

The Gorman Progress

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

2009 Member - Texas Press Association

NUMBER TWELVE

MARCH 26, 2009

RANCH RODEO SET MARCH 28th

Gorman Senior 2009 Travel Club RANCH RO-DEO will be held Saturday, March 28th at 4:00 p.m. At Gorman Arena, north of Gorman on FM 8. Events include: Calf Scramble (8 and up) - Team Penning - Team Branding - Team Doctoring - Wild Cow Milking - Double Mugging - Team Sorting.

General admission and Concessions Available. Contact: Julie Clark at 254-734-6100 or Nick Guthery at 254-631-2706. MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND

Gorman Church of Christ Gospel Meeting

You're invited to share in our Gospel Meeting - Sunday thru Wednesday, April 5 thru 8th at Gorman Church of Christ. Services are Sunday at 10:00 a.m., 10:45 a.m. And 6:00 p.m.; Weekdays - 7:00 p.m.

Speakers will be **Bob Pipes** from Cross Plains - Sunday Bible Study - Renewing Our Mind (Rom 12:1-2); **Worship Service - Are You Washed In the Blood or the Water?**; **Evening Worship - On the Mountain of the Lord It Will Be Provided (Gen 2:14); David Harris** from Hillcrest, Stephenville - Monday - The Robe; **Terry Johnson** from Rising Star - Tuesday - Ichabod ... The Glory of God Departed; **Larry Roberts** from Eastland - Wednesday - What Does Your God Look Like? (Isaiah 49: 13-18)

Callahan/Eastland County Arsonists Arrested

Three Eastland County residents have been arrested and charged with arson in connection with recent wildfires that burned more than 260 acres and destroyed five structures in Eastland and Callahan Counties.

Suspects Brian Freeman, 23, Christina Utley, 20, and Michael Thomas 24, have each been charged with five counts of arson and one count of organized criminal activity related to wildfires intentionally set in Eastland County on Sunday, March 23, 2009.

Freeman, Utley and Thomas were initially arrested for fighting and public intoxication. Suspicious items found in their vehicle by the Cisco Police Department led to an investigation and questioning by the Eastland County Sheriff's department, Cisco Police Department and Texas Forest Service (TFS) regarding deliberately-set wildfires in the area.

The three suspects remain in the Eastland County jail with bonds totaling \$87,500 while TFS and local fire departments still fight to suppress the 270-acre Callahan-Eastland Complex Fire that has been burning since Sunday afternoon.

For more information on Texas Forest Service Law Enforcement visit <http://texasforests.tamu.edu> and click on Fire and Emergency Response.

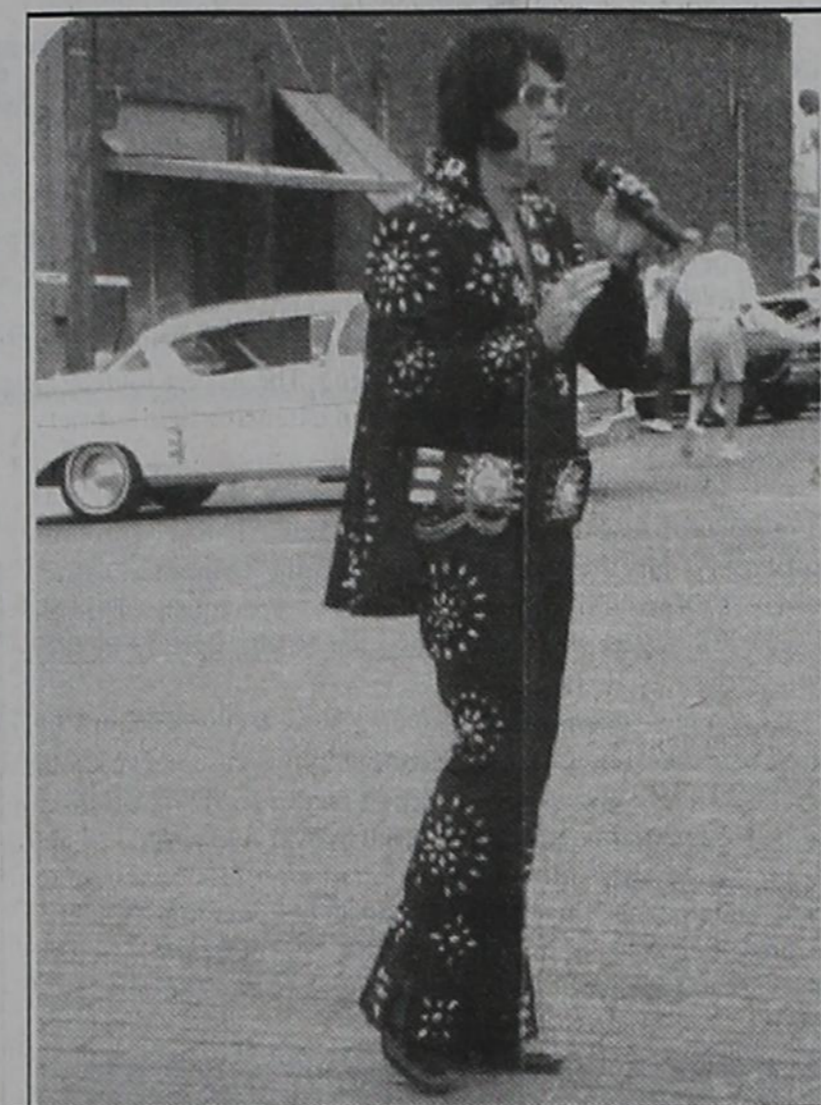
Veterans Benefits Outreach Set April 4

Attention all Veterans and family members!! Here's your opportunity to learn more about eligibility for Veteran's benefits and medical services!

