

The Gorman Progress

"Serving Gorman For Over 111 Years"
 Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454
 2011 Member - Texas Press Association

NUMBER SIXTEEN

APRIL 21, 2011

Eastland County 323 Fire Destroys Property and Threatens the City of Gorman

Eastland County 323 Fire Stats

Below are miscellaneous statistics from the 323 fire which broke out on Friday, April 15 in southeastern Eastland County:

A total of 22 fire departments from Eastland, Erath, Comanche and Brown counties with some 90 fire fighters responded to the fire that was reported shortly before noon. It has consumed approximately 3,000 acres. 170 homes were in the path of the fire that was pushed by 30 mph gusting winds. No homes were lost and only 2 outbuildings were destroyed.

Named the 323 Fire for County Road 323 near where the fire started, the blaze was near the Eastland County community of Kokomo. Kokomo was nearly wiped out during the January 2006 fire that ravaged the southern portion of the county.

Eastland County Law Enforcement and Gorman Mayor Robert Ervin issued an evacuation order for the City of Gorman just before 1 p.m. on Friday. Gorman ISD immediately released students and staff with students bussed to DeLeon where they were met by their parents.

Residents of a Gorman nursing home were evacuated to facilities in Eastland, Cisco and Baird. A Red Cross evacuation center was set up at the First Baptist Church in Eastland. The evacuation order was lifted before dark and residents were allowed to return to their homes.

Five firemen and one civilian were injured and one fireman lost his life. Eastland Fireman Greg Simmons was pronounced dead at approximately 2:30 p.m. by Eastland County Justice of the Peace James King.

Numerous fire apparatus were destroyed or damaged during the fire fight with Gorman Fire Department losing a 2 1/2 ton attack truck.

Area departments participating with equipment and personnel included Bangs, Carbon, Cisco, Comanche, DeLeon, Desdemona, Dublin, Early, Eastland, Erath County, Gorman, Lake Brownwood Dam, Lingleville, May, Morgan Mill, Olden, Proctor, Ranger, Rising Star, Sipe Springs, Stephenville, and Zephyr.

Fourteen ground units and one helicopter from the Texas Department of Public Safety joined four Eastland County Sheriff's units, five Eastland and two Gorman Police units. Two dozers and 9 personnel from the Texas Forest Service were staged at the fire as well.

By mid afternoon Saturday, April 16 the 323 fire was contained. By noon Sunday, April 17 several rekindles at the 323 fire were reported but were small in size and extinguished quickly. The 323 fire remains 100% contained as of this time.

Eastland Fire Fighter's Death Takes Tragic Turn



The tragic death of Eastland fire fighter Greg Simmons took a dramatic turn late Saturday afternoon. A preliminary autopsy report released to local and state officials reported that Mr. Simmons' death was caused by an accidental blow to his upper torso.

Based on the preliminary report, the Department of Public Safety has been given the lead for investigation and will be working with the Texas State Fire Marshall.

"Unfortunately this investigation is going to take considerable time to accomplish. Results will be released as soon as they become available," said DPS Sgt. David Foster.

Funeral Services Set For Firefighter Greg Simmons

Funeral services for fallen Eastland Fire Fighter, husband, father and friend, Gregory Mack Simmons, will be held at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, April 20, 2011 at the Leon River Cowboy Church, I-20 East-Olden, TX. Burial will be in the Oaklawn Cemetery in Gorman, TX. Family visitation is set for 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 19 at Edwards Funeral Home, 301 S. Lamar, in Eastland.

Fire personnel and apparatus from throughout the state will be participating in the service and procession. Traffic may be diverted and/or slowed due to the funeral procession from the funeral home to the church and from the church to the cemetery. The procession to the cemetery will follow a route from the church along the south service road of I-20 to the intersection at FM 570. The procession will turn right on Hwy 112/East Main St. and proceed to the downtown intersection at Seaman where it will turn left and proceed south on Seaman, passing in front of the Eastland Fire Department before continuing south along Hwy 6 to Gorman.

Fire Department apparatus attending the funeral service should arrive no later than 11 a.m. for staging due to limited parking at the church.

Directions to the Leon River Cowboy Church are: From the EAST take the 347 Exit, turn left on CR 438 going UNDER I-20, take a right on the South Frontage Road. From the WEST take the 345 Exit and continue east on the South Frontage Road to the church on your right east of the Texas Cattle Exchange.

