

The Gorman Progress

2008 Member
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Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454

NUMBER FOURTEEN

APRIL 10, 2008

City Wide Curb Side Clean Up Set For April 15 - 17

Please mark your calendar for curb side clean up April 15th and 17th. Clean up your yard and surroundings as well as inside the house. Keep in mind, do not put any tires, wet paint, nor any refrigerators out to be picked up. These items will not be picked up. Have your items out by 7:00 a.m. on your regular trash pick up day for pick up. Please do not wait and put out your items "after" the fact" and call for a late pick up.

Open House at The Woodlands Assisted Living in Eastland — HUGE SUCCESS!

The long awaited assisted living facility, The Woodlands, held its Open House Sunday March 30, 2008. Over 250 people from across Eastland County and as far as Ft Worth attended the celebration. Tours were given in small groups allowing everyone the chance to see the beautifully landscaped courtyard, all of the social areas from Library and Lounges to the Activity Room and Beauty/Barber Salon. After the tour attendees enjoyed great fellowship with neighbors and friends in the stylish Dining Room while having an assortment of hors d'oeuvres.

The buzz was flowing, several people said "Eastland has needed this for a long time" and "this is the most beautiful facility I've ever seen."

Brad Stephenson, Chairman of The Woodlands' Board and an integral piece in making the project come to life, said "I am extremely pleased with The Woodlands and the interest it is generating in Eastland and our neighboring Counties. The Memory Support wing is stimulating hope for many area families who are dealing with early stages of Alzheimer's disease and other memory degenerative issues." The Memory Support wing of The Woodlands is designed specifically to stimulate the mind in order to keep the residents active for as long as possible. "I truly believe this addition to Eastland will provide a quality environment and a pleasing option for the seniors of the community and region" said Stephenson.

Gary Fisher, CEO of WindRiver, the Managing Agent for The Woodlands, stated his excitement to work with the local board "We are very pleased to manage such an excellent development and wonderful addition to the Eastland community. The Woodlands provides so many social opportunities and residential features, along with specially designed services for those needing a little more assistance. Residents who move into The Woodlands can continue to live in the local area, be close to their family and enjoy a beautifully designed new apartment home with their own furnishings." WindRiver also assisted The Woodlands Board in hiring the staff to operate the community. Both Fisher and Stephenson agreed, "The Woodlands' staff is great. We are pleased with their teamwork and ability to oversee the daily operations."

The Woodlands has 32 assisted living apartments and 12 memory support suites. "So many friendly and caring families toured the community at the Open House that we are certain The Woodlands will be a great success in the community," Fisher said after the event had ended. Several reservations were made at the Open House and interest is spreading quickly. For more information call Becky McCrary at 254.629.1001

New Construction Taking Place in Gorman



New construction is being done to the Baptist Church. They are expanding their seating area in the church. Work will continue for awhile. Their has been on going construction on the ditch in front of Maxfield Elementary. The ditch is being strengthened by adding walls of concrete and updating the bridge on Kent Street by the school. Everyone is looking great at both places.



Revolutionstrings In Concert At Cross Plains

Don't miss Revolutionstrings in Concert, Saturday, April 19th at the Cross Plains School Auditorium at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$5.00 and can be purchased at the door or at Texas Heritage Bank and Lawrence Farm and Ranch. Revolutionstrings is a musical group of 17 students from Abilene High and Cooper High School ages 15-18. Their music consists of bluegrass and country as well as classical. The musical group has been on the National Public Radio's acclaimed show "From the Top" as well as the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals' state convention.

Proceeds from the concert will benefit the Cross Plains Area Housing Initiative, a non-profit organization dedicated to assisting elderly and lower income families in the area in repairs to their homes. Annually the group sponsors Helping Hearts/Helping Hands organizing local volunteers of all ages in a one-day event in the repair and maintenance of housing in the area. Please make plans to attend this enjoyable evening of music. For ticket inquiries contact Roxie Thomas at 254-725-6141. We look forward to seeing you there.

FFA NEEDS YOUR RECYCLABLES. The Gorman FFA Chapter would like to ask for your help in collecting card board and aluminum products. The goal is to have these items collected during the City wide clean up April 15 and 17th. If you would like to donate your card board or aluminum please contact Mr. Boles @ (254) 734-2505. This is part of the recycling program managed by the Gorman FFA / Ag Science classes.

16 Panthers Qualify For Area Track

Sixteen of the Panthers track and field team qualified this past week in Stephenville at the District Track Meet for the Area Round in Graham. For the girls senior Mary Powell will be running both the 1600 and 3200. The 3200 will begin at 10:00 a.m. Also senior Brandy Carlton will be competing in three events. She ran a career best in the 800 meter at 2:34 and also in the 400 meter. Brandy will be in the field events too competing in the high jump. Kimi Seaton, a sophomore, placed 4th in the Discus. She will be competing in discus at the meet. Nicole Cogburn was the best in the district in the 100 meter dash and ran a 13.12. Nicole will be running on the girls 4x100 relay and also on the 4x200 relay as well. The Big Gun for the girls is junior Audrey Johnston. Audrey ran to a 1st place finish in the 200 meters after a photo finish. Johnston also landed a Silver in the girls Triple Jump. She was holding the Gold until the young lady from Santo beat her on her last jump. Audrey will also anchor both the 400 and 800 relays. Tecia Jones a senior will be a leg on both relays. Senior Megan Lewis who qualified last year in both hurdles did it again this year. Lewis finished second in both the 100 and 300 hurdles events. Lewis will also be competing in the 400 relay where she runs the first leg. Newcomer Grace Treidler will be running the first leg on the girls 800 relay. Freshman Luisa Silva is the alternate for the girl's relays.

