, a play about the pressures of maintaining a family farm. Four of the participants received awards: All Star Cast – Justin Little; Honorable Mention All Star Cast – Tyler Johnson and Bethany Oliver; and Technical Crew Award – Lindsey Laminack. Other participants on the cast were Brittany Henderson and Brenda Velasquez; other crew participants were Jon Flores, Erica Limon, and Brice Campbell. This year, we had only one senior participating in one-act play, Lindsey Laminack has been an active part of one-act play all four years of high school. Congratulations to all of the participants.



Back row left to right: Jon Flores, Lindsey Laminack, Brice Campbell, Erica Limon
Front row left to right: Justin Little, Tyler Johnson, Brittany Henderson, and Bethany Oliver
(Not pictured Brenda Velasquez)

Yearbook Staff News

The Yearbook Staff will be selling Photo CD's of all Main Sports for \$5.00 Each at the Athletic Banquet to be held on May 19th, 2009 @7:00 in the HS Gym, Each CD will have a Group Picture.

If anyone is interested in buying Yearbooks from the Past Years, please call the school and leave a message for Mrs. Schaefer 734-2614, and she will be glad to call you back.

If anyone would like to place an AD in the Yearbook to honor their Graduating Senior, please call the school and leave a message for Mrs. Schaefer 734-2614, and she will be glad to call you back.

GARAGE SALE MAY 15/16

Gorman United Methodist Church will hold a Garage Sale on May 15/16 with the proceeds to benefit the children of Gorman. If you will remember, last summer we held a 3-day Summer Day Camp at the church with the help of Glen Lake Methodist Encampment. It was so well received that we have asked them back and they have agreed! We are taking donations from the community. Donations can be dropped off at the church or by calling 734 4611 and ask for Pastor Sharon. Please bring items that will sell. ALSO, Pampered Chef will be available for purchase and 10% of those profits will be donated to the cause!

Child Safety Seats

Are you in need of a child safety seat for your child? Eastland County Child Safety Program has seats that it needs to give away. These are new seats that will accommodate a child from 5 pounds up to 40 pounds. These are convertible seats, meaning that they will go from rear facing to forward facing so that your child can use the seat longer. We are currently out of the booster seats and will not be getting anymore of these until we reapply next year for more seats. If you need a seat, please contact our office at 254-734-5989 for more information and to set up an appointment to pick up your seat. These seats are FREE.

County Judge Rex Fields Responds to Flu Inquiries

I have been asked to respond to inquiries about the current flu issue and how it is affecting Eastland County. As of this writing on April 30th, there are no known, confirmed cases in our county of H1N1 flu or what has been called "Swine Flu" by some. I have checked with the County's health officer and some of the schools in our county. No unusual flu beyond the seasonal type that always affects us has been reported. No schools in Eastland County have been closed. The only school event that has been canceled of which I am aware is Cisco Junior College which has canceled its graduation ceremony, held Friday, May 1st.

I have also talked with the division of homeland security at the West Central Texas Council of Governments (WESTCOG) in Abilene. As of this morning, April 30th, none of the 19 counties that comprise the WESTCOG region have any confirmed cases. This includes Taylor County, so I infer that neither of the regional hospitals in Abilene have any confirmed cases. There are 26 confirmed cases in Texas, with the nearest cases being in Tarrant County. All of the cases seem to be in more densely populated areas such as the Metroplex and San Antonio area.

Eastland Memorial Hospital reported to me this afternoon that there have been no confirmed cases. The Director stated that they monitor anyone being admitted with flu-like symptoms and report these to the state.

So to restate, the N1N1 "swine flu" is not here, but you do need to take precautions to prevent infection from this or any communicable disease. I will paraphrase some of the information that I have received from the state and other resources. Practice healthy habits to stop the spread of germs by washing your hands and using alcohol-based hand sanitizers. Cover your mouth when you sneeze or cough. Seek medical care if you feel sick. If you have been to Mexico, pay close attention to your health for seven days and if you start feeling sick, see a doctor. Those people most susceptible to this flu are the very young, the very old, and anyone that is pregnant. The bottom line is to prevent infection and protect yourself and your family from any disease.

Finally, here is the state source of information on the flu issue: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/> Texas Department of Health Services (DHS). This website is loaded with very useful instruction on what to do about this and many other diseases. I encourage you to do some research so that you can be better prepared now and in the future.

Thank You Respectfully submitted,
Rex Fields, Eastland County Judge

Texas Slim's Eastland Opry Set For May 8

After much pestering and negotiating, Texas Slim, aka Ron Holliday, has agreed to present his Eastland Opry, a live (or not) radio broadcast, in full production to help raise funds for the building project of the Eastland Centre for the Arts.

