

# The Gorman Progress

"Serving Gorman For Over 110 Years"  
Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454

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NUMBER ONE

JANUARY 7, 2010

## USDA IMPLEMENTS NEW CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

### Producers May Begin Applying for SURE Program at FSA County Offices on Jan. 4, 2010

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that USDA has implemented the new Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments program (SURE) in accordance with the 2008 Farm Bill. Vilsack also encouraged producers to visit their USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) county office beginning on January 4, 2010, to participate in the program if they suffered crop production losses during the 2008 crop year.

"This program is an important component of the farm safety net and will provide financial assistance to producers who have suffered crop losses due to natural disasters," said Vilsack. "Producers will receive payments beginning in January, in time to help them with planning for next year's crop."

SURE provides crop disaster assistance payments to eligible producers on farms that have incurred crop production or crop quality losses. The program takes into consideration crop losses on all crops grown by a producer nationwide. SURE provides assistance in an amount equal to 60 percent of the difference between the SURE farm guarantee and total farm revenue. The farm guarantee is based on the amount of crop insurance and Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on the farm. Total farm revenue takes into account the actual value of production on the farm as well as insurance indemnities and certain farm program payments.

To be eligible for SURE, producers must have suffered at least a 10 percent production loss on a crop of economic significance. In addition, producers must meet the risk management purchase requirement by either obtaining a policy or plan of insurance, under the Federal Crop Insurance Act or NAP coverage, for all economically significant crops. For 2008 crops, producers had the opportunity to obtain a waiver of the risk management purchase requirement through a buy-in provision. Producers considered socially disadvantaged, a beginning farmer or rancher, or a limited resource farmer may be eligible for SURE without a policy or plan of insurance or NAP coverage.

In addition to meeting the risk management purchase requirement, a producer must have a farming interest physically located in a county that was declared a primary disaster county or contiguous county by the Agriculture Secretary under a Secretarial Disaster Designation. Regardless of a Secretarial Disaster Designation, individual producers may also be eligible for SURE if the actual production on the farm is less than 50 percent of the normal production on the farm due to a natural disaster. For SURE, a farm is defined as all crops in which a producer had an interest nationwide.

For more information on the new SURE program, please visit your local FSA county office or <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR - A Response

Dear Mr. Shirley,

As a reader of the Gorman Progress, I want to congratulate the editors for allowing you your right to free speech. It was a courageous and "just" thing to do. I was certainly taken back by the bold and brazen( meaning "shameless") statements that you made in response to the woman named "Liz" and the reported way she told the Story of Emmanuel ("God with us" is the English translation from the Hebrew), and the three "wise men" and their arrival to celebrate his birth.

You referenced point # 2 "Mary gave birth to God"... Jesus was fully human and fully divine; born to a human mother, but conceived as a virgin birth through the power of the Holy Spirit; "And the Holy Spirit came upon her." Therefore, her statement is Christian doctrine.

Next you referenced the articles point # 6; I cannot speak to the interpretation given in the paper on the "conditions of the baby", because I was not in the worship service. (Were you?) However, my education in theology allows me to speak to the story of the "wise men" that came to pay homage. It was the custom of kings in those days to pay homage (meaning respect and reverence) to newly born kings in order to keep the peace among nations. The Gospel of Matthew is the only gospel in the bible to tell this story; it distinctly says in Matthew 2: 10-11 "When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the CHILD with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid homage."

The bible, Mr. Shirley, is Christian, not Baptist, nor Catholic, nor Methodist, nor male or female, CHRISTIAN, God, in his glory, has come into our midst in the incarnated Person of his Son. Moreover, he has promised us that he remains with us always, even to the close of the age (Matthew 28:20). And he has assured us that nothing in all creation, not even death itself, will separate us from Christ's loving presence with us (Romans 8:38-39). We do not deserve that presence any more than Israel deserved God's presence with her in ruined Jerusalem. Nevertheless, Christ is Immanuel, God with us, in sheer mercy and love.