The Boys event went big this year winning two golds in the 800 and 1600 relays. They also ran a very good time in the 400 relay grabbing the Silver with a time of 44.60. Their 16 relay time of 3:31.21 is the best in the area at this time. The 800 relay time of 1:33.86 is also one of the best times in the Big Country for the 1-A classification. The boys relays area quartet of seniors Zack Fox, Orlando Valenzuela, and juniors Tyson Swanner and Matt Underwood. The four guys have a done a great job all year. Valenzuela also qualified with a Gold metal in the High Jump. Sean Bates only a sophomore grabbed the gold metal in the boy's shot put. MATin Ramirez was a fourth place finisher in the 400 meter dash and will also be listed as an alternate on the boys 16 relay. Gabe Burt a junior grabbed the Silver metal in the 300 hurdles and has a shot at advancing to regionals. Drew McCrewless will be the boys alternate as well for all three relays in the Area Meet.

The top four finishers in all events at the Area Meet will advance to the Regional Meet on the 25th and 26th in Abilene. Where the top two finishers will be competing at the State Meet in Austin. Good luck to both the boys and girl's teams in there quest for State!!

Cubs Track Have A Great Year

The Boys Junior High Track and Field team had a great season. They won the Cross Plains meet and were also high point combining the 7th and 8th grade groups for the Panther Relays in Gorman. The 400 meter and 800 meter relays were undefeated this year. Participants for the sprint relay were Nathan Gee, Matt Fox, Cade Cole and James Thomas. The 4x200 or 800 relay consisted of Nathan Gee, Matt Fox, A. J. Vaughn and James Thomas. Both of these relays were District Champions at the district meet in Tolar winning by a large margins. Along with the relays other standouts were John Fenley winning District in both the Shot and the Discus. John won 7 Gold Medals this year in the weight events. Sergio Hipolito hit gold in the High Jump several meets this year and took the Silver in the event in District. Hipolito also won 1st in both the 2400 and 1600 meter runs. J. C. Whitten was 3rd in District in the High Jump. James Thomas was the gold medal winner in the 200 meter dash. John Ryon and A. J. Vaughn pointed in the 100 meter days. J. C. Whitten took the Bronze finishing 3rd in the 400 meter and Hipolito took 4th in the same event. Overall it was an outstanding year for the 8th Grade Cub's. The boys track program shows a great deal of promise for the future.

The 7th grade Cub's also fared well this year and the District meet as well. The 800 relay took 1st Place. Gracia, Silva, Velasquez and Ramirez were the contestants for 800 and also placed 2nd in the Sprint Relay as well. Brandon Velasquez won the gold in the 7th grade Discus. Ramirez took fourth in the Discus. Flanary took the bronze in the Triple Jump and 6th in the Long Jump. Limon was 6th in the discus. B. J. Ramirez took 2nd in the 100 meter dash and MARIO Silva was 3rd. Garcia took 4th in the 200 meter dash. The boys 800 meter relays time in the 800 relay was over 8 seconds faster than 2nd place. The 7th grade team finished 3rd overall and beat De Leon in team points 91 to 90 for team totals

Look Who's New - It's A Girl



Proud Sister, Brittany Burns announces the arrival of her baby sister, Mackenzie Lynn Burns.



Born March 28, 2008
at 11:28 a.m.
weighing 7 lbs., 1 Oz.
Proud Parents:
Randy and Kristy Burns

Missed the Prom Boutique?

Eastland, Texas (April 07, 2008) — If you are still looking for a dress for Prom, find your formal gown at The Attic at 1006 W. Main St. Crime Victim Assistance Center has moved the dresses from the Prom Boutique to The Attic. These specially marked dresses cost anywhere between 20 to 50 dollars and 100% of the proceeds will go toward the establishment of a Child Advocacy Center in Eastland.

If you or somebody you know requires assistance in decreasing the negative impact of family violence or sexual assault, you may contact the Crime Victim Assistance Center at 254-629-3223.

Spring Weather
You Either Love it
or
You Dislike It.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

SANDRA CAGLE WILL BE IN GORMAN AT THE CITY OFFICE TO RENEW AUTO LICENSE PLATES. HER NEXT VISIT IS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16TH 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
Tuesdays - 7:00 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.

Super Notes

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

What a week! We began with a beautiful Monday with the temperature in the high 80's or low 90's at the Fantastic Field Day at Tarleton University and then on Tuesday we returned to Tarleton for the District Track Meet at the same track as the day before and we froze until about 1:00pm. By 2:30pm we were in short pants and tee shirts, and then about 7:00pm we started putting the layers back on as the sun slowly disappeared in the west. My face got burnt to a crisp. I guess the

OBITUARY

Clayton Gene Young

Clayton Gene Young, age 56 of De Leon passed Monday, March 31, 2008 at his residence. Services were held Thursday, April 3rd at 11 a.m. at Nowlin Funeral Home Chapel with Jackie Auvenshine officiating. Music provided by LaRessie Wilkerson and Vicki Robinett. Burial was in Desdemona Garden of Memories.

