

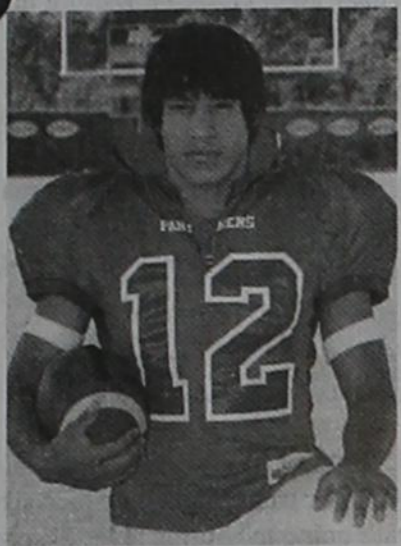
The Gorman Progress

"Serving Gorman For Over 111 Years"
Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454
2011 Member - Texas Press Association

NUMBER FIFTY

DECEMBER 15, 2011

B.J. Ramirez Named To The All State List For 2011



Honorable Mention
Linebacker
B. J. Ramirez

A Huge Thank You!!!

All the Gorman Firemen and their families wish to express a Huge "Thank You" for the dinner in their honor at the Senior Citizens Center, catered by Cooks Fish Barn. The food was great as well as the turnout of everyone. Also honored were the merchants and employees and families. Gorman is a fantastic Community to live in.

Gorman Local Livestock Show Set For Saturday

Judge	Mark Walker, Eastland , TX
Gorman Ag Science Teacher	Shawn Boles
9:45 a.m. Introduction of judge and brief showmanship remarks	Shawn Boles
10:00	Lamb Show
	Goat Show
	Short Break
	Swine Show

Each show will be followed by PeeWee, Jr and Sr Showmanship.

Please come join us and support our youth for the 2011 Gorman Local Stockshow. Concessions will be available.

Gorman Junior High Boys Basketball News

The Gorman 7th Grade Team played De Leon 7th Grade on Monday night and were edged in a close battle by a 25-26 score. Gorman led 9-6 in the first period and added 4 in the second for a 13-12 margin at halftime. They led 19-16 at the end of the third period, but were outscored 10-6 in the fourth for the 26-25 score.

Danny Limon led Gorman with 10 points. Ricard Olivera hit 7. Izeal Herrera had 6 and Ismael Herrera got 2.

In the 8th Grade action with Sidney Jr. High on December 12 the Gorman basketballers came out with a margin of 32-24. The two teams were tied 12-12 at the end of the first period, but Gorman scored 6 to Sidney's 3 in the second to lead 18-15 at halftime. They also added 12 in the third to 2 for Sidney and led 30-17 at the close of the third period. They only scored 2 to Sidney's 7 in the final period, but won by the 32-24 margin.

Hunter Childers led Gorman with 20 points. Rylan Laminack scored 6. Jonathan Rivas had 3. Flavio Herrera got 2 and Freddy Montelongo hit 1.

CHRISTMAS BOOK COLLECTION at CHARLIE GARRETT MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Over 120 Christmas paperback books have been loaned to our library from a private collection. Many of the books were written by top selling authors like Nora Roberts, Fern Michaels, Debbie Macomber, Janet Daily, Jillian Hart, Linda Lael Miller, Mary Higgins Clark, etc. They include mysteries, modern day romances, historical romances, westerns, and books from the heartwarming inspirational "Love Inspired Books" published by Steeple Hills. This spirit lifting collection includes something for everyone. If you have never read a book about Christmas written for adults, find out what you've been missing. We will also have a large selection of children's Christmas books for parents to read to your little ones. This entire collection will be available until December 31. Don't forget the library is open until 7 on Mondays!

LIFT YOUR SPIRITS THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON with a book from this special offering.

Thanksgiving For Doris Martin

Well it was turkey time again. The family and friends who were able to attend were: Doris Martin of De Leon, H. L. and Billie Martin of Aledo, Donald and Wilma Holder of Desdemona, Connie Martin of Desdemona, Eddie Martin of Millsap, Ruby Cottle of Lufkin, Patsy Martin of Olden, Tim Martin of Santo and Rocky dog, Shirley Lewis of Gorman, Terry and Suzie Martin and Tacy of Mineral Wells, Heather Kartye of Lufkin, Tony and Mindy Wells and Colten of Paradise and granddaughter; Kevin and Isiah James of Keller, Cindy and Cyrus of Keller, Donald W. and Stephanie Holder and Jeremy of Desdemona, Sonja Hornback and Justin of Desdemona, Lane and Katelynn Blackney of Mineral Wells, Frances Lewis, Bella and Cynthia Duske of Gorman, Emily Lewis and Calib Ahrlert of Gorman, Melissa Martin of Eastland, Colter Martin of Ranger, Scotty and K-Dee Martin of Ranger, Calvin Martin of De Leon, Ashlyn Martin of De Leon, Silver Perez of Gorman, John Perez of Arlington, Melvin Lewis of Desdemona, Ryan Ahrlert of Eastland. We enjoyed the food and family time together. We all enjoyed H. L. telling of the times he would come to town when the center was actually a movie house. He enjoyed telling I would come to town with .25 cents. It cost a dime to get, a nickel for a coke and a nickel for popcorn and I would have a nickel left. That was the first time for some of us to hear that story. How the times have changed. Now we are looking forward to Christmas at Moms'.

Christmas Band Concert

The Gorman Panther Band will have a Christmas Band Concert on Thursday night at 6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium. The Fifth Grade Band, Junior High Band and High School Bands will perform for your entertainment. Public Cordially Invited to attend!!!

