

The Gorman Progress

2008 Member
Texas Press Association

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

NUMBER TWELVE

MARCH 27, 2008

Baseball/Softball Sign-Ups

We are having the last Sign-ups for T-Ball, Baseball, Softball, and Pony League, due to the start of Baseball and Softball season. **NO Exceptions.** We will be at the gym on March 28 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Benefit Fish Fry & Cake Auction

Benefit Fish Fry and Cake Auction for Jaclyn Creech will be held Sunday, March 30th at Cook's Fish Barn. Serving starts at 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cake Auction will also be held.

Penny Auction Set April 4th

Want to have a night of fun and win some great prizes, then come to the De Leon's Penny Auction, Friday, April 4th at 6 p.m. at the De Leon City Hall. This charity event is being sponsored by the Women's Division Chamber of Commerce for city sponsored programs.

Benefit Fish Fry and Auction

Benefit Fish Fry and Auction will be held Monday, April 7th at Cook's Fish Barn. Serving starts at 5:30 p.m. Sponsored by Sipe Springs Volunteer Fire Department.

8th Grade TAKS Reading Scores

Dear Junior High Parents,

We recently received our 8th grade TAKS reading scores-we had an 81% passing rate and had 48% of the students who received a commended rating on the test. The students who receive a commended ranking score 300 points higher on the test than the standard score for passing. It is impressive having half of our kids achieving this difficult standard. I appreciate all of the teachers and the students and the hard work they have put in to be successful on the test. I want to especially thank Coach Bill Bates, Wendy Wilcoxon and Belinda Segura for their hard work. While the passing rate is not what we want, it is important to know that only a couple of students not passing change our numbers drastically. So we are very confident that we are moving in the right direction.

Rick Panter-Principal

Shari Marlow and Dane Henson To Pledge Vows



Tim and Lynn Porter of Gorman and Layne Marlow of Brownfield, TX are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Sharon Lane Marlow, to Dane Neal Henson, son of Barry and Lisa Henson of San Jose, CA.

Shari is a 2003 graduate of Gorman High School. She attended Texas Tech University in Lubbock, TX where she majored in Mathematics. She graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in December 2007 and is currently teaching math at Estacado High School in Lubbock, TX.

Dane graduated from Stony Point High School in Round Rock, TX in 2003. In 2009, he will complete his Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical and Electronics Technology from Texas Tech University. Dane is currently working as an Information Technology Assistant in the Student Disability Services Department at Texas Tech University.

Dane and Shari were engaged on October 19th, 2007 and are looking forward to their August 8th wedding. The ceremony will be held at First United Methodist Church in Dublin, TX.

Pre-K Registration and Changes

Maxfield Elementary will be holding Pre-K Registration for the 2008-2009 school year. This year students that are three or four by Sept. 1, 2008 and meet the criteria will be eligible. Registration will be Friday, March 28, 2008 from 8:00a.m. – 3:00p.m. in the Elementary Library. You will need to bring the student's Social Security Card, birth certificate, and immunization record. We will also need a picture ID of the adult registering the child. If you have any questions please call 254-734-2617.

City Wide Curb Side Clean Up Set For April 15 - 17

Please mark your calendar for curb side clean up April 15th and 17th. Clean up your yard and surroundings as well as inside the house. Keep in mind, do not put any tires, wet paint, nor any refrigerants out to be picked up. These items will not be picked up. Have your items out by 7:00 a.m. on your regular trash pick up day for pick up. Please do not wait and put out your items "after" the fact" and call for a late pick up.

Art Class to Hold Exhibition at Fellowship Hall of the Gorman Church of Christ

The whole community is cordially invited to attend an Art Show on Monday, March 31 at 6:00PM. The event will be held at the Fellowship Hall of the Gorman Church of Christ. Come and enjoy refreshments and see the work of local talent in Gorman and surrounding area. Monda Oldham is instructor of the class which has been meeting for eight weeks. Attend the Art Show and bring a friend! We will look for you on Monday at 6:00PM at the Fellowship Hall.

Gorman Panther Baseball Wins Two Loses One

Gorman Panthers played Baird Bears on March 12th. The Panthers lost the game by a score of 6 to 3. The Panthers scored 1 in the first and 2 in the seventh innings. Zack Fox scored 2 runs and Tyson Swanner had 1 run. Pitching for Gorman was Swanner with 4 innings, he faced 20 batters and had 3 strikeouts, also pitching was Sean Bates with 3 innings, faced 13 batters and had 3 strikeouts. Hitting for the Panthers was Fox with 2 hits, Swanner with 1, Bates with 1, Clark with 1 and Drew McCreless with 1 hit.

Panthers played Eula Pirates on March 14th. The Panthers won the game by a score of 17 to 7. Zack Fox scored 2 runs, Matt Underwood had 3 runs, Tyson Swanner had 2 runs. Sean Bates, Corey Clark and Brandon Greer each had 1 hit, Aaron Keith had 4 hits and Keifer Wilson had 3 hits. Pitching for Gorman was Matt Underwood with 6 innings, he faced 30 batters and had 8 strikeouts and 6 hits. Hitting for the Panthers was Fox with 1 hits, Underwood with 4, Swanner with 2, Bates with 2, Clark with 2, Greer with 2, Drew McCreless with 1 hit, Keith with 2 hits and Wilson with 2 hits.