Veterans Benefits Outreach is set for Saturday, April 4, 2009 at 10 a.m. To 2 p.m. At Eastland VFW, 918 Hwy. 570, 2 miles east of Eastland - 254-631-9226. Bring your Discharge Papers (DD214).

Valuable personal assistance with your questions and claims will be given by experts from: *County Veterans Service Officers (and Texas Veterans Commission) - VA Benefit Counselors (bring your VA correspondence)- Dallas VA Veterans Health Care System - Other organizations that serve veterans - Texas Veterans Land Board and Small Business Administration.*

"Terry E" - Elvis Impersonator In Gorman On March 28th at 7 p.m.



It'll be March 28th at 7PM at the Gorman High School auditorium. Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door, and tickets are available from any Mason and at City Hall & Bob's Grocery.

Thank you so much!

- Proclamation -

Whereas, our nation spends more on health care than any other country, yet our health system is failing and we are not as healthy as we should be; and

Whereas, American babies are three times more likely to die than those born in some developing countries; and

Whereas, ethnic minority populations have nearly eight times the death rate for key health conditions, such as diabetes, than that of non-minority populations; and

Whereas, America has made the top 10 list of countries with the most people with HIV/AIDS; and

Whereas, despite these challenges, public health professional have contributed to dramatic progress over the last century, adding fluoride to our drinking water, introducing seat belt laws and eliminating polio, among other advances that improve our health; and

Whereas, there can be no successful health reform without the support of a strong public health infrastructure; and

Whereas, by supporting our nation's public health system, we can build on the successes of the past and establish the solid foundation needed for a healthy nation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, The Honorable Rex Fields, do hereby proclaim the week of April 6-12, 2009, as National Public Health Week in Eastland County, and call upon the people of Eastland County to observe this week by helping our families, friends, neighbors. Co-workers and leaders better understand the importance of public health to a successful health system in light of this year's theme, "Building the Foundation for a Health America."

(s) Rex Fields, 23 March 2009

Brenda Boyd and Bill Sandlin Pledge Vows



Brenda Boyd and Bill Sandlin were joined in marriage on March 7, 2009 at the New Hope Baptist Church in Gorman. The ceremony was officiated by Rev. Richard Watson, the pastor of New Hope Baptist Church.

Music was provided by Rachel Watson of Gorman. The bride was given in marriage by her brother, Windell Treadway. Marjorie Treadway, the mother of the bride was escorted by her son Windell Treadway.

Following the ceremony, a reception was held at New Hope Baptist Church. The brides cake was a three layer cake decorated with live roses and baby's breath. The grooms cake made by the brides sister-in-law was chocolate and was in the shape of a double five domino. Terry Treadway, Melinda Abbe, and Cindy Stanley served the cake and punch.

The bride and groom left the church with a shower of rice handed out by the bride and groom's granddaughters, Amanda, Shanna, and Ashley Hair.

Following a trip to South Texas, The bride and groom will make their home in Carbon.

AARP Driver Safety Course
New 4-hr course - Thurs. Apr. 2 12-4 pm
Desdemona Activity Center
To register, call 254 965 2145

The City of Gorman will be accepting applications to operate the City Pool for the 2009 season.

You must be a certified lifeguard and certified in CPR.

You may pick up an application at the Gorman City office, 116 S Kent St, or call (254) 734-2317.

Large Item Pick Up
will be Thursday, April 9. They will only pick up one large item per residence. Curb side clean up will be the week of May 4th through 8th. This is when they will pick up everything you put out for them on the curb. Please remember they will not pick up batteries, tires, or paint buckets with paint in them and a refrigerator has to be red tagged (certified person must remove freon). If you have any questions contact the City office Monday thru Friday 8-5 at (254)734-2317.

Card of Thanks

We would like to express our sincerest gratitude to all the many people who shared their sympathy for the loss of our loved one. The prayers, thoughts, food, cards, flowers and time devoted to the memory of Sylvia were more than soothing to those of us who are left behind for a little while longer. She touched so many, and all who were touched were most fortunate. May God bless and keep each of you.

The Family of Sylvia Townley

Annual Easter Treasure Hunt Set

The Annual Easter Treasure Hunt will take place on Sat. April 11 at the City Park.

The Annual Youth in The Dark in the Park will be held on Wed. night April 8 at the City Park.

If you would like to help with one or both of these please let me know by calling 734-2720 and leave a message, e-mail me at jandismith@yahoo.com. DONATIONS ARE NEEDED FOR BOTH EVENTS.

Donation cans are located at Bob's Gro. and City Gro. or you may leave your donation at Smith's Service Station. More information coming soon.

Thanks - Ina

Penny Auction - Apr. 3

The Women's Division of the De Leon Chamber of Commerce will be holding a PENNY AUCTION on Friday, April 3rd at 6 p.m. in the De Leon City Hall at 125 S. Texas Street in De Leon. For more information please contact - Carla Landreth.

COMING SOON!!!! A new innovative and exciting website for the City of Gorman. It will have the capabilities of showcasing our town with "mini-websites" featuring local businesses, our organizations, our churches, hunting leases and even personal sites. These websites will be affordable and easily maintained by the user themselves and not an outside agency. If you are interested in having a "mini-website" on the City of Gorman webpage, please contact Cliffa Vaughn at (254)734-3933 or (254)979-2499 (local # for Gorman) for information.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

SANDRA CAGLE WILL BE IN GORMAN AT THE CITY OFFICE TO RENEW AUTO LICENSE PLATES. HER NEXT VISIT IS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15TH 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.

Obituaries

Janice "Jan" Burleson Brown

Janice "Jan" Burleson Brown, age 62, passed away, Saturday, March 14, 2009 at her daughter's home in Andover, Kansas.

Services were 11:00 A. M. Wednesday at the Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel with Nick Burleson and Mike Adams officiating. Burial was in Oaklawn Cemetery.

Jan was born October 6, 1946 in Gorman, Texas to Harold Burleson and Evelyn Griffith Burleson. She was a retired federal civil servant, devoted mother and grandmother. She was an Episcopalian.