First Fruits Christian Fellowship To Hold Christmas Pageant, Miracle On Main Street

First Fruits Christian Fellowship is pleased to present this year's Christmas Pageant, Miracle on Main Street, performed by our very own neighborhood children. Miracle on Main Street tells the story of the dilemma of a group of children who want to celebrate Christmas in public, but face opposition from the politically correct local townfolk. Despite the challenges, the children stand up for their beliefs and joyfully proclaim their faith. The story is told with songs, dancing, and much more making it a Christmas event you will enjoy from beginning to end.

This Christmas event will be performed at 6:00 pm on Friday-December 16th, and Saturday-December 17th. In addition to the festive gathering, refreshments will be served immediately after the pageant. Though this event is free of charge, we graciously request that tickets be reserved for you and your party due to limited seating. Tickets may be reserved by calling 734-3203. Please designate name of party, number of tickets and date of attendance. Thank you and have a very "Merry Christmas."

Donate A Car to Boys and Girls Clubs

With only a few weeks left, people may want to donate a car to the Boys and Girls Clubs in time for the upcoming Tax season. Got an old piece of junk...? We will take it! The Boys and Girls Club will accept any car in any condition providing it has a title. The scrap metal market has never been so high, even cars in terrible condition are welcome. The cars are sold at auction and the funds generated can support your local club. People seeking to donate their car or form more information, call 800-246-0493.

Dale and Bess Curb Celebrate 50th Anniversary in Peru



Dale and Bess Curb of Gorman, Texas commemorated 50 years of marriage on October 24, 2011. In celebration, the couple decided to travel to South America and visit longtime friends, Tommy and Beth Lerner, former pastor and wife at First Baptist Church Gorman, who serve as foreign missionaries with the International Mission Board as they have for many years in various Latin American countries. The Curbes were accompanied on their trip October 20 - November 1 by Ellen Gressett and Rachel Watson.

While there, the Larners took the group to visit two Spanish speaking churches and a Christian camp, giving a first hand look at the work they are involved in with the people of this country. They also planned sightseeing excursions including a city tour of Lima, the capital of Peru located on the coast of the Pacific Ocean, and the many Inca ruins in and around the city of Cusco, the Sacred Valley of the Incas, ending with Machhu Pichhu, the famous lost city of the Incas deep in the Andes Mountains, pictured in the group photograph. 2011 is the 100th anniversary of the re-discovery of this ancient city.

City of Gorman, Tx Resolution No. 2011-12-1

RESOLUTION APPROVING A RESOLUTION BY THE GORMAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING AN INCENTIVE LOAN TO ZJ'S STEAK HOUSE.

WHEREAS, the City of Gorman, Texas created the Economic Development Corporation pursuant to Section Type A and Type B of the Development Act of 1979, as amended Article 5190.6 Texas Revised Civil Statutes Annotated, for the purpose of financing the costs of one or more projects within the meaning of the Act;

WHEREAS, the levy by the City of an economic development sales and use tax for the benefit of the Corporation under the Act was authorized by a majority of the qualified voters of the City voting at an election called and held for that purpose;

WHEREAS, The City has established and levied, and maintains and collects on behalf of the Corporation the economic development sales and use tax pursuant to the Act;

WHEREAS, on receipt of the proceeds of the economic development sales and use tax, the City delivers the proceeds to the Corporation to use in carrying out its functions;

WHEREAS, The Gorman Economic Development Corporation has entered into agreement with ZJ's Steak House, Gorman, Texas to grant an incentive loan in the amount of \$21,500.00.

WHEREAS, ZJ's Steak House will complete the building within one year, and use local workers as much as possible;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The City Commission hereby approves the incentive loan made by the Gorman Economic Development Corporation to ZJ's Steak House.

(s) Mayor Robert Ervin Attest: (s) City Secretary, Tacy Warren



The Gorman Parent Teacher Organization and area businesses will host a Family Movie Night on Friday, December 16th at 6:00 pm in the school's auditorium.

Come watch this magical holiday tale of a young boy who still wants to believe in Santa even though his friends have "grown out of it." His faith is rewarded when a steam train pulls up to his house and escorts him to the North Pole to meet Santa.

Tickets are only \$1 and sold at the door. Concessions will be available to purchase.

Items of interest

Gorman Senior Citizens meet once a month on 3rd Wednesday at 11:30 in the Gorman Senior Center. Bring Covered Dish or \$3.00 Per Plate.

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

4-H - The Club is going to meet the first Wednesday of each month in the New Gym. All people interested in participating are encouraged to attend. The meeting will be at 3:45 -4:45. For more information Call Cindy Underwood 734-5085.

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

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

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

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. Stan Harper, Master - Kenneth Good, Secretary.

Gorman Oaklawn Cemetery Association is accepting donations for the Care of the Cemetery. Donations can be sent to Oaklawn Cemetery Association, 7726 CR 362, Desdemona, Tx 76445 or to American State Bank, Gorman, Texas 76454

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- Classifieds -

TWO FRANKS KNIVES!!! Will Open at 315 Bosque in Gorman on Dec. 13th - Hours 12 to 5 p.m. - Tues. thru Fri. or by Appointment - 254-210-1448 or 734-3728.

FOR SALE!!! 72 x 120 Lot in the H. G. Ables Addition in Gorman. \$1,500.00 Call 254-595-2377. 1-12-22 P.

For Sale: 3-2 Solitaire Manufactured home on about 1/2 acre in city limits of Gorman. Built in 2000. Solitaire homes are quality built homes. \$39,000. Please call for appointment. 254-631-3900 or 254-734-6524

WANTED - LAND TO LEASE - Pasture preferred. Contact Denver Rainey - 254-734-5131. 11-24-FNC.