Gorman Panthers played De Leon Bearcats on March 20th. The Panthers won the game by a score of 13 to 0. Underwood scored 3 runs and Swanner had 3 runs, Bates had 2 runs, Clark had 2 runs, Greer - McCreless and Wilson each had 1 run. Pitching for Gorman was Swanner with 7 innings, he faced 27 batters and had 6 strikeouts, and allowed 7 hits. Hitting for the Panthers was Underwood with 3 hits, Swanner with 2, Bates with 1, Clark with 2 and Keith with 1 hit. Swanner hit a Homerun.

Season record for the Panthers is 10 wins and 2 losses and District Record is 3 wins and 2 losses.

Gorman Junior High District Track Meet
At Tolar - Friday, March 28th starting at 4 p.m.

Gorman High School District Track Meet
At Tarleton State University Memorial Stadium in Stephenville
Tuesday, April 1st starting at 10 a.m.

Eastland County Commissioners Court Lifts Burn Ban

Eastland County Commissioners' Court, meeting in regular session, at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, March 24, 2008, after receiving information from other knowledgeable sources, voted to **remove** the OUTSIDE BURN BAN in Eastland County **with the stipulation and request that anyone intending to plan and execute any type of outside burning, please contact their nearest fire department and notify them of the time and location of the outside burning activity. Please Use Extreme Caution With Any Outside Burning!!**

In making this announcement, the Commissioners' Court expressed its appreciation to the various fire fighters, fire departments, and all other citizens of Eastland County who cooperated so diligently in helping to alleviate the emergency condition of dangerous wild fire.

By a vote of 4 to 1, to be effective immediately.

Respectfully submitted,

Eastland County Commissioners' Court

(s) Rex Fields, County Judge

NETWORK EVENTS FOR LOCAL LEADERS

Texas Midwest Community Network (TMCN) announces its annual network luncheon series for April. Community leaders throughout the region meet for lunch and discuss topics that affect community projects, quality of life issues and local economy factors.

Civic leaders in every small city in the region are invited to participate and meet with neighboring community leaders. Luncheons are scheduled in Breckenridge-April 9, Colorado City-April 10, Winters-April 11, Comanche-April 16, Knox City-April 18 and Brady-April 23. All luncheons are from 11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

According to TMCN President Genora Young of Eden, "The luncheons are for community leaders who are working to insure a brighter future for their town. This year's series of luncheons will focus on tools for growth and how to best inform your state legislator of local issues." City and county officials, economic development boards, chamber of commerce representatives, healthcare professionals and ISD leaders are invited to participate.

Reservations are needed 2 days out from the luncheon and can be made online at www.texasmidwest.org (Members Information page) or by calling the host city: Breckenridge at 254-559-2301, Colorado City at 325-728-3404, Winters at 325-754-5210, Comanche at 325-356-3233, Knox City at 940-658-3313 and Brady at 325-597-3491. For more information about the luncheons, call the TMCN Office at 325-795-8626 or 800-845-3563.

Texas Midwest Community Network is a regional organization founded in 1994 for economic development, tourism development, regional awareness & promotion, education, and legislative awareness. It is an organization of "communities working together to accomplish what one community cannot do alone."

TMCN Member cities are: Abilene, Albany, Anson, Aspermont, Baird, Ballinger, Brady, Breckenridge, Bronte, Brownwood, Buffalo Gap, Cisco, Clyde, Coleman, Colorado City, Comanche, Cross Plains, De Leon, Dublin, Early, Eastland, Eden, Goldthwaite, Gorman, Hamilton, Hamlin, Haskell, Knox City, Merkel, Munday, Ranger, Rising Star, Robert Lee, Roscoe, Rotan, San Angelo, Santa Anna, Snyder, Stamford, Sweetwater, Throckmorton, Tye, and Winters.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

SANDRA CAGLE WILL BE IN GORMAN AT THE CITY OFFICE TO RENEW AUTO LICENSE PLATES. HER NEXT VISIT IS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16TH 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
Tuesdays - 7:00 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.

FFA NEEDS YOUR RECYCLABLES. The Gorman FFA Chapter would like to ask for your help in collecting card board and aluminum products. The goal is to have these items collected during the City wide clean up April 15 and 17th. If you would like to donate your card board or aluminum please contact Mr. Boles @ (254) 734-2505. This is part of the recycling program managed by the Gorman FFA / Ag Science classes.

CLASSIFIEDS

Happenings At FBC!!

Memorable! Indeed, this Easter Sunday is one that will remain unforgettable in our minds.

Mark your calendars:
March 30th - 6pm - Fifth Sunday Singing at Kokomo.

