

The Gorman Progress

2007 Member
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Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454

NUMBER THIRTY

AUGUST 2, 2007

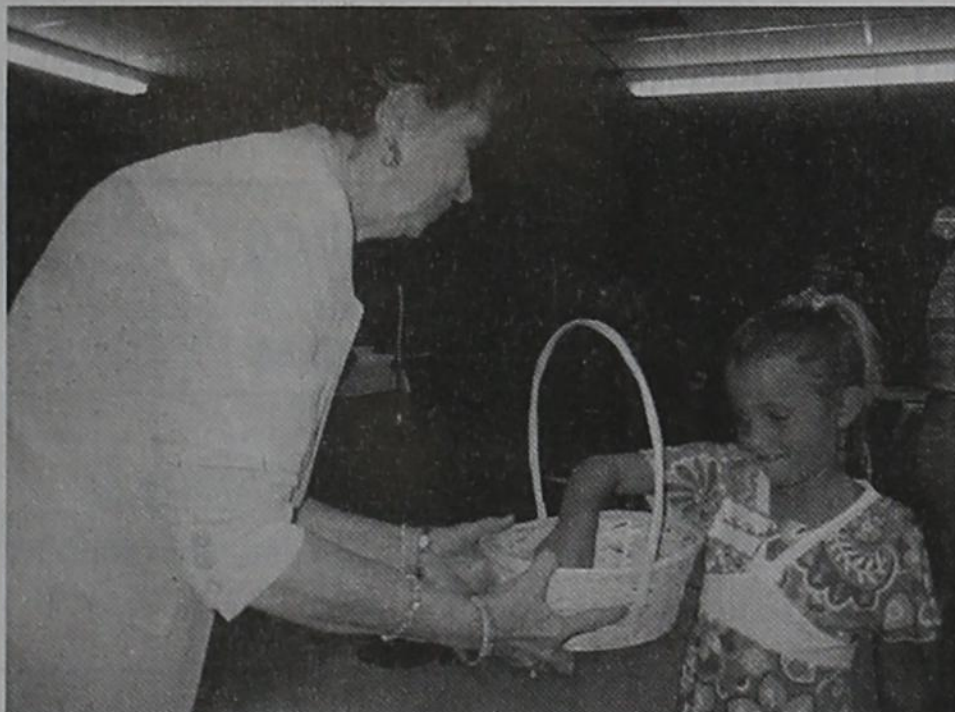
Large Number of Community and Area Ladies Attend Summer Ladies Night Out

More than seventy ladies from the community and surrounding area enjoyed a Summer Ladies Night Out event last week. The event was sponsored by the Gorman Church of Christ and featured a dinner of baked ham and all the trimmings as well as fellowship. Entertaining the group were five members of the Footprints of the Faithful© Team of the Johnson Street Church of Christ in San Angelo, Texas. The group presented excerpts from the four year curriculum featuring illustrations of skits, drama and teaching methods of the Bible lessons. They also made this curriculum available to members of those in attendance.

Announcements of upcoming events for Gorman and area ladies included the Stained Glass Class which will be held on Mondays, September 17 to November 5, 2007. Classes will be held in the Fellowship hall of the church beginning at 6:00PM. For more information, call Monda Oldham at 734-4508. The Dorcas Class, an educational and service program for women, will begin on September 11, 2007 with a study of the Men of the Bible. These classes will be held in the Fellowship hall from 10:00AM - 11:00AM on Tuesdays. Call Carolyn Gilbert at 734-4268 for more information.



Planning and helping to conduct the recent event are: Seated, L-R: Floydene Gilbert, Judy White of San Angelo, Monda Oldham and Barbara Love. Standing L-R: Barbara Wright of San Angelo, Carolyn Gilbert, Irma Archer of San Angelo, Joy Rogers, Francis Simpson, Billie Crowder of San Angelo, Linda Simmons, Sherry Skelton of San Angelo and Gail Clayton. Not pictured but also helping to conduct the event were Jerry Underwood, Aline Garrett, Carolyn Foster, Barbara Morrison, Marceil Laminack, Dolores Underwood, Christine Self and Mary Webb. The church sponsored the event and many others in the congregation also assisted.



Little Miss Gorman, Caitlyn Clark is performing an official act of her title by drawing for the door prize during the Ladies Night Out event. Little Miss Gorman drew the name of Marie Patty of Desdemona to receive the prize of a crystal cake plate. Assisting her is Francis Simpson.