She is survived by two daughters, Sherry Adams and husband, Mike of Andover, Kansas and Kimberly Brown of Houston; one sister, Mona Rae Watson of Fort Worth and two grandchildren, Janelle Adams and Jake Adams both of Andover, Kansas. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Rosalia Moore Robison

Rosalia Moore Robison went to be with the Lord at 97 years of age on March 23, 2009.

She was born to George H. and Laura Belle Moore on May 26, 1911 in Beattie, Texas. She was married to James Preston Robison for 63 years, who preceded her in death. She and Preston raised their 3 girls, Gaila Britt, Jimmie Gehring and Linda Richards in the community of Handley.

She was a member of the Eastern Star and a Mother Advisor of the Rainbow Girls and member of Handley United Methodist Church. She and Preston retired to De Leon, where she was a longtime member of the De Leon First United Methodist Church. She became a member of St. Stephens United Methodist Church in Arlington.

She is survived by her 3 daughters, 9 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and 17 great-great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews. She was the last surviving member of her immediate family. Everyone who knew her loved her and she was special to everyone she knew. She said her talent was to be loved and she was.

Funeral Services will be 2:00 p.m., Thursday, March 26th in the De Leon First United Methodist Church with Pastor Sharon Bell officiating. Burial will be in the De Leon Cemetery. Family visitation will be Wednesday from 5 p.m. To 8 p.m. At Nowlin Funeral Home in De Leon.

Rev. Leslie Don Franklin

Rev. Leslie Don Franklin went to be with Jesus on Friday, March 20, 2009 at his home in Lubbock.

Graveside services were 2:00 P. M. on Sunday at the Oaklawn Cemetery in Gorman with Richard Watson officiating. Services under the direction of Higginbotham Funeral Home in Gorman.

Don was born October 26, 1936 to Virgil Franklin and Lillie Shrum Franklin. Don lived in various towns while growing up, such as Sundown, Littlefield and Snyder and graduated from Odessa High School in 1955. Don had been a teacher and lay leader for 55 years. He was baptized in the Spirit in 1954. He received his education at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, WA and graduated from Dallas Bible College. Don served as a full time evangelist for four years before serving in the U. S. Army. In 1960-61 he did a tour of duty in Vietnam as machine gunner on a Shawnee H-21 helicopter.

Don was a versatile man. He was a minister of several churches with the most recent being in Camp Wood, Texas. The first and foremost in Don's life was Jesus, then family. He stud-

ied, taught and spread the Word to those he met and to all who knew and loved him. Don retired from the ministry to become Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Club of Odessa. Don met and married Marla Dorsett Logan in 2000 and moved to Lubbock at his retirement in 2001, where they traveled around the country enjoying life together.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Marla Franklin of Lubbock; two step-sons, Troy Timms of Lubbock and Terry Timms and wife, Melinda of Hale Center; sister, Martha Thomas and husband BJ of Vidor, TX; two brothers, Ben Franklin and wife, Zelah of the Philippines and Russell Franklin and wife, Julie of Memphis, TN; four grandchildren, Kolton, Jaden, Sydney and Tanner and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Robert Tucker

Robert Tucker, 74, of Desdemona passed away on Monday, March 16, 2009 at his residence. Services were held on Thursday, March 19th at 10 a.m. at Desdemona Baptist Church with Tim White officiating assisted by David Kelly. Burial was in Desdemona Cemetery under the direction of Nowlin Funeral Home.

He was born May 24, 1934 in Coleman to the late Grady Tucker and Lula Bell Calk Tucker. He married Dolores Creek on December 26, 1957 in Coleman.

He was a retired employee of Mobil Oil Company. Had resided in Desdemona since 1978, having previously lived in Monahans. He was a member of De Leon First Baptist Church.

He is survived by two sons, Steven Tucker and wife Brenda of Desdemona and Scott Tucker and wife Michelle of Goodyear, AZ; one daughter, Jamie Mathis and husband Terry of De Leon; two sisters, Barbara Wright of Coleman and Lorraine Jackson of Abilene; 6 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Terry Denson, Dwight Dold, Grant Lewis, Ron Pell, Billie Wilson, Monty Williams. Honorary pallbearers were Howard Iley, Wayne Iley, Roy Johnson, Eddie Lindley, Winfred Lindley, Ralph Nicholson, James Riggs and Leo Williams.

Preceded by his wife Dolores Tucker on September 14, 2008, a son, Randall Tucker, his parents, Grady and Lula Tucker, and two brothers, Wayne and Norman Tucker.

Jury Convicts DWI Suspect

Mace Gregory Gifford, 47, of Coppell, Texas was convicted of Driving While Intoxicated by a jury of six citizens in the Eastland County Court on Tuesday, March 17, 2009. The arrest was made in September 2008 by DPS Trooper Michael Orsini, after stopping Gifford for a speeding violation on Interstate 20. After approaching the driver, the Trooper smelled an odor of alcohol and began a DWI investigation that culminated in Gifford's arrest. Gary Peak, defense counsel, presented evidence through an "expert witness" from Georgia, who testified that it was his opinion that Gifford was not intoxicated. The expert touted 29 years of experience as a peace officer and extensive field sobriety expertise.

Assistant Criminal District Attorney Bill Dowell was lead prosecutor assisted by co-counsel Sarah Adams. This was Dowell's first jury trial since returning to the Criminal District Attorney's Office this past November. Previously, Dowell had served nineteen years as an assistant before retiring in July 2004.

"It feels good to be back and get my feet wet again," he said. "There was a bit of pressure for me in this case because our office has a very successful conviction record for DWI offenses and I had not participated in a DWI trial in over five years." "I am proud of Trooper Orsini's presentation of a professional case to the jury and that they gave him due respect in light of the "expert" who presented a "contrary" opinion. It is a pleasure to return to a community where citizens diligently serve as conscientious jurors."