Liz Caraway's Children's Sermon: Liz demonstrated how to line up dominoes and when one falls they all fall. The world record is set at four million dominoes that took two hours to fall down. What do dominoes have to do with Easter? The story of Jesus begins with His birth, His life of miracles, teaching, and preaching, His crucifixion, and His resurrection. However, it doesn't end there. Jesus said to go and make disciples, and tell everyone about Him. Like the dominoes, it starts with one person until all are told. It starts with you!

The Messengers in concert: "Why, Jesus?"
The music was an extraordinary blessing! We hope you heard it; really, there are no words to describe it. Tommy Clark writes a profound message in each song. They began with a song entitled "Satan's Monument" accompanied with a gripping and heart wrenching video of Jesus' crucifixion (video produced by Bill Mears). They ended with a brilliant new song entitled "When Christ was Raised". Why did Jesus do this for us? So that we all may be Saved. We know Jesus lives, and Easter is a special time set aside to celebrate it!

Bro. Barry's message was from Luke 24:1-12.
Easter Sunday came very early this year. It's been ninety-five years since Easter fell on March 23rd. It's according to the moons, and Easter will not fall on March 23rd again for two-hundred seventy-seven years. It is a special day to proclaim the Word! Absolutely nothing can change what Jesus did for us. Get It! Jesus was born for you, Jesus gave His life for you, and Jesus lives for you! Discover It, Believe It, and Share It! YOU GOT IT?

Our Worship begins at 11:00AM on Sunday mornings - please join us! Also, our Worship Service is being broadcast on the radio - 88.7FM.

God Bless and Keep You. See you next Sunday.

Hamptons Paint & Body Mike Hampton
2 Miles No. of Gorman on FM 2689 (Kokomo Hwy.)
254-734-5848

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RBI-35823

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Mo., FHA, 7%, 360 Mos.
Crown Homes
817-279-8505
RBI-35823

COASTAL SPRIGGING - and SPRIGGS FOR SALE: Coastal and Tifton 85. Call Danny Burgess - 254-977-2697.

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS - Homestead Nursing and Rehabilitation of Gorman is accepting applications for CNA's for all shifts. Apply in person at 600 W. Roosevelt, Gorman, Tx. EEOC.

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Country Style Kitchen, Separate
Computer or Office room. Lots
of Extras. \$59,900
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ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS - Homestead Nursing and Rehabilitation of Gorman is 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. FNC

HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER
906 Fox Hollow - Eastland, 2,900+ Sq. Ft., 4 bedroom, 2 bath with spacious floor plan - larger living room with fireplace ducted to heat entire home, family room and master suite with jetted tub, separate shower and roomy walk-in closets, 3 car caport and separate 2 car garage. For information call 254-433-0654 or 254-629-3160. Shown by appointment only.

COGBURN REALTY
254-893-6666 DE LEON, TX
Frame home, good condition,
REDUCED TO \$11,900.

On Contract
2 - 1 1/2 frame, 1179 sq. ft., central A/C, gas fireplace, storm windows, home in good condition, 2nd floor trees, \$23,500

On Contract
Gorman 1A, 1232' (CAD) manufacture home, CH/A, lots of trees, outdoor lighting, 2nd floor trees, main link. \$42,500.

On Contract
NEW - 15 A Near Gorman, Nice sandy soil, 2 water wells, good pond location for a pond. \$2,500 acre.

On Contract
NEW - 15A north of Gorman, Sandy land, 2 water wells, county road on 2 sides, nice location for pond. \$3,000A.

On Contract
NEW: 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

On Contract
40 A m/l, south Gorman, pasture, fenced, small cabin, water well, small pond, elec., sandy soil, paved road. \$2,750 acre.

On Contract
24.156 A near Gorman: 50 - 60 Pecan trees, excellent fences (some new), 2 working water wells, elec., sprigged coastal 3-07 \$3,000 per acre. Will Divide.

On Contract
NEW: 80A s/c Gorman, app. 30 a coastal, 7 - 8 wells, reservoir, good fences, elec., good soil, nice pond site. Will Divide \$2,500 per acre

On Contract
49.83 A: west Gorman, large oaks, paved road, building spots, country water/elec. available, fenced, ponds, barn/coral, great hunting, pretty place! \$2,900 ACRE

On Contract
100 A west De Leon FM587, 3 - 1 1/2 - 2 brick, 1444 sq. ft., C/H/A, 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.

On Contract
179 A. south of Gorman: Part wooded, part old fields, deer & hogs, 2 nice ponds, sandy soil, elec., several water wells, condition is unknown. \$2,350.00 acre. **SELLERS SAYS MAKE OFFER!!**

On Contract
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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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God Bless and Keep You. See you next Sunday.

Buzz Free Bowling!
Every Monday and Wednesday
2 hours of bowling for \$6.00 + shoe rental
Smoke Free Sunday and Monday!
Breathe EASY at Lone Star Lanes every Sunday and Monday we are Tobacco FREE! Another great reason families come to Lone Star Lanes for good, clean fun!
Lone Star Lanes - Stephenville
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NEED WORK: House Cleaning - Weekly - Bi-weekly - or Monthly. Also help with the sick. Call 254-893-2394.