IMMEDIATE OPENING: Homestead Nursing & Rehabilitation of Gorman needs CNA's for 2-10 and 10 to 6 Shifts also All P.R.N. Shifts For additional information, contact the facility at 254-734-2202 EEOC FNC

FOR SALE: Queen Size Mattress and Box Springs - \$75.00 254-734-2117.

HOUSE FOR SALE!!!
 Three Bedroom, 1 1/2 Bath, Central Heat and Air. Needs work. 510 West Lexington in Gorman. Phone 254-734-5792

COGBURN REALTY
 254-893-6666 DE LEON, TX
 Ray Cogburn - Broker

3 + Acre, 3 - 2 3/4 - 2 brick, central A/C, 2375 sf, den + lg. game room, nice carpet, metal roof, water well, 20 x 40 shop, secluded, lots of Post Oaks! \$119,500.
 6A: 3-2-2 brick, 1766 sf, central A/C, new floors, 5 y/o roof, metal shop, equip. Shed, RV storage, new well & Septic, beautiful Oaks, 70+ Peaches, pavement. Nice!! \$164,500.00
 10.43 A: Near Duster, approx. 800 Pecans, building site, elec available, paved road, deer. Owner Finance Possible \$3,495 acre.
 17.25 A: HWY 8 Desdemona, 10+ A Coastal, pond, new fences, nice Post Oaks, nat. gas/elec. available. \$79,000.
 S/E Gorman: 60 A, good sandy soil, some coastal, good fences, elec., nice pond site. \$2,800 Acre.
 77 A: South of Gorman, fields/some wooded. Deer & other wildlife, 2 small ponds, elec. available. \$2,000 acre.
 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.
 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 SAYS MAKE OFFER!!
 322A. Oak & Elm Trees, 2 creeks, great water shed project! 40 A. Coastal, owner reports 300 round bales/year, 55 A. Cultivable soils, 6 ponds, water well, 1200' metal Bldg. with slab floor, elec. Deer, turkey, and other wildlife. \$2,300 A.
 NEW - 395A S/W Gorman, 1/2 Open 1/2 Wooded, small creek, 4 ponds, 40' elev. change, gravel road 2 sides, elec. available. Remote location, deer & wildlife. \$1,795.00 acre.
 407 A: N/E Gorman, 3 ponds, 8 wells, 8 ponds, 3 metal barns, 3 sets steel corrals, irrigated Bermuda, 3-3-2 rock/frame home, central A/C, metal roof & more! \$3,500 acre, possibly divide.
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 EASTLAND, TX 76448
www.tcrealty.net

LISTEN TO THE QUIET! Private & close to Gorman beautiful ONE OWNER - 3 BR, 1 3/4 bath brick home on 10 AC, m/l. 2 ponds, well, central air conditioning & garden spot. Call to find out more! HA1
**BEAUTIFUL OAK TREES LEAD THE WAY TO 2 story home on 44.7 AC, m/l 2 BR, 2 bath, LR, DR, upstairs balcony w/outdoor patio, 20x40 shop, w/equip. shed, approx. 256 AC. of good coastal & old irrigation pit. HA2
BEAUTIFUL HOME + 3.7 AC + REDUCED PRICE-WHAT A DEAL! Brick home w/spacious interior in excellent condition. Outside is room for it all-sheds, stg., RV cover & workshop. Make an appointment and see for yourself! O3
**20 ACRES, M/L, GORMAN - Good coastal & native grasses, 1 tank & partially fenced. Will be surveyed out of a larger tract. Could be very productive. A2
**NICE BRICK HOME ON CORNER LOT - 2 BR, 1 bath, formal LR/DR, family room, wood floors, fresh paint, SAG + CP & nice patio. O2
**CHARM, WARMTH, COMFORT - This 2 BR, 1 bath brick has all of this & more. Large inviting living room, kitchen/dining combo, C/A, utility w/ext. DACP & cov. porch overlooking the oversized back yard with it's beautiful pecan trees. Call us to make your appointment today! O8
PRODUCTIVE - 306 AC, m/l. N. of Gorman. Coastal, good soil, 2 tanks, water well s & frontage on 2 county roads. A13********

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 CARBON, TEXAS
FREE ESTIMATES
254-639-2330

The Gorman Progress
 P. O. Box 68 - Gorman, TX 76454
 Phone 254-734-2410 or 254-734-2411 FAX - 254-734-2799
 Email: jake@txol.net or gprogress@txbusiness.com
 PDF Ads - EPS or JPEG Photos By email
 Publication Number - 222780 Publisher - Lonnie Bennett
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 WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS - \$5.00 OR \$10.00 WITH PICTURE WEDDINGS - \$10.00
NEWS AND ADVERTISING DEADLINE - TUESDAY NOON
 CARD OF THANKS - \$5.00

Eastland VFW and Ladies Auxiliary To Hold "Toys For Tots"

We are teaming up with "Toys For Tots" to be Santa's Helpers. We want to be sure that every Child has a toy for Christmas. If you know of anyone that needs this help, please contact us. We will need to have an **Adult contact, address, phone number and the Sex and Age of the Children.**

Please call and leave a message if we do not answer:
 Sandra Martin - 254-629-8049 - Brenda Hand - 254-488-1986
 Sharon Sanders - 254-631-7401

Children's Christmas Dinner - Dec. 17th - 2 p.m. -- Children's Christmas Party - Dec. 17th - 6 p.m.
 Eastland VFW - 918 Hwy. 570 in Eastland.

HEALTH

Stop Counting Sheep, Get Some Sleep!

