

The Gorman Progress

2005 Member
Texas Press Association

"Serving Gorman For Over 104 Years"

Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454

NUMBER FIFTY-TWO

JANUARY 5, 2005

Large WildFire Destroys Area Homes and Acreage



Photo of Kokomo Baptist Church



Photo of Kokomo Community Center and outbuildings



Photo of Nancy Hendrick's Home

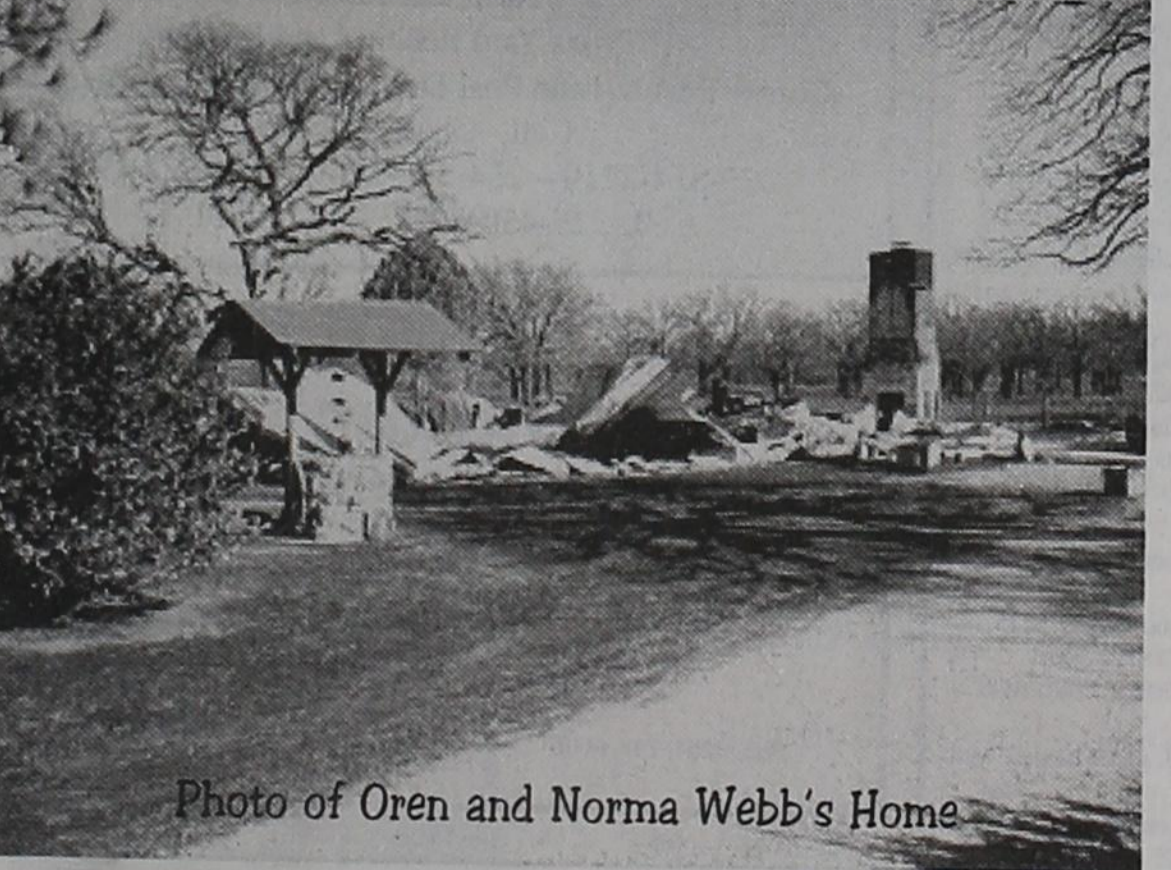


Photo of Oren and Norma Webb's Home

Disaster Declaration and Executive Order

On this the 30th day of December, 2005, I, Brad Stephenson, Eastland County Judge do hereby declare a local state of disaster for Eastland County, Texas as prescribed by Chapter 418.108 of the Local Government Code.

As such, it is hereby the executive order that the use of all outdoor combustibles, including all fireworks in Eastland County is banned immediately.

This order bans the use of ANY combustible materials in an outdoor environment, including but not limited to fireworks, materials used in activities such as welding or any other activity that could result in fire.

In accordance with section 352.081 of the Local Government Code, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates this order commits a Class C Misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$500.00.

Declared and Ordered this 30th Day of December, 2005.

(s) Brad Stephenson,
Eastland County Judge.

The start of the New Year 2006 came out with a bang when the local area was struck with a large fire which destroyed thirty-five structures in Eastland County. The fire consumed the Kokomo Baptist Church, Kokomo Community Center and several more homes in Kokomo, New Hope and Carbon areas. The fire consumed an estimated 35,000 acres.

Fourteen type I National Guard helicopters were attempting to control the fire that started near Rising Star and Carbon, along with ground units from many area fire departments.

Two firemen were taken to Eastland Memorial Hospital with non-life threatening injuries.

The Texas Forestry Service is reporting the *Rising Star-Carbon* Fire is now 95% contained as of 8:30 p.m. Monday night. There were two smaller fires near Carbon that have been reported and a separate from the original fire.