HELP WANTED
UP TO \$8.00 HOURLY
For qualified applicants, DQ of Gorman - 419 W. Lubbock now hiring day and night help. Need to love working with people, meeting new faces, drug and smoke free environments. Apply in person to with Manager, Michael Richardson.

MANAGER GORMAN DQ
Food service career with top salary and bonuses for continued growth. Responsible, honest leader with people skills. Background and drug test required; smoke free. Richeson Home Office 940-549-5041, ask for Twylah Price 9-5 M-F. Others times leave message.

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

FARMS, RANCHES & RECREATIONAL

- 613 A, 3-2 Brick Home, carport, barn, wells & tanks, creek & hunting, partial minerals & royalties \$2,025,000 (PWO2)
- 455 A, wells & tanks, creek, tree covered hills, wildlife cover, hunting, Hwy.6 frontage \$1,912,000 (RSO1)
- 380± A, wells & tanks, gentle rolling terrain, producing gas wells \$950,000 REDUCED \$931,000 (CWO1)
- 328 A, High Fenced Game Ranch, hunting cabin, wells & tanks \$3,350 Per Acre (RRO1)
- 250± A, on Copperas Creek, 150 wooded, 100 coastal, lake, tanks, cabin, hwy. frontage, rural water \$850,000 (LRO1)
- 243 A, reservoir & wells, irrigation pit, highway frontage, cultivation, costal, native pasture \$2,500 per acre (ABO1)
- 236± A, wells & tanks, rolling terrain, minerals available, hunting \$2,195 per acre (RSO2)
- 231 A, on Leon River, wells, pecan trees, hunting, minerals available \$751,530 REDUCED \$665,280 (DKO1)
- 150 A, rolling terrain, approx. 90 acres wooded, wells & tanks, irrigation pit, hunting, minerals \$442,500 (LOO1)
- 90 A, 4-3 Brick Home, fireplace, game room, RV shed, well & tank, minerals negotiable \$397,500 (BEO1)
- 81 A, Pecan Orchard, approx. 900 improved variety trees, underground drip irrigation, 9 wells \$405,000 (REMO1)
- 52 A, 4-3 Brick Home, carport, wells & tanks, corrals, barns \$250,000 REDUCED \$239,500 (LPO1)
- 51 A, with highway frontage, spring creek and hunting 182,000 (RPO1)
- 30 A, 3-2 1/2 Custom Built Home, garage, porch, RV shed & shop, barn, wells & tanks, Hwy.16 frontage \$450,000 (DRO1)
- 25.6 A, 4-2 1/2 Brick Home, garage, carport, storage buildings, water well & tanks \$210,000 (RBO3) - UNDER CONTRACT
- 24.5 A, on Flat Creek, with water well, native pasture, close to highway \$98,000 (MPO1) - UNDER CONTRACT
- 20 A, approx. 40% wooded, remainder in costal, rural water available, hunting \$75,000 (WMO1)
- 14±A, 3-2 Brick Home, fireplace, fenced yards, garages & storage buildings, hwy. frontage \$180,000 (PWO1)
- 11 A, 16'x70' Mobile Home, metal awning, well, rural water, oak trees \$70,000 (RCO1)
- 8.6 A, 3-2 Frame Home, water well, above ground pool with deck, horse barn \$129,900 (KCO1)
- 8 1/2 A, 3-2 Metal Frame Home, near Lake Proctor, work shop, wells, underground sprinkler system \$265,000 (PJO2)
- 7± A, Metal Building on slab, large oak trees, pecan orchard, hwy. frontage, water well \$65,000 (FWO2)
- 5 A, 4-2 Brick Home, metal roof, carport, storage buildings, pecan trees, wells & tanks \$120,000 (WKO1)

RESIDENCES & HOME SITES

- 3-2 1/2 Custom Brick Home, approx. 1.4 acre, 3 car garage, rural water, paved drive, storage building \$297,500 (DVO1)
- 3-2 Double Wide, screened porch, workshop, wells, 2 large lots and older frame home \$135,000 (AO2)
- 3-3 Brick Home, approx. 1 acre, carport, well, underground sprinkler, C/H/A, storage bldgs. \$130,000 (BCO2)
- 3-2 Frame Home, 2.5 Acres, wood burning stove, carport, rural water, well, shop \$137,500 REDUCED \$99,900 (CCO3)
- 3-2 Brick Home, carport, large shaded lot, fireplace, metal roof, storage building \$105,000 REDUCED \$90,000 (WCO1)
- 2-1 1/2 Frame Home, garage, storage building \$75,000 (STO1)
- 3-2 Doublewide, 2/car carport, on 3+ lots \$70,000 (LKO1)
- 2-1 Frame Home, 2.3 A, screened porch \$55,000 (GBO2)

See Pictures at: www.GilderRealty.com

Riley Gardner Memorial Represented By:
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Our Memorial Display Is Now Located Behind Higginbotham's Funeral Home. We Guarantee You Can Buy The FINEST QUALITY Memorial At The LOWEST PRICE. All Work Guaranteed.