Clayton was born January 12, 1952 in Midland, Texas to Mary Sherrill Young and the late Clayton O. Young. He married Reedy Roberts on July 18, 1980 in De Leon.

He was employed at Cool Time Refrigeration and had resided in De Leon area 34 years. He was a member of Church of Christ.

He is survived by his wife, Reedy Young of De Leon; three sons, Clay Young, Corey Young and Cody Young, all of De Leon; mother Mary Young of DeLeon; brother, Billy Young of Austin; two sisters, Merle Wilkins of Abilene and Terry Wofford of DeLeon; and two grandchildren, Peyton and Jade.

Pallbearers were Neil Singleton, Lannes Callison, Toby Hare, Jerry McGinnis, Steve Sheetz, Eddie Lindley, Terry Froman and Kenny Behm. Honorary Pallbearers were Bill Lamb and Cleve Simpson.

all day sun screen I used must be too old, but it worked fine on my arms and legs, but it was a great track meet. We were the smallest high school in the meet with regard to our average daily attendance and it appears to irritate others when we win. Needless to say, there were a lot of irritated coaches at the track meet. Both of our varsity teams won third place. Our girl's would have won first place if they had not been disqualified in the mile relay for a minor infraction called by the De Leon Athletic Director that made no difference in how the race turned out. It is unfortunate, but that's the rules. The most unfortunate thing is that now the fastest girl's mile relay within our district will not advance. The good news is we advanced a great group of kids to Area and they will represent us well. I am sure the coach will submit the results with all of the names of those that competed so I won't list them here, but I am extremely proud of them all. Everyone gave their best effort and I congratulate them for their accomplishment.

The next day we had the District Tennis Meet in Abilene. I was unable to attend, but Mr. Panter was able to make the meet. He said our students performed well and they brought home two bronze medals for third place boys doubles and mixed doubles.

Friday we had softball and baseball at Baird. It is not as easy to watch two games at once in Baird as it is in Gorman. That did not stop us from seeing both of our teams win last Friday. One thing for sure is you don't have to worry about getting hit by a foul ball from one game while watching the other over there. Hopefully, next year we will be able to make our situation a little safer by adding some high fencing.

We have experienced so much success in our athletic program over the past two years. I am extremely pleased with what our kids have accomplished. We have a winning program that people all over the state recognize. We are surpassing many past accomplishments and setting new standards by which we will measure success in the future. Our kids have developed a winning attitude. They know they can win and go out and do it. How long has it been since we had that kind of attitude around Gorman? How long has it been since we've experienced such success? I've just been here three short years, but I am being told by others that it has been a long time.

Our success is not just in athletics. Our teachers are great! Our test scores are improving. Our band is performing better than they have in years. Our Ag program is competitive and our cafeteria serves the best food I've had in any school cafeteria. Our maintenance and custodial staff, bus drivers, and all of the secretaries and paraprofessionals

Elmer Carlton Watson

Elmer Carlton Watson, age 93, of Fort Worth passed away Thursday, April 3, 2008 at a Fort Worth nursing home.

Services were at 11:00 A. M. Saturday, April 5th at the Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel in Gorman with Richard Watson officiating. Interment was in DeLeon Cemetery.

Mr. Watson was born May 18, 1914 in Comanche County to James Newton Watson and Ora Georgianne Seale Watson. He married Allie Modell Mears on December 19, 1940 in Cisco, Texas. He was a retired oilfield assistant superintendent and a member of the Baptist Church. After retiring, he and his wife lived in Granbury from 1974 to 2000.

Survivors include; two daughters, Judy McCurley and husband, Glen of Fort Worth and Barbara Adams and husband, Jim of Arlington; son, Carl Watson and wife, Debbie of Burleson; seven grandchildren; sixteen great grandchildren and one great-great grandchild. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 67 years, Modell Mears Watson; oldest daughter, Linda; infant daughter, Paula; grandson, Craig; granddaughter, Shari; parents; two brothers and three sisters.

Pig Tales From Hogtown

Y'All Come! Y'All Come! It is time for the second annual Craft Show at the Desdemona Activity Center (DAC)! We are very excited to have some new folks this year. Last year was such a fun time and we are really looking forward to April 18th & 19th for just as good a time or even more this year! So, bring your friends and family. We will have a concession stand for your enjoyment. The show will open at 9:00 A.M. on both days.

I would like to send 'thanks' to the folks at Gorman Milling. They fed the volunteer firemen from Gorman, Desdemona and Carbon last evening. The hamburgers were delicious! And a big 'thanks' for the donation to each of the departments.

See you in Desdemona!

Carol Pell

are really the ones most crucial for keeping everything running smoothly so that everyone else can do their jobs more comfortably. Our people are caring and love your children. I just want to thank everyone at Gorman ISD, especially the school board, for all they do for the children of Gorman. They are the best!

