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The Gorman Progress

2006 Member
Texas Press Association

"Serving Gorman For Over 106 Years"

Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454

NUMBER TWENTY

MAY 25, 2006

GHS Graduation and 8th Grade Promotion Exercises Set Thursday and Friday

Gorman Eighth Grade Promotion

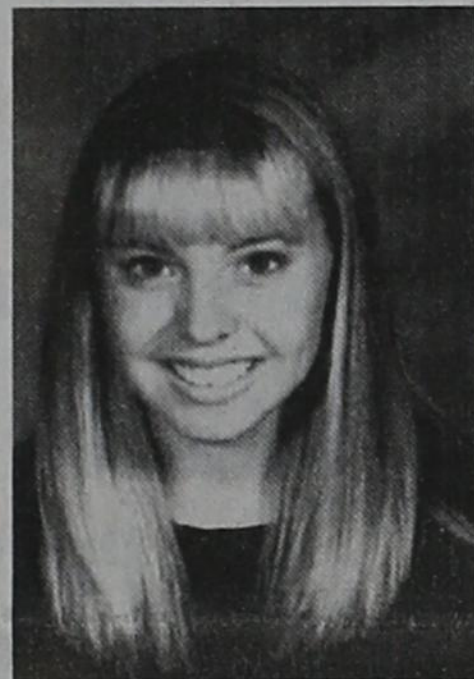
Thursday, May 25, 2006 7:30 P.M.

Processional Class
Invocation Jonathan Flores
Salutatory Brittany Henderson
Class History Tyler Johnson
Valedictory Taylor Chew
Presentation of Certificates David Perry, Superintendent
Rick Panter, Principal
Benediction Brenda Velasquez
Recessional Class

Valedictorian Taylor Chew



Salutatorian Brittany Henderson



Valedictorian Cindy Lopez

Cindy is the daughter of Rogelio and Irma Lopez. She was born September 27, 1987 in at home in Desdemona, Tx. She entered Gorman Schools, Kindergarten, 1993.

Cindy plans to attend Texas Women's University and major in Business, and open a Hardware Store and a Feed Store.

Her honors include FCCLA, NHS and PALS.

Her hobbies are talking to and being around friends and family.

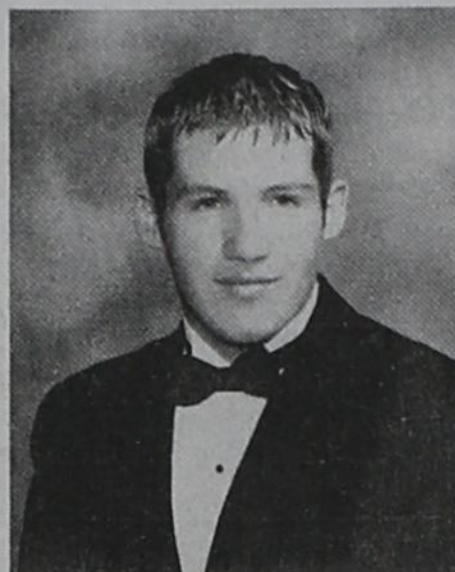
Her favorite foods are anything Mom makes.

Her favorite music is Country music.

Heritage Manor To No Longer Furnish Meals

Heritage Manor of Gorman will no longer be furnishing meals due to recent regulations. The last day will be Thursday, May 25th. We regret that we are no longer going to be able to offer this service to our community. We would like to thank all the volunteers who so faithfully delivered the meals for Heritage Manor of Gorman.

Mark Slaughter, Adm.
Heritage Manor of Gorman



Salutatorian Zachary P. Bryan

Zachary is the son of Harvey and Becky Bryan. He was born June 24, 1988 in De Leon, Texas. He entered Gorman Schools from Cisco in 1994.

Zachary plans to attend Texas Tech University as a Computer Science Major. I plan to work on campus.

His honors were Football, Basketball, Baseball, Track, Powerlifting, UIL, NHS, FBLA, Perfect Attendance 1, 2, 3, & 4; Fighting Panther Award, Mr. GHS, Grand Prize as a Team in Teen Media Fest - 2004; Outstanding Citizenship Award - 1, 2, 3, & 4; One Act Play Regional Advancement - Freshman, One Act Play District Advancement - Junior; 1st Team All-District Offensive and Defensive Lineman, Three Years in a Row, Honorable Mention All-Big Country Lineman as a Junior, Football MVP, Area and Regional Advancement Alternate for 400 Meter Relay in Track, Honorable Mention All-District Outfielder.