OBITUARIES

Thomas David Goodwin

Thomas David Goodwin died Saturday, March 22, 2008 in Carthage, Texas. Services were at 11:00 A. M. Wednesday, March 26th at the Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel with Larry Stogsdill and Durward Webb officiating. Burial was in Oaklawn Cemetery.

He was born July 25, 1926 in Gorman, Texas to Charlie Goodwin and Vera Everton Goodwin. After graduating from Gorman High School, he served in Korea during World War II. He earned his master's degree in teaching from North Texas State University and started his teaching career that spanned over 42 years in Carbon and was a long time principal and coach in Gorman. He was a successful girls' basketball coach for over 20 years, and one of his prized memories was taking the 1958 Gorman team to State. He spent his latter career as a superintendent in Tolar, Paducah, Lago Vista and Elida, New Mexico. Upon retirement, he worked for the athletic department at Texas Tech in Lubbock and later moved to Carthage, Texas. He was an active member of the Church of Christ in Carthage.

He and his wife, Wanda Mehaffey Goodwin celebrated 58 years of marriage. He is survived by his wife, Wanda, daughter, Becky Decker and husband, Bill of Midland; sons, Benny Goodwin and wife, Leanne of Houston; and Ricky Goodwin and wife, Janie of Carthage, Texas. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Will Decker, Wendy Chambers, Kristy Copeland, Brandt Goodwin and Kelsey Goodwin and one great granddaughter, Laney Copeland.



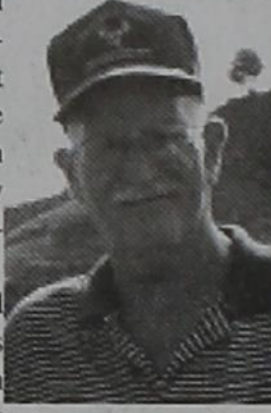
Jack Hallmark

EASTLAND- Jack Hallmark, 62, passed away Monday, March 24, 2008, in Abilene. Services will be Thursday at 2:00 P.M. at the First Baptist Church in Eastland. Visitation will be Wednesday evening at the funeral home from 6-8:00 P.M. Burial will be in Murray Cemetery in Carbon. Services are under the direction of Edwards Funeral Home of Eastland.

Jack was born on July 15, 1945 to Bill and Faye (Baker) Hallmark in Gorman, TX. He was raised in Eastland on Lens St. and graduated from Eastland High School in 1963. He married Judy Robertson on March 8, 1969 and they raised their children on S. Connellee St. Jack worked for Victor Cornelius with his father for a short time and then at Coca Cola. After leaving Coca Cola he opened a flower shop in Ranger and later another in Eastland. He was the owner/operator of Hallmark Garden Center for many years. He retired in 2004, after 21 years. Jack loved to spend his spare time hunting, fishing, and gardening. He was also a Baptist.

He is preceded in death by his parents, a brother, Billy Gene Hallmark and a nephew, David Alan Nelms.

He is survived by his children, Billy Jack and wife Rebecca, James Dale and wife Kristi, Nicole and Toby Sparkman, and Joseph Paul all of Eastland; grandchildren, Josh, Ryleigh, Jayton, Jesse, Grayson, Braydon and Jenna; and one sister, Betty and husband Gaylon Nelms of Eastland; and several other nieces, nephews and friends.



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-- Randy's Roundup --

A Weekly Newsletter from Congressman Randy Neugebauer
March 24, 2008

My Commitment to Support our Men and Women in Uniform

I will be joining the City of Abilene, the Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas, the Abilene Independent School District, and the Abilene Chamber of Commerce later this week in signing the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) 5 Star Statement of Support. I am honored to be a part of such a wonderful program and proudly display my support of the men and women who defend this great nation and protect our liberties.

The signing ceremony will be held at 9:00am on Wednesday, March 26th at the Abilene Civic Center, with Dr. Gordon Sumner, the National Director of ESGR, presiding over the ceremony. It is not too late for employers to sign the 5 Star Statement of Support. If you are interested in having your business participate in the upcoming ceremony, please contact my Abilene office at (325) 675-9779 or toll free at (888) 763-1611.

Commitment to this program ensures:

Employment will not be denied because of service in the Guard or Reserve; Employee job and career opportunities will not be limited or reduced because of service in the Guard or Reserve; and Employee will be granted leaves of absence for military service in the Guard or Reserve, consistent with existing laws, without sacrifice of vacation.

The Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve is a valuable program run by the Department of Defense. I salute any employer who has members of the Guard or Reserve on their staff for standing behind this Statement of Support, and I am also encouraged by other employers who are joining this commitment.

Important Stimulus Rebate Information for those Serving Overseas

Last week the IRS issued a clarification on the economic stimulus payments for military personnel serving in combat zones, ensuring that those receiving nontaxable combat pay are eligible. Those who put their lives on the line everyday and sacrifice so much for their country deserve to be recognized for the dangerous and difficult work they do. Additionally, it is not only those in uniform that sacrifice so much, but their families as well. It is imperative that we support them in every way possible.