More Photos Inside

ITEMS OF INTEREST

SANDRA CAGLE WILL BE IN GORMAN AT THE CITY OFFICE TO RENEW AUTO LICENSE PLATES. HER NEXT VISIT - MONDAY, AUGUST 13TH FROM 9 - NOON

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

Gorman Senior Citizens meet Every Wednesday at 11:30 in the Gorman Senior Center. Bring Covered Dish or \$3.00 Per Plate.

Gorman Oaklawn Cemetery Donations can be sent to Aline Garrett, P. O. Box 711, Gorman, Tx 76454 or to American State Bank.

FOOD BANK

New Hours - 10 - 11:00 a.m.
Second Thursday

Boy Scouts

Meeting Week
Tuesdays — 6:00 p.m.
Methodist Church

Oakland Cemetery Association is accepting donations for the Care of the Cemetery. Donations can be sent to Oakland Cemetery Association, 503 N. Fisher, Gorman, Tx 76454, or American State Bank, Gorman, Texas 76454.

4-H - Meets Second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall - Amy Wood - 734-2973.

VET Science 4-H Project - 4th Tuesday each Month. Technology Center / Gorman Community Center. Contact Lee or Amy Wood at 254-734-2973.

Gorman Masonic Lodge No. 716 A.F. & A.M. Regular stated meetings are 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Members are urged to attend. Visitors are always welcome. Mark Wilkerson, Master — Pat Moseley, Secretary.

SPAGHETTI LUNCH

Everyone is invited to the annual Spaghetti Lunch hosted by the De Leon Study Club. It will be on Saturday, August 11th during the hours of 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. The lunch will be served at the Senior Citizens Center, 113 North Ballpark Loop, where the Melon Patch Tour begins and ends. The meal will consist of Spaghetti/meat sauce, salad, garlic toast, and cake of your choice. Ticket prices are \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children ten years and under.

The spaghetti lunch helps the Study Club support the community in many ways as they contribute financially to the various needs of the schools, library, fire department, hospital, and/or any other local civic projects. Support in the areas of school academic scholarships and honor roll recognitions are annual contributions made by the club.

Study Club members, along with sponsors, making the spaghetti lunch possible are: Peggy Andress, Laura Brown, Pauline Burns, Nita Dansby, Linda Frank, Glenda Garza, Sandy Gould, Rae Jean Hasty, Susie Hodges, Joan Johnson, Tenia Koonce, Ruby Lesley, Sharon Lesley, Ingrid Lesley, Pat Loudermilk, Bobbie McKillip, Kathy Miller, Earlene Moore, Paulette Nabors, Barbara Nowlin, Kaye Quinn, Pam Rush, Fred VanZandt, and Shirley Wilkerson.

Make plans now to join us for lunch as you participate in the Golden Saturday activities, ex-class reunion meetings, or family gatherings. This is a great opportunity to enjoy a delicious meal while you visit with friends, family, or former classmates. Take-out orders will be available.

Maxfield Elementary School Registration for New Students

Maxfield Elementary School will be holding registration for new students August 7th and August 8th, from 8:00a.m. until 12:00 noon. in the Elementary Office. Please bring Shot Records, Social Security Card, Birth Certificates, and a copy of student's report card from previous school if available. Also, we will need identification of person registering the student.

This registration is for students that have not enrolled or previously registered for the coming 2007-2008 school year. Pre-Kindergarten students who registered in the spring or this summer need not register again.

AARP Drive Safely Course

De Leon Senior Center

Aug. 14 and Aug. 16

1-5 p.m. both days

To register, call 254 893 6311

ATTENTION CLASS OF 1947

Our 60th Anniversary is here and Homecoming is September 8th. I would like to hear from each of you about getting together that Saturday. My address is Ennis Joiner, Box 524, Gorman, TX 76454 - Phone 254-734-2498.

2007 Gorman Ex-Students Homecoming Planned

Girls Basketball Team of 1958 to be Honored!

Only girl's team from GHS to go to state competition!

The Gorman Ex Students Homecoming will be held on Saturday, September 8 along with the Peanut Festival. Events are as follows:

- Ex Student Registration Booth downtown from 8:00AM until after the parade.
 - Peanut Parade begins at 10:00AM
 - Program and business meeting at the Gorman High School Auditorium at 2:00PM. Registration will also be held at the business meeting.
 - An Ex's dinner will be held at Z.J.'s Steakhouse in Gorman at 7:00PM on Saturday night. Tickets available at registration.
- Call your classmates and encourage them to attend!