The Honorable Rex Fields, Eastland County Judge, presided at the trial and set the punishment for Mr. Gifford.

Anyone wishing to earn extra income from their home computer should send a message to jljnpn@gmail.com. Come with "Need More Income" in the subject. 4-4-16 P.

NOW HIRING - Full Time - Yard Painting - Cleaning - Do Miscellaneous Work - Hourly - 254-758-2143 or 254-433-1821. 4-4-16 P.

HELP WANTED
DQ of Gorman - 419 W. Lubbock - Now accepting applications. Need to love working with people, meeting new faces, drug and smoke free environments. Apply in person to Manger, Michael Richardson. 4-4-16 C.

Classifieds

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REDUCED 320±A, on Turkey Creek, creek, tanks, well, hunting [ET01] \$868,000 \$800,000
SOLD 250±A on Copperas Creek, wooded, coastal, lake, cabin, rural water [LB01] \$795,000
243 A, reservoir, wells, irrig pit, on hwy., cultivation, costal, pasture [AB01] \$2,500/acre
REDUCED 236±A, wells, tanks, rolling terrain, hunting [DS02] \$2,195/acre \$1,995/acre
SOLD 231 A, on Leon River, wells, pecan trees, hunting [DK01] \$665,280
102 A, water well, costal, corrals, hunting, mins & owner finacing possible [JB02] \$285,000
81 A, Pecan Orchard, 900± improved variety, underground irrig, wells [REM01] \$405,000
52 A, 4-3 Brick Home, carport, wells, tanks, corrals, barns [LP01] \$239,500
45 A, 7 irrig wells & pit, buried mainline w/risers, minerals available [NF01] \$2,500/acre
30 A, 3-2 1/2 Custom Home, garage, porch, shed/shop, barn, wells, tanks [DB01] \$450,000
21±A, Sprigged with World Feeder Costal Bermuda grass, water well [MS04] \$92,500
REDUCED 20 A, excellent home site, rural water avail, hunting [WMO1] \$75,000 \$59,000
19±A, rolling terrain, Live Oaks, hunting, near Proctor Lk, will divide [LR03] \$2,750/acre
15.7 A, Hwy.16 frontage, costal, rural water supply avail, water well [JS02] \$40,820
4-2 Brick Home, 2 fireplaces, CHA, 2 car garage, & a 76' x 16' mobile home [JH01] \$159,900
4+A, 4-3 Remodeled Brick Home, additional recreational room, water well [RH02] \$149,900
REDUCED 5 A, 3-1 Frame Home, near Proctor Lk., barn, rural water [LC01] \$92,500 \$89,500
5 A, 4-2 Brick Home, metal roof, carport, pecan trees, wells & tank, fenced [WK01] \$90,000
3-2 Frame Home, CH&A, water well, carport, storage building, large lot [LR04] \$39,900
2-2 Brick Home, 2car attach garage, new flooring, large lot, fenced yard [MG02] \$75,000
2-2 18' x 60' Mobile Home, 3 car garage, more buildings, water well, fenced [CR01] \$50,000
REDUCED 2-1 1/2 Frame Home, attached garage, storage building [ST01] \$75,000 \$69,000
2-1 Frame Home, 2.3 A, screened porch, water well, storage bldg. [GB02] \$55,000
Commercial Bldg, on Hwy.36, 6,480 sf, 3 separate units & entrances, CH&A [RC01] \$82,500


More Info & Pictures at: www.GilderRealty.com

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NEW: Desdemona, 4 A, older 3-1 Frame, well & septic, workshop, beautiful location, large trees. \$59,900.
NEW: S/E Gorman: 45 A, sandy land, few Pecan trees, 7 water wells, irrigation reservoir, close to pavement. \$2,500 Acre.
NEW: S/E Gorman: 60 A, good sandy soil, some coastal, good fences, elec., nice pond site. \$2,800 Acre.
38 A M/L south Gorman: Fronts FM 679, about 10 A, large Pecan Trees, nice location for pond, good fences, sandy land. \$2,500 Acre
77A Sipe Springs, deer, turkey & 2 stocked ponds, Live and Post Oak, mineral rights, Insulated 30x40 steel Bldg, a/C, 7 living quarters, Nice Getaway! \$3,250 A.
NEW: Gorman, 44 A, 2-2 bi-level frame home, 1728 sq ft, central a/h, metal roof, covered upper deck, several wells, building coastal, Deer & other wildlife \$250,000.00
100 A west De Leon FM 587, 3 - 1 1/2 - 2 brick, 1444 sq. ft., C/H/A, fireplace, carpeted, some remodeling, 3 ponds, 30a crop land, 35a coastal, some native, fenced, 2 steel corrals, 2 wells, shop building, Nice setup, Mineral Rights. \$2,950.00 A.
NEW: 130 A, West Carbon, approximately 40a cult., 35a coastal, pond, elec., county water. \$2,400 Acre.
NEW: S/W De Leon: 131 A with 12 acre lake! 66a coastal, 53a farm land, well, 3 ponds, great fences, good horse place, hunting. \$3,000 Acre.
456 A, Carbon, 1/2 wooded - 1/2 fields, deer, turkey, 3 ponds, nice 2 - 2 mh, central a/c, barn, corral, county water. \$4,000 acre.
179 A, south of Gorman: Part wooded, part old fields, deer & hogs, 2 nice ponds, sandy soil, elec., water well, metal building \$2,350.00 acre.
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Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm, or corporation which may appear in the columns of the Gorman Progress will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the Publisher.

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The USDA announced today that producers who did not obtain crop insurance or Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for 2008 can pay a buy-in fee through May 18, 2009 to become eligible for 2008 disaster assistance programs authorized by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008.