Slim and his cast of talented tribute artists, will perform an extended version of the same show performed at the First Baptist Church some weeks ago. The show was as knee slapping success and organizers have "worked the deal" for this second event.

Slim, joined by side kick Trixie (Dorothy Kea), will emcee the production that will feature such talents as Willie Nelson (Larry Wesson), Jim Reeves & Roy Orbison (Richard Rossander), Chet Atkins & Earl Scruggs (Larry Barnes), Floyd (one) Cramer (Cyndie Mace), Hank Williams (Tim Dame) and Patsy Kline (Alice Holliday).

Local Christian music group Crosswalk, featuring Larry and Cyndie Mace, Larry Barnes, Corey Hull, John Yates and Larry Wesson, will also perform and provide additional music for the Impostors.

Tickets for the special event will be \$10 each with all proceeds benefitting the current building project at the Art Centre facilities on the west side of the square.

Richard Rossander, who has personally undertaken the task of putting this fund raiser together, feels it is time for the people of Eastland to help.

"There currently is very little, if any money out there for projects like this," he said, "so WE the people of Eastland need to pull together and help get this project off the ground."

The Eastland Centre for the Arts was formed in late 2006 and were given permission by the Eastland Community Foundation to use the facilities the foundation owned on the west side of the square for their project. The organization was chartered as a Texas nonprofit corporation in July 2007 and in September of that same year a 501(c)(3) exemption was received from the IRS.

Since then this group has diligently attempted to raise funds for work to the buildings and in June of 2008 the Eastland Community Foundation presented the deed transferring ownership of the properties to the Eastland Centre for the Arts, Inc.

Work began on the facades of the facilities earlier this month with demolition and framing started this week.

Current estimate of the project is \$70,000 and the ECA board started the work with funds from their building account. In recent actions by the City of Eastland, a \$35,000 "Challenge Grant" was awarded to the project in hopes others will step up and help.

Tickets are available at KRP Insurance, Eastland Chamber of Commerce and Eastland Telegram.

Ranger College Scholarships Now Available!

Ranger College is proud to announce that Regent Scholarships are now available! All high school graduates will be eligible for this scholarship!

With the hard economic times that all of us are facing, it's important for students to get the best education possible at an affordable price. Ranger College offers high quality education and is at the top of the list for the most affordable colleges in the state of Texas (commuter student – approximately \$2500/per year for 30 sem. hrs.). This scholarship is just another way that Ranger College makes post-secondary education affordable to graduating seniors.

Regent Scholarships will be awarded up to \$625.00 per semester, per student, for 4 consecutive semesters, not to exceed a total of \$2,500.00. To be eligible, a student must be enrolled full-time (at least 12 hours) on the main Ranger campus, and must provide a high school transcript to receive this scholarship. The scholarship must be used during the fall and/or spring, but may not be used in the summer. Students already receiving an athletic scholarship may not receive this scholarship. Students are encouraged to complete the FAFSA, but it is not required.

The Regent Scholarship is directed primarily to the local commuter student who is interested in academic course work before transferring to a four-year university or for students interested in Workforce programs at Ranger College. Workforce programs offered on the Ranger campus include Office Technology, Computer Information Systems, and Welding. In each program the student may pursue a Certificate of Completion or an Associate of Applied Science Degree. These programs vary in length from one semester to two years. Lectures and hands-on training for immediate employment and/or career advancement. Additional information on these programs is available online at www.ranger.cc.tx.us, click on Departmental Information, then Workforce Programs.

Scholarship applications are available on-line or by calling Ranger College. For additional information or questions, please call the Financial Aid department at Ranger College at 254-647-3234 Ext. 217 or Workforce department at Ext. 230.

NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that Eastland County Commissioner's Court will meet in a Special Meeting at 1:00 p.m. On Friday, May 8th in Eastland County Commissioner's Courtroom, Eastland, Texas, to consider the following agenda items:

1. Discuss and Consider Removing County Burn Ban

Posted by order of Eastland County Commissioner's Court

Any of the above and foregoing agenda items, which require action, may be acted upon by the Commissioner's Court.

Gorman City Election Set For May 9th

The Election of two city commissioners Place One and Three will be held Saturday, May 9th from 7 a.m. To 7 p.m. At the Gorman Senior Center.

Gorman Peanut Queen will host a BAKE SALE
Sat. May 9th in front of ZJ's 4:30 P.M.

Come get your bake good to celebrate Mother's Day.
All proceeds to help maintain and improve the Queen's float.

Ranger Man Gets Six Year Prison Sentence

Abel Delatorre, 29, formerly of Ranger, is now an inmate awaiting transport to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to serve a six year prison sentence for the delivery of approximately 1.6 grams of Cocaine.