All Photos Shown Here Are From The New Hope and Kokomo Communities

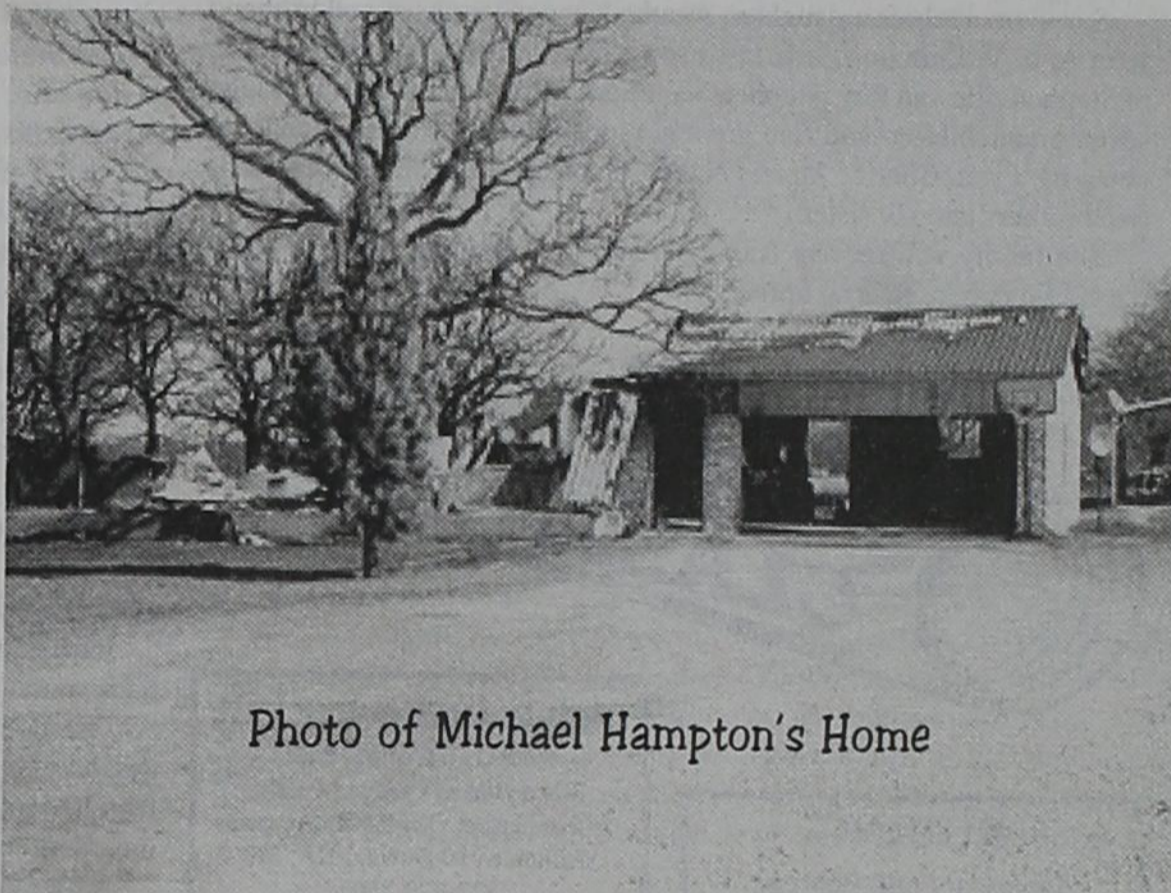


Photo of Michael Hampton's Home

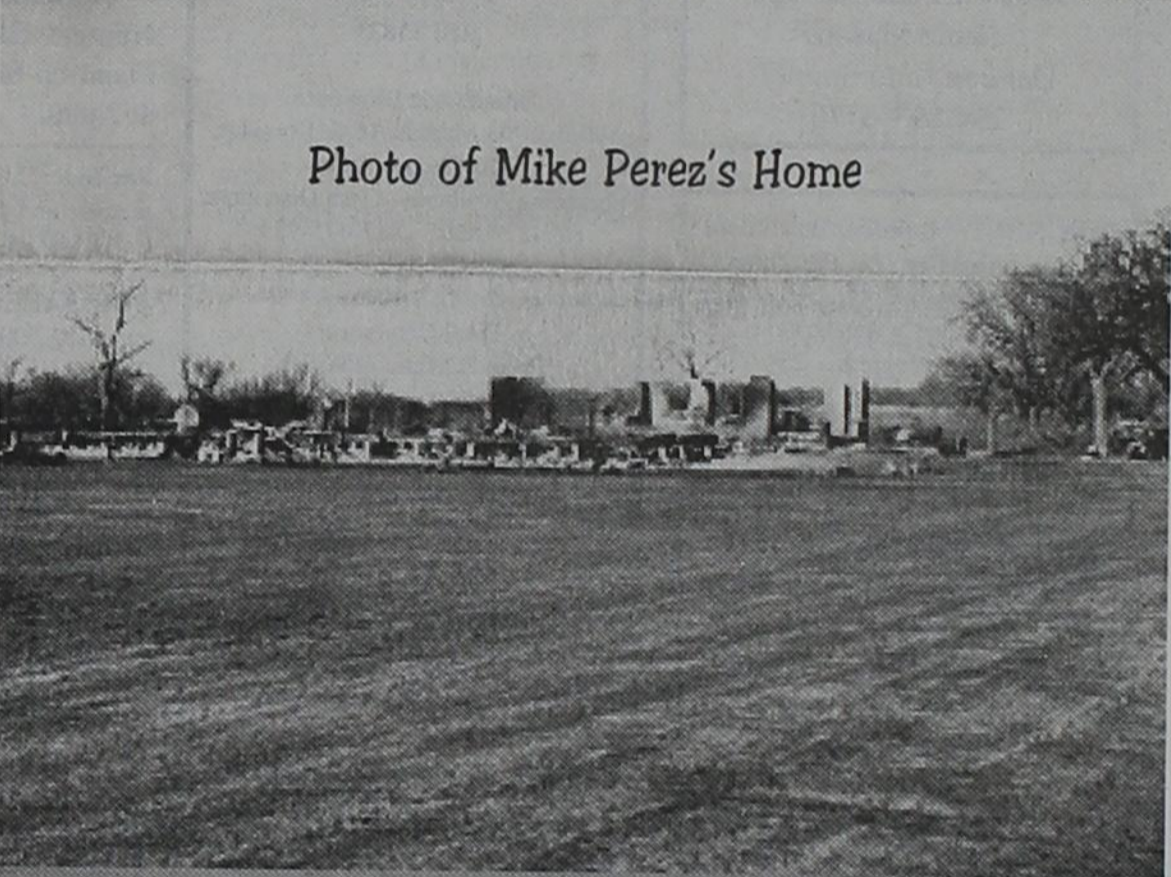


Photo of Mike Perez's Home



Photo of Johnny Johnson's Home



Photo of Marie Cook's Home

Due To The Toll, Area Fires Have Taken On The Communities Of Central Texas, The Comanche Livestock Exchange Will Have A Special Fire Relief Sale At The Beginning Of Our Regular Sale This Saturday, January 7th. We Will Be Accepting Livestock Consignments All Week To Be Sold At The Beginning OF Our Sale And The Proceeds Will Be Donated In Your Name To The Organization Of Your Choice (example - Cross Plains Fire Relief Fund, Your Local Vol. Fire Department, Red Cross, etc.) For More Information Contact Gayle Jones At The Comanche Livestock Exchange - 325-356-5231.