Producers who have not already taken the necessary steps to become eligible for the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE), Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP), and the Tree Assistance Program (TAP) are required to complete the following steps by May 18, 2009:

- Pay a \$100 "buy-in" fee per crop. The maximum fee is \$300 per county, per producer, not to exceed \$900 for multi-county producers.
- In the case of each insurable crop, excluding grazing land, agree to obtain a policy or plan of insurance for the next insurance year for which crop insurance is available; coverage level should equal 70 percent or more of the yield at 100 percent of the price.
- In the case of each noninsurable crop, agree to file the required paperwork and pay the applicable administrative NAP coverage fee by the applicable state application closing date for the next available year.

Producers who choose to "buy in" under this provision will be considered, for insured crops, to have obtained a policy or plan of insurance for the 2008 crop year at a level of coverage not to exceed 70 percent of the yield at 100 percent of the price. For noninsurable crops, producers will be considered to have a level of coverage equal to 70 percent of the yield. These levels of coverage will be used to calculate the 2008 SURE guarantee.

Producers who meet the definition of "Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource," or "Beginning Farmer or Rancher," are not required to pay the buy-in fee.

For more information regarding the disaster assistance buy-in waiver and other FSA programs, please contact the Eastland County FSA office or visit the national website at www.fsa.usda.gov.



This month's Huddle meeting was held in Gorman at the old Opera House. We had good participation with leaders from Rising Star, Cisco, Ranger, Carbon, Eastland and Gorman in attendance. The purpose of the Huddle meetings are to get a view of the county's needs, how to address them county-wide and promote networking for problem solving. This month's money collected for the luncheon will be donated to the Gorman Food Bank. If you are interested in attending one of the meetings, please contact Cliffa Vaughn 734-3933.

Secretary Andrade encourages Texans To Register To Vote "Voter Registration Deadline"

AUSTIN – Secretary of State Hope Andrade is reminding Texans that the deadline to register to vote in the May election is Thursday, April 9. While there are no statewide propositions on the ballot this May, many cities, school districts and local entities will be holding elections. Individuals who have yet to register may obtain an application from several county offices, many post offices, libraries, or from the VOTEXAS Web site: www.VOTEXAS.org.

"This May, voters will head to the polls to elect local leaders and decide local issues all across our state," Andrade said. "These are important decisions and I hope Texans will take the necessary steps to register to vote or update their registration if their address has changed so they can participate in the May 9 election."

Texas residents are eligible to vote if they are a United States citizen, at least 18 years old on Election Day, not a convicted felon (unless sentence, probation, and/or parole have been completed), and not declared mentally incapacitated by a court of law.

Voters may check their registration status at www.VOTEXAS.org or by calling 1-800-252-VOTE (8683).

Open and Cosmic Bowling!

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Representative Keffer Files Bill

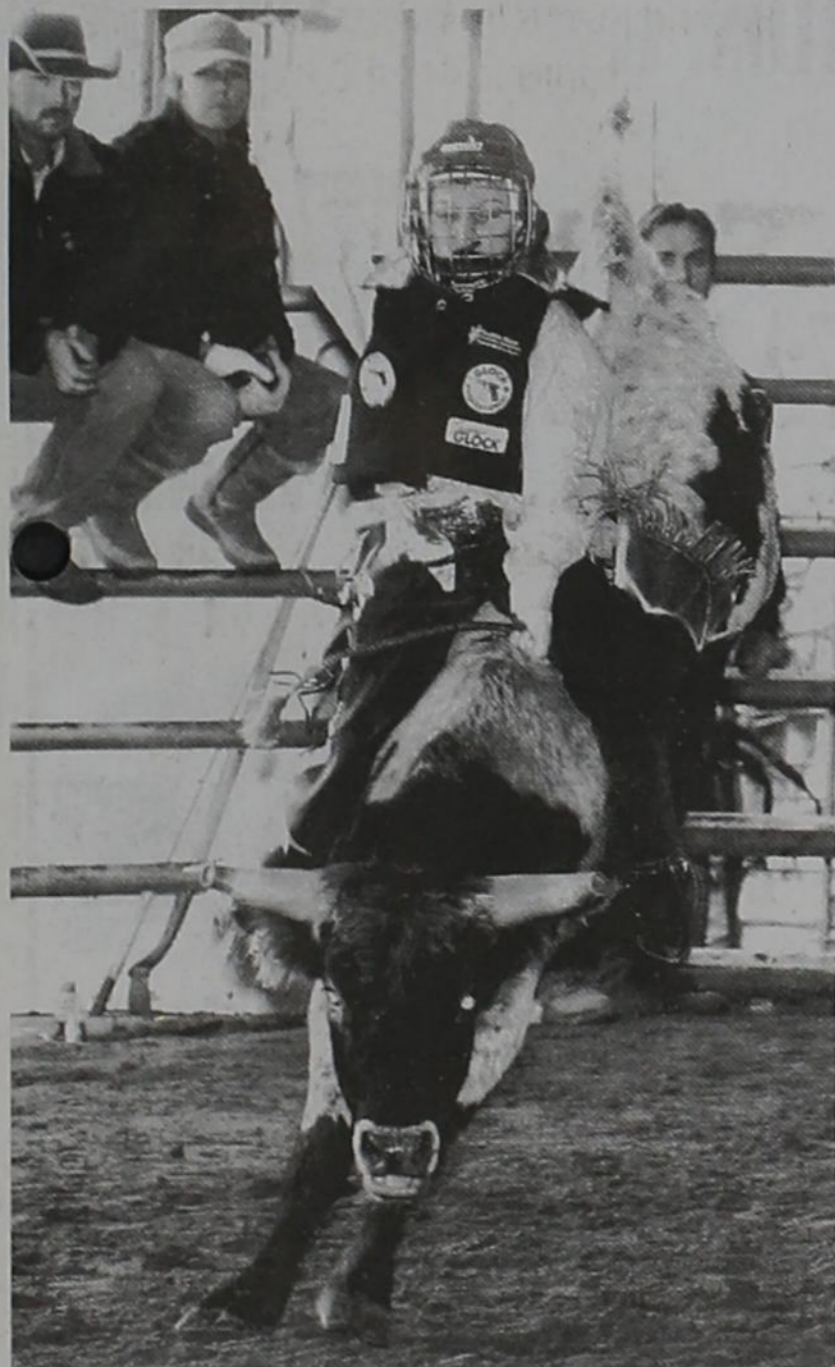
On March 5th, Representative Jim Keffer (R-Eastland) filed HB 2471 to emphasize rigor and relevance in our state's education system in a way that provides a quality education curriculum while meeting the diverse interests and aspirations of our student population.