THANK YOU

What a blessing it was for us to see the way that people responded to our needs during the recent flooding at Lake Leon. We want to especially thank the SBC Disaster Relief Team and all the volunteers that come to help with the clean up. We are so thankful for the Red Cross, The Salvation Army, FEMA, Lake Leon Baptist Church and certainly Kokomo Baptist Church for the big feast that they prepared and several to all the works and flood victims. We thank the National Guard and the State Troopers for all their help. We thank everyone for their continuing prayers.

Glen and Shirley Clement

New Event for Peanut Festival

Hey folks! The Peanut Festival Committee has decided to inaugurate a new event at this year's festival and would like to start out this event by involving all interested local businesses, civic organizations, and churches.

The committee will be providing a wooden peanut that will be approximately 4 ft. tall to be decorated to represent the business or organization or to represent Gorman. The peanut should be decorated in a permanent fashion so that it can be displayed throughout the coming year until the next Peanut Festival. Peanuts will be available to be delivered from committee members in late July. They will need to be returned to the festival committee by August 30, 2007.

Please contact Miriam Landa at 734-5637, Melinda Harrington at 734-2150, or Amber Scitem at 734-5431 to have your peanut delivered. Festival committee members may also be contacting you to ask you to participate in this event so that we may kick it off with a bang this year.

Football Season Begins Monday

The 2007 Football Season will begin this Monday, August 6th at 8:00 a.m. for all incoming students grades 9 thru 12. Anyone new to this District should report as well if they have interest in playing this year for the Gorman Panthers. All athletes are expected to be dressed and ready to go by the 8:00 a.m. start time. The first four days will primarily consist of conditioning drills. UIL prohibits contact for the first four days. The players will be wearing shorts and T-shirts. Helmets and cleats will also be worn. Friday, August 10th will be first day of contact. The Panthers are still looking for the 1st scrimmage opponent on Saturday the 18th. Stay tuned for that one. The second scrimmage date the Friday the 24th against Miles. The scrimmage will be here beginning around 5:00. Any incoming 9th or 11th grader who has not receive a physical last May or taken one this summer should do so prior to the start of Two a Days. Below is the schedule for summer practice. If you have any questions please contact Paul Talbert - 734-2264 or come by the field house.

WEEK #1 -

August 6th - Monday through Friday the 10th

*Morning - 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 and Afternoons - 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, the 11th - Morning workout ONLY!! - 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

WEEK #2 -

August 12th - Monday thru Thursday 16th

*Morning - 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. Afternoon 4:00 to 6:30 p.m.

Friday, 17th - Red and Blue Scrimmage at 7:00 p.m.

WEEK #3 -

Monday the 20th through Thursday the 23rd

*Evening Only 4 to 6:30 p.m.

Friday the 24th - Scrimmage vs. Miles @ Gorman - 5:00 p.m.

Current Plan For The Debris Cleanup At Lake Leon

I would like to inform the public about the current plan for the debris cleanup around the Lake Leon area. I realize that everyone in that area is tired of the debris being stacked in front of their home. I want them to know that progress is being made to remove the flood-related debris.

The County requested bids for the removal in an approved manner that would have taken the debris completely out of the county in one operation. No contractor submitted a bid. This left us with few options as there are no operating landfills in Eastland County. I had contacted a private landowner of a closed landfill in the county to ascertain the possibility of reopening it for the Lake Leon debris. The landowner declined to allow us to use their closed landfill.

Jim Farrar volunteered some of his property at La Mancha to be used as a temporary staging or stockpiling site. This would have given the County a location to take the debris from each homesite and stockpile it until a contractor could be found to remove the debris and transport it to an approved landfill outside the county. I received the FEMA regulations about temporary stockpiling sites and after I measured Mr. Farrar's land, I discovered that it was too close to the lake. Mr. Farrar know of another location that could possibly be used. I contacted the two owners of the second location about the situation, they agreed to the use, and I received their signed affidavits to allow the County to use their land as a staging and stockpiling area.

I submitted a plan of action concerning the stockpiling site to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). TCEQ has inspected the location and has verified its suitability as a stockpiling site. TCEQ and FEMA also gave the authority for the County to remove all the metal goods that could be recycled. Examples are washers, refrigerators, freezers, other appliances, and other metal goods. Precinct 2 Commissioner Christian and his crew started the removal process for these materials last week and are taking them to Mid-Tex Recycling in Eastland.