REMINDER
THE LARGE ITEM TRASH PICK UP WILL BE JANUARY 5, 2005.

Obituaries

Georgie Fae Stacy

Georgie Fae Stacy, age 88 of Gorman, passed away Friday, December 30, 2005 at the *Heritage Manor Nursing Home*. Services were at 2:30 p.m. Sunday at the Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel in Gorman with James DeVoll and Larry Stogsdill officiating. Burial was at Oakland Cemetery.

Georgie was born July 25, 1917 in Comanche County to John Stacy and Deliah Eva (Watkins) Stacy. She graduated from Alameda High School. She was a retired license vocational nurse having worked at Blackwell Hospital for 36 years. She was a member of the Gorman Church of Christ and had lived in this area all of her life.

She is survived by her twin sister, Frankie M. Stacy of Gorman; cousins, Neva Hyatt of Del Valley, Ardell Beason of Haskell, Junior Love of Trinidad, Tx., Gladys Rhyne of Dumas and Parilee Grisham of Amarillo as well as many second cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents, John Stacy and Eva (Stacy) Wright.

William Agatha Nance

William Agatha Nance, age 90 of Desdemona, passed away Monday, January 2, 2006 at Harris Methodist Hospital in Stephenville.

Services will be 10 a.m. Thursday at the Old Methodist Church (First Baptist Annex) in Desdemona with Rev. Victor Pena officiating. Burial will follow at Garden of Memories Desdemona Cemetery. Services under direction of Higginbotham Funeral Home in Gorman.

Mrs. Nance was born November 11, 1915 in Desdemona to the late Charles H. Genoway and Fannie (Cook) Genoway. She married Morris E. Nance November 29, 1938 in Desemona. He preceded her in death on September 5, 1995. She was a devoted wife and mother and loving caregiver to her family. She was a member of the Gorman Methodist Church.

Survivors include a daughter, Agatha Nance Henriksen and husband, John A. of Wilmington, N.C.; two sons, Donald Nance and wife, Susan of Stephenville and Rev. Stephen Nance and wife, Tana of Breckenridge; seven grandchildren and five great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a son, Charles Morris Nance, a special niece, Billye Richards, two brothers and six sisters.

The family will receive friends Wednesday evening from 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at funeral home.

Joe Collins

Joe Collins passed away on December 26, 2005 from surgery complications and COPD. He was 81, born on August 25, 1924 to Velma and Henry Collins in Carbon, Tx. He is survived by two daughters, Juanava Collins of Plano, Karen White of Garland, granddaughter, Michelle Collins of Plano and grandson Jon White of Lewisville, sister, Betty Wilson of Fort Worth, brothers, Pat Collins of Eastland, Robert Collins of Waco and Mike Collins of Sequine. He was preceded in death by a brother D. M. Collins of Houston. He had many cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends who loved and admired him for his kindness and good humor. He was married to Helen Ruth Couch (Oglesby) from November 1, 1946 until 1974.

He was the youngest man to be District Grand Master of the Mason Lodge of Carbon, Texas in 1953 and had been a Master Mason for more than fifty years. He served in WWII as a gunner/radio operator stationed in China/Burma/India. He was Eastland County Treasurer when he was recalled to active duty for the Korean War. He moved his family to Gorman, Texas in 1953 to be closer to his parents and brothers, where he was Administrator of Blackwell Hospital until 1965. Later, he was a consultant to physicians who were starting the new medical practices in the Dallas area. Joe was manager of the Chamber of Commerce in Canton, Texas for nearly 15 years. After retirement, he volunteered at the McKinney Chamber of Commerce and worked part time at the McKinney YMCA where he also worked out.

Joe had many interests and hobbies, among them raising quarter horses and dogs. He and his Tennessee walking horse, Black Cat, won honors at many competitions, including the State Fair of Texas.

A Memorial Service was held at Hunters Glen Baptist Church in Plano on Saturday, Dec. 31, 2005 at 2 p.m.

For Sale: Used washers, dryers, refrigerators, and freezers. 30 day warranty. Call 254-893-4198 or 254-842-8167. fnc

FOR SALE: 1990 Lumina - 130,000 miles, \$1,500. Call 254-893-4353. Ellen Tucker. 4-1-19 P

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Agent: David Gilder - Agent; Wayne Parsons

75A Eastland Co. with pivot irr. System, 5-wells, tank, coastal. \$150,000.
165A Comanche Co., with 3/2 brick home, 1,800 sf, corrals, creek and hunting. \$440,000
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240A Comanche Co. with 5-tanks, woods, hwy. frontage, rural water, hunting. \$396,000
56A Coastal, water well, stock tank. \$112,100 UNDER CONTRACT
26A with 2/1 Frame, water well, stock tank, woods, coastal, hunting. \$79,500
70A Comanche Co., 2 tanks, coastal, woods, hunting. \$155,750
Medical Clinic: 5,230 sf brick bldg, two covered carports, 280' x 282' paved parking lot. \$150,000
Nursing Home: 12,900 sf brick bldg. with kitchen, therapy room lobby, 22 double rooms, large lot. \$89,000
7A with 3/3 2,239 sf brick, fireplace, water well, carport, storm cellar. \$115,000
69A wooded, rolling terrain, corrals, 3 tanks, hunting. REDUCED \$172,500.
2A 3/2 1,900 sf frame, 2 wells, CH/A. REDUCED \$72,000. UNDER CONTRACT
63A coastal, corrals, water wells, hunting. \$123,700.
7 A., 3/2, 2,347sf brick, carport, stock tank, corrals, RV shed, metal barn, 2 wells, hwy. frontage. \$145,000.
97A 5/4.5, 5632 sf brick, swimming pool, deck with hot tub, metal barn, pecan trees, tanks, corral, and much more. \$599,999 UNDER CONTRACT
Other house available from \$18,000 to \$105,000.
- Other Listings Available - We Appreciate All Listings -

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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.