Joined by Rep. Patrick Rose, Rep. Joe Deshotel, Rep. Alan Ritter and Rep. Lois Kolkhorst, and many interested Texas employers, Keffer announced that the bill provides capacity for career and technical education (CTE) course curriculum as part of the recommended degree plan along with recommended requirements for math, science, English, and social studies. This flexibility will ensure career and college readiness, help to reduce drop out rates, provide alignment with Texas employer needs now and in the future.

The bill also allows local school districts to develop CTE course curriculum that encompasses the state's requirements for math and science, awarding math and science credit to students demonstrating proficiency for those requirements while providing them real world skills development.

"School districts should have every incentive to work with institutions of higher education and employers to develop course curriculum that can be offered for dual credit articulation, utilization of public/private technology training centers, and other applied learning techniques," said Rep. Keffer. "We need to give students opportunities to engage in relevant, rigorous coursework that prepares them for additional learning opportunities, as well as, success in tomorrow's workforce".

3 First Place Finishes In One Weekend!



Daniel Keeping continues on his march for the Championship Buckles with two rodeo associations. Since February 21 Daniel has ridden in six events and he has continued to cover every animal in 2009. Since the season began in October, 2008 Dan has ridden twelve out of thirteen steers.

On February 21, 2009 at the Future Pro Bull Riders two events he finished second on both of his rides. Daniel also finished second on March 7, 2009 in Mineral Wells with the Pro-Youth Rodeo Association.

On Saturday, March 21st he had two events with the Future Pro Bull Riders and one with the Pro-Youth Rodeo Association. It was a busy and late day for Dan, however he handled it with determination. After a 72 point ride for his first event, Daniel's leg was stepped on by the steer as he dismounted. He won that go round and when it came time for the second event Daniel was undeterred. He successfully completed the second ride and was able to hold on for a second win of the day.

Dan then travelled to Cleburne for the Pro-Youth event. Daniel covered that steer as well and again garnered enough points for a third win that day. He has extended his lead in both associations but knows that the season is still young and that there are many talented riders working hard to catch him.

Daniel was recently featured in an article in The Glock Report magazine which is sent to thousands of members of the Glock Sport Shooting Foundation and has submitted his resume and application to be considered for the Youth Bull Riders World Finals held in August in Fort Worth.

Producer Meeting

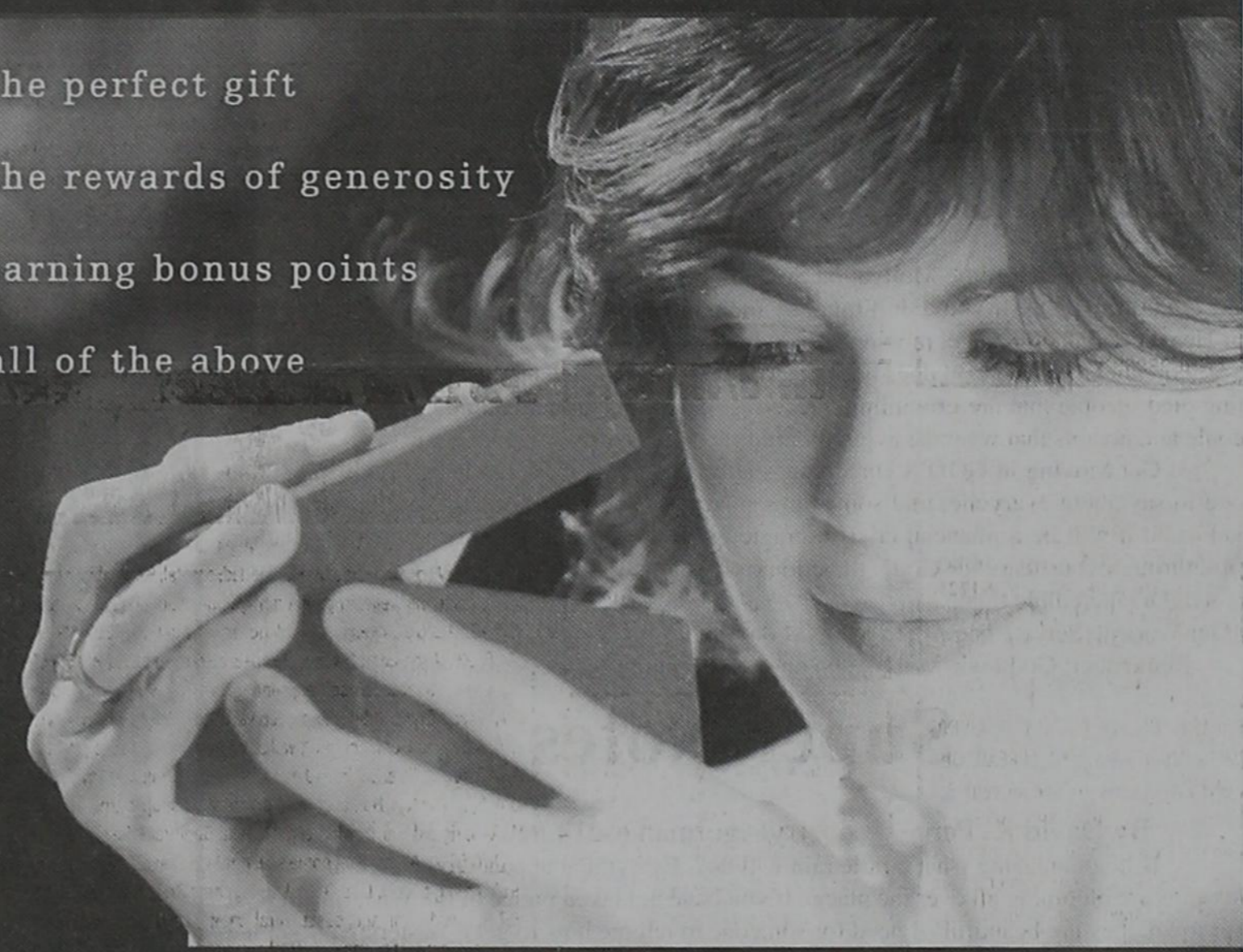
The Farm Service Agency will host a producer meeting to discuss the recent changes to Farm Programs. The meeting will be held at the La Quinta Inns and Suites on I-20 in Eastland on March 26, 2009. It will begin at 9:00 A.M.