The next step is to request bids from numerous contractors to remove the flood-related debris from each homesite and transport it to the temporary stockpile area. The request for bids will be sent out July 31st. The deadline for these bids are Friday, August 3 at 5 p.m. Bids will be opened at a special commissioners court meeting on August 8. I am asking each bidding contractor to be ready to start work as soon as possible, no later than August 13th.

The removal will alleviate the situation at every home and consolidate the debris into one area. Then another request for bids will be sent out to move the debris from the stockpile site to an approved landfill. I want to make this process happen as soon as possible so the residents of Lake Leon can move forward with rebuilding their lives. I appreciate your patience and want you to know that progress is being made.

Respectfully submitted,

(s) Rex Fields

Eastland County Judge

Comanche County Sand Hill Cemetery Association

The annual Business Meeting will be held at 2 P.M., Saturday, August 11th at Hwy. 6 Cafe in De Leon. Please join us there. Interest and financial support are crucial to the upkeep of the cemetery. For more information please call 254-842-4520.

Nita Wilson Gonzales, Secretary

Desdemona Homecoming and School Reunion Set Saturday, Aug. 11th At Desdemona Community Center School Gym

Notice Called Meeting

Notice - Called Meeting of Oakland Cemetery Association, Saturday, August 11th at 10:00 a.m. at Gorman House Authority Lobby (Gorman Hotel)

Desdemona News

BY VONNIE GUTHERY

Large Number of Community and Area Ladies Attend Summer Ladies Night Out

Continued From Page One

Texas Economy: Opportunity and Optimism

Texas was settled by men and women seeking a new life and a chance to own property and be successful. It is reassuring, in a time of rapid change everywhere, that at least one factor remains constant—Texas is still the land of economic opportunity.

Across the U.S., we're enjoying economic expansion. But even by national standards, the Texas economy is really humming. More than 200,000 new jobs have been created here in the last year alone. Unemployment is now at 4.1 percent—its lowest level in more than thirty years.

And we're growing. In 2000, there were 20.9 million Texans. Now there are nearly 24 million, and we've passed California as the population growth leader. Of the 10 fastest-growing big U.S. cities, five (San Antonio, Fort Worth, Houston, Austin and Dallas) are in Texas. The border region is also expanding rapidly.

Most important, a net half-million new Texans have moved here from other states in the last seven years. At a time when the entire country is prosperous, Texas is increasingly viewed as the best place to live, raise a family, work and retire.

This rapid growth raises new issues, especially strain on schools, highways and environmental quality. But working together, Texans are up to the challenge of maintaining and improving our lives.

Our continuing success is due to the hard work of millions of people—both native Texans and others who have chosen to make our great state home. Government in Texas has traditionally been limited, staying out of the way and allowing Texans maximum freedom to innovate and create jobs.

When taxes are also kept low, the result is a favorable climate for business investment and job creation. Texas is prominent among states heading that lesson. Our booming national and state economies have gained momentum by low-tax policies in effect during recent years.

Lower taxes also mean that individuals decide how to spend their wages and salaries—not government. Individuals make better decisions that help create productive jobs and economic growth.

For 30 years, the Texas state government has maintained a bipartisan Texas Sunset Advisory commission to keep an eye on public programs. The commission periodically sifts through state programs, commissions, boards, and agencies to make certain each is working efficiently. In some cases, it recommends termination of a program deemed to be no longer necessary.

I've introduced legislation to bring that same concept to our federal government. I believe Washington could learn valuable lessons from our Texas success in keeping government efficient, while making it more open and transparent at the same time.

Our state is also reaping major benefits from a landmark tort reform bill approved by the state legislature in 2003. With common sense limits on awards, doctors are returning to underserved areas and entrepreneurs are investing with renewed confidence.

Obviously, Texas doesn't have all the answers, or a monopoly on good ideas. But our continuing positive growth and prosperity is not an accident. Learning from our success would help bring continued economic expansion, and hope, across the country.

Sen. Cornyn serves on the Armed Services, Judiciary and Budget Committees. In addition, he is Vice Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Ethics. He serves as the top Republican on the Judiciary Committee's Immigration, Border Security and Refugee subcommittee and the Armed Services Committee's Airland subcommittee. Cornyn served previously as Texas Attorney General, Texas Supreme Court Justice and Bexar County District Judge. For Sen. Cornyn's previous Texas Times columns: www.cornyn.senate.gov/column.