Delatorre was part of a group of individuals arrested in October, 2008, when approximately 20 law enforcement officers began serving felony warrants on multiple defendants in various locations of the county. An agent of the West Central Texas Interlocal Crime Task Force, while working in an undercover capacity, made the purchase of cocaine from Delatorre that led to his arrest.

Criminal District Attorney Russ Thomason stated, "Drug Dealers should be aware, law enforcement officers are watching and actively working to stop the flow of poisonous drugs in Eastland County."

Army National Guard Staff Sgt. Tim Allen Receives Army Achievement Medal

Army National Guard Staff Sgt. Timothy M. Allen has been awarded the Army Achievement Medal for participating in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The medal is awarded to soldiers who have served in any capacity in an area authorized by the Secretary of the Army. The recipients must have distinguished themselves by meritorious service or achievement while acting on behalf of the Army.

Operation Iraqi Freedom is the official name given to military operations involving members of the U.S. armed forces and coalition forces participating in efforts to free and secure Iraq. Mission objectives focus on force protection, peacekeeping, stabilization, security and counter-insurgency operations as the Iraqi transitional governing bodies assume full sovereign powers to govern the peoples of Iraq.

Members from all branches of the U.S. military and multinational forces are also assisting in rebuilding Iraq's economic and governmental infrastructure, and training and preparing Iraqi military and security forces to assume full authority and responsibility in defending and preserving Iraq's sovereignty and independence as a democracy.

Allen received the medal for aiding an Iraqi civilian after his car caught fire on Dec. 7, 2008. He is deployed as a combat engineer squad leader at Camp Liberty, Iraq, assigned to the 836th Engineer Company, 926th Engineer Brigade, Multi-National Division in Baghdad. The guardsman is regularly a member of the 836th Engineer Company based in Kingsville, Texas.

The staff sergeant has served in the military for 17 years. He is the son of Ann Higdon of Cataula Drive, Cataula, Ga. His wife, Brenda, is the daughter of Milie Richardson of N. Bowie St., De Leon, Texas.

The sergeant is a 1989 graduate of Montgomery County High School, Mount Sterling, Ky.



Man Sentenced To Seven Years For Cattle Theft

Bryan D. Rainey, 34, formerly of Haskell, is now an inmate awaiting transfer to prison to serve a seven (7) year prison sentence for theft of cattle - stolen in a single transaction with aggregate value of less than \$100,000. Rainey was facing a maximum sentence of ten years confinement in the Institutional Division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. The Honorable Judge Steven R. Herod of the 91st District Court sentenced Rainey.

The theft case stemmed from a purchase made by Rainey of 53 head of cattle at a local livestock auction in March of 2008. Rainey presented a check that was returned for insufficient funds.

On April 9, 2009, Rainey received probation in Midland County for similar charges related to the theft of 64 head of cattle. Rainey would have been on probation for seven years.

Also in April, 2009, Rainey was tried to a Haskell County jury that was unable to reach a verdict resulting in a mistrial. That case also involved theft allegations. District Attorney Mike Fouts of Haskell, has stated that he intends to retry the case immediately. Rainey faces a maximum of ten years confinement in that case.

Rainey also faces probation revocation charges in Wise County. Rainey was placed on ten years probation in 1998 in Wise County for Theft of Property. He will face a maximum of three years confinement in that case.

The investigation of the case was handled by Ken Miniard, an investigator and field inspector with the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association. Criminal District Attorney Russ Thomason prosecuted the case with Attorneys Lance and Mike Hall of the Hall Law Firm in Sweetwater.

Obituary

Dalton K. "Red" Taylor

Dalton K. "Red" Taylor, age 79 of Gorman passed away Tuesday, April 28, 2009 after a short illness.

A memorial service was held at 2:00 P.M. Friday at the First Baptist Church in Gorman with Bro. Barry Schahn officiating. A second service was held Saturday, May 2, 2009 at 2:00 P.M. at the Barstow Cemetery in Barstow, Texas.

Mr. Taylor was born June 27, 1929 in Barstow, Texas to Edd and Lena Taylor. He was a retired postal clerk and a member of the First Baptist Church in Gorman. He loved hunting and was an avid sports fan.

He is survived by three daughters, Emery Taylor of Bastrop, Robin Taylor of Gorman and Ellen Tucker and husband, James also of Gorman; one granddaughter, Rachel Tucker of Gorman; two sisters, Darnell Meyers of Kerrville and Novelyn Grizzard of Big Spring; two brothers, Norton Taylor of Blanket and Mart Taylor of John Day, Oregon as well as Bill Roberson of DeLeon and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife, Kathryn, one daughter, his parents, one brother and four sisters.

In lieu of flowers the family request a donation to your favorite youth organization.