John Bird, Eastland County Executive Director, will discuss farm programs and payment eligibility and limitations. Ricky Young, Farm Loan Manager, will discuss the FSA Loan Programs. Representatives of other agriculture agencies will also be invited to speak.

Anyone interested in the changes brought about by the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 is invited to attend.

Please call the Eastland County Farm Service Agency at 254-629-1636 extension 2 for more information.

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Senior Citizens News

By Carol Ward

There were 30 of us gathered at the Center for fellowship and to dine on the great food. I'm always glad to have a good crowd on our Wednesday dinner at 11:30. This March 18th was a good day, but a little windy. I'm thankful for the rain, but we do need more. With this wind we are drying out fast. Hopefully more rain will come soon.

We were glad to see James Miars and have him give the blessing for us all. Our meal was great with many different choices. Barbara Bush prepared a delicious roast with potatoes and carrots. Also we enjoyed a macaroni casserole, beans, cornbread, and hot rolls. There were several vegetable dishes of greens, green beans, sweet potatoes, corn, Cole slaw and salad. We enjoyed several delicious cakes, tow kinds of Jello, and a key lime pie.

We had several guests to visit with. Always glad to see Sandra Cagle, our Tax Assessor. She comes every month to Gorman to assist those who can't make the drive to Eastland. Also visits with Wilburn Overstreet. Glad he is feeling better and also enjoying game night. Good to have Winston Brown coming out and much improved. A young man named Jimmy Stell also dined with us. The most fun was having Barbara and Max Bush's granddaughter, Keiley to visit with us. Also Daisy Slaton's granddaughter, Katie was here and the girls hit it off. I do wish they could of had more time to play. The did have a hard finding something to eat - HA! Kids now days are picky, as they have never really been hungry.

I was so saddened by Bob Tucker's passing. I had visited with him in February at the Breakfast in Desdemona. We had talked of our lives and surprised we had lived this long. He looked good, his usual self. I was shocked to learn of his cancer right after our visit. Could hardly believe he went so fast. So sorry for his children to lose both parents so close together. They were both great folks.

We also enjoyed breakfast in Desdemona this past 1st Saturday in the month of March. Daisy Slaton, Max and Barbara Bush, Adriana Chamberlain, Lil Brudnak and I attended. Was good to see the De Leon folks and Daisy's friend, Marg Swanner.

I survived the shocking of my heart. It worked so far and is back in a normal rythum. I had some trouble breathing after the procedure. Some improved now, but still a little short of breath. I believe the anesthetic was the culprit. It was good to be back at the dinner. Thanks to all who helped in my absence. Hope all is well and see you next time. Carol.

Happenings At FBC!!

Beware! God has called us to hear the hurt of others. Many people today are desperate. Pray for God's guidance as you continue to serve Him, and let your behavior be an example of the best treatment of others.

Mark your calendars:

March 29th - 6:00pm - Fifth Sunday Singing at Kokomo Baptist Church.

Children's Sermon: Rachel Tucker talked to the children about eating vegetables. Some children think vegetables like broccoli and brussel sprouts are gross. The Bible tells us in II Corinthians 9:7 to be a cheerful giver. Give your time and money to God cheerfully. Be cheerful in all you do, even be cheerful when eating your vegetables.

Bro. Barry's message was "Quit Crying and Get Moving" - Exodus 14:15
Everybody wants to be well in their soul. You can have freedom in your soul because of Jesus. God asked the children of Israel why they cried to Him and told them to go forward.

Freedom is a state to act and live as a person chooses without undo restraints or restrictions. The Bible tells us that knowing the truth sets you free. You are what you are, and you are significant to God!

1) We all need a Little Motivation Sometime. - We all have heard "parental one liners". Like counting 1, 2, 3. If you didn't mind by the number 3 there were consequences. Listen to our Heavenly Father, and get moving to do what He says.

2) Quit Crying. - God does not like grumbling, and Israelites that would not stop grumbling died. People that are grumbling, bickering, complaining, backbiting, and squabbling are people and actions that we must avoid to find Freedom in Jesus.

3) Get Moving in GOD'S Direction. - How long does it take to learn? Find something good to say about everyone, find something good in everything. You will reach a spot in the road - and it will be a financial crisis, a tragic event, devastating loss, or an awful situation. Look through your tears for God's direction, for when you start moving in GOD'S direction, He will DO incredible things!

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

Is it not amazing what a little rain will do? Everything appears to be greening up and blossoms are blooming all over the place. If you have not taken notice of the Wisteria vines all over town, they are beautiful! I need for someone to tell me how to get a Wisteria vine started at our house. I have not seen any for sale at the nurseries. I was wondering if I you could start one from a cutting? E-mail me if you know anything about it. We would love to start one. They seem to do extremely well here.