4-H NEWS

County Extension Agent - Dale Dunlap - Eastland County

State Fair

Any 4-Her wanting to enter livestock in the State Fair of Texas, September 28-October 21, needs to come by the Extension Office for entry cards. State Fair entries close on August 25th, BUT I NEED THEM BY AUGUST 10th!!!! Call or come by the office for more information or look on the internet at <http://www.bigtex.com>

West Texas Fair

4-Hers wanting to enter their projects at the West Texas Fair in Abilene can pick up entry cards in the Extension Office. The only entries this office can handle are Meat Goats, Junior Heifers and Junior Market Steers. All other projects must be mailed by the individual as those are open shows. The West Texas Fair is scheduled for September 7th-15th. Entry deadline is August 15th. I will need your entries by August 10th! The swine and lamb shows are considered open shows at the West Texas Fair. Entries must be completed on your own. However, entry cards will be available at my office.

Desdemona Monthly Musical was held last Saturday night at the Community Center School Building. There were several musical groups, Pecos Valley Bluegrass and others to attend. Some of them came for the first time. We appreciate all of the musicians, singers and visitors that attend each month. Also we appreciate the ladies of our Community that donate food each month to the Concession Stand. This musical is held on the 4th Saturday night of each month (except November and December during the busy holiday season). Admission is "FREE".

Visitors during the past week with "Humpty" and Betty Duke were their daughter, Ronda James and daughter, Emily of Whitney; granddaughter, Elise and Katie Duke of Stephenville. Betty enjoys having their children and families to come and visit.

Virgil Holdman, Jr. and son, Trey of Fredricksburg visited the past weekend with his parents, Virgil and Jo Holdman.

Homer Joe Sparkman for Stephenville is slowly recovering from recent surgery. He is the son of Evah (Abernathy) Sparkman of Desdemona, where he attended school and graduate with the Class of 1946.

Shelly Horan and son, Sam; Emily Williams and daughter, Kena all of Granbury was in Desdemona last Sunday to visit with friends.

Several in our community are on the sick list, others recovering from recent surgery. Eddie Lindley had back surgery on Monday, July 30th. Remember them with your cards and prayers.

Desdemona Homecoming and School Reunion will be held on Saturday, August 11th at the Community Center ("Ole School Gym"). Contact your former classmates, teachers, and friends to attend this annual event. The morning program will begin at 10:00 a.m. Noon meal will be catered by Tumbleweed Bar-B-Que of Stephenville. This is an enjoyable day for everyone. Please send your change of address to this reporter - P. O. Box 187, Desdemona, Tx 76445.

"It's A GIRL"

"Congratulations" to Donal and Kandice Cogburn of Desdemona on the arrival of their baby girl, Taiah Klaire. She was born on Saturday, July 28, 2007 at the Brownwood Hospital, weighing 7 lbs., 4 ounces and measured 20 inches long. Taiah is welcome at home by her big brother, Dylan Bruce, age 3 years. Proud grandparents are Randall and Lydia Boen of De Leon; Belinda Webb of Desdemona; Eddie and Dawna Martin of Millsap. Proud great grandparents are Doris Martin of De Leon and Pug and Vonnie Guthery of Desdemona.

Belinda Webb and Vonnie Guthery was in Brownwood last Sunday afternoon to visit the new arrival, Taiah Klaire, daughter of Donal and Kandice Cogburn.

"Hello" to our friends, Pete and Alla Rae (Friday) Kelley in Sealy, Texas. Alla Rae and this reporter were classmates thru the years with the Class of 1951. This Class will have their 56th Class Reunion on Saturday, August 11th at the Desdemona Homecoming and School Reunion.

DANCE

Senior Citizens Dance will be held on Saturday night, August 11th at the Desdemona Community Center School Gym. James Roberson, The Fiddler and The Unknown Band will furnish the music for this dance. Concession stand will open at 5:30 p.m. serving sandwiches, homemade pie and drinks. Come early to enjoy supper before the dance begins at 7:00 p.m. til 9:30 p.m. No alcohol and No Smoking - admission \$4.00. This dance is on 2nd Saturday night of each month.

Please contact this reporter with your weekly news. Your help will be appreciated. Thanks and have a nice day. "COON"

-- Randy's Roundup --

A Weekly Newsletter from Congressman Randy Neugebauer
 July 30, 2007

Much More Work Ahead for 2007 Farm Bill

Last week, I was looking forward to voting for the 2007 Farm Bill that is important to Texas farmers, ranchers and all consumers. While I voted in favor of a bill similar to the one we passed out of the House Agriculture Committee, I could not support the final version that included tax increases to pay for significant new spending.