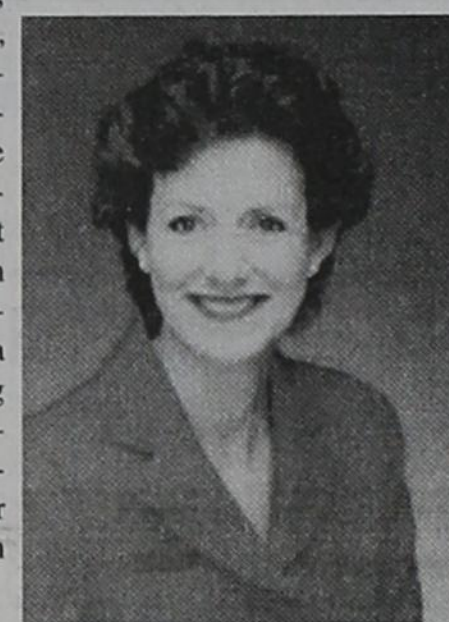
His hobby is playing football, basketball with friends and playing video games and his favorite food is Chinese food. His favorite music is All Music.

Commencement

Friday, May 26, 2006 7:30 P.M.

Processional Senior Class
Invocation Judy Gore
Salutatory Zachary Bryan
Parent Recognition Senior Class
Valedictory Cindy Lopez
Presentation of Diplomas Rick Panter, Principal
David Perry, Superintendent
Bobby Rich, President of the Board
Benediction Barry Tooley
Recessional Senior Class

Ag Commissioner Susan Combs To Hold Meeting



Join Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs, Thursday, May 25, 2006 2:30 p.m. Community Meeting Gorman Community Center, 118 S. Kent, Gorman, Tx.

Come meet Commissioner Combs at this open forum and discuss issues that are affecting Texas agriculture and rural communities. She will discuss rural economic development, the Texas Yes! Program, and the department's new Certified Retirement Community and biofuel incentive programs.

For more information contact: Lori Dodd, Gorman Development Corporation - (254) 734-3933 gedc@ccte.net.

God Does Answer Prayers!!

Our loving and merciful father can and does answer prayers of those who truly believe in him and those who truly love their fellowman.

There is no greater truth of this fact than to look at this old sinner who has again been blessed by folks who have sent prayers to our Father in behalf of me and my family. God truly blessed the hands of the doctors, surgeons and nurses at the Hendricks Medical Center in Abilene by giving them the power of healing for our bodies from time to time when health has failed us.

God will never forget the marvelous words of prayers from my friends and neighbors who earnestly solicited God's help on our behalf.

I am coming along fine and hope to be back soon to a life that will please our loving God.

My children and I sincerely appreciate all that has been done and said in our behalf. I hope to be back among my friends and patrons soon.

Just know that God is truly a loving God who always looking out for us and remember always that God Loves You.

In Loving and Blessful Thanks Always.
Joe Bennett and family

James Jay New Sales Person Myers Real Estate



Keeton and Betty Myers of Breckenridge would like to announce that James Jay of Gorman is now associated with Myers Real Estate. Mr. and Mrs. Myers have been in the real estate business in Stephens County for the past 23 years, and are happy to introduce their newest salesperson. Mr. Jay is a lifelong resident of Gorman, and a graduate of Texas Tech University. He and his wife, Ann, have two sons, T. J. and Russell. James will be specializing in recreational, farm, and ranch land, and will be able to assist you with all your real estate needs. You may call Myers Real Estate at 254-559-6151, or visit our website, www.myersrealestate.com for more information.

Uncle Sam Wants You For Eastland Co. Patriotic Choir

If you have always wanted to sing with a big choir and you love our country, then you will want to contact Jean Darnell at Don Bradshaw, C.P.A. Office at 254-629-2201 so we can add your name to our list of singers.

On July 1st Eastland County Theatre on the Square is planning a Patriotic Extravaganza at the south side of the Courthouse beginning at 6:00 p.m. We are planning a homemade ice cream freeze-off for adult contestants and a best lemonade stand contest for the children both to be judged by public officials from Cisco, Eastland, Gorman, Ranger, and Rising Star. A reward will be furnished to the winners by Eastland County Newspapers. We hope to have a concession stand to sell hamburgers and hot dogs. While this is going on we are tentatively planning an American historic fashion show provided by Somewhere In Time. At 7:00 p.m. Big Country Brass will perform patriotic songs and at 7:30 our County Choir will present songs from the musical "Liberty" and "Liberty and Justice For All".