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The City of Gorman will be accepting applications to operate the City Pool for the 2009 season. You must be a certified lifeguard and certified in CPR. You may pick up an application at the Gorman City office, 116 S Kent St, or call (254) 734-2317.

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS: Homestead Nursing & Rehabilitation of Gorman is now accepting applications for the position of Director of Nurses. For information or application contact the facility at 254-734-2202. Salary is negotiable and benefits are available. EEOC 2-5-14 C.

Gilder REALTY 254-893-3404
Comanche Office: 325-356-3739
Broker: **Robert Gilder**
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REDUCED 320±A, on Turkey Creek, creek, tanks, well, hunting [ET01] \$899,000 \$800,000
SOLD 250±A, on Goppers Creek, wooded, coastal, lake, cabin, rural water [LB01] \$795,000
UNDER CONTRACT 236±A, wells, tanks, rolling terrain, hunting [DS02] \$1,995/acre
SOLD 231 A, on Leon River, wells, pecan trees, hunting [DK01] \$665,200
102 A, water well, costal, corrals, hunting, mins & owner financing possible [JB02] \$285,000
81 A, Pecan Orchard, 900± improved variety, underground irrig, wells [REM01] \$405,000
45 A, 7 irrig wells & pit, buried mainline w/risers, minerals available [NF01] \$2,500/acre
30 A, 3-2/4 Custom Home, garage, porch, shed/shop, barn, wells, tanks [DB01] \$450,000
21±A, Sprigged with World Feeder Coastal Bermuda grass, water well [MS04] \$92,500
REDUCED 20 A, excellent home site, rural water avail, hunting [WM01] \$75,000 \$59,000
18±A, rolling terrain, Live Oaks, hunting, near Proctor Lk, will divide [LR03] \$2,750/acre
15.7 A, Hwy.16 frontage, costal, rural water supply avail, water well [JS02] \$40,820
7-4 Brick Home, 2,31 A, 2 fireplaces, CH&A, tile floors, office, Jacuzzi [JN02] \$220,000
4-2 Brick Home, 2 fireplaces, CH&A, 2 car garage + 7'6" x 16' mobile home [JH01] \$159,900
4-4, 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
2-2 Brick Home, 2car attach garage, new flooring, large lot, fenced yard [MG02] \$75,000
2-2 18'x 60' Mobile Home, 3 car garage, more buildings, water well, fenced [CR01] \$50,000
REDUCED 2-1/2 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
Commercial Bldg, on Hwy.36, 6,480 sf, 3 separate units & entrances, CH&A [RC01] \$82,500
Fully-equipped Restaurant, Hwy.6 DeLeon, 2,998sf(CAD), paved lot, [GM02] \$180,000

More Info & Pictures at: www.GilderRealty.com

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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
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, 2-2-2 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.
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We had a wonderful turnout for breakfast last Saturday! Welcome to all who came for the first time. We have 'Breakfast at the DAC' on the first Saturday of each and every month and we hope you all will come back.