The bill the Agriculture Committee wrote had much bipartisan support. However, in the middle of last week, the majority decided to include tax increases on domestic energy producers and a tax increase on companies that employ millions of Americans, pitting agriculture against energy independence and jobs. At a time when farmers are struggling with increased fuel and fertilizer costs, the Farm Bill is no place to discourage more energy production.

This was a difficult vote for me, but I could not support allowing narrow, non-agriculture interests win out at the expense of rural America.

The House-passed bill faces an uncertain future in the Senate, which may debate a Farm Bill in September but has not yet released a draft bill.

Much more work lies ahead for the 2007 Farm Bill; last week's vote is by no means the last step in this process. I stand ready to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to move a good Farm Bill out of Congress and signed into law. We have a long way to go, and my job is not done until a good Farm Bill is complete.

Health Care for Needy Children

Congress has an important task to complete this year: the renewal of the State Children's Health Insurance Program, SCHIP. Congress created SCHIP in 1997 with the goal of enabling uninsured children from low-income families to receive health care coverage. SCHIP has proven to be a worthy program, and I support extending it before it expires at the end of September.

For the past ten years, SCHIP has targeted those children who do not qualify for Medicaid, but whose annual family income falls below twice the federal poverty level, which for a family of four would be \$41,300. As of 2006, more than 6 million children received health care coverage thanks to SCHIP.

As Congress moves toward renewing SCHIP, several proposals are on the table this week. While I support funding to cover eligible children, I believe we should focus limited tax dollars on providing coverage for those children most in need of health insurance. Others have proposed expanding SCHIP to children whose families earn around \$80,000 and covering adults, which are not the intentions of this program. As this debate moves forward, I will provide updates on the status of SCHIP legislation in the House.

--Randy



Preparing for the Ladies Night Out event are L-R: Francis Simpson, Gail Clayton, Monda Oldham, Marceil Laminack and Mary Webb.



Mary Webb is pictured as she addresses the group at the Ladies Night Out.



A modern day good Samaritan (Sherry Skelton) is shown assisting the victim of a robbery (Billie Crowder) on his way to Jerusalem while an onlooker (Irma Archer) looks on. The entertainment group delighted the crowd with a number of skits.

KOKOMO NEWS

BY ZELDA JORDAN

Breakfast At Church

Breakfast will be served at the Kokomo Baptist Church at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday, August 5th before Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. Come and enjoy a good meal together and then study God's Word in Sunday School, and hear an inspirational message from God's Holy Word by Bro. Jim Haggard. Visitors are welcome.

Special Music: Daryl Hirst and Glenda Black will minister to us in song in both the Sunday morning and evening services as they sing several Southern Gospel songs at each service.

The special music "In The Garden" was beautifully rendered by Karen Patterson, Helen and Woodrow Browning with Daryl Hirst at the piano on Sunday morning, July 29th, at the Kokomo Baptist Church. Bro. Haggard's message was from 1 Kings 2:5-6 and 2 Samuel 3:20-27 on the story of David and Joab about Joab's loyalty to David, but he was never truly committed to him. Everyone should examine their hearts and be sure they have truly accepted Jesus as their Savior and completely committed themselves to Him.

There were several visitors and we hope they received a blessing while worshipping with us.

Several from the Kokomo Baptist Church attended the 5th Sunday singing at the Desdemona Baptist Church on Sunday night. There were reports of a very good singing and fellowship.

We extend sincere sympathy to the family of Euell Allison who passed away July 24th, and was buried at the Bear Springs Cemetery on Friday morning following his funeral at the Carbon Baptist Church. Euell and his family were former members of the Kokomo Baptist Church.

Bobby and Mary Jane Little and a granddaughter, Alexis Snapp, have returned from a two weeks vacation in Colorado at the Colorado Heights Camp Ground. Alexis's parents, Stacy and LaDawn Snapp of Lewisville spent the weekend here with the Littles and Alexis returned home with them on Sunday.

Those visiting with Durwood and Aletha Burgess during the weekend of July 21-22 were Billy Burgess of Granbury, Danny and Charla Burgess, Glenn, Donna, Reba, and Seth Burgess of Jourdan, Ben Burgess of Gorman, Grant Burgess and Michelle Barker, Angela Wilkerson Chelsea and Haley of De Leon, Aline Garrett and Gary Burgess of Gorman.

Charles and Carolyn Little attended the birthday party honoring James Collins on his 60th birthday in Fort Worth on Friday night.

Justin, Ally and Emma Little spent Saturday with their grandparents, Charles and Carolyn Little.