We will be distributing song books and practice tapes soon, so call and get your name on the list to get a song book and practice tape. We will be meeting together to practice on Wednesday nights in the month of June at First Baptist Church - Eastland at 7:30 p.m. We also have solos and drama parts to assign to interested individuals. Call Jean soon so you can be a part of this event.

Army Personnel Stationed in Iraq To Thank Gorman Residents May 28

The congregation of the Gorman Church of Christ has a history of support to members of the Armed Services and often offers prayers for their safety and well being. In January and February of 2005, Gorman Church of Christ as well as many individuals and businesses in Gorman sent quantities of gift items for the men and women serving in the Armed Forces in Iraq. One of the contact individuals who helped in the states with this endeavor was Chaplain David Ward at Ft Bliss. The person who served as the key contact in Iraq was First Sergeant Dallas Stone, HHC82nd EN-BN. Immediately following worship on Sunday May 28,



First Sergeant Stone and his family will be at the Church of Christ to personally thank everyone for this effort. First Sergeant Stone will be here in person to let us know how the gifts helped the people with whom he served during this difficult period. Bring a friend to worship services and stay for the special presentation on Sunday of Memorial Day, May 28. Come and welcome First Sergeant Dallas Stone, his wife Sharon and their children to Gorman!

CITY WIDE CLEAN UP MAY 26

THE CITY WIDE SPRING TIME CLEAN UP DAY (S) WILL BE MAY 26. IT WILL BE YOUR REGULAR TRASH PICK UP DAY. IT WILL BE CURB SIDE. NO TIRES, NO BATTERIES, NO PAINT, OR REFRIGERANTS, PLEASE. THIS WILL BE A GREAT TIME TO GET YOUR RESIDENCE IN TIP TOP SHAPE. GET RID OF ALL THAT UNSIGHTLY ACCUMULATION OF "EXTRAS" GET OUT THE MOWER AND WEED EATER AND POLISH UP!!

Gorman Public Library To Host Summer Reading Program

The Gorman Public Library will host a summer reading program "Come Fly With Us" on Tuesdays beginning July 11 and ending Aug. 1, from 10:00 to 11:30. We will read books about things that fly each week and do a craft to go along with the story or stories that we read. We will also host a reading program to honor kids who read during the summer. "Soaring to Adventure Through Reading". Students can fill out reading logs that will be provided beginning the Monday after school gets out and the program will end on Aug 1 along with the "Come Fly With Us" program. Stop by and see what is happening at the Gorman Public Library.

Mark Glover and Stephanie Cryer To Exchange Vows July 15th



Mr. Calvin M. Cryer III of Liberty, Texas is pleased to announce the engagement of his daughter, Stephanie Marie Cryer, to Mark Andrew Glover. The bridegroom is the son of David and Linda Glover of Gorman, Texas.

The bride-elect graduated from Liberty High School in 2001 and graduated Summa Cum Laude from Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas with a degree in Psychology in 2005. The prospective bridegroom graduated from Gorman High School in 2001 and from Texas Tech University with a degree in Zoology in 2005. Both are currently attending Texas Tech University School of Medicine.

The couple plans to marry July 15, 2006 at St. Paul's on the Plains Chapel in Lubbock, Texas, reception to follow at the Lubbock Arboretum.

GORMAN CITY POOL SPLASH DAY

Saturday, May 27th

Free Admission For Students

Hours: Tuesday thru Saturday - Noon to 6 p.m.

Sunday - 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Closed On Mondays

- Children Under 7 Must Be Accompanied By Parent -

Texas Shorthorn Field Day Meeting Set For De Leon

Floyd Ranch owned by Jon and Pam Floyd, De Leon, Texas will host a Shorthorn Field Day and the 2006 Annual Meeting of the Texas Shorthorn Association on Saturday, June 3. Floyd Ranch is located at 6150 Hwy. 6, 3 miles from De Leon and 8 miles from Dublin. Registration will be at 1:30 p.m., followed by a judging contest. Speakers will be Dr. Michael Burkey, DVM, on animal identification and Dr. George Ahlschwede, past president of the American Shorthorn Association, on Tibial Hemimelia, a genetic defect.