While combat pay generally is nontaxable, service members are permitted to count this pay on their 2007 or 2008 income tax returns if it helps their eligibility for the stimulus payment. A military person who would not normally file a 2007 tax return because the 2007 income is not taxable can file a 1040A with the IRS and receive the stimulus payment. Service members should report their nontaxable combat pay on Line 40b of the Form 1040A to show at least \$3,000 in qualifying income.

Qualifying service members are encouraged to submit their forms early. While military service members who are serving in a combat zone are granted an extension of 180 days after leaving combat, spouses or others with a power of attorney can prepare and file a 2007 income tax return on their behalf so that the stimulus payment is received this year. The return must be filed by Oct. 15.

Congressional District Work Period

While I spend much of my time representing the 19th District in Washington, I always take the op-

Pig Tales From Hogtown

Welcome Spring! For many reasons this is my favorite time of the year. One of those reasons is that the fire danger lessens, as everything gets greener. The danger lessens but does not end, of course. The wind is supposed to stay high this week and we all know how quickly everything dries out.

Preparations are going well for the second annual Craft Show at the DAC. It will be held on April 18th and 19th. We still have spaces available in our beautiful new building. Some folks are setting up on the porch, also. Food will be available at the concession stand. We are looking forward to a great time! If you would like to rent a booth, please call 758-2420 or 758-2522.

With graduations coming up soon, I thought I might remind you that the DAC is available to rent. June brides might want to consider it for receptions, also. Call me at 758-2420 if you would like more information.

See you in Desdemona!

Carol Pell

portunity of a Congressional District Work Period to be at home and meet with as many constituents as possible.

This work period started last week, and I held a number of constituent coffees. I have scheduled additional constituent coffees this week so I can update you on activities in Washington and answer questions from you.

Below is my schedule for this coming week. There are a number of constituent coffees, various events I will be attending, as well as a meeting I am holding with two IRS employees to discuss the upcoming economic stimulus payments. This meeting is open to the public. I hope you will be able to attend some of these upcoming events. Your feedback and comments are important to me to ensure I represent you and the collective interests of the 19th District effectively.

Thursday, March 27th - 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm: Congressman Neugebauer will give a legislative update at the Lubbock Kiwanis Club lunch and answer questions from club members

Event will be held at River Smith's Restaurant in the Delwin Jones Room, located at 406 Avenue Q in Lubbock, TX 79401.

Friday, March 28th - 11:00 am - 11:30 am: Congressman Neugebauer will make remarks at the event commemorating the 50th anniversary of South Plains College.

Event will be held at South Plains College in the Atrium of the Student Services Building, located at 1401 S. College Avenue, Levelland, TX 79336.

1:30 pm - 2:30 pm: Congressman Neugebauer will hold a town hall meeting over coffee in Levelland to discuss legislation, his priorities and answer questions from constituents.

Event will be held at the Levelland City Hall in the Council Chamber room, located at 1709 Avenue H, Levelland, TX 79336.

As always, when events unfold in Washington, I will be sure to update you. In the meantime, do not hesitate to visit my website at www.randy.house.gov or call my office toll free district wide at (888) 763-1611 or my Washington, DC office at 202-225-4005.

--Randy

Can You Answer These Questions?

1. Do you know why we celebrate Easter Sunday?
2. Do you know why God would leave a perfectly good heaven to suffer a torturous, despicable death on a cross as a man?
3. Do you know the effects His actions have on you and your loved ones?
4. Do you know what the essential response is from mankind to God for this sacrifice?

Firstfruits Christian Fellowship (FCF) wants to help you explore the answers to these questions by inviting you to join any 1 of our 7 Life Groups that meet throughout the week.

"Recovery Meeting" Wed. 7pm, FCF Cisco Campus, 721 Conrad Hilton

-learn to access power & truth to overcome addictions through a relationship with Jesus Christ
-learn how to replace lies & deceptions that lead to self destructive behaviors with the wonderful truth of our Eternal God.
for more info call Clay @ 254-647-1064

"Balcony 10:25" 20's & 30's Singles & Couples, Wed. 6:30pm, FCF Gorman Campus, 325 Lexington
Balcony people encourage & cheer you on in your walk with Jesus! Hebrew 10:25 says, "Let us not give up meeting together as some are in the habit of doing, but encourage one another all the more as you see the Day approaching."

-"Balcony 10:25" focuses on various topics such as; marriage, relationships, finances
For more info call Rusty or Kelli @ 806-787-8315

"Women's Group" Tuesday or Thursday (Call ahead) @ 4pm, FCF Gorman Campus, 325 Lexington
-Women of all ages are welcomed to visit this group on a journey to study the names of God. During this study they hope to come into a deeper heart relationship with God and to encourage one another through prayer and fellowship.

