

The Gorman Progress

"Serving Gorman For Over 109 Years"
Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454

2009 Member - Texas Press Association

NUMBER SEVEN

FEBRUARY 19, 2009

Severe Weather Awareness Week

When it comes to severe weather events, the key to successful response - and survival - is preparedness. Every year the National Weather Service, Governor's Division of Emergency Management, local officials and emergency managers throughout Texas work together to recognize SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK. This year it is set for February 22 - 28, 2009. As a part of Severe Weather Week, we want to remind our residents to update their emergency plans, double check emergency supply kits and get prepared for tornadoes, floods, hail, straight-line windstorms and other hazardous events.

Following a disaster, officials and relief workers will provide assistance, but they will not be able to reach everyone immediately. To sustain your family before help arrives, prepare a disaster supplies kit. It is best to keep your emergency supplies in portable containers (such as plastic tubs) in case you need to evacuate. If you do this, you can be ready to leave much more quickly.

Your kit should include the following items:

- Bottled water • Food (non-perishable foods such as canned meats, fruits and vegetables)
- First-aid kit and an adequate supply of prescription medicines • Battery-operated radio
- Flashlight • Extra batteries • Signal flares and matches
- Special items for babies, the elderly or disabled persons

Important documents (kept in waterproof containers) such as insurance policies, deeds, titles, stocks, birth certificates, passports, wills, immunization records, etc.

More tornadoes strike Texas than any other state. They can occur at any time of year, including winter, but are most frequent from mid-March through May. They are also common during hurricanes. To prepare for these violent storms, there are several precautions you can take:

- Seek shelter in an interior room on the lowest floor of your home, such as a bathroom, closet or room without windows. Cover yourself with a mattress or cushions.
- In an office building, go to an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor.
- If you are in a mobile home, get out and take shelter in a nearby building. If there are none, lie flat in a ditch or ravine.
- Never stay inside a car. Get out and lie flat in a ditch or a ravine. If a building is nearby, take shelter inside. Do not try to outrun a tornado in your car.
- If you are in open country, take cover in a low spot away from trees.
- Learn the difference between a Tornado Watch and a Tornado Warning. A Tornado Watch means watch the sky. A Tornado Warning means a tornado is on the ground and you must seek shelter immediately.

In the past few years, wildfire has become a great danger in our area. Here are some tips you can use all year to lessen the likelihood of a wildfire starting on your property and help yourself as a homeowner from the threat of a wildfire that may emerge around you.

Clear a 30 to 50 foot wide safety zone around your home or business. Keep trees and shrubs pruned so vegetation is away from buildings. Remove dead vegetation and dispose of rubbish and debris.

Mow your grass regularly.

Make sure fire trucks can get to your house and outbuildings in an emergency.

Keep your chimney in good condition, and ensure that it has a spark screen.

Have enough garden hose to reach all the structures on your property.

Keep fire tools (shovels, buckets, rakes, and saws) handy.

Have a ladder that can reach your roof.

Observe burning bans announced by local government. Don't burn debris outdoors when it is windy and never leave a fire unattended.

Soak grill or fireplace ashes in water for a day before disposing of them.

Stack firewood well away from your home and, if possible, uphill of it.

Firemen In Need Of Bottled Water

The Gorman Volunteer Fire Department is seeking donations of Bottled Water to help renew their stock available to be used when fighting fires. If you would like to donate bottled water please contact Fire Chief Jim Guthery or any Gorman Volunteer Fireman.

Gorman UMC To Hold Ash Wednesday Meditative Service and Imposition of Ashes

Gorman United Methodist Church will be open at 6:30 on Wednesday Feb 25th for Ash Wednesday Meditative Service and Imposition of Ashes.

Some may ask what is Ash Wednesday and why is it important. Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent. It is the beginning of a time for recognizing our mortality and turning to God for forgiveness.

What is Lent and why does it last forty days?