Furthermore, sir, if you are going to quote scripture, please do it correctly: Deuteronomy 6:6-9 (King James Version) 6And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: 7And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. 9And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

And let's NOT leave out the important parts like verse 5 5And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

And let us not twist the word of God to our own advantage for nowhere in this passage does it say WHO SHOULD TEACH the children.

You see, Mr. Shirley, there is a Jesus Christ, who is fully human and fully divine. He does not care if I am a woman or a man, only that I am a vessel to shine His light to the world. He does not care that I am Methodist or Baptist, Catholic or Jew, nor Greek or Hebrew.

The role, the mission, of the church then is to reflect in its life the light of the glory of Christ, just as Israel was to reflect the light of God's presence with her. The church's words and proclamations are to point to Christ's work and to declare Christ's redemption. The church's actions are to mirror Christ's love and to imitate Christ's deeds of mercy. The church's worship is to be directed toward the glorification of Christ, praising him for all he has said and done for all peoples everywhere.

In short, the life of the church is to reflect that of its Lord -- his love, his sacrifice, his mercy, his goodness, his unstinting obedience to God. It is not the church (or denominational doctrine) that is to live, but Christ who is to live in it, so that when all peoples (not just men) look at the church, they see instead Jesus Christ, still at work in his body, the church, to bring his salvation to ALL peoples. You are right, once the church breaks the truth then other breakage is sure to come. So, I want to know whose truth has been broken...yours or God's?

Sir, as the current seated pastor of First United Methodist Church of Gorman, and as an ordained female pastor; I humbly invite you to challenge yourself and your beliefs about women in ministry. I extend my hand in Christian fellowship and would welcome you into worship at our church. You will be greeted with dignity and respect. I urge you to apologize to "Liz" (not for your beliefs as those are between you and God) and seek reconciliation with her.

Faithfully in God's service,  
Rev. Sharon Bell

## Pvt. Matthew Cogburn Graduated From Boot Camp

Army Pvt. Matthew C. Cogburn has graduated from Basic Combat Training at Fort Sill, Lawton, Okla.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier studied the Army mission and received instruction and training exercises in drill and ceremonies, Army history, core values and traditions, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid, rifle marksmanship, weapons use, map reading and land navigation, foot marches, armed and unarmed combat, and field maneuvers and tactics.

He is the son of Val-rey Cogburn of W. Roberts St., Gorman, Texas. The private is a 2009 graduate of Gorman High School.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

*I believe this is what First Baptist Church of Gorman is teaching our kids. About how to love. King James says charity instead of love.*

1 Corinthians 13 (King James Version)  
1 Corinthians 13

1 *Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.*  
2 *And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.*  
3 *And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.*  
4 *Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,*  
5 *Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;*  
6 *Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;*  
7 *Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.*  
8 *Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.*  
9 *For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.*  
10 *But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.*  
11 *When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.*  
12 *For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.*  
13 *And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.*

Matthew 7:1-3 (King James Version)

1 Judge not, that ye be not judged.  
2 For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.  
3 And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?

Matthew 5:44 (King James Version)

44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

Liz, You're doing an outstanding job!  
(s) Peyton and Nana Vaughn

## Lady Panthers Compete In Priddy Tournament; District Play Starts Against De Leon

We played in the Priddy Tournament over the holidays.

1st game: lost to Priddy 32-85  
Jaime Johnston: scored 25 points; 12 rebounds  
Kimi Seaton: scored 5 points; 4 rebounds; 4 assists  
Rachel Tucker: 2 points; 4 rebounds

2nd game: lost to Rochelle 24-37  
Jaime Johnston: scored 13 points; 13 rebounds; 3 blocked shots  
Kimi Seaton: scored 4 points; 5 rebounds; 4 assists  
Allie Little: scored 5 points; 2 rebounds  
Jasmine Ibarra: scored 2 points

3rd game: beat Iredell 48 to 26  
Jaime Johnston: scored 22 points; 9 rebounds;  
Kimi Seaton: scored 9 points; 10 rebounds;  
Chelsa Griffin: scored 8 points; 3 steals  
Rachel Tucker: scored 4 points; 5 rebounds; 2 assists  
Stephanie Risueno: scored 3 points; 1 assist.