I hope school began as scheduled this week. I know I saw kids and parents dropping kids off, but I have been stuck in my office reviewing resumes of prospective athletic directors for most of the day. I came in over the break and worked a little and stopped counting applications at fifty. I have received several by mail and even more by e-mail. I have been surprised to see applicants from all over the United States and even one from Canada. Just so everyone will know what's going on, here is the process we are going through in our search for an athletic director: I am going through all resumes I've received between now (Monday) and Thursday and narrow the field to about twenty; Friday our new High School Principal Jeff Byrd will be in to review those twenty to help me narrow the field to 8 to 10; We will probably try to begin interviews the following week and narrow our focus to the top two or three to take to the board for their input prior to making my recommendation. The interest in coaching at Gorman has certainly changed over the last couple of years and I am proud to say that the number of quality applicants has increased considerably.

This will be my last reminder about the Gorman Masonic Lodge fund raiser that will be held in our gym on March 28th at 6pm. There will be one of the best Elvis impersonators that you've ever seen perform for you. This will be great entertainment for the whole family and you won't have to leave Gorman. This is open to the public and everyone from our surrounding communities is invited. It will be great fun, it's affordable, and the money goes for a great cause. The Masons use the money right here in our community by doing things like providing an annual scholarship to a graduating senior at our high school and an annual drug awareness program for our fifth graders. Please come out and show your support and have a great evening's entertainment!

There are many things going on at the building project: finishing up the HVAC systems, wiring, plumbing, finish concrete work, painting, trim, sheetrock, etc. Everything is still on schedule right now and we expect things to stay on schedule. I am happy to announcing that the contributions for the four sided scoreboard and other equipment for the gym are coming in daily. So far we have close to \$24,000.00 in donations. At the last board meeting, the board chose to order our score keepers table and player chairs from JV Pro Inc. I will supply a picture as soon as we have one to show. This is going to be a first class facility that everyone in Gorman can be proud of and I hope that everyone that wants to be a part of this project has the opportunity to give. If I can be of any help, please call me. There are a lot of exciting things happening at Gorman ISD!

The Elementary Campus is collecting pennies as a fund raiser for Safety City in Abilene to help with their expansion project. Our students have been enjoying the benefits of Safety City for years. It is a great facility at which to teach safety to our kids. Please send your pennies!

The Legislature is in full swing and I will try to catch up on everything this week and let you know next week what bills are in the fray that will affect education. Your phone calls, letters, and e-mails to legislators really make a difference!

Remember, it takes community involvement for a school to be successful and you are welcome to get involved at Gorman ISD anytime. This is your school; these are your children; and these children are your future! Your input is always welcome. Come help us shape the future. Thank you for all you do to support us!

Desdemona News

By Vonnie Guthery

"COUNTRY AND WESTERN MUSIC"

"Desdemona Monthly Musicial" will be held on Saturday night, March 28th at the Community Center (former school building). Concession stand will open at 5:30 p.m. Serving good food, homemade pie and drinks. Come early to enjoy supper before the music program begins at 6:00 p.m. All area musicians, singers and visitors are invited to attend. There will be Country and Western music with some bluegrass and gospel to enjoy. This is a "Smoke Free" environment and the admission is FREE.

Davis and Saye Koosmann and son, Douglas of West Branch, Iowa, visited recently in Desdemona with his daughter, Tom and Melissa Million and Tom's grandmother, Mildred Million.

"Spring Time" arrived last Friday. What a beautiful time of the year. Fruit trees in full bloom, bluebonnets, and wild flowers starting to bloom with pasture land and yards turning green after all the good rain we received recently.

Bob Tucker, 74, of Desdemona was buried on Thursday in the Desdemona Cemetery. Survivors include two sons, Steve Tucker and Scott Tucker; daughter, Jamie Mathis, grandchildren and a host of friends. Preceded in death by his wife, Dolores Tucker; son, Randall Tucker and his parents.

Bob Burleson, 77, of Stephenville was buried on Wednesday in Stephenville Garden of Memories. Survivors include a son, Jerrell Burleson and wife, Debbie, two grandsons, Nic Burleson and Justin Burleson and a host of friends. Preceded in death by his wife, Florine (Williamson) Burleson; his parents, Russ and Alice Burleson, two brothers, one sister. Bob attended school in Desdemona and graduated with the class of 1948.

Friends in Desdemona sends sincere sympathy to these families who have lost their loved ones.

Have a Great Day, "Coon"

Third Marine Divison Association Annual Reunion

Dear Editor:

I am writing to ask for your help in getting the word out about the Third Marine Divison Association Annual Reunion. The Association is made up of anyone who is now, or ever has been, in the Third Marine Division or attached to the Third Marine Division. Our Marines have served bravely wherever and whenever asked, from WWII, Korea, VietNam, Persian Gulf, Iraq, Afghanistan and Peacetime. The members of our Association gather once a year to celebrate old friendships, make new ones, and thank God we are alive. If your paper would insert the following note it would be very helpful to Marines who may not know about or organization. THE THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION IS HOLDING IT'S 55TH ANNUAL REUNION IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS AUGUST 24TH AND AUGUST 30TH. For more info, call Make Sohn at 210,654-3310, or e-mail at jumient2@hotmail.com

Sincerely,

(s) Mike Sohn

14418 Boxer Bay

San Antonio, TX 78233

Hotfooters To Offer Clogging Classes

The Breckenridge Hotfooter Cloggers will offer clogging classes for beginner, intermediate and advanced students at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in Breckenridge.

The dance club meets at 5 p.m. every Tuesday at 109 N. Baylor St. The group of cloggers performs regularly in Breckenridge and area towns.

For more information, call Shirley Anderson at (254) 559-2567 or (254-246-1972) (cell).

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