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent was a time to prepare new converts for baptism. Today, Christians focus on their relationship with God, often choosing to give up something or volunteering and giving of themselves for others. The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan. Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter" celebration of the Jesus' victory over sin and death.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

SANDRA CAGLE WILL BE IN GORMAN AT THE CITY OFFICE TO RENEW AUTO LICENSE PLATES. HER NEXT VISIT IS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18th FROM 9 TIL 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.

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

Boy Scouts
Meeting Weekly
Mondays - 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, P. O. Box 532, Gorman, Tx 76454 or to 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. Gerald Ragland, Master - Roscoe Reeves, Secretary.

T-Ball Softball and Baseball Sign ups

We will be having sign ups on Feb 21 from NOON until 4:00 P.M. at the gym. We will be having two more sign ups:

Feb. 28th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at the gym
March 7th from Noon to 2 pm
Final sign up no exceptions

We have a deadline to turn in all the teams that we will be having this year on March 13. A coaches meeting will be scheduled and put in the paper.

You can also get your sign up forms at City Hall.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact one of the baseball commissioners.

PRAY FOR RAIN WE NEED SOME MOISTURE & WARMER TEMPS

BEN BURGESS WINS CALF SCRAMBLE AT SAN ANTONIO RODEO



San Antonio -The calf scramble was held Tuesday, February 10 at the San Antonio Live-stock Show & Rodeo.

4-H and FFA youth competed for \$800 certificates to purchase breeding animals to exhibit in the 2010 San Antonio Junior Livestock Show. Twelve certificates were awarded Tuesday to those who caught a calf.

One such winner was Ben Burgess of Gorman, Texas. Burgess is an 11th grader who participates in Gorman FFA. He plans to purchase a pig with his award.

In pursuit of its mission "Helping Youth Today So That Agriculture Can Grow Tomorrow," the San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo has committed more than \$79 million to youth education since 1984.

--- LET'S RODEO SAN ANTONIO! ---

Representative Keffer Appointed To Chair Key House Committee

Austin--February 12, 2009-- Texas House Speaker Joe Straus today announced the appointment of Representative Jim Keffer as chair of the House Committee on Energy Resources.

Speaker Straus stated, "When I was elected Speaker of the House, I committed to create an environment where members could operate fairly and allow them to bring their best talent forward to confront the difficult challenges facing our state."

"In selecting Representative Keffer as committee chair, I considered his wisdom, experience and proven ability to provide new, dynamic leadership and offer fresh ideas. We are blessed to have Representative Keffer as chair of this important committee, and I know he will do what is best and right for the citizens of Texas," Speaker Straus added.

The Energy Resources Committee's broad scope includes jurisdiction over the production, regulation, transportation and development of oil, gas and other energy resources; electric utility regulation as it relates to energy production and consumption; and oversight of pipelines, pipeline companies and all others operating as common carriers in the state.

Keffer's other assignments include the Business and Industry Committee and the Redistricting Committee. Additionally, Keffer was appointed to the House Committee on Calendars, which determines the legislation that will be placed before the Texas House for consideration.

"My goal is to make sure this session is successful for the people of Texas," said Keffer. "I look forward to these new challenges, and appreciate Speaker Straus' confidence in appointing me to these influential committees."

Rep. Keffer represents House District 60, which encompasses Brown, Eastland, Hood, Palo Pinto, Shackelford, and Stephens counties.

Look Who's New - It's A Girl!

Tiny hands and tiny feet. Our little girl is oh so sweet. We joyfully announce Bella Grace Duske, Friday, January 30, 2009, 7:44 p.m., 7 lbs, 12 Oz., 20 Inches. Proud parents are Brian Duske and Frances Lewis. Grandparents are Bennie and Margie Duske and Shirley Lewis.



Community Fellowship Set For Saturday, Feb. 28th

The First Baptist Church of Carbon will be holding a Community Fellowship on Saturday, February 28th at 5:00 p.m. at the Church Fellowship Hall located on 201 Cannell Street in Carbon. Food, Fun, Fellowship, and Games of Checkers, Dominoes, Games, and Cards will be held.

For more information contact Pastor Mike Haggard at 254-631-9934. Plan to attend, whether you come by Horse, Truck or Car - Come and Join Us!!!