The annual meeting of the Texas Shorthorn Association is scheduled for 3:00 p.m., according to Dale Taylor, Wolfforth, association president. Business will include yearly reports, election of directors and officers, announcement of the Progressive and Pioneer Breeders and an auction of prime advertising space in the 2006 membership directory. Association members, Rodney McAnear and Cliff Wammack, will serve as auctioneers. During the business meeting the youth will swim and participate in volleyball, horseshoes and other outdoor games.

Judging contest classes will be reviewed at 4:30 p.m., followed by a tour of Floyd Shorthorn cattle. Mr. Floyd not only raises registered Shorthorns, but is also involved in the Durham Red program, utilizing Red Angus. The Floyd's and area Shorthorn breeders will host an evening meal and the awards program for the Texas Junior Shorthorn Association's educational activities.

Additional information on the field day, Shorthorn cattle or association membership can be obtained from TSA secretary, Belynda Rains, P. O. Box 387, Rotan, TX 79546 or by calling 325-735-2640.

Locate Lost Graves

Have you ever tried to locate a lost or unmarked grave? One of the easiest and least expensive ways to locate these graves is by dowsing.

There will be a demonstration on dowsing for lost graves at the Victor Cemetery on Thursday and Friday, May 25 & 26, anytime from dawn to noon, and on Saturday, May 27 from dawn till 10:00 a.m.. Anyone interested in watching, learning or helping is welcome.

To reach Victor Cemetery from De Leon, go north on Hwy 16 about 6 miles, turn right (toward the east) on FM 2156 for about 3 miles. From Desdemona, go south on Hwy 16 about 4 miles, turn left (toward the east) on FM 2156 for about 3 miles. From Dublin, from the traffic light at Dairy Queen, take FM 219 North (toward Lingleville) for about 1 1/2 miles, then left on FM 2156 for about 11 miles.

Anyone who is interested in learning about dowsing is welcome to come. If possible, bring 2 all-metal clothes hangers with you to practice with.

Bed and Breakfast Getaway Drawing

Gorman Livestock Raisers Association is having a drawing for a Weekend Bed and Breakfast Getaway in Granbury. This is a value of over \$400. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. For tickets contact Mr. Boles at 734-2505, Cecilia Hirst at 734-4059, or Melissa Osborne at 734-2849.

TXOL INTERNET

\$9.95 For 50 Hours to \$23.50 Unlimited

See Lonnie
At The Gorman Progress
Call 254-734-2410

Gorman Man Sentenced To Prison For Indecency With A Child And Tampering With Physical Evidence

William Len Rainey, age 31, was sentenced to seven years in a Texas Department of Criminal Justice facility by 91st District Court Judge Steven Herod for the offense of indecency with a child and two counts of tampering with physical evidence. Rainey must serve one-half of the sentence for the indecency charge prior to being eligible for parole.

After two days of testimony, the jury in this case returned a not guilty verdict for the offense of aggravated sexual assault of a child and two counts of possession of child pornography. They returned a verdict of guilty on two counts of tampering with physical evidence. All of these cases arose from the same incident. The physical evidence that had been admittedly destroyed by Rainey, were photographs of a child engaged in sex acts and the computer central processing unit that contained the same images. These items were taken and destroyed by Rainey before law enforcement officers could investigate the offense, but were viewed by two other witnesses who reported the crimes.

After the guilt/innocence stage of the trial and prior to the punishment phase, attorneys for the state met with the mother of another victim of Rainey's and obtained consent to negotiate a plea of guilt requiring a prison sentence. After consultation with his attorney, Rainey entered a plea of guilty to the offense of indecency with a child and agreed to withdraw his request to go to the jury on punishment for the tampering cases.

Rainey will be required to register as a sex offender upon release from prison.

Defense Attorney David Wimberley of Breckenridge represented Rainey at trial.

In 2001, a prior administration of the District Attorney's Office had tried Rainey to a jury for three counts of indecency with a child and two counts of aggravated sexual assault of a child. The jury in these cases returned a not guilty verdict in the indecency cases and in one of the aggravated sexual assault cases. Another case of aggravated sexual assault of a child resulted in a hung jury and was dismissed in 2002.

Due to rules of criminal evidence, the 2006 jury was not aware and could not have been made aware during the guilt/innocence stage of the trial of Rainey's prior 2001 cases involving sexual offenses against children.