The Area Track Meet was held in Graham, Texas on the 8th. I will include a few words in next week's article about how our kids did. We have great expectations going into the meet. I plan on getting a new bottle of sun screen and wear a wider brimmed hat this time!

TAKS Testing will be next week. This is a test that stresses teachers and students. Please encourage all involved. If you have a child being tested, please help them get off to a good start on testing day by getting a good night's sleep the night before and eating a good breakfast.

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!



Stephen P. Kelly, M.D. Medical Director

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- 613 A, 3-2 Brick Home, carport, barn, wells & tanks, creek & hunting, partial minerals & royalties \$2,025,000 (WV02)
- 455 A, wells & tanks, creek, tree covered hills, wildlife cover, hunting, Hwy.6 frontage \$1,912,000 (RS01)
- 380± A, wells & tanks, gentle rolling terrain, producing gas wells \$950,000 REDUCED \$931,000 (CW01)
- 328 A, High Fenced Game Ranch, hunting cabin, wells & tanks \$3,350 Per Acre (R001)
- 250± A, on Copperas Creek, 150 wooded, 100 coastal, lake, tanks, cabin, hwy. frontage, rural water \$850,000 (LB01)
- 243 A, reservoir & wells, irrigation pit, highway frontage, cultivation, costal, native pasture \$2,500 per acre (AB01)
- 236± A, wells & tanks, rolling terrain, minerals available, hunting \$2,195 per acre (PS02)
- 231 A, on Leon River, wells, pecan trees, hunting, minerals available \$751,530 REDUCED \$665,280 (DK01)
- 150 A, rolling terrain, approx. 90 acres wooded, wells & tanks, irrigation pit, hunting, minerals \$442,500 (LO01)
- 90 A, 4-3 Brick Home, fireplace, game room, RV shed, well & tank, minerals negotiable \$397,500 (BE01)
- 81 A, Pecan Orchard, approx. 900 improved variety trees, underground drip irrigation, 9 wells \$405,000 (REMO1)
- 52 A, 4-3 Brick Home, carport, wells & tanks, corrals, barns \$250,000 REDUCED \$239,500 (LP01)
- 51 A, with highway frontage, spring creek and hunting 182,000 (RP01)
- 47± A, 1-1 Rock Home, hand dug well, rural water supply, wildlife cover, coastal, hunting, and minerals are negotiable \$175,000 (WV02)
- 37½ A, excellent home site, costal, rural water supply available, hunting, minerals negotiable \$112,500 (WV01)
- 30 A, 3-2½ Custom Built Home, garage, porch, RV shed & shop, barn, wells & tanks, Hwy.16 frontage \$450,000 (DB01)
- 25.6 A, 4-2½ Brick Home, garage, carport, storage buildings, water well & tanks \$210,000 (JBO3) - UNDER CONTRACT
- 24.5 A, on Flat Creek, with water well, native pasture, close to highway \$98,000 (MP01) - UNDER CONTRACT
- 14± A, 3-2 Brick Home, fireplace, fenced yards, garages & storage buildings, hwy. frontage \$180,000 (FW01)
- 11 A, 16'x70' Mobile Home, metal awning, well, rural water, oak trees \$70,000 (R001)
- 8.6 A, 3-2 Frame Home, water well, above ground pool with deck, horse barn \$129,900 (KJ01)
- 8½ A, 3-2 Metal Frame Home, near Lake Proctor, work shop, wells, underground sprinkler system \$265,000 (JTO2)
- 7± A, Metal Building on slab, large oak trees, pecan orchard, hwy. frontage, water well \$65,000 (FW02)
- 5 A, 4-2 Brick Home, metal roof, carport, storage buildings, pecan trees, wells & tanks \$120,000 (WV01)

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- 3-2½ Custom Brick Home, approx. 1.4 acre, 3 car garage, rural water, paved drive, storage building \$297,500 (WV01)
- 4.73 A w/4-3 Remodeled Brick Home, additional recreational room, water well \$149,900 (RH02)
- 3-2 Double Wide, screened porch, workshop, wells, 2 large lots and older frame home \$135,000 (JA02)
- 3-3 Brick Home, approx. 1 acre, carport, well, underground sprinkler, C H/A, storage bldgs. \$130,000 (BC02)
- 3-2 Frame Home, 2.5 Acres, wood burning stove, carport, rural water, well, shop \$137,500 REDUCED \$99,900 (CC03)
- 3-2 Brick Home, carport, large shaded lot, fireplace, metal roof, storage building \$405,000 REDUCED \$90,000 (WV01)
- 2-1½ Frame Home, garage, storage building \$75,000 (ST01)
- 3-2 Doublewide, 2 car carport, on 3+ lots \$70,000 (LK01)
- 2-1 Frame Home, 2.3 A, screened porch \$55,000 (GB02)

See Pictures at: www.GilderRealty.com

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Gorman 1A, 1232' (CAD) manufactured home, CH/A, lots of trees, outbuildings, water well, septic, chain link. \$42,000. **SOLD**

15A north of Gorman: Sandy land, 2 water wells, county road on 2 sides, nice location for pond. \$3,000A.