We start district play here @ 5:00 against DeLeon.

## USDA Enhances Integrity And Defensibility of Farm Programs and Streamlines Payment Limits For Family Farmers

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31, 2009 - Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that USDA is partnering with the Internal Revenue Service to reduce fraud in farm programs and streamlining payment limits for family farmers. The actions are intended to strengthen the integrity and defensibility of USDA farm safety net programs and help the agricultural industry to meet requirements included in the 2008 Farm Bill.

"Today's announcement will ensure that the producers who depend upon the safety net of USDA programs will have future access to these programs by enhancing the overall integrity of the programs," said Vilsack. "It will also provide more flexibility for family farm operations across the country."

As part of today's announcement, USDA has finalized a Memorandum of Understanding with the Internal Revenue Service to establish an electronic information exchange process for verifying compliance with the adjusted gross income provisions for programs administered by USDA's FSA and Natural Resources Conservation Service. This agreement will ensure that payments are not issued to producers whose adjusted gross income (AGI) exceeds certain limits. The limits set in the 2008 Farm Bill are \$500,000 nonfarm average AGI for commodity and disaster programs; \$750,000 farm average AGI for direct payments; and \$1 million nonfarm average AGI for conservation programs.

The electronic process that USDA developed with IRS reviews data from tax returns, performs a series of calculations, and compares these values to the AGI limitations from the 2008 Farm Bill FSA and NRCS will receive a record that indicates whether or not the program participant appears to meet the income limits. Written consent will be required from each producer or payment recipient for this process. No actual tax data will be included in the report that IRS sends to USDA. As part of the review and evaluation process, participants whose AGI may exceed the limits will be offered an opportunity to provide third party verification or other information to validate their income.

Meanwhile, beginning with the 2010 program year, USDA has amended the rules that govern the requirements to be 'actively engaged' in farming. These rules apply to eligibility for payments under the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) or Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program administered by the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA).

USDA has implemented the following change to permit certain operations, most often family-run operations, to meet 'actively engaged' in farming requirements under less restrictive rules.

Every stockholder or member of a legal entity, such as a corporation, does not have to contribute labor or management if both of the following apply:

at least half of the interest in the legal entity is held by stockholders or members who are providing active personal labor or active personal management that altogether qualifies as a significant contribution to the farming operation;

the total direct payments received, both directly and indirectly, by the legal entity and each of the members does not exceed \$40,000.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272(voice), or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).

## 2010 Eastland County Livestock Show Slated January 14-15-16

The 2010 Eastland County Livestock Show will be held January 14, 15, and 16. Please make plans to attend and show your support of the Eastland County youth! Here is the schedule of events for the 2010 show:

### Wednesday, January 13, 2010

8:00 pm - All animals (except rabbits) and Ag Mechanics projects must be checked in, weighed and in place. Rabbits must be checked in Friday between 10:00 am and 12:00 noon.

### Thursday, January 14, 2010

9:00 am - Bake-Off Contest (concession stand)  
10:00 am - Broilers  
11:00 am - Beef Cattle (breeding followed by market and commercial heifers)  
2:00 pm - Ag Mechanics Contest  
2:30 pm - Swine (breeding followed by market)

### Friday, January 15, 2010

11:00 am - Dairy Goats  
12:00 pm - Angora Goats (breeding followed by market)  
Rabbits must be weighed and checked in with superintendent  
2:00 pm - Sheep (breeding followed by market)  
3:30 pm - Meat Goats (market followed by breeding)

### Saturday, January 16, 2010

9:00 am - Rabbits (market followed by breeding)  
5:00 pm - Hamburger Supper  
6:30 pm - Auction & Presentation of Awards

## SCHOOL MENU Week of Jan. 4 thru Jan. 8

### BREAKFAST

MONDAY - Cereal, Biscuit, Juice, Milk, No Salad Bar.  
TUESDAY - Breakfast Burrito, Fruit, Juice and Milk.  
WEDNESDAY - Cheese Toast, Hashbrown, Juice and Milk.  
THURSDAY - Oatmeal, Toast, Juice and Milk.  
FRIDAY - Biscuit, Sausage, Gravy, Juice and Milk.