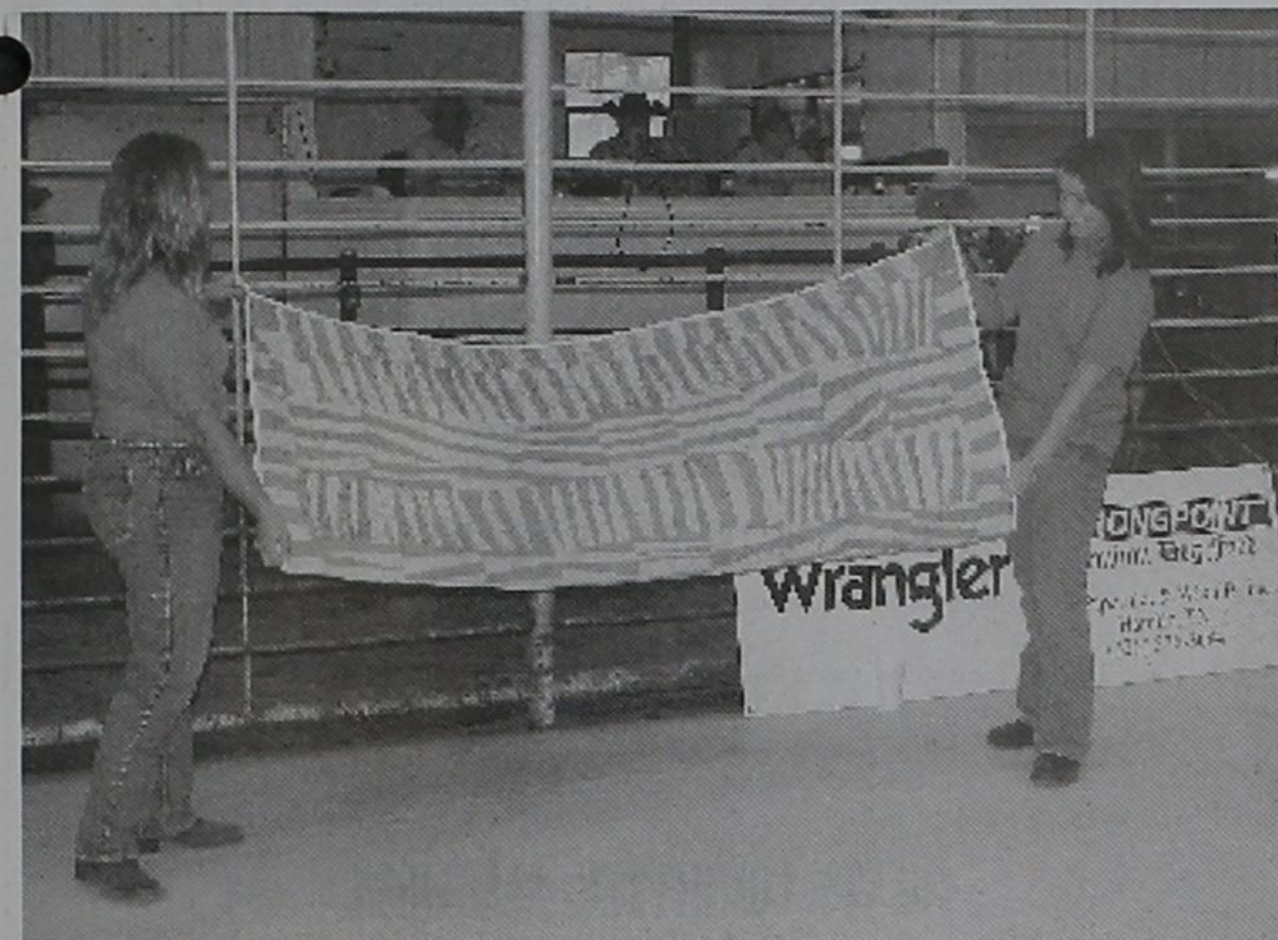
This Friday evening is our monthly dance at the DAC. Johnny Johnson and the Memory-Makers will be here to play at 7:00. Concession stand opens at 6:00.

Our annual community garage sale will be held at the DAC on May 21st, 22nd and 23rd. We will open at 8:00 A.M. each day and close around 5:00 P.M. However we will stay open as long as we have customers! If you would like to donate items for the garage sale to support our new building, you can call 254-758-2428, 254-758-2420 or bring your items to the building during our library hours. The library is open Monday through Thursday afternoons from 3:00 until 5:00 and Tuesday evenings from 6:00 until 8:00.

While you are here at the DAC, check out our library. We would like for you to get a library card and become an active library user. Our library has many, many wonderful books. There is certainly something for everyone. We have lots of westerns and magazines.

See you in Desdemona!
Carol Pell

2009 Dublin Round-Up for Rehab



Dublin Livestock employees display a quilt donated by Bobbie Hope and quilted by Mary Harris for the Dublin Round-Up for Rehab event held on April 10th. The auction was a great success benefiting the West Texas Rehabilitation Center \$18,927.

Senate Passes Eminent Domain Bill

Austin, Texas - The bill to provide a more property owner friendly eminent domain process was unanimously approved by the Texas State Senate today. Senate Bill 18, introduced by Senator Craig Estes (R-Wichita Falls), reforms the process of eminent domain and condemnation for property owners in the state of Texas. SB 18 now moves to the House for consideration.

"Property owners know that Texas is growing and that our land and water will be needed to accommodate future growth, but that accommodation shouldn't be at the expense of property owners," Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA) President Dave Scott said.

"Members of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers strongly believe that Texas property owners do not have enough protections under the current eminent domain law. Senate Bill 18 levels the playing field for property owners," he continued.

SB 18 prohibits condemnation of land for private use. It improves procedures to initiate eminent domain proceedings by requiring any actions by governmental entities to be done in public and by a record vote.

Additionally, the bill requires a bona fide offer by the condemning entity. If no bona fide offer is made, SB 18 requires the condemnor to pay all fees incurred by the property owner.

The bill also allows for a property owner to be compensated for a material impairment of direct access on or off the remaining property if it affects the market value of the remaining property. It goes further to define "direct access" as ingress or egress on or off a public road, street or highway at a location or locations where the remaining property adjoins that road, street or highway.

The bill allows for a property owner or their heirs to repurchase the property at the price paid to the owner when the property was acquired if the land is not used for public use in a timely manner.

Happenings At FBC!!

Fearless! Believing in Jesus Christ changes you from fearful to fearless! Your experience with the risen Christ is a credible and powerful testimony of scriptural truth. You can share impacting the lives of other people, just by asking Jesus for His help with leading others to forgiveness and everlasting life through Him.