District Attorney Russ Thomason stated "The indecency conviction was made possible by a very brave young girl and the loving support of her family." Each case was investigated by the Gorman Police Department and Texas Ranger David Hullum.

Senior Citizens News

Missed getting our weekly lunch on the 10th in paper on time. We had 22 present, a small group but always have a good time. Barbara called to order and Max Bush said the blessing. We sent get well wishes to Opal Burton and Zelda Jordan. Zelda is much better after the first tough days of knee replacement. Was so good to Delores Tucker. She had been absent for awhile. Do miss seeing her. Hope she is feeling better.

We didn't even have enough men to play 42. Wonder where everyone was? Come out people and help us make good use of our Center.

We met on the 17th for our weekly lunch. There were 30 present with many new faces, and some old who had been absent. Barbara Buch called to order and introduced Dorothy Roberts. Good to see her and doing well after heart surgery. We also sang Happy Birthday to Dorothy. Mr. Shirley gave thanks for the many good dishes that had been prepared.

It was so very good to see Jack Harrison and doing well. Also nice to visit with Opal Burton who had been absent.

Beth Shirley looking so pretty and doing well in her treatment. Glad to see Jackie Burns and Betty Frasier back. Hope all continue to return.

Sorry to hear Bernice Henson is back in the Hospital at Stephenville. Hope she is feeling much better. Miss seeing her and a good help in all areas.

Zelda Jordan is home with her daughter in Abilene. Coming right along with her rehab. New knee doing well.

Desdemona News

BY VONNIE GUTHERY

Desdemona Monthly Musical will be held on Saturday, May 27th at the Community Center School Building. Concession Stand will open at 5:30 p.m. serving sandwiches, homemade pie and drinks. Come early to enjoy supper and have fellowship with everyone before the music program begins at 6:00 p.m. All area musicians, singers and visitors are invited to attend.

Victor Cemetery Working Day will be on Saturday, May 27. Bring a basket of your favorite food and dessert for the noon meal. This annual event is attended by a large crowd. You are invited to attend and enjoy visiting with the group.

"Pot Luck Supper" will be held on Saturday, June 10 at the Desdemona Community Center School Building. Bring your favorite dish of food and dessert and enjoy visiting with your friends and neighbors. Meal at 6:00 p.m.

Mildred Million spent three days this past weekend in the Stephenville Harris Methodist Hospital with a severe case of the Shingles. Get Well wishes to Mildred for a quick recovery.

Dorothy Roberts spent Sunday and Monday in Granbury with her granddaughter, Shelly Horan and son, Sam; Emily and Mark Williams and daughter, Kena. Emily and Mark were baptized on Sunday at the Granbury Sandy Beach Lake.

John and Ronda James and daughter, Emily of Whitney; Elise and Katie of Stephenville visited the past weekend with "Humpty" and Betty Duke.

Estelle Lindley was honored with a big 90th Birthday Celebration on Saturday, May 20 at the Blus Moon Restaurant in De Leon. Hostesses for this party were her children, James and Ann Miears of Stephenville; Charles and Anna Marie Lindley of De Leon; Eddie and Linda Lindley of Desdemona. A large crowd of family and friends attended and everyone enjoyed a delicious meal followed by a beautiful birthday cake. Estelle enjoyed every minute of it. She is a wonderful lady and much loved by all who know her.

Angela Powledge, Vonnie Guthery and Holly Guthery attended a Dance Recital for Kayla Garcia on Sunday afternoon at the Cisco Jr. College in Cisco. A large crowd attended this event.

Have a Nice Day, Vonnie.

Card of Thanks

The Family of Rex Kinser would like to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers and kind deeds shown to us at the time of our great loss and sorrow. We would also like to extend our gratitude to the First Baptist Church for preparing and serving lunch to the family.

Thank You and God Bless You!

Letter To The Editor

Seattle, WA.

Jack Eldridge

I came by the Progress office on May 5, 2006 and it was closed due to sickness. I had intended to renew my subscription.

We were in TEXAS to visit relatives. None are living around Gorman anymore. Maryland Stewart and Mother may still live there, but we didn't know where. Boyce was a cousin of mine. Gorman sure has gone done hill. I married 60 years ago and moved to the North West.

Lorene Fuller Eldridge

(We hope all is well by now).

Bed and Breakfast Getaway Drawing

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A WAY OVER-DUE THANK YOU

We would like to say thank you to these individuals and businesses for their contribution to the slab for the basketball court next to City Park. Thanks to their generosity the slab was almost paid for before it was ever poured. Please take the time to let these businesses, and families know they are appreciated.