NEW: 17A N/E Gorman, 10A wooded, nice large oak trees, electric meter, country location, great place for a new home! \$3,000 A.

NEW: 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

40 A m/l, south Gorman, pasture, fenced, small cabin, water well, small pond, elec., sandy soil, paved road. \$2,750 acre.

NEW: 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.

49.83 A. west Gorman, large pond, 2000 sq. ft. building, spots, country water/elec. available, fenced, ponds, barn/coral, great hunting, pretty place! \$2,900 ACRE

NEW: 80A s/e Gorman, app. 30 a coastal, 7- 8 wells, reservoir, good fences, elec., good soil, nice pond site. Will Divide \$2,500 per acre

100 A west De Leon FM587, 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: 156 A. Carbon, 1/2 wooded - 1/2 fields, deer, turkey, 3 ponds, nice 2 - 2 mh, central a/c, barn, corral, country water. \$4,000 acre.

179 A. south of Gorman: Part wooded, part old fields, deer & hogs, 2 nice ponds, sandy soil, elec., several water wells, condition is unknown. \$2,350.00 acre. **SELLERS SAYS MAKE OFFER!!**

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State College, Pa. -- April 8, 2008 -- AccuWeather.com reports the central and southern Plains will be targeted by increasingly severe weather late today. The threat of more widespread dangerous tornadoes increases from late Wednesday into Thursday.

The powerful and dangerous storms will be fueled by the clash of cooler air following the storm and the warm and moist air flowing out of the Gulf of Mexico. The strongest thunderstorms will be capable of producing damaging winds, hail, and isolated tornadoes. Drenching rain will renew flooding problems across the flood-ravaged Arklatex and lower Ohio Valley, where flash flood watches are in effect.

AccuWeather.com Severe Weather Expert Meteorologist Henry Margusity warned that a more widespread outbreak of severe weather is forecast for the latter half of the week. A new storm emerging from the Rockies on Wednesday will ignite the fierce weather. Early in the day, the storm will produce hail. Daytime heating will ignite a major outbreak of severe weather in the afternoon and overnight hours.

On Wednesday, the severe weather will threaten areas from West Texas to southwestern Missouri. As the storm pushes northeastward on Thursday, the severe weather will stretch from the Arklatex to the mid-Mississippi Valley.

The intense thunderstorms Thursday night and Friday will move through the Tennessee and Ohio valleys, while isolated severe thunderstorms could develop on Friday in the vicinity of Lake Erie.

The upcoming outbreak of severe weather has the potential to produce widespread long-lived tornadoes that could threaten lives and property. Anyone in the regions should monitor local broadcast outlets or weather radios, especially at night, and be prepared to take precautionary measures at a moment's notice. Safety rules for severe weather can be reviewed on AccuWeather.com.

To learn more or discuss with a forecaster, please contact:
Justin Roberti - 814-235-8756
Roberti@AccuWeather.com

-- Randy's Roundup --

A Weekly Newsletter from Congressman Randy Neugebauer
April 7, 2008

Help Available to Those Facing Mortgage Difficulties

While the economy in West Texas continues to be stronger than in many other parts of the country, I wanted to be sure any residents who are having difficulty with their mortgages were aware of assistance that is available.

Hope Now is a program created by an alliance of large banks, counselors, mortgage services, and other critical industry supporting organizations with the sole purpose of helping keep you in your home. If you are having difficulty making mortgage payments or have fallen behind on payments, Hope Now may be able to assist you. Both the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Treasury Department supported the creation of Hope Now to help encourage lenders to work with borrowers on options that help keep people in their homes rather than allow borrowers to fall into foreclosures.

If you are having difficulty making your mortgage payments or have fallen behind on your payments, you can call the Hope Now hotline at 888-995-Hope to speak with a mortgage counselor.

In addition, the Treasury Department recently announced a program to assist homeowners. Project Life Line is geared to help Americans stay in their homes by freezing the foreclosure process for 30 days while the mortgage is renegotiated or refinanced. All major banks have agreed to abide by the Treasury Department's plan to lessen the impact of these mortgages on the open market. To learn more, please visit, <http://www.ustreas.gov/>.

Honoring Our First Responders

Today, I was in Big Spring at an event to honor and thank our brave first responders who, amidst the chaos of the refinery explosion in February, came to the scene, put out the fires and helped those in need. It was an honor to meet with these individuals and express the appreciation of a grateful community for their dedicated work, and rapid professional response.

These dedicated men and women embody the best there is in a community; to come together in a time of crisis and do what needs to be done to help their fellow citizens. They risk their lives to help others, and there is nothing more honorable than that. Looking back on that fateful day in February, I can only thank the Good Lord that there was not a single fatality and truly believe that was a miracle.

National Public Health Awareness Week

The week of April 7 - April 13 is National Public Health Awareness Week. During this week, we should take time to reflect on our health and also the health of our friends and loved ones. Now that spring has arrived, we should look to new beginnings and go the doctor for our annual physical, mammogram or colonoscopy. We should also make an effort to remind our friends to do the same. There is no better time than right now to get started on a new lease on life.

Now is a great time to start exercising and eating healthy - it can add years to your life and give you more energy and confidence. By taking these steps, you can help reinvigorate yourself and improve your overall health.