Mark your calendars:

May 9th - 8:00am - Brotherhood Breakfast - Come and Enjoy the fellowship, fun, and food.

May 10th - Mother's Day.

May 10th - 10:15am - Muffins for Moms - Celebrate the Special Moms in our lives.

May 12th - Sr. Adult Day at Lueders - please contact the Church Office for more details.

May 13th - 6:30pm - Team Kids and Mission Friends Recognition Program.

Children's Sermon: Liz told the nursery rhyme story of the "Three Little Pigs" and the big bad wolf. The big bad wolf is also in the "Little Red Riding Hood" story, and many others. The Bible tells us about a Shepard who is Jesus, Sheep who are His people, and the biggest bad wolf of all time whom is Satan. We don't have to be afraid. The Bible tells us to fear not because Jesus is will protect us.

Bro. Barry's message was "Enjoy the Seasons" - Ecclesiastes 3:1-8.

The Bible tells us to everything there is a season. Determine today what is weighing you down and keeping you from being happy. Consequentially, know your season and enjoy your season.

I. Know the Seasons - The four season of life.....

1) Preparation - The age range is 0-25 yrs. - Exciting Opportunities to explore. BEWARE of making adult decisions and adult mistakes!

2) B & B - Business and Babies Stage. The age range is 25-50 yrs. - Find yourself and settle down. Raise your children, and remember you make the greatest impression in them.

3) Hospitality - The age range is 50-65 yrs. - There is experience under your belt that only time can bring.

4) Reflection - The age range is 65 and over. - You cannot get your time on this earth back, so live each day like it's your last.

II. Enjoy the Seasons you are in. (Eccl. 3:11-13)

1) 0-25 Preparation - Learn all you can.

2) 25-50 B&B stage - The children come first.

3) 50-65 Hospitality Stage - Now you can get involved.

4) 65-over Reflection - Shift gears, DO NOT put it into park!

Regret only hinders a person, and in the end it truly does not matter. Make Jesus Christ the head of your Season. Put everything you have into the Season you are in, and get everything you can out of it! Pray for Christ's guidance and direction. Cease the day!

A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL

The Gorman High School prom was held on April 25, 2009 at PAR Country Club. The prom theme was "A Night in Paris", with decorations including an 8 foot by 14 foot mural of the city of Paris, complete with a sidewalk café, and Eiffel Tower and the Arc 'de Triomphe, and lots of twinkle lights and greenery. The picture show at right is of the Prom King - Tyson Swanner and Prom Queen - Barbara Sherman. Sorry about leaving out their caption in last weeks paper, Lonnie



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- b. bonding
- c. preparing for the road ahead
- d. all of the above



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Desdemona News

By Vonnie Guthery

"Ladies Monthly Social" will be held on Monday, May 11th at the Desdemona Community Center (former school building). Make plans to arrive at 9 a.m. To enjoy the good food and fellowship with all of the group. Visitors are welcome.

Robert Alton Brown of Fort Worth visited last Sunday with his parents, Robert and Ima Brown.

Elise Duke of Stephenville; Rusty Duke and daughter, Cadence visited last Sunday with "Humpty" and Betty Duke.

Visitors during the past weekend with Mildred Million were Dr. Suzanne (Hittson) Smith and Elizabeth Hittson both of Rockwall; Dr. William Hittson of Dennison; David Kent of Dallas and Hallie Million of De Leon.

Desdemona Homecoming and School Reunion will be held on Saturday, August 8th at the former school building. Contact your former Classmates and friends to attend this year. If you have a change of address, contact this reporter at P. O. Box 187, Desdemona, Texas 76445. Your help will be appreciate. More details later on.

Friends of Desdemona sends sincere sympathy to the family of Robert Glenn Sparkman, 91, of Brownwood. Burial was on Monday, April 27, 2009 in the Wolf Valley Cemetery near Brownwood. Glenn attended school in Desdemona and later graduated with the Class of 1937 in Freer, Texas. Survivors include his wife, two daughters and one son. Preceded in death by his parents, Walter and Ola (Gutherie) Sparkman and six brothers. Glenn attended the Annual Desdemona Homecoming and School Reunion every year as long as his health would permit. He really enjoyed visiting each year with former classmates and friends.

Homer Joe Sparkman of Stephenville is having some health problems at this time. Homer Joe is a former resident of Desdemona where he attended School and Graduated with the Class of 1946.

There is a lot of sickness in our Community at this time. Several are in area hospitals, others are scheduled for surgery and many are confined to their home with bronchitis and colds. Be much in prayer for those on the sick list and those in the local rest homes from our Community.