PEE WEE Basketball Tournament

The Gorman PeeWee Basketball Assoc. would like to invite you to come out to our yearly tournament. This year our tournament response was so large that we are having to use the gym at Carbon also.

The Gorman Gym will be used for the 5th & 6th Boys and Girls. The tournament starts Mon at 5:15 pm.

The Carbon Gym will be used for the 3rd & 4th Boys and Girls. The tournament starts Thurs. at 5:15 pm.

The brackets are available at City Office - Contact Barbara

Eastland County was well represented at the 2009 Fort Worth Stock Show. We had 15 head of vari-

ous species participate in the show this year. We want to congratulate all of the 4-Hers who participated.

Swine - Jamie Young, First Place Medium Weight Cross, Ranger; Katie Young, Participant, Ranger;

Ag Viewpoint

By Heath Begeman

Implants Vs. Genetic Potential

Growth implants have been shown in numerous studies to increase weith gain but decrease marbling.

In a second study, half of groups of British-sired (BS) and Continental-sired (CS) steers and heifers received combination implants.

Happenings At FBC!!

Valentine! A sentimental or humorous greeting sent to a sweetheart, friend, or family member.

Mark your calendars: Feb. 17th - 3:00pm - Community Wide Beth Moore Bible Study at First Fruits Church.

Bro. Barry's message was "The End and Beyond!" - I Corinthians 2:9.

There is a clock that goes tick tick tick tick, and it is God's clock. Only God alone knows the time.

I. Heaven Will Be Real. - What will it be like? It will be where you always wanted to be.

II. Heaven Will Be Right. - The perfect presence of God. 1) All wrongs of the world will be made right.

III. Heaven Will Be Relational. - Relationships with those you love. 1) You will meet again those you have lost.

IV. Heaven Will Be Rewarding. - God will do it! 1) Reward for Good, Godly Life. - Gorman is a piece of heaven for those who love and care for one another.

V. Heaven Will Be God's Home. - 1) I Corinthians 13:12&13 - We will see face to face that love is the greatest, and the love of God is complete.

Our Worship Service begins at 11:00AM on Sunday mornings - please come and join us!

Remember: God loves you like no one else! Email us at fbcgorman@hotmail.com

Super Notes

By David K. Perry - dperry@gorman.esc14.net - 734-3171

It appears that most of us were blessed with a little more than rain last week. I hope none of you got caught in the hail or received any damage.

Congratulations to Representative Jim Keffer on his appointment as Chairman of the House Committee on Energy Resources!

The building project continues on schedule and looks better every day. Money has begun to come in for the scoreboard, not just from businesses, but also individuals.

The building project continues on schedule and looks better every day. Money has begun to come in for the scoreboard, not just from businesses, but also individuals.

Remember, it takes community involvement for a school to be successful and you are welcome to get involved at Gorman ISD anytime.

Thank You

Thank you to the Eastland, Desdemona and Gorman communities for the expressions of love following the death of our beloved Husband, Dad and Granddad, Elwood Ragland.

Nell & Family

TEXAS MIDWEST DAY AT THE CAPITOL



Texas Midwest Day at the Capitol group photo with Governor Rick Perry



State Representative Jim Keffer (left) and Senator Troy Fraser (right) joined in the photo with residents of House District 60

More than 130 people representing rural cities in the Texas Midwest region traveled to Austin for "Texas Midwest Day" on Feb. 3rd to honor legislators and demonstrate a unified voice for rural Texas.

Texas Midwest Community Network sponsored its eighth biennial visit to the State Capitol during the Legislative Session.

"Texas Midwest Day provides a means for community leaders from our region to be recognized at the State Capitol and have face to face visits with lawmakers," says TMCN President Mike Schweikhard.

The Texas Midwest delegation gathered on the Capitol steps for a photo session with state representatives and senators serving the region.

State Senators for TMCN include Troy Fraser-Dist. 24; Robert Duncan-Dist. 28 and Craig Estes-Dist. 30.