If ANYONE has been omitted, it is only an error or over sight. Please contact the City Office and it will be re-printed to show the correction. We sincerely appreciate you all!

A. E. SMITH

FOSTER FLORAL

JAMES & RITA C. BRUTON

NATHAN & SANDY FILES

SOUTHWESTERN PEANUT GROWERS ASSOC.

FIRSTFRUITS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

GORMAN PEE WEE BASKETBALL

B & E CATTLE

ANTIQUES FROM OUR FATHERS HOUSE

GORMAN MILLING COMPANY

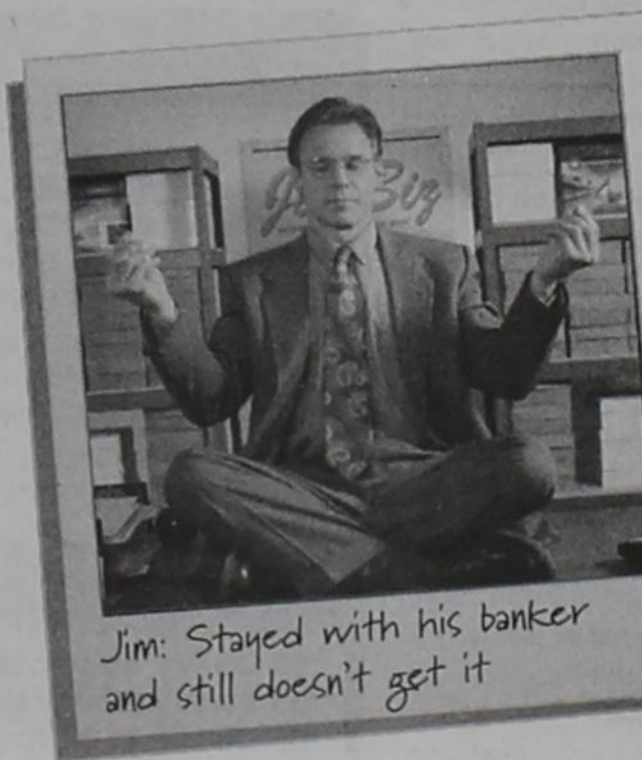
GORMAN PHARMACY

SIMMONS PROPANE

GORMAN GROW

JACK JACKSON

The right banker can change the meaning of
WAKE UP AND SMELL THE COFFEE.



Jim: Stayed with his banker and still doesn't get it



Laura: Chose ASB, so coffee smells like success

Inspiration for a new business will only take you so far. Fact is, you need capital. American State Bank is a preferred SBA lender, so our business bankers understand all the pitfalls and advantages unique to a small business. With flexible financing and longer terms, your loan can be customized to help your inspiration become the sweet smell of success.

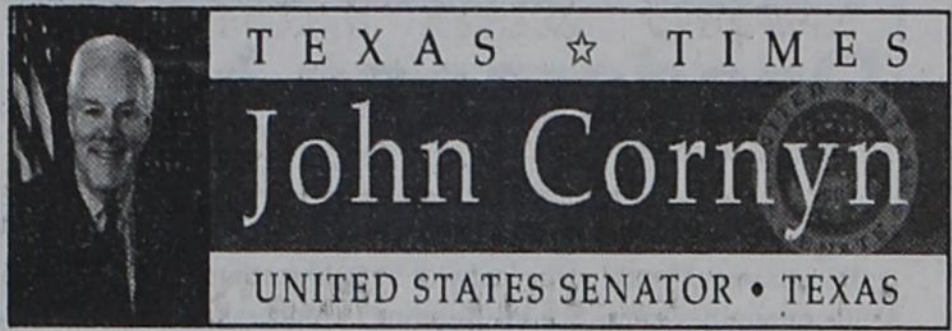
So, wake up and smell the coffee—or whatever it is that gets you going—and check into an SBA loan from American State Bank.

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American State Bank

BUSINESS Banking for you.

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Graduation Advice for the Ages

At ceremonies across Texas this month, high schools, colleges and universities are holding their commencement exercises. Thousands of proud young citizens are being recognized for their accomplishments and moved forward to the next challenges of their lives.

I had the honor of delivering three commencement speeches on May 13: at Texas State University in San Marcos, at Concordia University in Austin and at the Texas Tech University School of Law in Lubbock.