As always, when events unfold in Washington, I will be sure to update you. In the meantime, do not hesitate to visit my website at www.randy.house.gov or call my office toll free district wide at (888) 763-1611 or my Washington, DC office at 202-225-4005.

--Randy

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

Sophomore Students and Parents:

The Sophomore Class will have a Bake Sale at Walmart-Eastland this Saturday-April 12, 2008-10:00 am.

Please make sure that you bring something to the school on **Friday** to sell at the **Bake Sale** or bring \$5.00 to help out with the sale.

Thanks,
Sophomore Class Sponsors
Denise Scott and Maria Schaefer

Minutes For The City of Gorman

APRIL 3, 2008

The Gorman City Commission met on the above date. Those present were Mayor Robert Ervin, Commissioners Nathan Files, Joe Casey, Charlie Torrez, and Cliffa Vaughn. Others present were Chief Barbara Fenley, Officer Robert Kluge, Bill Bates, Tim Dennis, and Neil Crisp.

Joe led the opening prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge.

Mayor Ervin called the meeting to order @ 5:30 p.m. Nathan made the motion to approve the minutes with correcting to state that Joe was absent at the March 20th meeting. Charlie made a second. Motion carried 4-0.

Joe made the motion to pay the bills, and contribute to the Gorman Baseball Commission. Nathan made a second, motion carried 4-0.

Tim Dennis was present to secure the community center for a training exercise during the month of May. He will get in touch with the City office on securing the definite date.

Charlie made the motion to purchase a new weed eater, with an extra head. Joe made a second. Motion carried 4-0. This will be an industrial series.

Reports were submitted by department heads. The Commission discussed with Chief Fenley and Officer Kluge the option of contracting with an individual to go through the Police Academy. The City would pay for the academy providing the individual signed at least a two year contract to remain in Gorman. Particulars will be worked out more extensively before a final decision is made.

Bill Bates was present to express his interest in running the swimming pool. Cheri Troutman ran the pool last year and recommended turning it over to Coach Bates. Tacy will type up the contract between Coach Bates and the City of Gorman.

The water tower had been inspected. The Commission read the report and recommendations. The commission will be seeking financial avenues to pursue the funding for future repairs and maintenance of the tower and an existing line.

There being no further business for discussion. Cliffa made the motion to adjourn with a second from Charlie. Motion carried, time was 6:25 p.m.

Can You Answer These Questions?

1. Do you know why we celebrate Easter Sunday?
2. Do you know why God would leave a perfectly good heaven to suffer a torturous, despicable death on a cross as a man?
3. Do you know the effects His actions have on you and your loved ones?
4. Do you know what the essential response is from mankind to God for this sacrifice?

Firstfruits Christian Fellowship (FCF) wants to help you explore the answers to these questions by inviting you to join any 1 of our 7 Life Groups that meet throughout the week.

"Recovery Meeting" Wed. 7pm, FCF Cisco Campus, 721 Conrad Hilton

-learn to access power & truth to overcome addictions through a relationship with Jesus Christ
-learn how to replace lies & deceptions that lead to self destructive behaviors with the wonderful truth of our Eternal God.

for more info call Clay @ 254-647-1064

"Balcony 10:25" 20's & 30's Singles & Couples, Wed. 6:30pm, FCF Gorman Campus, 325 Lexington
Balcony people encourage & cheer you on in your walk with Jesus! Hebrew 10:25 says, "Let us not give up meeting together as some are in the habit of doing, but encourage one another all the more as you see the Day approaching."

"Balcony 10:25" focuses on various topics such as; marriage, relationships, finances
For more info call Rusty or Kelli @ 806-787-8315

"Women's Group" Tuesday or Thursday (Call ahead) @ 4pm, FCF Gorman Campus, 325 Lexington
-Women of all ages are welcomed to visit this group on a journey to study the names of God. During this study they hope to come into a deeper heart relationship with God and to encourage one another through prayer and fellowship.

For more info call Ellen @ 254-734-2805, Joy @ 254-734-2121, or Sharon @ 254-592-2411

"Men's Group" Thursday 6pm, 520 W. McCall St., Gorman Texas

-Men of all ages are welcome to visit this group in Bible Study, Prayer & Sharing on how God will meet your needs.

For more info call Bill @ 254-734-2805, Joe @ 254-842-1266, or Bennie 254-734-5964

"Youth Group Meeting" Sunday 1pm, FCF Gorman Campus, 325 Lexington
-7th -12th Graders are welcomed to join this exciting youth ministry in Worship and Bible Study

-Lunch is provided and transportation is available
Contact Dion Fink @ 254-433-2326 or dionfink@yahoo.com

"Family Integrated Ministry" Sunday 12:45pm, FCF Gorman Campus, 325 Lexington
-This small group focuses on the equipping for household ministry. They serve lunch with each meeting and encourage everyone in their relationship with Jesus and have family focused training once each month

For more info call David or Nichola @ 254-639-2149

"Finding Your Purpose" Sunday 5pm, FCF Cisco Campus, Vineyard Cafe, 721 Conrad Hilton
-Worship, Bible Study, Fellowship and Finding your purpose.