GEORGE THOMAS GREEN
1944 - 2013

Eastland County Pecan Show Results

The annual Eastland County Pecan Show was held during the month of December 2005. Billy Joe Dennis of Gorman was awarded first place of four different pecan varieties. The varieties receiving first place awards were Mohawk, Desirable, Seedling, and Mahan. The Mahan variety was also designated as champion variety and was awarded a plaque. The Western variety was awarded second place.

The winners were then entered into the regional show. The Mahan variety won second place.

This was a very difficult year for any kind of crop due to the lack of rainfall and inclement growing conditions.

Benefit Fund Started For Michael Hampton

There has been a Benefit Fund started for Michael Hampton at the First National Bank in De Leon. For More Information Call Shorty Warren at 254-893-4911.

Gorman Ministerial Alliance Raising Funds for Fire Relief

Most people in our community want to help those who have suffered loss in the fires. The Gorman Ministerial Alliance has established an account at the American State Bank in Gorman for this purpose. All donations will be used to help those in need. The funds are managed by the participating Pastors in Gorman. We all need to do something to help.

Pigtails From Hogtown

The town of Desdemona is extremely fortunate and thankful to have been spared the devastation that has befallen the towns to the west of us. Our hearts and prayers go out to the ones who have lost so much as a result of the horrific fire. The danger, of course, is still not over and won't be until we get some soaking rains. Please do not burn or do anything that might cause a spark because a spark is all it takes

We buy houses! Quick CASH closings! Call Ron 432-580-4883. fnc

Weight Watchers
Starting in Gorman Wed. at 5:30
Gorman Elementary Library
Call Crystal if you are interested / more info: 734-2027 / 734-5428
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mcslder@txol.net

Paul Williams Roofing
Carbon, Texas
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Lowest Rates In Texas! Lock In For Two (2) Years! Eula Mears 254-734-4371. FNC.

Oakland Cemetery Assoc. Requesting Your Help

The Oakland Cemetery Report

We, the Cemetery Association leadership are at this time asking for your help again in support of the Cemetery.

We need your financial support and your involvement in this cause. Everyone who has loved ones at the Oakland Cemetery should be doing your part in the support of it.

We are so thankful for those who are so faithful and stays right in there with their support. There are others who do not and we need your help badly.

So, we ask you to come along and be a part of the team. We need everyone and your support. The problem is very real.

Thanks to All!

Opal Burton
503 N. Fisher St.
Gorman, TX 76454

Additional Emergency Assistance for Local Citizens

There is additional assistance being offered to area residents. Karen Pena and Cliffla Vaughn are heading up efforts to provide emergency food needs and additional resources to those affected by the fires.

This includes: all those who lost property, or were affected monetarily by the fire, persons who took off work to fight the fires, people who were evacuated from the affected area.

"This can be long-term assistance and not limited to food." Karen Pena stated. They can put you in contact with other agencies set up to help everyone move through the recovery process.

For more information contact: Karen Pena at 734-4500

Methodist Church at 734-2547
Cliffla Vaughn at 734-3619

Relief Efforts For Fire Victims In The Carbon-Kokomo-New Hope Area

There will be a Community Bulletin Board in City Grocery starting this week for those of you who want to donate items to the victims of the fires over the weekend.

The Board will be divided into the following categories:

- Furniture
- Clothes (broken down into men's, ladies', children's, babies')
- Toys
- Bedding/bath
- Appliances
- Kitchen needs (utensils and non-perishable items)
- Misc.
- Real Estate available (either to rent or use for a period of time)
- Transportation (to help deliver donated items)

There will be 3x5 forms provided at the board. Please use these so that all the vital information is available for the victims that might need your items. You can also submit an item for donation by e-mail to gedc@cctc.net.

There will be an EMERGENCY RELIEF fund set up at American State Bank in the next few days as well. This will be divided among all the families that were affected by the fires.

SPECIAL NOTE: If you are a family that was hit by the fires, please be sure you let us know of your specific needs. Let us know your sizes of clothes and shoes, etc. That way, we can help match the donations to specifically meet your needs.

Please contact Lori Dodd at 734-3933 or City Hall at 734-2317 for questions or other ideas of support. You can also e-mail me at gedc@cctc.net.

under the conditions that we have these kinds of events. These fire dangers exist every summer in our part of the country but we are experiencing extreme conditions at this time. Be careful and be safe.

Heartfelt thanks to our own firefighters and the firefighters from the many, many departments who came to help. These volunteer fire departments need our support and help, financial and physical, because they are our defense against

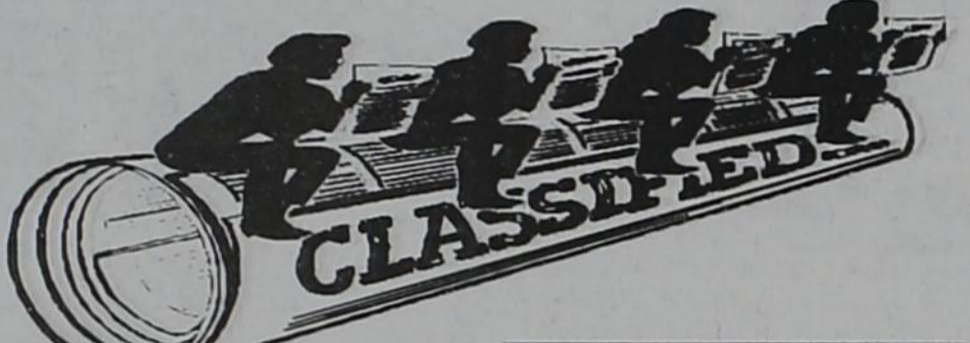
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Cell: 325-450-5283 --- Baird, Tx