TMCN includes 43 member cities in 26 counties: Abilene, Albany, Anson, Aspermont, Baird, Ballinger, Brady, Breckenridge, Bronte, Brownwood, Buffalo Gap, Cisco, Clyde, Coleman, Colorado City, Comanche, Cross Plains, De Leon, Dublin, Early, Eastland, Eden, Goldthwaite, Gorman, Hamilton, Hamlin, Haskell, Knox City, Menard, Munday, Ranger, Rising Star, Robert Lee, Roscoe, Rotan, San Angelo, Santa Anna, Snyder, Stamford, Sweetwater, Throckmorton, Tye, and Winters.

For more information about Texas Midwest Community Network visit the web site at www.TexasMidwest.org.

REMINDER

TRASH PICK UP ON TUESDAY BEGINS AT 7:00 a.m. IF YOU DONT WANT YOUR TRASH TO BE MISSED YOU MUST HAVE IT OUT BY THE CURB. THANK YOU.

TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK



TexSCAN Week of February 15, 2009

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Senior Citizens News

By Carol Ward

There were only 15 in attendance for our Wednesday Dinner on the 11 of February. Where were all you people? It was a pretty day, just a little nippy in the early morning wind. I do hope many of you return for our meal on the 18th. Barbara Bush and I go to a lot of work to prepare the food we need. We do appreciate more here to enjoy and fellowship with one another. All our regular prayer givers weren't here. They are all gifted with words of wisdom. So none of the rest of us are good in that field, but Ailene Garrett saved us by saying a sweet blessing. Thanks dear little one, we are so glad to have your back and feeling good.

We were happy to have James Bruton eat with us, hope he returns soon. My ex-neighbor in De Leon had recently passed away. He was such a good man and James was like a son to him. His name was Ross Miller, maybe some of you knew him. He was an excellent carpenter and the best neighbor ever. So James and I had lots to discuss about his life and sweet wife, Lewis.

We missed having Jud and Ann Maxfield with us the past two dinners. They were off to the coast in Corpus Christi for a bit of vacation and business. I've run into Jud around town but missed seeing Ann. Hope to see them at our dinner on the 18th. I nearly forgot to mention our menu on the 11th. We enjoyed chicken, fish sticks, trying something different, they were good. Also sausages, beans, Spanish rice casserole, green bean casserole, greens and sweet potatoes. We had 1 pie, 1 cake and cookies and fruit. But enough as there were so few here, also hot rolls and cornbread.

I traveled to Desdemona to watch the Super Bowl with Virgil and Jo Holdman. They have a new large flat screen TV. How good it is to watch a larger picture. You are right up in the game with them. Virgil doing better after having a bad spell about a month ago. Always enjoy visiting with them.

Well game night on the 12th was a bust. Only four of us showed up, so we went home to watch basketball and my show, Gray's Anatomy. We might change game night as too many good shows on that night. If I'd known the day before about the Valentine Banquet the FBC gives, I'd called off game night. We have many widows and widowers in our group. Hope more will be back next week. Hope all is well and see you next time, Carol.

Extremely Critical Wildfire Danger

Alert For Much Of Texas

Texas Forest Service Urges Caution

COLLEGE STATION, Texas-- Texas Forest Service (TFS) is urging citizens across the state to be aware of heightened wildfire danger due to high winds and low relative humidity levels on Tuesday and Wednesday.

The areas of highest concern are the Panhandle, West Texas, Central Texas, the Hill Country and South Texas. This includes the cities of Paris, Wichita Falls, Childress, Perryton, Dalhart, Amarillo, Lubbock, Abilene, Brownwood, Midland/Odessa, Pecos, El Paso, Presidio, San Angelo, Del Rio, San Antonio, Laredo, Brownsville, Corpus Christi, Victoria, La Grange, Austin, Waco and Dallas/Fort Worth.

"The combination of dry fuels, strong winds and critically low humidity will make fast moving wildfires," said Kent Prochazka, a National Weather Service meteorologist working with TFS. "Wildfires that start on Tuesday or Wednesday will be very difficult to control."