Visitors with Oren and Norma Webb during the weekend were Judy and Sarah Porter and Scarlett Torres of Austin, Amanda Porter of Elgin, James Webb of Granbury and Stacy and Renee Webb of Comanche. This was a family get-together to honor Amanda who will be leaving soon for Boulder, Colorado to study for her PHD at the University of Colorado.

Shannon, Stephanie, Raegan, Sydnie and Joey Bond of Copperas Cove spent the weekend with Joe Bond. Shannon and family will be moving to Bangs in Mid-August.

Sylvia Buchanan, Daisy Slaton and Zelda Jordan visited with Nancy Hendricks in the nursing home in De Leon. Nancy will be moving to the Gorman nursing home on August 1. Nancy we will be happy to have you back in Gorman.

Glenda Black and Ray White of Abilene visited with Zelda Jordan on Sunday. Glenda, Ray and Ryan Daniell visited with Zelda on Monday. Ryan mowed the yard, Ray worked on the computer and Glenda and Daryl Hirst had a practice session for their singing program they will present at the Kokomo Baptist Church on Sunday, August 5th.

L. D. and Carol Westbrook of Azle and Lester and David Swan of San Angelo visited with Jimmy and Maggie Nelson during the weekend.

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Morenci
 Candles

Senior Citizens News

Carol Ward / Ann Maxfield

This past Wednesday, July 25, 2007 there were 24 people attending our weekly lunch.

Carol Ward, our director, is still on a tour of Canada and the North-western States of our Country. We look forward to her return and a report about her trip. While she has been away Barbara Bush has been great to keep things going with help from various ladies. A Big "THANKS" goes to Jerry Underwood for doing our laundry each week and keeping our pantry in immaculate order.

Several came to play games and enjoy coffee in the morning before our lunch. Zelda Jordan served as our moderator and welcomed everyone. She introduced Ellen Parker to the group. It is great to have Ellen join us. Also, it was wonderful to have Opal Burton with us again. Opal has been quite ill but is some better. She expressed her thanks for the prayers and concern shown on her behalf.

Wilo Rice gave our prayer before our meal. She prayed for God to guide our Nation's leaders and for the protection of our military people.

It would be such a joy if more people would come to our lunch! Why not give it a try, "You Might Like It". Until next week keep this thought in mind - - "A Smile Is Contagious; be a Carrier".

CAPITOL COMMENT



U.S. SENATOR
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON



Keeping Our Promises to America's Heroes

Abraham Lincoln best described our everlasting commitment to our soldiers when, on behalf of a grateful nation, he pledged, "to care for him who shall have borne the battle." Today, caring for the health of those who have fought to defend freedom continues to be one of the federal government's most enduring responsibilities.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) operates America's largest health care system, consisting of nearly 700 medical centers, clinics and residential facilities. Texas is home to several of these facilities. But we must expand the VA's reach to meet the needs of Texas' growing population of veterans, already one of the largest in the country, as well as address the changing needs of our newest veterans from the Global War on Terror. And there is also much we can do to improve care at the national level. We must emphasize research in areas such as mental health and modern prosthesis technology, and encourage the study of poorly understood conditions such as Gulf War Syndrome and traumatic brain injury.

The Waco VA hospital, one of our state's premier facilities, is a

national leader in psychiatric care and research. Despite its stellar reputation, federal budget cuts threatened to close the hospital in 2003. As Chairman of the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Subcommittee in the U.S. Senate, I invited the VA Secretary to visit Waco with me and observe first hand the exceptional care and research at Waco's VA hospital.

Seeing that the VA was prepared to close a mental health facility convinced me that we were going in exactly the wrong direction. We should be increasing, not decreasing, our commitment to mental health. So in 2005 I helped author legislation that designated the Waco veterans' facility and two facilities in other states Centers of Excellence for mental health research, expanding the scope of treatment to include areas such as post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, depression and substance abuse. As a result of these efforts and tireless community support, the VA has decided to keep this renowned facility open to serve thousands of veterans throughout the central United States. The Big Spring VA Medical Center was also kept open to serve veterans across west Texas, and inpatient care and other services there were expanded.

Other challenges remain. In Houston, after recent reports of extensive and, I believe, unacceptable delays in processing the disability claims of thousands of area veterans the VA sent a management team to the local office to end this backlog.

And we must do more. South Texas veterans, for example, are forced to endure 500 mile, six-hour roundtrip treks to the San Antonio VA hospital for even basic procedures and routine check-ups. Last year, I personally asked VA Secretary Jim Nicholson to conduct a study of veterans' needs in South Texas and to determine the best way to deliver the quality care they deserve.