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ALL HAIRCUTS - \$8.00
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Other Hours By Appointment
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HELP YOURSELF TO COMFORT! Enjoy life in this 3 BR, 2 bath brick home. Livingroom with F/P, dining, kitchen appliances, CH/A, covered patio, 2 car carport & storage bldg. 07
TAKE A PEEK - THEN SETTLE IN! 3 BR, 1 3/4 bath home with living, dining, CH/A, screened porch & 2 sheds. Act fast - it won't last! 011
BARGAIN PRICED! 2 BR, 1 bath, large utility, 1/2 acre lot, DACP. Great starter home. 02

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NEW: Kent St. Nice 3-1-1 frame, app. 1357', 2 living areas, much remodeling, carpeted, metal roof, vinyl siding, alum. windows, fenced back yard. \$29,500.00. Offers Considered

NEW: Kent St. App. 2 A., 3-2-2 brick, central a/h, lots kitch. cabinets, garden area, large pecan trees, nice retirement property. \$69,500
NEW: 1.75 A m/l, 3-2 frame, app. 1476', metal roof, several sheds, large oak and pecan trees. \$20,000.00 OFFERS CONSIDERED.

NEW: 1 A m/l, 2-1 frame, app. 900', metal roof, shop bldg., numerous outbuildings, water well, and much more. \$12,000.00.
13.958 acres west of De Leon: 2 or 3 br. - 1 bath brick, 1375', garage and carport. Tifton 85 pasture, 2 wells, big hayshed, older shop, 1/4 mile off pavement. \$112,500
NEW: 30A., near De Leon, 3-3-3 m/h, 1190 sf, CH/A, Klein grass, cult., fenced, well, pond, coop water, barn & sheds, nice view. \$96,000.
NEW: 40 A. West Gorman, rough, wooded, secluded, great deer/turkey hunting, canyon w/80' elevation change, pond, electricity, views. \$2,250 per acre
NEW: 73A near Duster, good hunting, 3 nice deer blinds, 2 ponds, 30 x 40 barn w/elec., coastal, pecans, fenced. \$1,600 acre.
NEW: 97A S/W Gorman: Secluded, good hunting, seasonal creek, oak/mesquite, pond, fenced. Will divide into 27a and 70a tracts. \$1,850 acre.
100 A. near Duster: 3 - 1 1/2 - 2 brick, central A/H, fireplace, 1444', 24 x 30 shop on slab, 2 wells, 3 ponds, steel corrals, app. 36 A. coastal, some cult., and native. \$249,500.00
NEW: 102.81 A S/E Gorman: Native pasture, coastal, 2 ponds, 3 wells, new fence 2 sides, paved rd., pecans, deer & hogs, will divide. \$2,250 per acre.

We NEED Your Listings. The market is Good. Call Us. SELLING GORMAN - DE LEON AREAS OVER 50 YEARS



Card Of Thanks

Words cannot begin to express our gratitude to everyone for their support at the time we evacuated Heritage Manor.

We will not attend to name anyone for we might leave someone out.

Maybe you came and helped, or loaned us a vehicle, called and offered your help or offered up a prayer.

Thank You!

*Heritage Manor
Residents and Staff*

Cisco Jr. College To Be Regular Registration

Cisco Junior College will soon begin regular registration for the spring semester. Registration at the Abilene Educational Center will be Tuesday and Wednesday, January 10 and 11, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on a walk-in, first come, first served basis. Sophomore and night student registration at the Cisco campus is scheduled for Thursday, January 12 from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m., and open registration for freshman and all others will be held Friday January 13, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The first class day at both locations is Tuesday, January 17. For more information about CJC, to view spring schedules, and to apply online, visit our website at www.cisco.cc.tx.us

Ten Star All-Star Basketball Camp

Applications are now being evaluated for The Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp. The Camp is by Invitation Only. Boys and Girls ages 10 - 19 are eligible to apply. Past participants include: Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, Vince Carter, Jerry Stackhouse, Grant Hill and Antawn Jamison. Players from 50 states and 18 Foreign Countries attended the 2005 Camp. College Basketball Scholarships are possible for players selected to the All-American Team.

Camp locations include: Commerce, TX; Prescott, AZ; Thousand Oaks, CA; Sterling, CO; Bridgeport, CT.; Babson Park, FL; Gainesville, GA; Champaign, IL; North Manchester, IN; Towson, MD; Ypsilanti, MI; Glassboro, NJ; Schenectady, NY; Hickory, NC; Lebanon, TN; Blacksburg, VA; Lyndonville, VT.; and Beloit, WI.

For a free brochure, call (704) 373-0873 ANYTIME.



Knife Drawing - Aaron Riggs, son of Stephen and Beth Riggs of Desdemona and a first grader at De Leon Elementary drew the name of Migel A. Madera in the drawing for the knife give away for December at Nathan's Barber Shop. The next drawing will be for a Hen and Rooster Knife made in Germany.

USDA Rural Development Conducts Comanche Co. Outreach Day

COMANCHE, TEXAS, January 3, 2006 - USDA Rural Development representatives will be in Comanche on Thursday, January 5, 2006 at the Comanche Electric Co-op Conference Room, 201 West Wright, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. to assist people interested in home ownership loans and home repair loans. Customers will be assisted on a first come-first served basis.

There are several programs available to provide assistance to very-low and moderate-income applicants. Loans are available depending on repayment ability, acceptable credit and the location of the home or building site.

The direct home ownership loan is designed to provide very-low and low-income applicants with financing to build, purchase, or repair homes to provide adequate affordable housing. Funds may also be used to modernize or repair a home already owned by an applicant. For moderate-income applicants, mortgage loans are available through the Guaranteed Rural Housing Program. Moderate income limits vary by the number of persons in a household, but for a family of four the limit is \$66,150.