I told the Concordia graduates I was aware that I was the only thing standing between them and their diplomas at that moment. They laughed politely. But I also assured them it was truly inspiring to be present as a new generation of Texans enters the 'real world,' where they will shape the future for us all.

In my remarks to these graduates, I spoke of goals and dreams, of government and good citizenship, and of patriotism and public service. As I look back on that day of commencement, I realize that the most important advice for our state's graduates is this: work hard and achieve much, but remember to believe in something greater than yourselves.

Former Texas Chief Justice Jack Pope, a close friend and mentor, gave timeless advice when he spoke at a commencement more than a half-century ago:

"Styles in graduation talks, much like styles in fashion, change with the times, but the message remains constant: You... are on the threshold of life's journey. But what will be the object of your trip?"

"Will it be your goal to obtain all the money in the world? If it is, understand it is unlikely that you will ever attain that goal. Will it be your goal to attain lasting fame? If it is, understand that will last for a time, but not forever. Will it be your goal to serve society? That will be the only goal that endures."

I couldn't agree more. We're living in a time of unprecedented prosperity, offering virtually unlimited opportunity. But not everyone shares in that prosperity - sometimes through no fault of their own.

We are incredibly blessed, at this time in history, to be living in Texas and in the United States of America. We are the envy of the world. A major reason is the generous, giving nature of our people, and the liberties we all enjoy.

Our graduates have enormous power to affect the futures of the communities, states and the great nation in which they live. That's because free people, working in their communities and motivated by high ideals, can accomplish more than any government program, more than any grant money, more than any bureaucrat. They can change this world.

Consider the life of one man in Austin, homeless earlier in his life, who joined with five other parishioners of Saint John Neumann Catholic Church eight years ago to start "Mobile Loaves and Fishes." At first, the six simply delivered sack lunches from their cars to the indigent in Austin. As more volunteers appeared, the efforts expanded.

Then trucks were donated, and churches in Austin and San Antonio joined up. The founders' spirit has rippled through these communities, and has extended all the way to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. The organization now has seven trucks and - more importantly - some 6,000 volunteers.

Nothing matches the power of individuals helping others in an hour of need. There are thousands of Texans who work daily - without fanfare - to help their fellow man. They can provide what government cannot - the warmth of a handshake, the empathy of a heart.

My hope for all our Texas graduates is that during their time in school they've developed not only the ability to achieve their personal dreams, but

Click It or Ticket Campaign Announced

The Texas Department of Transportation is kicking off a state-wide Click It or Ticket education and enforcement campaign between May 22 and June 4, 2006. Police officers, in every metropolis and community, will be patrolling streets and highways and issuing citations to drivers and front seat passengers not wearing safety belts, or those children who are not buckled up.

Since 1985, Texas law requires every person sitting in the front seat of a vehicle to wear a safety belt. Safety belt use reduces the risk of dying in pickup rollover crashes by up to 80 percent. Since the safety belt law was enacted, safety belt usage in Texas has climbed to 89.9 percent. The Department of Transportation is hoping it will reach 91 percent this year which would equate to 25 more lives saved and 586 fewer injuries.

The law also states that all children under the age of 17 must be secured with a safety belt, or in a child safety seat, whether they are sitting in the front or in the back seat. A child less than four years old, or less than 36 inches tall, must be secured in a child safety seat. Traffic fines for failing to use a seat belt or secure a child in a safety seat can run from \$50 to \$200, plus court costs.

For more information, visit the Texas Department of Transportation website at www.txdot.state.tx.us.

also the desire to serve others.

Winston Churchill once wrote: "We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give." And so I left these bright graduates with a challenge: use your God-given talent to lift someone else up, to set an example for those who will follow - to leave this earth even better than you found it. I am confident these bright Texans will meet the challenge.

Sen. Cornyn is a member of the following Senate Committees: Armed Services, Judiciary, Budget, Small Business and Entrepreneurship, and Joint Economic. He is also the chairman of the subcommittees on Immigration, Border Security and Citizenship and Emerging Threats and Capabilities. He served previously as Texas Attorney General, Texas Supreme Court Justice and Bexar County District Judge.

LASSETER REMINDS PRODUCERS TO COMPLETE 2006-CROP DCP SIGN-UP BY JUNE 1

Farm Service Agency Administrator Teresa Lasseter today reminded agricultural producers that they have until June 1, 2006, to sign up for the 2006-crop Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program (DCP).