For more info call Ellen @ 254-734-2805, Joy @ 254-734-2121, or Sharon @ 254-592-2411

"Men's Group" Thursday 6pm, 520 W. McCall St., Gorman Texas

-Men of all ages are welcome to visit this group in Bible Study, Prayer & Sharing on how God will meet your needs.
For more info call Bill @ 254-734-2805, Joe @ 254-842-1266, or Bennie 254-734-5964

"Youth Group Meeting" Sunday 1pm, FCF Gorman Campus, 325 Lexington

-7th -12th Graders are welcomed to join this exciting youth ministry in Worship and Bible Study
-Lunch is provided and transportation is available
Contact Dion Fink @ 254-433-2326 or dionfink@yahoo.com

"Family Integrated Ministry" Sunday 12:45pm, FCF Gorman Campus, 325 Lexington

-This small group focuses on the equipping for household ministry. They serve lunch with each meeting and encourage everyone in their relationship with Jesus and have family focused training once each month
For more info call David or Nichola @ 254-639-2149

"Finding Your Purpose" Sunday 5pm, FCF Cisco Campus, Vineyard Cafe, 721 Conrad Hilton
-Worship, Bible Study, Fellowship and Finding your purpose.
For more info call Teresa @ 325-280-9133 or tjpevey@msn.com

Firstfruits Christian Fellowship is a Christ Centered, Biblically based Church who's mission is to bring God's recognizable presence to every heart in the Eastland County area through the Gospel message of reconciliation, the equipping of the Saints, and the building up of the body of Christ.

Join us on your journey to learn more about God's plan for your life!

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Urgent, We Need Your Formal Dresses!

Eastland, Texas (March 17, 2008) — The Eastland County Crisis Center, Inc. (dba Crime Victim Assistance Center) is still needing more formal dresses to be able to host a prom boutique and time is running out. Dresses will need to be donated by Thursday March 27, 2008 at our local office. Call in advance to donate and to get directions to our office. If you are unable to drop off your dress, we will be glad to pick them up for you within Eastland city limits on Monday, March 24th.

Eastland County Crisis Center is collecting lightly used formal dresses of all sizes and in excellent condition. We ask that you donate dresses that you no longer want which are in excellent condition. You will receive a receipt that can go towards your 2008 tax deduction as the Eastland County Crisis Center is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. The money will go towards establishing a Children's Advocacy Center for Eastland County to help children who have been abused.

We hope to have enough dresses to host a Prom Boutique in Eastland to sell these dresses in early April. When you donate a dress, keep your receipt and bring it with you at the Prom Boutique. You will receive a one-time discount of \$5 with a purchase.

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This article was written by Diana Bigham, MA. Mrs. Bigham is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist Associate, working with Crime Victim Assistance Center (CVAC). Should you have any questions regarding the Prom Boutique, you may contact the CVAC office at 254-629-3223 during normal business hours.

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Desdemona News

By Vonnie Guthery

Desdemona Monthly Musical was held last Saturday night at the Community Center (former School Building). Several musical groups and singers attended. We appreciate all the musicians and visitors that attend each month. Thanks to the ladies of our Community that donate food each month to our Concession Stand. Your help is appreciated.

Karen Fair, Holly Guthery and daughter, Karsan Jade; Roy and Angela Powledge and children, Colin, Kaley and Lane enjoyed a three day visit sightseeing and touring parts of Oklahoma during Spring Break. They reported a wonderful trip.

Easter Sunday visitors with Rudolph and Betty Duke were their children, John and Ronda (Duke) James and daughter, Emily of Whitney; Scott and Risa (Duke) Ashley and children, Brandon and Lauren of Midlothian; Russell Duke and daughters, Elise and Katie of Stephenville; Rusty and Samantha Duke and daughter, Cadence of Desdemona. Also all the family helped Rudolph celebrate his 81st Birthday. Betty reported a wonderful family visit with plenty of food for the noon meal.

Gail Clayton enjoyed a short visit last Saturday at Lone Camp near Palo Pinto lake. She has a lot of friends in this area.

Karen Fair and Lorin hosted Easter Sunday Dinner for all the family. Those attending were Pug and Vonnie Guthery, Belinda (Guthery) Webb, Holly Guthery and daughter, Karsan Jade, Roy and Angela Powledge and children, Colin, Kaley and Lane. All the grandchildren enjoyed the Easter Egg Hunt after the meal. Others joining the family for the egg hunt were Sonja Hornback and son, Justin; Kandice Cogburn and children, Dylan and Taiah all of Desdemona. The family enjoyed the good food, visiting and having fellowship together.

Remember the sick and shut-ins of our Community with your cards and prayers. Just a not to say "Hi" means so much to our shut-ins.

Please contact this reporter with your weekly news. Call 254-758-2665. Your help will be appreciated.

Have a great day, Vonnie

Homestead Nursing & Rehab News

We hope everyone had a Happy Easter. Mrs. Bunny came up on Sat. and visited with all the residents and had her picture taken with each one.

Sorry I am unable to get the news in every week. Will try a little harder.

Jerry Majors of DeLeon visited with Lavona Sharp. Paula Morrow of Plains, Jeanna Pack of Carbon, Lenn, Rachelle, Landon and Landry of Spur visited with Imogene Norris. Johnny and Susan Magin of Lingleville, LaVerne Carr of Whitney, and Johnny Scitern visited with Troy Scitern. Bart, Terri, Britteny, Jessica and Sarah Little of Austin, Bill Boles of Granbury, Betty Little, Bobby and Mary Jane Litte visited with Ima Boles.