### LUNCH

MONDAY - Sausage Pizza, corn, fruit and milk. No Salad Bar.  
TUESDAY - Chicken strips, cream potatoes, green beans, Jello and fruit, roll, and Milk.  
WEDNESDAY - Taco, refried beans, Spanish rice, tossed salad, crackers, juice bar and Milk.  
THURSDAY - Honey lemon chicken, broccoli and rice, diced carrots, roll, peanut butter cookie and milk.  
FRIDAY - Cheeseburger, lettuce, tomato, pickle salad, potato rounds, frozen yogurt and milk.



# Happenings At FBC!!

## Obituary

### William Inzer Forrest

William Inzer Forrest, age 74 of Odessa passed awayaturday, January 2, 2010 at Medical Center Hospital of Odessa. Services were held Monday, January 4th at De Leon First Baptist church with Roger Pounds officiating. Burial was in Victor Cemetery.

He was born November 4, 1935 in Comanche County to Alva Guy Forrest and Isabell Woodfin. He married Ann Johnson Dix on September 2, 1999 in Odessa.

He was a member of the Rock Bluff Baptist Church, retired farmer and rancher and from Farley Farm Supply. He had resided in Odessa ten years, having lived most of his life in the De Leon-Duster area; served in the U. S. Army during the Korean War.

Survivors include his wife, Ann Forrest of Odessa; one son Steven and wife Cindy Forrest of De Leon; three sisters, Marie Nowlin of De Leon, Gladys Pounds of De Leon and Allie Ross of De Leon; three step-sons, Don Breeden of Odessa, Russell Shaffer of Odessa and Monty Spruill of Odessa; grandchildren, Brodi, Cydni, and Kaley Forrest of De Leon; step-grandchildren, Bobby and Jana Spruill, Justin and Misty Spruill, Paul, Kristen, and Whitney Shaffer; step-great-grandchildren, Brinley and Brady Spruill, Aaliyan, Austin and Aubrey Spruill.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one son, Bobby Ray Forrest in 1998, three brothers, Dovie, Charlie and Robert Forrest.

Pallbearers were Bobby McMeens, Chris Pounds, Craig Mahan, Ricci Coan, Bobby Spruill and Justin Spruill.