NewsUSA

(NU) - Americans lead busy lives - and the overscheduled often cut back on sleep. But sleeping five or six hours a night can carry severe health consequences. Studies suggest the adults need at least seven or eight hours of shut-eye - getting less can interfere with job performance, not to mention contribute to obesity, diabetes and heart disease.

But what if you're trying to sleep, but can't fall asleep, or wake up still feeling tired? Stimulants like caffeine or nicotine, large meals or exercise right before bed, and disruptive sleep environments can all contribute to poor sleep. For as many as 12 million Americans, as estimated by the National Institutes of Health, the problem may be a sleep disorder called obstructive sleep apnea.

In obstructive sleep apnea, the soft tissue in the back of the throat collapses into the airway during sleep, cutting off oxygen to the blood. When patients with sleep apnea stop breathing, the brain rouses them, sometimes hundreds of times a night. The result? Fragmented, poor-quality sleep.

Sleep apnea can strike anyone at any age, and most cases go undiagnosed. If you often feel tired, get your Snore Score at the American Sleep Apnea Association's Web site (www.sleepapnea.org). If you answer "yes" to any of its six questions, you should ask your doctor about sleep apnea. Treatments are available and can greatly improve your quality of life.

If you've ruled out an underlying sleep disorder, like sleep apnea, but still find yourself counting sheep, try the following tips:



Unwinding with a book or relaxing music before bed may help you fall asleep.

- Avoid stimulants. The caffeine in that cup of coffee will remain in your body for six to eight hours, so stop drinking coffee after lunch. If you really need a mid-afternoon pick-me-up, try taking a brisk walk outside. Thirty to sixty minutes of sunlight exposure per day can help you sleep more soundly.

- Don't take naps after three p.m. Late-afternoon naps will make it more difficult to sleep later.

- Take a hot bath before bed. The water will lower your body temperature, mimicking what happens during sleep. Keeping your bedroom at a cool temperature may also help.

- Lessen distractions before bed. Give yourself time to wind down with a book or relaxing music. Keep televisions and computers out of the bedroom - they provide too much stimulation. If you find that you can't fall asleep, don't lie awake in bed. Find a quiet activity to do for 20 minutes, then try again.

Pig Tales From Hogtown

A huge "Thank You" to everyone who came to the Christmas Store at the Desdemona Activity Center!! We certainly appreciate all of you who support our Activity Center. We had a great time visiting with friends and meeting new folks. It's amazing to hear where people come from and how they hear about the Christmas Store.

We, here at the Activity Center, do enjoy what we do and surely enjoy all the people that come to our building. But, we were disappointed last Thursday morning when someone leaving the Christmas Store backed into our sign. The disappointing part was that they did not have the courtesy to come in and tell us what happened. We are pretty nice folks here - we know accidents happen but it would have made us feel a lot better if whoever hit the sign had come in and let us know. So now we are looking for a gently used sign to replace the old one.

The Activity Center will be open on New Year's Eve for anyone who wants to bring a snack and enjoy an evening of visiting and playing games.

Merry Christmas!

See you in Desdemona!

Carol Pell

"On The Wilder Side"

I'll be honest with you, sometimes it burns me up when a teenager gets a brand new \$40,000 car or truck when they turn sixteen because you usually know what's going to happen to it. They're going to do what every new driver does to their vehicle and trash it. I had a kid in my youth group once who wrecked three mustangs before he turned eighteen. Now, I am in no way jealous of them for having nice vehicles, only that I don't like to see good things go to waste. Now, I am going to make a general statement here, because I know it does not apply to everyone, but people usually don't take good care of things they receive for free. If a teen didn't have to work for their car or truck, they won't take as good care of it as the teen who earned it. We generally don't care of other people's possessions as good as we take care of our own, and we don't know to appreciate gifts as much as if we paid for them by the sweat of our own brow.

I am afraid this is often true when it comes to the free gift of grace that Christians have received. Sometimes we assume that since grace is a free gift, there is no cost associated with the free gift. We assume that we can go on living the way we have been because our sins are now forgiven. The gift is free, but that doesn't mean it doesn't come with a price. Jesus paid for it with His own life, so shouldn't we also pay for it with our obedience and commitment?

I hope you haven't been taking advantage of God's free gift of grace. I hope you haven't been receiving forgiveness without repentance, baptism without discipline, or communion without confession. Just how much do you value God's grace in your life? That question can be answered by how much importance you place on being a follower of your Lord.

Fight the good fight (1 Tim 6:12) -

Jason Wilder - Gorman Church of Christ

Gorman Church of Christ Meeting Times

Sunday Morning Bible Class - 10:00
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:45
Sunday Evening Worship - 6:00
Wednesday Evening Class - 7:00

A Letter To The Editor

By Henry A. Buchanan

Yes Santa, there is a Virginia. She is a little girl with bright, hopeful eyes and a ready but shy smile. She believes you will bring her a doll. Ok, other people will give her the fancy new gadgets that all the kids have now. But Virginia was a doll to hold in her arms and make believe it is a real live baby. And to imagine that she is herself a real live mommy.

To do that she had to have a real live Mommy of her own to hold he and love her. And a real live Daddy to hold and protect her from all the bad things and all the bad people in her dangerous world. But the doll... Could you take care of all this, and the doll too?

I don't mean to leave out the little boys who are not even named Virginia, but the have hopes too. What are they hoping for? Maybe they are hoping you'll bring home their Daddy for wherever in the world he is. And that he will come home whole, not just a piece of the man who went away to the war. And happy and smiling the way he used to do before he went away.