"I encourage farmers and growers to sign up for DCP by June 1 by visiting a USDA Farm Service Agency office or by using the convenient online DCP service," said Lasseter. "This program plays an important role in providing producers income support."

USDA will accept late-filed DCP applications through Sept. 30, 2006, if accompanied by a \$100 late fee. Producers will be unable to apply for 2006 DCP payments after Sept. 30, 2006. Sign-up for the 2006 DCP began Oct. 1, 2005.

The 2002 Farm Bill requires that producers sign annual contracts through 2007 to participate in DCP. Producers may choose not to participate in DCP in any year. USDA has issued more than \$28 billion in DCP payments to producers since the program began in October 2002.

ONLINE DCP SIGN-UP

Producers may sign up online for DCP at http://www.fsa.usda.gov/egov/edcp_default.htm. Producers must have an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account to use the service. This requires filling out an online registration form at http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov and visiting the local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office for identity verification.

The online service allows producers to choose 2006 DCP payment options, assign crop shares, as well as sign and submit their contracts over the Internet. The service is easy to use. It reduces paperwork and speeds up contract processing at FSA offices saving time for producers and FSA employees.

More information on DCP is available at local FSA offices and in the DCP fact sheet posted online at: http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/facts/html/dcp06.htm. FSA's Web site is www.fsa.usda.gov.

-- Randy's Roundup --

A Weekly Newsletter from Congressman Randy Neugebauer May 22, 2006

Looking at All Energy Solutions

Memorial Day and the end of the school year are just around the corner. Not only are these dates causes for celebration, but they also mark the beginning of vacation season in the U.S. As we make this transition into summer, families across the 19th District will be preparing for summer vacations and weekend getaways. In addition to purchasing sunscreen and road maps, that preparation will involve filling up the family car with gasoline. Family trips aren't the only things being affected by the steady climb in prices at the pump. Businesses are feeling the crunch as they fill up company vehicles; farmers are seeing input costs rise; and a recent story in the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal details how area school superintendents are facing tough choices concerning bus routes and educational trips.

The good news is that solutions do exist. Last week I had the opportunity to check out a new line of plug-in hybrid vehicles built by Toyota that can get more than 100 miles per gallon of gasoline. These cars utilize innovative technology to help reduce the amount of fuel needed to get around town. Also, the House will once again take up the issue of energy exploration in ANWR later this week. This common sense measure has cleared the House several times and enjoys the support of a majority of Americans. The House and the Senate need to get on the same page and pass this important legislation.

No silver bullet exists that will lower gas prices. America must develop a diverse energy supply that implements 21st Century technology, involves conservation techniques, takes advantage of alternative energy sources such as ethanol and wind, and increases oil capacity here in America.

Focusing on Veterans

This passed weekend, I attended the Dyess Air Show and had the opportunity to spend time with the men and women who are serving our country. Each time I visit with these airmen, I am reminded of the sacrifices they are making and the debt this country owes them. As the House has turned its focus to important veterans-related legislation in recent days, it has given Congress the chance to pay back some of that debt.

Last week, the House approved legislation that would increase funding for veterans' medical services by \$2.5 billion in 2007. The bill calls for a total of \$25.4 billion in spending on veterans' benefits next year. This represents a 70 percent increase in veterans spending since 2001. The House will consider a second round of legislation benefiting veterans this week with the Veterans' Housing Opportunity and Benefits Improvement Act of 2006. The highlights of this bill include the initiation of a pilot program to provide housing assistance for disabled veterans and improvements to life and health insurance policy options.

Latest from the Newsroom

Follow these links to check out recent news releases on my website:

- House Votes to Increase Funding for Veterans Benefits
Exploring Energy Alternatives
My Reaction to President Bush's Border Security Plan
Schedule for Upcoming Mobile Offices

--Randy

Previous Roundups can be found on my website at http://www.randy.house.gov/newsroom/roundup_date.shtml

Advertisement for Lone Star Lanes bowling alley. Includes address 254-968-0440, phone 254-968-0440, and hours MON.-TUES.-THURS.-NIGHTS - 9-12 and BUZZ FREE BOWLING ON FRI. ON FRIDAY ONLY - 9 TO 12.

Large advertisement for Bayer Motor Co. Used Vehicles. Features inventory lists for years 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001, and 2000, with vehicle models and prices. Includes contact information 325-356-2530 or 1-800-968-1877.