## Classifieds

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**HOUSE FOR SALE**  
 906 Fox Hollow - Eastland, 2,900+ Sq. Ft., 4 bedroom, 2 bath with spacious floor plan - larger living room with fireplace ducted to hot, entire home, family room and master suite with jetted tub, separate shower and roomy walk-in closets, 3 car carport and separate 2 car garage. For information call 254-433-0654 or 254-629-3160. Price Reduced  
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**The Gorman Progress**  
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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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2010! Happy New Year! May this year bring you a closer and more meaningful relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ, as well as good health, joy, and prosperity.  
 Mark your calendars:  
 Jan. 9th - 8:00am - Brotherhood Breakfast - please come and delight in fellowship and fun!  
 Jan. 10th - 10:00am - Adult Sunday School Special Studies - we will begin our new video series "The Life & Ministry of the Messiah" - All are invited and we'll meet in sanctuary.  
 Children's Sermon: Liz talked about the fun of opening presents at Christmas, and now all that's left is the wrapping paper in a trash bag. Is Christmas really over? No, Christmas is never over for those that believe in Jesus. The birth of God's Son Jesus is the true meaning of Christmas, and those that receive Him know the greatest gift and the love of Jesus every day. Thank God for our Savior!  
 Bro. Barry's Message: "Food Poisoning" - Psalm 103:3 and Proverbs 4:23 -  
 We begin 2010 giving thanks to God for all those that serve in our Church and who are dedicated to furthering God's work.  
 Do those that work in the line of fire wear bulletproof apparel on their thighs or their knees, of course not; they wear a vest to protect their heart. If the heart ceases the body dies. Those that accept Christ know that God forgives our sins, and heals our diseases. Guard your heart for it determines the course of your life. The greatest heartaches in life are broken families, divorce, severed relationships, health issues, and financial despair. Bro. Barry experienced a miserable case of food poisoning, and it occurred to him that even in life we are at times poisoned from within.  
 I. Virus - A "Cop Out" - When you are sick and doctors don't have a name for what is wrong they call it a virus. We blame all else when sin and neglect are a lack of spirituality. Live your life according to the Word of God, don't be a virus, witness for Jesus! The time is now, and we pray God will lead us and bless us with one hundred or more baptisms this year in the name of Jesus.  
 II. Bacteria - The Silent Killer - You cannot see it. We use antibacterial hand sanitizer all the time. Life's bacteria will eat away at individuals and families. The power of the Word and the Spirit of God depends upon you; will you answer God's call?  
 III. Parasites - Feed on Others Misfortune - They eat up the good to make bad. Never before has there been more detriment to the name of Jesus Christ. False speakers professing Christianity are eating up underprivileged and starving ones. It's more important than ever to be a meaningful, powerful, spiritual, and true witness for Jesus.  
 IV. Toxic Agents - Poor Preparation for Life. - God holds those that mislead others to a higher level of accountability. It is simple; spread the message of Jesus, Jesus loves you and wants to change your life!  
 The Problem today is not that sin abounds, but that NOTHING GOOD ABOUNDS! There is a lack of good news, so stand up for Jesus.  
 Two Questions: 1) What have you done for Jesus in 2009? Only you can answer! 2) What will you do for Jesus in 2010? Don't worry about what others say, only concern yourself with what Jesus sees in you. The measure of a child of God is how much they look like Jesus.  
 Do something good for someone in the name of Jesus!  
 Our Sunday School Classes begin at 9:45AM on Sunday mornings, please come so we will help you find the right class for you.  
 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 fbgorman@hotmail.com

## Pig Tales From Hogtown

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a very wonderful holiday season. We were fortunate enough to have all our children and grandchildren with us for the day. The snow probably kept some folks from doing the things they had planned, but wasn't it beautiful? I don't ever remember seeing another snowfall come as there was still snow on the ground. And, haven't we had a cold winter this year - must be 'global warming'!

Now it's back to business as usual and that is nice also.

The usual dance at the DAC will be this Friday - we have a dance the second Friday of each month. The music begins at 7:00. The concession stand opens at 6:00. We will welcome back Johnny Johnson and the Memory-Makers to provide our great music!

Thanks to all who came to 'Breakfast at the DAC' last Saturday.

Our library inside the DAC will be open on a regular basis again - Monday through Thursday from 3:00 to 5:00 each of those days and from 6:00 to 8:00 on Tuesday evenings. If you haven't visited our library yet make plans to do so. We have lots and lots of books - something for everyone!

If you like to 'pick & grin' come to the Desdemona Activity Center on Thursday afternoons at 3:00. We have a jam session on that day. If you don't play an instrument come and tap your toes!

If you like to play dominos, come to the DAC on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 PM.  
 See you in Desdemona!  
 Carol Pell