Yes, Santa, maybe you'll even say something to God about Peace and a world safe and happy for Virginia to live in. Because there are so many Virginia's in the world, all over the world where we have been killing their Daddies. All these little Virginias, so many that only if God does something really spectacular you might miss the really right ones. So remember Santa, that are there, looking, hoping for you, for Peace. For the doll. Virginia is.

(s) Henry A. Buchanan

1131 N. Kent St. - Gorman, TX 76454 254-734-4569 12/11/11

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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.

The Gorman Housing Authority
 Is Currently Taking Applications for Apartments.
 102 S. Fisher - 254-734-2400 - Office Hours 9:00 - 3:00 (M-F)
 The Gorman Housing Authority Offers Equal Opportunity Housing To all Who Qualify

New 3 + 2 D/Wide \$47,900!
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 Let Us Finance Your New Home plus Acreage, and improvements. FHA, 3.25% Down, 360 Mos., 4.25%
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Business Directory

Poinsettia Sale
 The Greenhouse
 208 W. Navarro
 DeLeon, Texas
Open Saturday 10-6 and Sunday 12-6
Many Varieties- Red, White, Pink, Variegated, Christmas Rose, Icy Punch
 Kiley and Gynnalyn Abbe
 his 254-485-6754 hers 940-867-7050

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 Country Style Kitchen, Large Island, Walk In Pantry. Delivery & Set Up
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The Gorman Progress - 734-2410

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Top Tools for the DIYer on Your Gift List

NewsUSA

(NU) - The holidays are around the corner, and now's the time to decide what to buy the do-it-yourselfer on your list. According to a recent survey commissioned by Kelton Research and Craftsman, more than three-quarters (77 percent) of men plan on tackling some sort of DIY project next year.

Additionally, 69 percent of female respondents admit to having "a laundry list" of projects they'd like their spouse or significant other to take on around the house in the new year. Therefore, it's safe to say that buying a new tool will hit the nail on the head.

With that in mind, and armed with the study's results showing that 56 percent of men actually prefer to receive functional gifts like tools, and 67 percent of women prefer to give them, here's a list of Craftsman tools that are "Guys' Favorites Guaranteed" this holiday season:

• **Clench Wrench Two-Piece Set.** A convenient tool that can be used on more than 50 fastener sizes and types. The ratcheting feature and multi-positional head make for quick work.

• **Universal Max Axes 19-piece Set.** A pass-thru ratchet and socket system that virtually eliminates the need for deep sockets, and can work with six different types of nuts and bolts.

• **V4 Combo - Screwdriver and Cutter.** Perfect for light DIY projects around the home. The screwdriver has two speeds and features a cutter for various materials.

• **NEXTEC G2 Drill/Driver.** Boasts the best torque in its class,



Having the right tool for the job is key for any DIYer.

and an all new, two-speed gear box and 18-position clutch.

• **NEXTEC G2 Multi-Tool.** Not only can this tool sand, cut, grind, grate and remove grout, but it now offers a new tool-less accessory exchange, allowing a quick-release system to change the attachments versus using a tool such as a hex key, and a variable-speed dial that matches speed to the specific task at hand.

For more information on top holiday gifts and easy how-to projects around the home, visit the Craftsman Experience on www.facebook.com/craftsman. It is the ultimate DIY playground where clinics and demos are hosted by organizations that share their expert skills and talents in lawn and garden care as well as auto repair, woodworking and garage storage - all streamed live over the Internet.

Eastland County Farm Service Agency Committee Election Results

On December 8, 2011 the Farm Service Agency County Committee counted ballots for the committee election that took place for Local Administrative Area 3, which is the southwest portion of our county. This position has been held by Brandon Geye of Rising Star for the past nine years, but Mr. Geye has served his three-term limit and was not eligible for re-election. The Eastland County FSA would like to thank Mr. Geye for his dedicated service.

The results of the recent election are as follows: Rex Beggs of Rising Star was elected as member. Dr. John Zieglschmid of Cisco will be the first alternate. Thanks to both of them for their willingness to serve the farmers and ranchers of Eastland County.

The 2012 Eastland FSA County Committee will be as follows: Danny Snider will serve LAA1; John Gerhardt will serve LAA2; Rex Beggs will serve LAA3; and Wynelle Brown will serve as the committee Advisor. These committee members serve as a link between the farmers and ranchers of Eastland County and the USDA Farm Service Agency.

For more information about the FSA county committee or about the election, contact John Bird at 254-629-1636 extension 102.

Happenings At FBC!!!

Give! You know the saying, "It's better to give than receive." How many people really feel this way? For many it takes a monumental event in their life to make giving real to them. Everything we get in this life is short lived. Only the gift of Jesus that our Heavenly Father has given to us will last for eternity. God is giving freely; open your heart to receive His amazing gift!

Mark your calendars:

Dec. 14th - 6pm - TeamKids & Mission Friends Program - don't miss this blessed performance!

Dec. 17th - 9am - Volunteers needed to help deliver Christmas Boxes.

Dec. 18th - 6pm - Candlelight & Lord's Supper Service.

Dec. 25th - 10am - Worship Service. Merry Christmas!

Children's Sermon: Traci read a delightful story entitled "The Legend of the Candy Cane". In this story a stranger moves into a small prairie town, and everyone waits, wonders, & wishes whom he is and why has he come. One young girl, Lucy, offers to help him unpack. While opening crates and unwrapping his things she learns his name is John Simon, and he's opening Simon's Candy Store. John told Lucy the special message in the Candy Cane: Hold it up and it's a "J" for Jesus who's born on Christmas Day, turn it upside down and it's a Shepard's Staff whom were the first to know of the Savior's birth, the Red Stripes are the blood of Jesus by which we all are healed & forgiven, and White Stripes are the people who's sins are washed white as snow by the blood of Jesus. Candy Canes help families celebrate the miracle of Christmas and share it with others for many Christmases to come.