Two significant advantages of the direct loan program are that no down payment is required, and there is no requirement for mortgage insurance. Loans may be made for up to 100% of the appraised market value, which may allow the closing costs to be included. The loan term is typically 33 years. The interest rate is fixed and is currently 6.375%. Payment assistance is available, based on family size and income, which may reduce the monthly interest payment to as low as one percent (1%).

USDA Rural Development loans and grants are limited to rural towns or rural areas. In this part of west Texas, the only areas not eligible would be within the Abilene metropolitan statistical area, including Tye and around Lake Fort Phantom.

Home repair loans and grants are also available for very-low income homeowners. Grant funds are only available to homeowners 62 and over who cannot repay a loan. Grant funds are used to remove health and safety hazards such as repairing roofs, heating, electrical, plumbing, water and waste disposal, handicapped accessibility, etc. Loan funds may be used to repair or modernize a home.

The loan amount cannot exceed \$20,000 and grant assistance may not exceed \$7500. Loans under this program are made with a 1% interest rate and have a maximum term of 20 years.

All applicants must meet basic eligibility requirements such as being unable to obtain a loan from other conventional lending sources on terms they can afford; being without ownership of decent, safe and sanitary housing; have sufficient and dependable income for loan repayment, taxes, insurance, living expenses and other existing debts; possess the legal capacity to incur debt; and have an acceptable credit history. Other criteria must be met depending on the type of program.

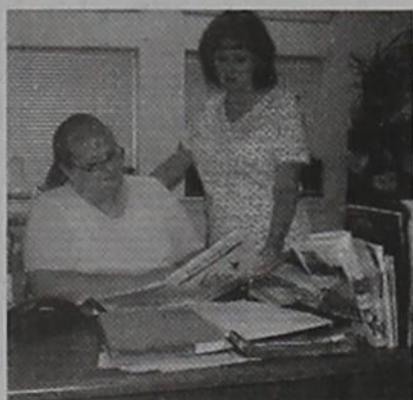
If you wish, you may contact the USDA Rural Development office at any time by telephone at 325-643-1585, extension 4, or by mail at 2608 Hwy. 377 South, Suite A, Brownwood, Texas 76801. USDA Rural Development is an Equal Housing Opportunity Lender.

USDA Rural Development was created in 1994 and includes Business Programs, Housing Programs, and Utilities Programs. Its mission is to use the resources of USDA to provide an improved quality of life for the nation's rural residents.

For more information on USDA Rural Development programs in Texas, check our web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>

Cisco Junior College Spring Registration

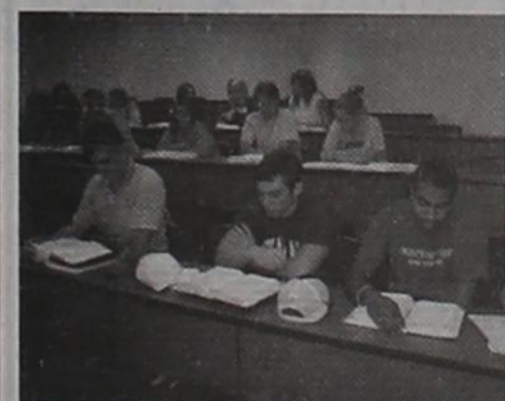
- * Quality Education
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---Abilene Educational Center---
January 10-11

---Cisco Campus---
January 12-13

Schedule & Registration
Hours Available Online
First Class Day is January 17



www.cisco.cc.tx.us
Cisco (254) 442-5000
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Morenci Candles

Heritage Manor News

By Nancy Hendricks

The Value Of Struggle

Bible Thought: "Sorrow is better than laughter, because a sad face is good for the heart" (Ecclesiastes 7:3, NIV).

Isn't it stranger how opposite the Christian life often is from what we expect to be?

- We die to live.
- We humble ourselves to be exalted.
- We are to love those who hate us.

In almost every aspect of life, Christ has called us to be counter-culture to the world that we live in. But it is never easy. We have been patterned from the day we were born to think, act, and feel like the world around us. It is the natural thing for us. To live as "opposites" as Christ would have us do, takes daily commitment and a constant refocusing of our hearts.

Perhaps the most difficult challenge in this regard is to have a spiritual perspective on sorrow and suffering. The Lord has instructed us to view pain and difficulty as steps toward maturity (James 1:2-4), and persecution for Christ's sakes as an honor (Matthew 5:9-12). We are called to have a different perspective on our troubles because, as Solomon tells us, those problems can actually serve to strengthen our hearts.

Sorrow and pain will never feel right, just like we will never feel like loving our enemies. The challenge is to rely on God's wisdom and trust His divine care, regardless of how we feel in the moment.

Provided by Larry Stogsdill

It was Merry Christmas

On Christmas morning every resident of Heritage Manor had a nice surprise package and homemade cookies, candy (some sugar free) and a Christmas Card. Local citizens gave the package. The Gorman 4-H Club members made candy and cookies and gave the Christmas Cards. All items were left at American State Bank. Ina Smith and the 4-H members arranged that each gift went to the correct resident. 4-H Club members helping were A. J. Vaughn, Rhys Vaughn, Garett Vaughn, J. C. Whitten, Christen Zalsagher, McKenzie Osborne, Rylan Laminack and Jonathan Fenley.

Recent guests were Cecil and Rena Mae Robertson, Bob, Debbie and Garrett Hagood of Brownwood, Kelly Johnson of Seminole, Donnie and Nelda Mauney, Frances Warren, Mary Jeffs, Billie Marble, Howard and Pat Hagood and George Rodgers.

On Friday December 23rd at 2:00 p.m. was the Heritage Manor Christmas Party. Santa came and brought everyone a Goody bag. James Hunter led singing "Christmas Songs". There were twenty five residents enjoying the gala affair. The Christmas theme was used with napkins, cups and plates. Refreshments consisted of beautiful Christmas cookies, peanuts, M and M candy and delicious frosted punch. Guests were Kelly Johnson, Nelda Mauney, Judy Killebrew, Chris Killebrew, Jeff Killebrew, Dalton Taylor, Emmery Gale Taylor, Rachel Tucker, James, Christian and Suellyn Hunter, Richard, Connie, Grace Ann and Jordan Watson.