These potentially devastating wildfires can quickly endanger public safety and property. Citizens should be aware of the conditions and should not engage in activities that could lead to an accidental wildfire starts. In Texas, humans cause 95 percent of wildfires.

Since the beginning of the winter 2009 wildfire season, which began on January 22, 2009, TFS has responded along with local fire departments to 167 wildfires for 27,563 acres. During the same period, local fire departments have reported an additional 1,149 wildfires for 24,095 acres according to an online database managed by TFS.

For more information on fire advisories and area conditions, go to <http://texasforestservicetamu.edu> and click on Fire Danger/Advisories.

LADY PANTHER SOFTBALL SC

| DATE | OPPONENT | SITE |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| SAT. 2-14 | DUBLIN SCRIMMAGE | DUBLIN |
| SAT. 2-21 | DUBLIN TOURNAMENT | DUBLIN |
| TUE. 2-17 | TBD | |
| TUE. 2-24 | TBD | |
| FRI. 2-27 | *EULA | EULA |
| TUE. 3-3 | *BAIRD | GORMAN |
| FRI. 3-6/SAT. 3-7 | PERRIN-WHITT TOURN. | PERRIN-WHITT |
| TUE. 3-10 | *DeLEON | GORMAN |
| TUE. 3-17 | *CROSS PLAINS | CROSS PLAINS |
| Fri. 3-20 | *BYE | |
| MON. 3-23 | *RANGER | GORMAN |
| TUE. 3-31 | *ALBANY | ALBANY |
| FRI. 4-3 | *BAIRD | BAIRD |
| TUE. 4-7 | *EULA | GORMAN |
| FRI. 4-10 | *DeLEON | DeLEON |
| TUE. 4-14 | *CROSS PLAINS | GORMAN |
| FRI. 4-17 | *BYE | |
| TUE. 4-21 | *RANGER | RANGER |
| FRI. 4-24 | *ALBANY | GORMAN |

*DENOTES DISTRICT 8A GAMES
 HEAD COACH-MORGAN MATHEWS
 ASSISTANT-DENISE SCOTT
mmathews@gorman.esc14.net; 254-734-2614/2264

Desdemona News

By Vonnie Guthery

"Desdemona Volunteer Fire Department" recently moved to their new building located on Highway 16 just south of the Church of Christ. They will have "Open House" soon as they get settled in. Continue to support our local Firemen as they are very dedicated to their work.

Ruth (Crenshaw) Knaack, 94, passed away on Saturday, February 7, 2009. Memorial Services were held on Wednesday. Ruth attended school in Desdemona. Survivors include a daughter, Ruth Ann of Fort Worth.

Betty (Yancey) Stewart of Fort Worth passed away and burial was in the Alameda Cemetery northwest of Desdemona. She attended school in Desdemona with the Class of 1957. Preceded in death by her husband, Edward Stewart. Edward attended school in Desdemona with the Class of 1951.

Friends in Desdemona sends sincere sympathy to these families in the loss of their loved ones.

Please contact this reporter with your weekly news. Your help will be appreciated.

Pug Guthery is doing real well following recent gall bladder surgery. As you all know - his nurse (Coon) will keep a "tight hold" on him until he is up and going again.

"Hello" to our friends, Rex and Billie Tilly in Gatesville. Rex and this reporter stated school together in Desdemona in September 1940. Our first grade teacher was Miss Edith Creighton. Rex and family moved later on to De Leon where he graduated with the Class of 1951.

Take time out from your busy schedule to remember the sick and shut-ins of our Community with your cards and prayers.

Elise Duke of Stephenville spent the past weekend visiting with her Dad, Russell Duke in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Ronda James and Emily of Whitney spent the weekend visiting with her parents, Humpy and Betty Duke.

Thought for Today - "The easiest way to make those around you happy - Is to be happy yourself"

Have a Nice Day, "Coon".

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We Have a Full Stock of Janitorial & Pool Chemical Needs
 We Are Open Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. To 5 p.m.
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