FBC Band: Praise the Lord for the FBC Band! We rejoice and worship the Lord in the midst of stirring music; "I'll Fly Away", "We Belong to You", "How Great is Our God", and "How Great Thou Art". May God continue to be glorified in all you do. Thank you, FBC Band!

Bro. Barry's Message: "Blessings Outnumber Sand" - Psalm 139:17&18 - Believe it, God thinks good thought about you. Sand is on the beaches, in the deserts, and in the soil around the world. The Bible so descriptively tells us that God's blessings outnumber the grains of sand. There are 72 deserts in our world, and the Sahara Desert is the largest being 3.6 million sq miles. Could you imagine trying to number the grains of sand in that desert alone? For six years now God has bestowed a tremendous blessing on us through the Skaggs as they have furnished Bro. Barry & Sharlene's Open House; it gives all of us the opportunity to set aside time to enjoy fellowship and get into the Christmas spirit.

1. Seen By God (Psalm 139:1-6) - The blessings and protection of the Lord are all around you. God goes before you and He follows you. It's much too great for our human brains to understand.

2. Pursued By God (Psalm 139:7-12) - You cannot hide from God. His Holy Spirit is beyond escape. God's presence is always with you. In darkness or light and in night or day God knows what is best for you and your family.

3. Fashioned By God (Psalm 139:13-16) - You are God's creation; each and every part of you. Bro. Barry said that he has asked God why He made his ears so big. Next time you look in the mirror do "the Fonze" - give yourself and thumbs up and say, "Aaaaeeeyy! God made me this way!"

4. Love Thoughts By God (Psalm 139:17-18) - The good thoughts that God has about you cannot be numbered. Whether you're slumbering or awake God is with you.

Bro. Barry gave each person a little bag of sand as a reminder that God's blessings outnumber the grains of sand in our world. Glory to God!

If you are reading this and you have not accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior please call Bro. Barry, ask Bro. Barry to talk with you about being saved or just ask him to pray with you, just call (254) 734-2420. Our Worship Service begins at 11:00AM on Sunday mornings - please come and join us! Remember: God loves you like no one else! Email us at fbcgorman@hotmail.com

12 in 2012: Doctor-Prescribed New Year's Resolutions

NewsUSA

(NU) - With the many healthy resolutions being made to kick off 2012, wouldn't it be nice if you actually had a doctor's opinion to point you toward the healthiest changes you can make?

A new survey of practicing physicians by EverydayHealth.com with MedPage Today reveals the 12 most popular doctor-prescribed resolutions.

Top 12 Doctor-Prescribed New Year's Resolutions for 2012

1. Monitor your blood pressure
2. Quit smoking
3. Exercise 30 minutes a day
4. Lower your cholesterol
5. Get a diabetes screening
6. Control your portions
7. Get a flu shot
8. Take the stairs whenever possible
9. Sleep at least 7 hours a night
10. Eat whole grains, not refined flour
11. For women, perform a self breast exam every month
12. Spend more time with family and friends

Although not ranked in the top 12, the survey includes some resolutions you may welcome.

The most surprising: Don't give up coffee. Yes, that's correct. Coffee actually has health benefits that doctors recommend. Studies show that women who drink a cup of coffee daily have up to a 25 percent lower stroke risk than those who drink it less often. In addition to lowering stroke risk, coffee can also decrease your odds of developing



Take a look at the top 12 doctor-prescribed New Year's resolutions before you finish your list.

diabetes, skin cancer, cavities, Parkinson's disease, breast cancer and heart disease.

Three other noteworthy resolutions involved in Everyday Health's survey are to forgive people, try a once-a-week technology vacation for at least two months and don't text and drive. All great advice.

However, none of these resolutions can be effective if you can't stay committed to them.

"About 40 to 45 percent of Americans make New Year's resolutions, and only about 60 percent end up keeping them for at least part of the year," says Everyday Health Medical Director Mallika Marshall, MD. "The key is not to bite off more than you can chew. Pledge to make a change that you can maintain. And try to get friends and family involved. It's much easier to meet your goal if you have support."

To view the complete survey, and to gain more tips and tools to live a healthy, happier life every day, visit EverydayHealth.com.

ENVIRONMENT

Help Protect the Polar Bear's Arctic Home

NewsUSA

(NU) - Polar bears are loved by people of all ages, all around the world. These magnificent, powerful animals live nowhere else except the Arctic, and they need our help.

Coca-Cola and World Wildlife Fund (WWF) are joining forces to help protect the polar bear's Arctic habitat. Together they are raising awareness and funds for conservation efforts to create a safe haven for the polar bear. The program is called "Arctic Home."

To call attention to the cause, for the first time ever, Coca-Cola is turning its iconic red Coke cans white. Shoppers will find these limited-edition cans on store shelves this holiday season. Bottle caps of many other Coke products will also be white.

Coca-Cola is making an initial donation of \$2 million to WWF, but they need everyone's help to protect the bears' home. To get involved:

- Text the package code to 357357 to make an individual \$1 donation to WWF. Coca-Cola will match donations made with a package code by March 15, 2012, up to \$1 million.
- Donate and receive a virtual Arctic parcel at ArcticHome.com.



To help start a buzz about polar bear conservation efforts, Coca-Cola is turning its blazing red cans to arctic white.

You can explore your parcel, take part in video chats with WWF scientists and track virtual polar bear sightings.