On Sunday afternoon in the Front Hall at 3:00 James, Ellen and Rachel Tucker from First Baptist Church came and read the Christmas Story, Luke 2:1-20. There were thirteen residents present.

Some guests were Jewel Dean Morris of De Leon, Becky Smith of Cross Plains, Pam Childers, Martha Overstreet, Annie Faye Foster, Harold and Tody Zink, Dalton and Joe Watson of Ranger.

On Monday Karen Guthery made residents happy by opening the Beauty Shop to style their hair.

Some visitors were Emmery Gale Taylor of Bastrop, Dalton Taylor, Barbara Tucker, James, Ellen and Rachel Tucker.

Residents send "Heartfelt Sympathy" to the family of Maria (Cucu) Madera.

Some guests were James Gee and Beverly Morris of Levelland, Glen, Gloria and Clarissa Glasson of Brownfield, Kay Snider, Woodrow and Helen Browning, Louise Smart, Virginia Skaggs and Irene West.

On Tuesday morning those coming to help residents with BINGO were Pat Graham, Judy Killebrew, Jason Killebrew and Ina Smith. There were ten residents playing.

Recent visitors were Jackie Whitlock of De Leon, Maudie Husband and Bill Moll of Cisco, Gary and Judy Owens of Baird, Sue Pettigrew and Clay Clayton of Desdemona, and Diana Snider of Gorman.

Tuesday afternoon Shawnah Bass of "Caring Hearts" came. She served residents a tray of little smokies, cheese and fancy crackers with ice tea.

Some guests were Elmer Morgan and Lyndon Morgan of Lake Dallas, Shelly, Rane Morgan, Evonne Morgan and Bryan Morgan of San Antonio, Juanita Spence and Nita Jane Cardinal of Little Elm, and Joe Beaty of Dallas.

On Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 Betty Duke of Desdemona came played the electric keyboard and led singing. There were twelve residents attending.

Recent visitors were Ella Reeves of Irving, Ricky Foreman of Wyoming, Thomas and Vicki Seay, Tommy Lynn Seay, Bo and Anna Lee Roberts, Rodney Roberts of Gorman, Kennard and Doylena Roberts of Gustine.

On Wednesday morning at 9 a.m. Bro. Larry Stogsdill of Church of Christ came and had Chapel. His topic was "Bring An Example". Bible passage I: Corinthians 10-11. There were twelve residents attending.

Some guests have been Don Landers of Springtown, Garry and Jerry Mojors of De Leon, Marjorie Treadway, Lendon Shipman, Ernestine Campbell and Betty Duke of Desdemona.

On Wednesday afternoon Shawnah Bass came and had "Caring Hearts" for several residents. They had a round table discussion. They enjoyed the snack tray of cookies, dainty cheese slices and little smokies and ice tea.

Recent visitors were Raymond Hattox, Mary Turner, Frankie Stacy, Bro. Larry Stogsdill, Maxine Huddleston of Lake Leon, Durward Webb, Becky Moore, Emily Green and Monica Moore of De Leon.

Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 Judy Killebrew, Jason Killebrew and Shawnah Bass had "CRAZY BINGO". There were ten residents playing.

Some guests were Jimmy and Verna Lee Little of Kokomo, Nelda Files of Arlington, Larry and Colene Barnett of Wylie, Emmitt and Kay Lynn Lasater of Eastland.

The December Birthday Party was Thursday, December 29th at 2:30 p.m. Ina Smith had a Trivia Game all about candy bars. There were three residents having December Birthday. Heritage Manor gave each a honoree a goodie bag, Delicious birthday cake and punch was served. There were seventeen residents present and guest Kay Lynn and Nancy Hendricks.

A Word in Season

By Pastor Dane Gressett

THROUGH THE FIRE

"And I will bring the third part through the fire, Refine them as silver is refined, and test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, and I will answer them; I will say, 'They are My people,' And they will say, 'The Lord is my God.'" (Zechariah 13:9)

Our hearts and prayers go out to all those who suffered loss in the fires on New Year's Day. And we owe a huge thanks to all those who fought (and are fighting) the fires and served our community during this great crisis.

Some folks are amazed that their homes were spared. Others are wondering how they will overcome the loss of all their personal possessions. Walking around the smoldering remains of one of the homes in our community, the owners and I observed several pieces of pottery in the midst of the ashes. It seemed they were untouched and untroubled by the flames. I was a bit amazed, but then thought, "These pieces faced previous fires and thus were prepared for this one."

Suddenly I caught a glimpse of how God can bring good out of disaster. **Those who pass through the fire now become immune to its power later!** In the same way that pottery is "fired" to bring it to its mature state, even so, the tests we now face can bring us to more mature faith and character. Fire brings out the best and worst in the things it burns. It reveals what we are made of. Will we use the tragedy as an excuse to curse God and become hard and resentful? Or will we learn that life is too short to spend it mainly focused on stuff that perishes so easily? Will those of us who suffered no or little loss be there for those who did, or will we insulate ourselves inside our living rooms, substituting our televisions for our neighbors?

It's not just those whose homes and possessions were destroyed who are facing a test. We all are being tested just now. How will we respond? Let each of us call on God in prayer and then do what He shows us to do to prove our faith and serve our neighbors! (Questions or comments? Email dane@txol.net)

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'06 Hummer H3	Leather, sunroof, 1K, Warranty	\$38,500
'05 Buick Rendezvous	Loaded, V6, 23K, Warranty	\$17,950
'05 BuickLe Sabre	Loaded, 23K, Warranty	\$15,900
'05 Buick Century	Loaded, 27K, Warranty	\$13,950
'05 Chevy Cavalier	Auto, 4-cyl., 4K, Warranty	\$13,500
'05 Chevy Malibu	Loaded, Auto, 23K, Warranty	\$12,750
'05 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab	4X4, loaded, 3K, Warranty	\$27,900
'05 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab	4X4, leather, only 3K, Warranty	\$27,900
'05 Chevy 3500 Crew Cab	4X4, flatbed, diesel, 36K	\$29,900
'05 GMC 1500 Crew Cab	4X4, leather, 15K, Warranty	\$26,900
'05 Pontiac Aztek	Loaded, auto, 15K, Warranty	\$15,900
'05 Pontiac Grand-Am	Auto, loaded, 12K, Warranty	\$13,500