Visiting with Lottie Morris were Pam and Mark Hulse of Hobbs New Mexico, James and Beverly Morris of Katy, Jerry and Virginia Skaggs, Jim Haggard, Woodrow and Helen Browning, Kay Snider, Louise Smart, Nelda Mauney, and Freddie Rodgers.

Have a good day.

Ina

Veterans Reach Out Seminar

All veterans, their family members, and friends are invited to attend a Veterans Reach Out Seminar on Saturday, April 5, 2008. Sponsored by VFW Post 4136 and DAB Chapter 41 from 10 a.m. To 2 p.m. At VFW Post 4136, located at FM918, Hwy. 570, Eastland, Texas 76448.

Helpful assistance with your questions and claims will be given by experts from:

- Waco VA Regional Office
- Dallas VA Medical Center
- Texas Veterans Commission and Texas Land Board
- Other Veterans Service Organizations

For more information contact Joel Jimenez at 940-636-7577 or Larry Monroe at 254-210-9042.

Farm Service Agency News

March 25, 2008

Emergency Grazing of CRP Authorized

Eastland County has been approved for emergency grazing of land enrolled in the USDA's Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). Under this program livestock may be temporarily moved to land enrolled in CRP. The maximum time that the land may be grazed is sixty days. Approvals for emergency grazing will be made on a case-by-case basis by the county FSA office. No payment reduction applies to emergency grazing.

This benefit is limited to livestock producers who lost pasture or fences due to wildfire. Eligible producers may cross county boundaries from one approved county to another.

The use of the CRP acreage is authorized for grazing only. CRP participants who wish to graze their own land or provide land to eligible producers will be required to:

- request approval to graze eligible acreage
- obtain a modified conservation plan to include grazing requirements, as determined by NRCS
- leave at least 25 percent of each field or contiguous CRP field un-grazed for wildlife, or graze not more than 75 percent of the stocking rate determined by NRCS

Before any grazing occurs a signed statement will be provided by the eligible livestock producer. The location and date of the wildfire, which affected the producer, will be included. The deadline to request approval for emergency grazing is April 4, 2008.

Senior Citizens News

By Carol Ward

We enjoyed our weekly meal with twenty-one in attendance. We gathered on the 19th at 11:30. For awhile I thought only a few would be here, but finally we had a good group. There were so many of our regulars out with company or on trips. This was our Easter Meal, so many missed all the good food. Bro. Frank Shirley gave the blessing. So good to see and visit with Beth and him. They brought a pizza which was good and a treat.

Our meal was delicious with chicken and dressing, ham, several good casseroles, sweet potatoes that was great, made by Ailene Garrett. We were a little low on desserts, but had enough with Jello, two good cakes, one made by Bernice Hewson that was decorated for Easter. Daisy Slaton made some chocolate covered pecans that were out of this world. She is a good candy maker! Also had our usual cornbread and rolls.

It was great to have Sylvia Buchanan here with us to fellowship. I do hope she continues to visit and be with us. She brought a great casserole made of corn, etc. Also Enna Jane Larch made a good casserole consisting of several kinds of beans and bacon. Yum!! She is also a great cake baker.

Bro. Frank Shirley had just turned 83 a couple days before. So we sang Happy Birthday again. Turning that great age deserves many birthday songs, what a milestone!

It was good to have Bill Barrentine here to eat with us. He used to be a regular, but his work keeps him away. Also Lou, Jerry Underwood cousin came to be with us. We enjoyed her being here and hope she will come back in the future. Next time I will know her last name.

So sorry to hear of Ora Lee Lawrence grandson having a stroke. Too young for that kind of an ordeal. Our hearts and prayers got out for her. I know about this as my father suffered a severe stroke, and it is very debilitating. He did live for 12 more years, so there is always hope and improvement.

We have a great baseball team this year. They have only lost 2 games to Albany and Baird. The best win was beating De Leon by a wide margin. We also won yesterday the 24th in Ranger. I never saw so much hitting. All the boys played great. Especially my grandson Tyson Swanner and Keifer Wilson had a couple hits.

Last Thursday the 20th there were 8 at the Center to play games. There was a ballgame that afternoon in De Leon, so I was there. I dislike when these dates conflict. I do enjoy playing games once a week. I'm glad Wilbourn Overstreet is feeling improved and back with us on Thursday evenings.

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

Thank You

I would like to thank the Fire Department for their effort to Save our Home. Also to the town of Gorman and the surrounding area for their support and prayers.

Thanks,

Rachel and Annelly Rainey

Eastland Co. Democratic Convention

Eastland County Democratic Convention will be held March 29, 2:00 p.m., Siebert Elementary School, Eastland Texas. Delegates will be seated beginning at 1:45 p.m. by the Credentials Committee. Visitors are welcome and encouraged to attend this important process in the election of the nominees for the November 2008 ballot.

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