For more info call Teresa @ 325-280-9133 or tjpevey@msn.com

Firstfruits Christian Fellowship is a Christ Centered, Biblically based Church who's mission is to bring God's recognizable presence to every heart in the Eastland County area through the Gospel message of reconciliation, the equipping of the Saints, and the building up of the body of Christ.

Join us on your journey to learn more about God's plan for your life!

Firstfruits Christian Fellowship

325 Lexington, Gorman Texas
(Corner of Crescent & Lexington)
Coffee & Pastries @ 10:00am
Worship Service @ 10:30am

Happenings At FBC!!

Splendid! The walls are framed and the building is being erected in His name, Glory to God! We are privileged to have an active part in doing God's work in this magnificent community.

Mark you calendars:

April 10th - 9am - Volunteers needed to help at the Food Pantry.

April 12th - 8am - Brotherhood Breakfast - Please come and enjoy the fabulous food, fellowship, and fun!
Shay Shay Ackerman opened our Worship Service with a lovely prayer.

Liz Caraway's Children's Sermon: Liz set up a little contest to demonstrate how much faster and easier you can drive a screw into a piece of wood with an electric screw driver. Jesus is our power tool in life! We all will face sad and hard times. Always remember God knows best. Don't do it your way, do it God's way!

Bro. Barry's message was "Hello, Hello, Can You Hear Me Now?"

Romans 5:8 and Ephesians 2:1

Mankind cannot get away from knowing that Jesus died for us, and it is through Him that we have Hope! There is a "New Age Movement", that is new to America, such as Oprah Winfrey promoting "ACIM" (A Course in Miracles) that suggests there are many paths to God and that Jesus is a mere symbol. We must watch our culture and be aware of these snares. It is the great commission, and our responsibility, to be bold for Jesus and to save lives in His name.

Mankind's Report Card:

1. Failure - Mistakes - Because of Calvary you don't have to stay a failure.
 2. Futility - Why try and try with the same result? Life is learning to find the second chance.
 3. Finality - Death - End of an earthly life.
- God says, "I Can Change All of Your F's to A's" -
I. Accept My Pardon - You are FREE from your past, so get over it!
II. Accept My Purpose - Is your life Unfulfilled? Don't miss His purpose for you!
III. Accept My Power - Eternal life is Dynamite! Be a witness and be excited about living for Him!

Take your stand for Jesus!
Hello, Hello, Can You Hear Me Now?

One thing is clear, God loves us. That's what the cross is all about. That's what millions of sermons through the ages have been about. That's the message God has been sending all these centuries. We can't miss that.

Hello, Lord, I Can Hear You Now! You died for me, I live for You!

Welcome new members: Carole Ervin, Benny & Carolyn Mathews, and Donnie Rodgers joined our Fellowship.

Our Worship Service begins at 11:00AM on Sunday mornings - please come and join us!
Also, our Worship Service is broadcast on the radio - 88.7FM.

God Bless and Keep You. See you next Sunday.

Buzz Free Bowling!

Did you know that Lone Star Lanes here in Stephenville is one of only a few bowling alleys in Texas that is not licensed for alcohol sales. This is why we offering:

Buzz Free Bowling!
Every Monday and Wednesday

2 hours of bowling for \$6.00 + shoe rental
Smoke Free Sunday and Monday!
Breathe EASY at Lone Star Lanes every Sunday and Monday we are Tobacco FREE! Another great reason families come to Lone Star Lanes for good, clean fun!

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"Strike Out!" at Lone Star Lanes!

Senior Citizens News

By Carol Ward

Our weekly luncheon was enjoyed by 28 people. We arrived at our usual time of 11:30 on the 2nd day of April. Jud Maxfield gave the blessing for us all. I really appreciate these people who do us this honor.

We really had a great dinner consisting of ham, lasagna, chicken, a sweet potato casserole brought by Bill Barrentine, so good! Also a great chicken noodle casserole made by Emma Jane Larch. Several vegetables and Mac and cheese dishes, beans, cornbread, and french bread. Our desserts were low again with some cupcakes, jello and a delicious cake by Emma Jane Larch. Where are all you dessert makers?

I forget to mention last week about Daisy Slaton taking her granddaughter Katie to the egg hunt. She was enjoying herself immensely with goodie gathering and posing with Mrs. Bunny. She also was wanting to pose with every one else in their pictures. I really got a laugh watching her, that little girl is something else.

I visited Opal Burton a week ago at Valley View Nursing Home. She was in a better mood, talking and smiling more. She allowed me to push her out to the lobby which is so nice. All redone. She could see the children swinging in the school yard next door. Also remarked on the school bus driving by. So much nicer out there with something to look at, other than the four walls. She doesn't care for TV, so life can be boring. Opal always liked the outdoors, planting flowers, etc.

Glad to see Wilburn Overstreet feeling improved. His hospital tests turned out OK!! Sorry to hear Geraldene Wright had been ill. I'm sure she is better by now. Hope to see her bank at the center soon. Also Annie Fay Foster had a time in the hospital, but should be home by now. We really miss her at the dinner, wish all could be so faithful.

I'm so sorry Kenny Welch for calling your Frank. Sometimes I do get names mixed up. I guess because I'd just wrote about Frank Shirley, it was still in my mind. Also he and Beth have not been up to par, so hope they are feeling improved.