2004 • 2004 • 2004

'04 Chevy Impala	Loaded, V6, 22K, Warranty	\$12,950
'04 Chevy Trailblazer	LS, loaded, 48K, Warranty	\$17,900
'04 Chevy 1500 X-Cab	4X4, loaded, 52K, Warranty	\$19,000
'04 Chevy 1500 X-Cab	4X4, leather, 28K, Warranty	\$22,750
'04 Chevy 1500 X-Cab	LT, 4 X 4, 28K Warranty	\$22,750
'04 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab	4X4, LS, 46K, Warranty	\$24,250
'04 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab	Duramax, 4X4, leather, 23K, Warranty	\$32,500
'04 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab	4X4, Diesel, 6-Spd. 30K, Warranty	\$25,900
'04 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab	4X4, Diesel, loaded, 32K, Warranty	\$28,900
'04 Ford Escape	Loaded, XLT, 18K, Warranty	\$17,500
'04 Ford Taurus	Loaded, V6, 18K, Warranty	\$11,900
'04 Ford F150 Reg. Cab	Auto, V6, 8K, Warranty	\$15,500
'04 Ford F150 Crew Cab	4X4, loaded, 17K, Warranty	\$26,500
'04 Olds Alero	4 Dr., loaded, 25K, Warranty	\$11,500
'04 Pontiac Montana	Loaded, V6, 10K, Warranty	\$15,900

2003 • 2003 • 2003

'03 Chevy Monte Carlo	Loaded, V6, 38K, Warranty	\$13,500
'03 Chevy Avalanche	Loaded, V8, 18K, Warranty	\$21,900
'03 Chevy Suburban LS	Loaded, cloth, 47K, Warranty	\$19,900
'03 Chevy 1500 Reg. Cab	Sportside, loaded, V8, 51K, Warranty	\$15,500
'03 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab	HD, loaded, 34K, Warranty	\$21,500
'03 Chevy 1500 X-Cab	4X4, loaded, 25K, Warranty	\$19,500
'03 Chevy 3500 X-Cab	Duramax, loaded, 117K, Warranty	\$19,000
'03 Chevy Trailblazer	Loaded, 39K, Warranty	\$298.53 Per Month*
'03 Dodge 2500 Quad-Cab	Diesel, 4X4, loaded, 39K	\$25,500
'03 Ford Mustang	Loaded, V6, 21K, Warranty	\$13,500
'03 Ford Ranger X-Cab	Auto, loaded, 76K, Warranty	\$10,900
'03 Dodge 1500 Reg. Cab	Auto, V6, 43K, Warranty	\$10,950
'03 Volvo V70	Leather, sunroof, 26K, Warranty	\$23,500

2002 • 2002 • 2002

'02 Chevy Monte Carlo SS	Leather, Loaded, 45K, Warranty	\$14,000
'02 Chevy 1500 X-Cab	Loaded, LS, 60K, Warranty	\$14,750
'02 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab	Duramax, 4X4, LT, 79K, Warranty	\$25,500
'02 Chevy Trailblazer	Loaded, 45K, Warranty	\$273.72 Per Month**
'02 Ford F250 X-Cab	4X4, diesel, Flatbed, 60K, Warranty	\$22,500
'02 Dodge 1500 Crew Cab	Loaded, V8, 48K, Warranty	\$15,500



2001 • 2001 • 2001

'01 Buick Le Sabre	Loaded, V6, 36K, Warranty	\$11,500
'01 Chevy Tahoe	3rd Row Seat, loaded, 79K, Warranty	\$15,250
'01 Chevy Tracker	Loaded, auto, V6, 61K, Warranty	\$ 8,250
'01 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab	4X4, LT, 149K, Warranty	\$13,000
'01 Chevy 2500 X-Cab	6 Spd., V8, 4X4, 57K, Warranty	\$17,500
'01 Dodge Neon	SE, auto, 38K, Warranty	\$ 7,000
'01 Ford F150 Reg. Cab	4X4, V8, 34K, Warranty	\$13,000
'01 Ford F150 Super Crew	4X4, loaded, 101K, Warranty	\$14,750
'01 Ford F150 Super Crew	XLT, loaded, 61K, Warranty	\$13,900
'01 GMC Sonoma X-Cab	V6, auto, 81K, Warranty	\$ 9,750
'01 Mitsubishi Montero Sport	Leather, loaded, 89K, Warranty	\$11,500
'01 Mercury Grand Marquis	Leather, loaded, 61K, Warranty	\$11,500

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'00 Buick Le Sabre	Loaded, V6, 59K, Warranty	\$ 9,950
'00 Ford Explorer	XLT, loaded, 71K, Warranty	\$ 9,500
'99 Ford Conversion Van	Loaded, auto, 79K, Warranty	\$ 9,250
'99 Lexus G5 300	Leather, loaded, 71K, Warranty	\$16,900
'99 Chevy 3500 Crew	V8, 5 Spd., only 51K, Warranty	\$12,500
'99 Chevy 3500 Crew Cab	Leather, 4X4, 120K, Warranty	\$ 9,990
'99 Pontiac Montana	Loaded, LS, 55K, Warranty	\$ 8,950
'98 Ford Ranger X-Cab	Auto, V6, 90K, Warranty	\$ 6,995
'98 Dodge Dakota X-Cab	V6, 5 Spd., 53K, Warranty	\$ 6,250
'98 GMC 1500 X-Cab	Leather, loaded, 97K, Warranty	\$ 9,000
'97 Olds Aurora	Loaded, leather, 75K, Warrant	\$ 6,750
'97 Chevy 1500 X-Cab	4X4, loaded, 90K, Warranty	\$ 9,500

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