Pug and Vonnie Guthery visited last Sunday night with her sister, Avie Taylor in De Leon. Other visitors in her home over the past weekend were her daughter, Jean Cearly and husband, Lennis of Bedford. Avie had eye surgery last Friday and is recovering very well.

Thought for today -- *"Be Somebody" - "God doesn't take time to make a nobody"*.

Please contact this reporter with your weekly news. This news article is written each Sunday night and then delivered by noon each Monday morning. Your help will be appreciated.

"Happy Mother's Day" from Pug and Vonnie Guthery of Desdemona.

Super Notes

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

Has anyone heard anything about Swine Flu? It seems to me that we are hearing a little too much. Although I know it is a serious illness, the attention the press and official organizations are giving it may lead to panic. I hope not. We are doing everything we can at school to help prevent the spread of all diseases. We thoroughly clean our class rooms and restrooms and we encourage frequent hand washing by everyone. If your child has any illness, you should keep them at home to help reduce the threat of spreading it to others. Common sense will prevail if applied, but the problem with common sense is that it is not all that common anymore!

It is too bad that fear seems to drive public opinion in so many areas of our society. The environment, weather, safety, health, religion, the economy, and education are all areas where we tend to be reactive and let fear drive our actions. I know there are things that at times we should fear or maybe respect is a better word. We do at times need to exercise good judgment, but at the same time, I think it is important that we maintain as positive an attitude as we can and that we are pro-active in our endeavors to maintain and improve our community and society as a whole. Your attitude determines how others perceive your words and your actions. At Gorman ISD we are going to strive to be as positive as we can and to be proactive in the care and education of your children. We have great kids, a wonderful faculty and staff, and a dedicated school board! As this school year draws close to the end, I want to thank this community once again for allowing us to care for your children and ensure you that we will continue to keep your child's best interest at heart with every decision we make.

We have electricity to the new building. I saw the gym with all of the lights on for the first time last week. The gym is going to be awesome! Wall tile began to be installed last week and it looks great. They also installed the glass panels that will separate the spectators from the gym floor. Water is being connected to showers and finish concrete work is being done. Everything is coming together and we are on schedule. If you are going to make a donation, please do it before the end of May. We plan to design and order the plaque for the foyer in June, although I will leave some space for limited number of late donations. As far as I know now, only those donations received by the end of June will be guaranteed a place on the plaque. I certainly want to extend an invitation to all local businesses to make a minimum donation of \$100.00 and have their business names put on the plaque for posterity. The same is true for any individual that you would like to memorialize.

Just a reminder, we are still accepting donations for the scoreboard and other accessories being purchased for the gymnasium. For those of you that may not have heard about our fund raiser, all of our donors will have their names displayed on a permanent plaque in the foyer of the gym for all donations of \$100.00 or more. The funds are being used to purchase a four sided - center hung scoreboard, score keepers table, podium, sound system, custom team chairs and artwork. Our facility will be fantastic! We expect to get a lot of playoff games in the future. So get your name on the plaque today! An event like this only happens every fifty years or so. I honestly believe that every Gorman resident will be proud of this facility when it is completed and for many, many years to come!

Jeff Byrd arrived at our district Monday morning to begin his new job as secondary principal. He is very excited to be here and we are very excited to have him. This will be another new face you will be seeing around town. Introduce yourself the first opportunity you have and make him feel welcome.

I am amazed that there is so much talk in the Legislature about the need for "transparency" especially when it come to matters pertaining to public education and yet a bill as important as a public school finance bill (HB 3646 by Hochberg) is voted out of committee at a meeting that is called from the floor and held in a completely different part of the building from where the bill was heard, and done during the noon hour on a Friday. O well, what do I know?

Some of our politicians are still hard at work in Austin and hopefully this bill will get modified enough to make a positive difference on our school finance system. When I was in Austin, Representative Hochberg seemed very receptive to some modifications. It is a shame that HB 1555 and SB 982 were not passed out of committee. To the best of my knowledge, these two bills received more positive support than any other education bills presented this session so far and yet our education committees did not see fit to let the whole legislature decide for themselves what is best for the children of Texas. We owe thanks to Representative Keffer for signing up in support of HB 1555 and other legislation he is supporting that will benefit all of the children of Texas. However, Senator Fraser owes us and the children of Texas an explanation. He continues to sit on the fence with regard to school issues. SB 982 is not dead yet! I would appreciate and the children of Texas would appreciate it if you would contact Senator Fraser and ask him to make a commitment to our children and sign on in support of SB 982 and other bills that benefit all of the children of Texas in a positive way. The more people that contact his office in support of SB 982, the better.