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1,260 A, hills, mesas, wildlife, RV hookups, creek, tanks, much more [FE01] \$2,396/acre  
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 162 A, 2 story 2-1/2 Frame Home, shop, wells & tanks, woods, hunting [JA03] \$585,000  
 147 A, Horse Property, 5-4; Brick Home, 2-Car Garage, barn, much more [SW01] \$950,000  
 SOLD 190 A - water well, 3 tanks, minerals available [RS04] \$210,000  
 REDUCED 81 A Pecan orchard, 900± trees, possible owner finance [REM01] \$405,000 \$300,000  
 SOLD 80 A - with 6 water wells, seasonal creek, stock tanks, hunting [GB03] \$180,000  
 69 A, water well, 3 stock tanks, oak & pecan trees, corrals, costal, hunting [J001] \$221,900  
 45 A, close to town, stock tank, oak trees, costal, rural water available [SH03] \$149,500  
 45 A, 7 irrig. wells & pit, buried mainline w/risers, minerals available [NF01] \$2,500/acre  
 SOLD 30 A - 3-2 1/2 Custom Home, garage, porch, shop, barn [DB01] \$450,000  
 24 A, new water well and septic system, coastal, and hunting [HS01] \$75,000  
 192A, rolling terrain, Live Oaks, hunting, near Proctor Lk, will divide [LR03] \$2,750/acre  
 7-4 Brick Home, 2.31 A, 2 fireplaces, CH&A, tile floors, office, Jacuzzi [FN02] \$220,000  
 REDUCED 4-2 Brick Home, 2 fireplaces, CH&A, 2 car garage [JH01] \$159,999 \$89,000  
 4+ A, 4-3 Remodeled Brick Home, additional recreational room, water well [RH02] \$149,900  
 5 A, 4-2 Brick Home, metal roof, carport, pecan trees, wells & tank, fenced [WK01] \$90,000  
 3-2 Brick Home, attached garage, large shaded lot, fenced, patio, CH&A [FW03] \$69,500  
 3-1 Frame Home, 1 car carport, shaded lot, storage building [DS02] \$39,500  
 REDUCED 2-2 Brick Home, 2 1/2 A, CH&A, fireplace, 20x30 side bldg [DDM01] \$195,000  
 REDUCED 2-1 1/2 Frame Home, attached garage, storage building [ST01] \$75,000 \$69,000  
 REDUCED 2-1 Frame Home, 2.3 A, screened porch, water well [GB02] \$55,000 \$45,000  
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 NEW - 10+ acres, 3 miles east Gorman, water well and septic, fenced, few large oaks. \$30,000.00  
 NEW - 14.12a Lake Proctor, secluded, join lake property, elec., well, wooded, lots wildlife. \$67,070.00  
 S/E Gorman: 45 A, sandy land, few Pecan trees, 7 water wells, irrigation reservoir, close to pavement. \$2,500 Acre.  
 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 and 200 trees - Seller Financing  
 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.  
 130 A, West Carbon, approximately 40a cult., 35a coastal, pond, elec., county water. \$2,400 Acre.  
 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.  
 179 A, south of Gorman: Part wooded, part old fields, deer & hogs, 2 nice ponds, sandy soil, elec., water well, metal building. \$2,350.00 acre.  
 SELLERS SAY'S MAKE OFFER!!  
 NEW: 205A Proctor, 65A Irrigated Coastal, pivot, 3 wells, ponds, steel corrals, app. 125A mostly wooded, lots wildlife, 100' elevated rise, see for miles. \$2,900 acre.

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All political advertisements paid for by friends and/or candidates must bear at least one signature and address. All ads must be paid for in advance. (Political advertising charged for at a rate of \$4.00 per column inch.)  
 Any political advertising reflecting adversely upon the character of a person will be refused.  
 The Gorman Progress is authorized to make the following political announcement, subject to the action of the March Primary Election.

Eastland Co. Justice - Pct. 1:  
 Ronald (Ronnie) White (R)



## Senior Citizens News

By Carol Ward

We decided to meet early in the month the week of New Years on the 30th. Talked about this subject several times and I put in the paper twice. Well-people either forgot or didn't remember our discussion, so we only had a dozen show up. Then we called some of our regulars and they came to the center. I guess we would of had about 5 if we hadn't called. Its almost funny, but irritating for all th work Barbara Bush and I do. So people please listen when we are talking! Estelle Lindley was kind enough to give the blessing of food for us all.

Our meal was put together is a hurry as we thought it would be icy and snowy. Then we had a big melt down in the night, snow gone. We figured people would come out as not too cold. IT was quite a morning. I bought some German sausage and Barbara Bush made a salad and Mexican casserole. I brought some fruit and pumpkin bread. Then we opened up some green beans and pork and beans to warm from out pantry. Also enjoyed some applesauce and my Birthday Cake with some ice cream. It was a very good carrot cake. So in all not too bad a meal for a few people. I appreciate those who came to help celebrate and sing Happy Birthday. Hope more people will show mup for our get together on the 6th of January.