- Visit ArcticHome.com to experience and learn more about the polar bear and its habitat.

PETS

Top 5 Healthy Habits for Pets and Their Owners

NewsUSA

(NU) - Pets are the lights of their owners' lives. And keeping pets healthy is key to extending the warmth and love for years.

Dr. Ernie Ward, nationally renowned veterinarian, pet author and founder of the Association for Pet Obesity Prevention, offers his "Top 5 Healthy Habits" for pet owners to help ensure pets stay happy and healthy throughout the year.

1. Healthy Eats and Treats. The most important decision you make each day regarding your pet's health is what you feed it. When choosing pet food, look for meat as one of the first few ingredients, and avoid by-products, artificial flavors, colors and preservatives whenever possible. When it comes to treats, look for low-cal options that confer some health benefit. Treats that help maintain healthy joints, clean teeth or ensure pills are taken are recommended. The Greenies Brand specializes in great-tasting treats individually formulated to deliver these benefits. If you're going to give treats, make them count!

2. Brain Boosters. Most people love puzzles - and so does your pet! One of the best ways to feed and treat pets is with a food puzzle. These clever devices hide your pet's food or treats until they unlock the secret and get their goodies. These tools engage your pet's brain and bust boredom while you're away. Forget peanut butter-stuffed toys; these toys stimulate thought and don't pack on the pounds!

3. Power Play. Walking your dog and playing with your cat each day

keeps them trim, healthy and mentally alert. Pets that don't receive enough physical activity ("lap potatoes") have the highest rates of weight-related diseases such as arthritis and diabetes and suffer from behavioral problems. For dogs, 20 to 30 minutes of brisk walking each day benefits both ends of the leash. For cats, two or three five-minute play periods are plenty. And don't worry! Walking with your pet can be fun! Try programs like Greenies Wag & Walk 4 Life, and get active with your pet.

4. Paws Together. It's more fun to play with other dogs! Socialized dogs are simply better behaved and more fun. Visit a dog park, enroll in training classes or become active in serving your community. There are endless ways to get you and your dog to interact with other pet lovers. Share the fun and join a new pack!

5. Pets and Vets. Somehow pet owners started believing that the only time you need a vet is when something is wrong with your pet. The secret to a long and healthy life is vet visits when everything appears fine. A pet owner's primary goal should be to prevent disease, not only treating it. Changes in diet or lifestyle, giving nutritional supplements and exercising more are straight forward solutions. Sometimes you just need a prod; other times a push. Your veterinarian is your pet's voice; let them speak for your pet by visiting once a year for young pets and twice yearly for those over age seven.

For more best-care tips for pets, visit www.greenies.com and www.dremniward.com.

Open House
for the new
W.P. Kloster Museum Annex

Saturday December 17 and Sunday December 18

The price of admission these days only will be \$2 or a new toy.
All proceeds will go toward the Dublin GoodFellows Organization.
Hours of Operation 10 am till 5 pm

The new museum annex is located directly across the street from Old Doc's Soda Shop
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"Thanks for your Dr Pepper Business" *W.P. Kloster*

GORMAN FEATURED IN REGIONAL GUIDE

Gorman is one of 42 communities featured in the 2012 Texas Midwest Guide. The 17th edition of the annual publication is now in circulation and showcases quality of life and points of interest in the region. Participation in the regional marketing guide is sponsored by the Gorman Economic Development Corporation.

The Texas Midwest Guide includes community information, attractions, recreation, lodging, regional calendar of events, unique shopping and dining opportunities and much more information about the Texas Midwest region. Distribution of 70,000 copies goes to Texas Travel Information Centers along the State's borders, chambers of commerce, CVBs, hotels & motels and advertisers throughout the region.

An online turn-the-page version of the guide is at texas-midwestguide.org. All websites on community pages and ad spaces have hot links from the online version.

For more information about Texas Midwest Community Network, visit the website www.texasmidwest.org

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Desdemona News

By Vonnie Guthery

"Life's Recipe"

- 1 Cup of Good Thoughts
- 1 Cup of Kind Deeds
- 1 Cup of Consideration for Others
- 3 Cups of Sacrifice for Others
- 2 Cups of Forgiveness
- 2 Cups of Well Beaten Faults

Mix these thoroughly and add Tears of Joy, Sorrow and Sympathy For Others. Flavor with little Gifts of Love. Fold in 4 Cups of Prayer and Faith to lighten other ingredients and raise the texture to great height of Christian Living. After pouring all these into your Daily Life, bake well with the Heat of Human Kindness.

"Serve With A Smile"

Homestead Happenings

We were honored on Wed. Dec. 7th when the Gorman 4-H kids and sponsors came and brought everyone homemade cookies in pretty decorated bags. Thank you so much for thinking of us during this busy season. I am sorry I was unable to get a list of names of the 4-H kids. Then after supper that night we were treated to a "Free Christmas Store" sponsored by the First Baptist Church Youth. Thanks to the generous donations by the members of the First Baptist Church everyone got to pick 3 gifts. Those coming from the F.B.C. were Cortney, Megan, Madison, Lauren, Rylan, Hunter, Mayra, Kourtney, Russel, Katherine, Turner, Britany, Stetson, Fabian, Marilyn, Kaeli, Rachel, Lindey, Arlette, Alaina, Carsten, and Sponsors, Tiffany Childers and Becca Woodall. Thank you Youth.

You know Gorman has the best group of young people around, don't you agree?

On Friday we held our monthly birthday party. Mayvis Lasater was the only resident to have a birthday in December. Amy Wood once again made the beautiful, delicious cake. Thank you Amy. Mayvis' birthday was on Thursday Dec. 8. Those coming to visit Mayvis were Lou Evelyn Rodgers of Midlothian, Hal and Lisa Lasater and Brent and Jean Lasater.