Our nation's veterans answered the call to serve, and we must honor our promise to care for their needs after they leave the battlefield. I will continue to work in the Senate on behalf of America's heroes, in recognition of the sacrifices they have made to safeguard liberty at home and throughout the world.

Watch Out For Our Young People As They Start Back To School Soon!

Homestead Nursing and Rehabilitation News

By Ina Smith

I had a wonderful vacation but sure did miss everyone. We went to New Braunfels, it rained every day. The high temperature was 84. Sure was nice, but am glad to be back home. I would like to thank everyone who helped while I was gone.

The Hinkle Family from Breckenridge came and entertained while I was gone. Everyone really enjoys listening to them. They will be back in December. If you have never heard them we invite you to come in December and hear them.

On Monday we had our monthly birthday party following gospel singing. We only had one birthday this month and that was Troy Scitern on July 22. Amy Wood furnished the delicious cake again this month. Thank you Amy we really appreciate it.

Louise Smart and her grand daughters, Vonnie and Gaylen Elliott of Midland came and visited everyone and brought everyone a banana. Thank you Louise and girls everyone really enjoyed your visit and your thoughtful gift.

Visiting Lottie Morris were Ashton and Tyler Morris of Tyler, Sarah, Laura, Mitzy and James Cross of Katy, Amy, Daanielle, Stephan and Andres Zulaica of Sam Luis Potosi Mexico. Mark and Pam Hulse of Hobbs New Mexico, Gene and Kay Snider and Helen and Woodrow Browning Carolyn Gilbert visited Eunice Love. Visiting Jelma Smith were Donald Smith of Granbury, Jeff Smith of Eastland. On Sunday Jelma went to Johnny and Ina's.

Becky Moore of DeLeon visited her mom, Mildred Addy. Billy Earl Simpson visited with Troy Scitern, Imogene Norris and Don Estes.

Visiting Imogene Norris were Jeanna Pack of Carbon, Don Holder of Desdemona, Fay Perrin of Sundown, and Elizabeth Bingham.

Visiting Troy Scitern were June Mayfield of Dublin, Louise Tinkler of Abilene, Caroly Foster, and Johnny Scitern. Visiting with Ima Boles were Bill Boles of Granbury and Betty Little.

Until next time.....Ina

Pig Tales From Hogtown

Come and join us for 'Breakfast at the DAC' this Saturday, Aug. 4 in downtown Desdemona. Those of you who have been here for one of our breakfasts know that we have good food and good visiting! See you there.

My last Pig Tale didn't make it in the DeLeon Free Press, so I want to repeat that the Alumni Reunion will be held at the DAC on Friday, Aug. 10 beginning at 4:00P.M. The fish dinner will be served at 6:00P.M. There will be musical entertainment and door prizes. We would like to invite the alumni of the Desdemona School and all folks in the community. Some of the 'new' folks would like to hear stories from early Desdemona. Come and share with us. Cost is by donation only. Please call one of the following numbers as soon as possible so that we know how many folks to plan for: Floyd (Jr.) Moore at 254-758-2610 or Carol Pell at 254-758-2420.

Carol Pell

Happenings At FBC

Blessings! We know Blessings come from God, and the House was filled with one Blessing after another.

The SBTC Disaster Relief Workers are affectionately called "the yellow shirts". They joined us for our early worship service. There is a new team here this week. They are working hard to get the flood damaged homes ready to take the next step. Their work is for the Lord, and they share Hope through Jesus in a crisis. Please keep these volunteer workers in your prayers.

Glen and Shirley Clement shared their appreciation for all of the help and support that they have received during this flood disaster. There was not a dry eye in the House. Remember, even when the sun is out the recovery continues. Please keep all of the flood victims in your prayers.

Bro. Barry's sermon was "Chicken" -- Isaiah 26: 3 & 4

He didn't cackle this time. He showed us a chicken sitting on the middle yellow line of a road with cars racing by on both sides. How many times do you find yourself stuck in the middle of the road? God will slow you down - Be Quiet and Listen!

1. Wake Up! Listen to what God has to say.
2. Hold On! Nothing you hold in your hand will last for eternity, only the love of your Heavenly Father and the blood of Jesus that covers your life.
3. Keep Your First Love! Revive your Godly marriage.
4. Don't Compromise with Sin! The further you move away from Jesus the more you become a slave to sin.
5. Be Faithful to the Death! Don't give up just before the Blessing. Knowing the Lord Jesus Christ gives Perfect Peace!

God Bless and Keep You! See you next Sunday.

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