Two of our regulars from the past have been ill in the Hospital. Winston Brown is still in the Veterans Hospital in Temple. We hope and pray he can recover. Annie Fay Foster is home now after being here a few days. I talked to her and she sounds good. We enjoyed a good visit. We all signed a card for Winston, hope he receives it.

Raymond Hattox was here with a young friend, named Amber Hanson. She seemed to enjoy being with all of us older folks. We are always happy to have guests visit.

Ellen Parker and I, with my family traveled to the Nokia Theater in grand Prairie to watch the Rockettes. What a show! We truly enjoyed the last day ont he30th, and only cost \$20 dollars each. I guess they cut the prices that late in their run.

I forgot to mention, my family and I all traveled to Goldthwaite for Adrian Wright's 2 year birthday on December 19. He is my granddaughter Kendra Swanner Wright's nephew. Waht a darling little boy he is. He received way too many gifts and some too old for his age. But guess he will grow to use them. Johnny and Ina Smith were also there as they are great grandparents. Also lots of young relatives. It was a fun time with good food and cake.

Hope all is well and see you next time - Carol

## Super Notes

By David K. Perry dperry@gorman.escl4.net

We're back! I hope everyone had a blessed Christmas and that Santa brought you everything you requested and maybe even a surprise or two. Vicki and I had a great time at our son's home this Christmas. Our grandson Jake, who just turned four last month, really mad e it fun. He got way too many presents, but he didn't think so. Come to think of it, I don't think I got too many either. I can't wait until the next one! I have only one New Year's resolution and that is to try and keep the Christmas spirit all year, that spirit of love, hope, and peace.

It looks like someone is listening. If you will remember, back in November I wrote about the legislature ignoring their legal responsibilities regarding interim charges, specifically to address the funding formulas that fund our schools. Superintendents and organizations across the state were making inquiries regarding the lack of legislature action regarding addressing school district funding formulas as mandated by law. Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, the presiding officer of the Texas Senate, his given the Senate Education Committee four study assignments for the year ahead in preparation for the 2011 legislative session. The four topics, as announced by Dewhurst's office, are:

"--Review the state's education policy and initiatives regarding middle grades and make recommendations to prepare students, especially at-risk students, for high school retention and success;

"--Review the implementation of legislation related to the state's accountability system including the revised dropout rate calculation, textbooks and technology, and the virtual school network;

"--Review the performance and accountability of the state's charter schools and consider options for increasing the number of outstanding charter schools, identify best practices that can be implemented in other charter and public schools, and review options for a charter schools facilities program;

"--Examine cost drivers in education including state requirements that impact school district budgets. Recommend opportunities for achieving cost efficiencies."

The last one is the one that determines how students are weighted for funding: low socio-economic, special education, gifted & talented, ESL, etc. This has not had an overhaul for years and is way over due. The present system does not reflect reality and is grossly outdated. My greatest concern is that after redoing the formula and making a determination of how much it takes to educate one child, which is going to be more than they think, how are they going to pay for it? Education is paid for by taxes on different things now and the funds being raised are insufficient as it stands today. It will be interesting to see if they actually try to fully fund education or if we see more smoke and mirrors with the money and see the children of Texas short changed once again. My hopes are always for the best!

One thing that is going to help us financially this year comes from the federal government and I'm not talking about stimulus money which is the way our legislature used to supplant the budget (meaning they took money we were supposed to have received as a part of our regular budget and replaced it with stimulus money so they could put our education funds into the general fund for other programs) instead of stimulate it. I am talking about E-rate. E-rate is a process by which schools communication costs are subsidized by the federal government and Gorman ISD is going to receive almost \$300,000.00 in addition to our regular e-rate discounts which has to be and will be used in technology upgrades like replacing our fiber optics throughout the district which is long overdue but we have not been able to afford it.