Don't forget our supper in Desdemona on the 10th. The Seniors will pay! For those you need a ride be at the Center at 5 p.m. We will all try and be at Boom Town by 5:30. I do hope a good crowd shows up to enjoy.

We enjoyed game night on the 3rd with 10 present. They start play at 4 p.m., but some of us don't get there till later. Its hard for me to sit longer than 3 hours. We do have a good time. Wish some more of you would come out and enjoy the evening.

Hope all is well and see you next time, Carol.

Paul Revere of Texas – Juan Seguin

By U.S. Sen. John Cornyn

After the Alamo fell and its defenders were lost, Gen. Sam Houston retreated eastward with his remaining troops. The Mexican Army was not far behind. Those days, the spring of 1836, were the gravest possible for the fledgling Republic of Texas, and they produced a new Texas hero.

Capt. Juan Nepomuceno Seguin, an officer commissioned by Stephen F. Austin, rode hard on horseback ahead of Mexican Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's army after it seized Goliad. He warned settlers of the approaching danger, and became a Paul Revere of the Texas revolution.

As Houston made his way to San Jacinto, even the center of the young Republic at Washington-on-the-Brazos was abandoned. The desperate evacuation—called the Runaway Scrape—was a "pathetic exodus of refugees," wrote historian James L. Haley, as "whole families quit their land grants, fighting panic and epidemics of measles and fevers, taking only what they could carry, and joining the eastward flight through mud and swollen rivers."

"Houses were standing open, the beds unmade. The breakfast things still on the tables, pans of milk moulding in the dairies. There were cribs full of corn, smoke houses full of bacon, yards full of chickens ... cattle cropping the luxuriant grass ... Forlorn dogs roamed around the deserted homes, their doleful howls adding to the general sense of desolation ... Wagons were so scarce that it was impossible to remove household goods, many of the women and children, even, had to walk." Noah Smithwick recalled in *The Evolution of a State*.

Juan Seguin and his men provided the rear guard for Sam Houston's army during the Runaway Scrape. When he arrived at San Jacinto, however, he learned his company of soldiers had been assigned to guard the camp while others were to fight the decisive battle on April 21.

"Seguin protested vigorously that no one in Texas had suffered more from Santa Anna than they, no one had a greater stake in the outcome, and indeed, they had no homes to go to unless the dictator was defeated," historian Haley wrote. Houston agreed. "The Tejanos took their place in the line, with scraps of cardboard in their headbands to identify them as Texans."

The advance began. Eighteen minutes later, the Texans had won. Many from that battlefield moved on to prominent roles in the Republic, and later the state of Texas. Juan Seguin served three terms in the Congress of the Republic, then two as mayor of San Antonio.

His military heroism and subsequent service did not insulate Juan Seguin from controversies later in life. As tensions mounted between newly arriving Anglos and Mexican Texans, he took his family to Mexico in 1842. In his memoirs, he wrote that he was forced to serve in the Mexican Army during the U.S.-Mexican War four years later.

Today, history remembers Juan Seguin's courage in Texas's fight for independence. Within a few years after the battle of San Jacinto, the town of Walnut Springs changed its name to Seguin. The city obtained permission to move his remains from Nuevo Laredo to Seguin in 1976 and erected a statue of him in 2000. Several schools in Texas now bear the name of Juan Seguin.

I was reminded of the bravery of Juan Seguin and the controversy that later enveloped him when I addressed the annual conference of the American GI Forum in Corpus Christi last month. Dr. Hector P. Garcia, a World War II army officer, founded the GI Forum to work on behalf of returning Hispanic veterans.

Throughout Texas history, people of many backgrounds and all walks of life have stepped forward and answered the call in defense of liberty. As we celebrate San Jacinto Day this month, Seguin's story is another reminder that freedom is never free, and requires constant vigilance and sacrifice to keep it alive.

Desdemona News

By Vonnie Guthery

Ladies Monthly Social will be held on Monday, April 14th at the Desdemona Community Center (former school building). This social will be a Salad Luncheon. Plan to arrive at 11:30 a.m. with your favorite salad and have a great time visiting with your friends and neighbors. Helen Grimshaw will serve as Hostess. Vistors are welcome.

Roy and Angela Powledge was in Fort Worth last Sunday to attend the Hockey Games.

Remember the sick and shut-in of our Community with your cards and prayers. Just a not to say "Hello" means so much to each of them.

Clayton Gene Young, 56, of De Leon passed away. Burial was Wednesday, April 3rd in the Desdemona Cemetery. Survivors include his mother, Mary Young; wife, Reddie Young; his sons; sister, Terry Wofford and husband, Jim Bob; brother, Billy Young; nieces, nephews and a host of friends. Preceded in death by his father, Clayton Young. The Young family are former residents of Desdemona where Bro Clayton Young served as pastor for several years at the Church of Christ. Friends in Desdemona send sincere sympathy to this family in the loss of their loved one.

Desdemona Postmaster, Linda Edmiston will be retiring soon. Our Community will miss her and we wish her much happiness and good health in her retirement years. Linda lives in Rising Star, TX.

Have a nice day, Vonnie

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