We would like to welcome Elizabeth Gomez to our Homestead Family. Elizabeth moved here from DeLeon. Welcome Elizabeth. Visiting with Elizabeth were Betty Williams and Josie Martinez of DeLeon.

Bea Herrea of Eastland came and took Rozelle Caraway out to lunch. Visiting with Rozelle were Dena, Reese and Lanie Scitem of Cisco, Glenn and Kathy Scitem and Bo Caraway,

Maxine Morgan of Carbon and Jana Grice visited Ima Brown. Visiting Frankie Stacy were Maxine and Marilyn Huddleston of Lake Leon and Gary Hattox of Stephenville. Visiting Ruby King were Eddie King of Carbon, Shellie Singleton of DeLeon. Visiting Billie Marble were Pastor Eric Stinnette of Cisco, Pat and Howard Hagood, and Dale and Bess Curb.

Visiting Lilly Rubio were Josie Lopez and Sabrina Brister and children. Rusty and Claudia Simmons visited Sue Simmons. Visiting Edgar Reynolds were Mary Reed of Lexington Kentucky, Faye Faulk, Dena,Reece, and Lanie Scitem of Cisco, B.E. Simpson, Johnny Smith and Kenneth Welch. B.E. Simpson visited with all the residents. Karen Guthrey comes on Mondays and opens the beauty shop for those who want to go. While here Karen visits all the residents.

Coming up on the 20th we will have our annual Resident Christmas Party starting at 1:30. Please come and join us. On the 22nd at 2:30 Sondra Brudnak will come and play for us.

We hope everyone has a great week.



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TIPS FOR SAFELY RECEIVING AND SENDING FOOD GIFTS

Maybe you are looking to make your holiday shopping a little easier by ordering and sending some of your friends and family gift boxes of cheese, meats, or delicious desserts. If you are planning to send or receive perishable foods that will decay rapidly if not refrigerated by mail, follow these tips to keep them safe. Meat, poultry, fish and other perishable foods need to be handled carefully and in a timely manner in order to prevent the growth of harmful bacterial which could cause food borne illness. During the holidays, many people send food gifts. These items, whether store bought or homemade, need to be handled properly. According to figures from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), about 76 million cases of food borne illness are reported each year. About 325,000 of these cases require hospitalization; about 5,000 people die. All foods should be handled safely, including food gifts. Perishable food gifts must arrive cold to be safe to eat. If you receive a gift that is not cold at the time of delivery, do not eat it! Instead, notify the sender. It's better to be safe than sorry. Food gifts marked Perishable or Keep Refrigerated need to be opened immediately and placed in the refrigerator or freezer. If you are ordering food gifts, specify overnight delivery and request a frozen gel pack or dry ice in the packaging. Transit time and product packaging foam or heavy cardboard designed to keep them cold are also vital. Foods prepared at home may also be shipped to friends and family, but care is required. First, be sure to follow proper food safety procedures such as hand washing and prevention of cross contamination when preparing foods. Visit www.fightbac.org for more information about basic food safety. Once you are ready to ship the foods, make sure items are frozen solid or refrigerator cold prior to shipping. Pack in an insulated cooler or heavy cardboard box with a frozen gel pack. Dry ice can also be used, but do not let it touch your hands or the food. Let the recipient know the box contains dry ice. Wrap the box in two layers of brown paper and mark it Perishable Keep Refrigerated. Ship perishable food gifts by overnight mail and try not to send packages at the end of the week because delivery could be delayed over the weekend. Let the recipient know a food-bearing package is on its way so someone can be home to accept delivery and get the food under refrigeration immediately. It is best to send food gifts to someone's home. If you send them to a workplace, the food could be accidentally left at the office or in the trunk of a car. Confirm that someone will be home and send your surprise to their house.

For more information about mail order food safety, contact Halee Mitchell, Eastland County Extension Agent at 254/629-2222.

Statement by Gov. Rick Perry on Obama Administration's Decision to Slash Number of National Guard troops at U.S.-Mexico Border

AUSTIN – Gov. Rick Perry today issued the following statement regarding the Obama Administration's decision to cut the number of National Guard troops at the U.S.-Mexico border:

"President Obama's decision to slash the number of National Guard troops patrolling and securing our southern border is proof that this administration has no intention to truly secure the border or listen to the American citizens, communities and law enforcement who care about border security and public safety.

"After spending billions on failed federal stimulus and bolstering job-killing regulatory agencies in Washington, President Obama now says he can't find the funds to maintain even current National Guard troop levels to protect us against crime at the border. Cutting border troop levels adds insult to the injury of the Obama Administration attacking states that have been forced to take immigration matters into their own hands.

"This decision is all the more appalling given the actions of Attorney General Eric Holder, who let thousands of guns fall into the hands of Mexican drug cartels through the botched Fast and Furious program. Now is not the time to cut security efforts.

"We need more, not fewer, boots on the ground, as well as strategic fencing, surveillance technology, air and marine resources, working in coordination to truly secure the border. Cutting National Guard troop levels at the border is dangerous to America's national security, and I urge President Obama to reconsider this ill-advised decision."

Gov. Perry has had a long-standing request for 1,000 Title 32 National Guard Troops to be deployed to the Texas-Mexico border until adequate Border Patrol staffing levels are achieved.

<http://blog.chron.com/txpotomac/2011/12/obama-prepares-to-trim-national-guard-on-u-s-mexico-border/>

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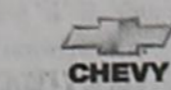
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