My wife reminded me of something very important the other day and that was the fact that when our son was in school, prior to either of us working in the field of education, we had no idea what U.I.L. Academic competition was. All we knew was that occasionally on a Saturday, Josh would tell us he had to attend a practice meet somewhere and we would give him lunch money and let him go. The school never really explained to us what it was or advised us how we could help. So, if you are in the same boat I was, here is as brief an explanation as I can give. This competition is between our students and the other students in our U.I.L. academic district and covers many different academic subjects from computers to math to debate to maps, graphs and charts and many more activities. Winners of district competitions advance to area, regional, and then state finals just like athletics. Those that advance to State are eligible to apply for scholarships from U.I.L. for college and they can even be eligible for individual scholarships offered by the college the chose to attend. It is a big deal! Students and their parents should not take it lightly. We begin training your children for this competition in elementary school. It is to their benefit for you to encourage them to participate. It is a proven fact that students that participate in U.I.L. Academic Competition perform better in the regular classroom as a result. It would help a lot for you to practice with them at home too. If you have any questions about the program, please come by and see me or give me a call or talk to your child's teacher and see how they can get involved and how you can help.

I would like to say thank you to our local police department for the great job they have done in slowing down the traffic on Highway Six. I know in the past I have seen trucks and cars blast through here and not even slow down. The presence of our officers, the deputy sheriff's, and the DPS on highway six is making a difference. Thanks!

Report cards will be sent home January 6th, 2010. If your child is having problems in any class, please schedule a face to face meeting with the teacher. Let's work together for your child's success!

On Wednesday January 13th, 2010 we will have Maxfield Elementary Award's Assembly. First, Second, and Third Grade's will start at 2:00pm and Fourth and Fifth will begin at 2:30pm. We hope you can be there.

Jump Rope for the Heart is a fund raiser that we have participated in the last several years to earn money for research on heart disease. We are scheduled to do so again this year. Your child/children will be bringing home envelopes explaining the project. We have set aside January 22nd as the official day to jump rope at school during P.E. time. We appreciate your patience and support of this worthwhile project. You don't have to be a parent or a grandparent to get involved. Call the elementary campus at 254-734-2617 and tell them you want to sponsor a child and how much money you will commit and they will appoint you to a jumper.

The Eastland County Stock Show is January 14th and 15th. We will not have school those days. Please make arrangements for child care now.

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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## Desdemona News

By Vonnie Guthery

**Ladies Monthly Social** will Be held on Monday, January 11th at the Community Center. Make plans to arrive at 9 a.m. to enjoy the good food and have fellowship with all the group. Visitors are welcome.

Several from our Community attended the "Birthday Reception" for Blake Morrison who celebrated his 95th birthday on Sunday, January 3rd in the home of his daughter, Dana Ruth Bays and husband, Larry in the School Hill Community.

### "TAKE A TRIP BACK IN TIME"

How many do you remember?

1. Penny Postcards
2. Big Chief Tablets for School
3. Saturday night bath in a #3 tub in the kitchen
4. A homemade quilt on your bed
5. Evening in Paris and Blue Waltz perfume
6. Boys played baseball, marbles and mumblety-peg
7. Girls played jacks, jump rope and cut out paper dolls
8. Sports - Babe Ruth and Joe Louis
9. Songs like "When the Red, Red Robin Comes Bob, Bob Boobin Along"
10. Movie Stars like Buck Jones, Clark Gable, Gary Cooper and Greta Garbo.

Graveside service for Joseph Henry "Joe" Adams, Jr., 74 of De Leon was held on Thursday morning, December 31, 2009 at the Desdemona Cemetery. Preceded in death by his parents, Joseph Henry "Slim" Adams, Sr. and Mary Olivia (Griffin) Adams; two sisters, Emogene (Adams) Ellis and Robbie Lee (Adams) Wynn. The Adams family lived in the Jakehamon Community for several years. "Slim" Adams was a pumper for Magnolia Oil Company. Friends of Desdemona sends sympathy to this family.

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

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

Thanks and have a great day, Vonnie.

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