Senator Troy Fraser -- <http://www.senate.state.tx.us/75r/Senate/members/dist24/dist24.htm>
The Honorable Troy Fraser -- P.O. Box 12068 -- Capitol Station -- Austin, Texas 78711 -- (512) 463-0124
500 Chestnut -- Suite 810 -- Abilene, Texas 79602 -- (325) 676-7404 -- fax: (325) 676-8060
Representative Jim Keffer -- <http://www.house.state.tx.us/members/dist60/keffer.htm>
Capitol Office -- Room EXT E2.418 -- P.O. Box 2910 -- Austin, TX 7876 -- (512) 463-0656 -- (800) 586-4515 Toll-free
(512) 478-8805 Fax - District Office - P.O. Box 857 - Eastland, TX 76448 - (800) 586-4515 Toll-free - (512) 478-8805 Fax

We had a special called board meeting Monday night at 6:00pm to discuss school policy and goals. The board meeting began at 6:15pm and adjourned at 9:10pm. No action was taken. The board discussed ways that they might be better informed by the superintendent so that they would be better equipped to serve the community and oversee the operations of the school more closely. Mr. Perry plans on giving them weekly and eventually daily reports on different aspects of school operations.

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

David K. Perry
Superintendent - Gorman ISD

Senior Citizens News

By Carol Ward

There were 24 at the Center on the 29th for our weekly get together. We enjoyed visiting and the good food in spite of the low attendance. I believe the rain must of kept some of you away. Also Betty Frasier and Geraldene Wright had not been feeling well. We signed cards of get well for both. James Miears was with us and gave the blessing for all. His words are so good and we appreciate him being here.

Alan and Linda Gibbs came out to be with us. Glad I was here to greet them, as I'd been gone before on their visits. Hope they continue to come out and be with us. We enjoy having new people and need more. So many of the older people have passed on or can't come any more. Sure do miss them.

Good to see Wynogene and Barbara Smith again. They help brighten up our group. Barbara played dominoes with some of the folks, know she enjoyed. We must help her relearn 42 so she can enter in that play. We need more people to come out for games in the morning. Also several stay to play 88's or 42 in the afternoon. The men always play dominoes after lunch.

Our meal was very good with Lasagna, garlic bread and green salad. We also had salmon patties, creamed corn and carrots. There were 2 vegetables medley of carrots, broccoli and cauliflower, one with cheese, so good. Also macaroni and cheese, beans and cornbread. Desserts were nearly non existent with cookies, 1 pie, and Jello with fruit and cool whip. Hope the cake bakers return soon. We miss those good cakes.

Daisy Slaton went to Desdemona for the breakfast on the 2nd of May. She always runs into old friends to visit with. She also enjoyed lots of company over the weekend. Her neice Jamie and granddaughter, Tanya with spouses came at two different times. My granddaughter Lisa, from Georgia will come for a visit over the Memorial Day Holiday. I'm looking forward to the visit, not the housecleaning, HA! I hadn't seen her in 2 years. My granddaughter here, Kendra (Swanner) Wright, will graduate from the Tarleton University this Saturday, the 9th. So proud of her, graduating just 3 years after High School. She has worked hard with many hours to achieve this honor.

We enjoyed games on Thursday the 30th at 5 p.m. I believe there were 9 of us to play Skipbo and 88's. I wish more would come out and use our Center. Its barley dark when we leave around 9 p.m., especially with the time change. Those that don't like being out after dark can leave early.

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

PRODUCER MEETING

The Farm Service Agency producer meeting held at the Eastland La Quinta Inn was a success. Thanks to all of you who attended.

There will be a second meeting at 9:00 A.M. on May 12, 2009. The meeting will be held in the meeting room next to the County Extension Agent's office in the Eastland County courthouse.

Heath Begeman, Eastland County Agent, will discuss the new ACRE program determination tool. John Bird will discuss the general provisions of the ACRE program as well as the 2009 County Committee elections. Representatives from NRCS will be invited to discuss the EQIP program.

COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Nominations for candidates to run for the Farm Service Agency county committee election representing producers in Local Administrative Area 1 will be accepted now through August 3, 2009.

LAAs are elective areas. Single counties are divided into three LAAs. Elections are held each year to replace a member whose three-year term will expire.

Eastland County will be holding an election for a person to represent LAA 1, which is in the east part of the county. That position is currently held by Danny Snider. Mr. Snider is eligible to run again.

Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters by Nov. 6, and must be returned to the FSA county office or post-marked by Dec. 7, 2009.

All farmers, ranchers, and other producers are encouraged to participate. The county committee provides local input on commodity price support loans and payments, yields, conservation programs, disaster assistance payments and other programs. They make many decisions that affect you as a producer, so these elections are important.

Nomination forms are available at the Eastland County office or online. The petition must be signed by the nominee stating that he or she is willing to serve if elected. Forms and fact sheets are also available at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections/>



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