"Thank You"

Thank You To everyone for all their Prayers and Cards sent to me while I have been sick.

Thanks, Mary Turner

High School Honor Roll

Fifth Sixth Weeks

Freshman Class - A - Zach Carlton, Kinsey Johnston, Melissa Ramirez, Jessica Williams, Holly Wood.

A-B - Connie Gonzales, Jessica Ledford, Yarina Montelongo, Rebecca Rainey and Rhys Vaughn.

Sophomore Class - A - Luis Limon. **A-B** - Drew Flanary, Stephanie Grissom, Christen Hagan, Skyler Henderson, Bradley Lipson, Viridi Maldonado, Margarita Oronia and Rachel Tucker.

Junior Class - A - Dolores Garcia, Chelsea Griffin, Erica Madera and A. J. Vaughn. **A-B** - Zach Ewing, Charlie Jackson, Ally Little, Rebekah Powell, Courtney Shirley and Katey Thackerston.

Senior Class - A - Corey Houston, Jaime Johnston, Jaylon Miley, Amy Regian, Stephanie Risueno and T. J. Warren. **A-B** - Matt Keith, Abby Pacheco, Maria Raygoza and Cody Wood.

BENEFIT FOR RUTH NORRIS

We're "cookin up a storm" for our friends and neighbors to honor sweet Ruth Norris -- Kidney and pancreas recipient who continues to do well, but needs financial assistance.

Please come eat supper with us, enjoy visiting and participate in our live auction. Menu will include delicious barbecued brisket (cooked by Hardin's Barbecue of Eastland) and all the trimmings plus -- Wonderful home-baked desserts. If you can contribute a dessert please call Mittie Bledsoe at 254-639-2494 by May 7th.

The feed is on May 14th at the Carbon Community Center -- Fun starts at 5:00 p.m. -- Auction planned for 8:00 p.m. Or thereabouts -- Please come eat, enjoy fellowship and show your love and assistance for Ruth and the Norris Family.

Thank you so much for your support -- Not only for this event but all those sponsored by Carbon Community Center.

GORMAN'S CITY WIDE GARGAGE SALE

Will be held on April 30, 2011. Call to get your name on the map free of charge: 254-734-2317 Jill.

You are welcome to set up in the park or in front of community center or city hall if you choose.

Kokomo Baptist To Host Easter Sunrise Service

Everyone is invited to the Easter Sunrise Service at 7:00 A.M. on Sunday, April 24th at Lake Leon at the Little's Lake Cabin off Staff Road.

Breakfast will be served following the service. Then the traditional Easter Egg Hunt.

In case of bad weather, it will be moved to the Kokomo Baptist Church

Annual Easter Treasure Hunt

It's nearly here...the Annual Easter Treasure Hunt. Are you ready? Mrs. Bunny is! She will be here for the annual Easter Treasure Hunt Sat. at 2:30 at the City Park Downtown Gorman. Hunt will start at 2:30 BUNNY TIME. So don't be late or you may miss out on all the fun. Group 1 is for infants (CHILD MUST BE ABLE TO SIT ALONE) to age 1 Group 2 is for . 2 and 3 year olds, Group 3 is for 4 year olds to kindergarten Group 4. is for 1st and 2nd graders and Group 5 is for 3 and 4 graders See you there. NOTICE INCASE OF BAD WEATHER THE EASTER TREASURE HUNT WILL BE HELD AT A LATER DATE.

I would like to apologize to the youth for not having our annual YOUTH IN THE DARK IN THE PARK this year. I was unable to find a suitable date with so much going on. Thank you Ina Smith

Gorman Panther Track Team Competes At Area Track Meet

The Gorman Panther Track Team competes at Area Track Meet At Zephyr recently.

The results are: 400 Meter Relay took 7th place with a time of 47.60 sec.- BJ Ramirez, Drew Flanary, Zach Carlton, Matt Fox; 100 Meter Dash- Matt Fox- 8th place with a time of 12.03 sec.; 1600 Meter Run- Sergio Hipolito- 4th place with a time 5:09.81 sec.; Shot Put- Zach Carlton- 7th place with a throw of 38'6 1/4". Discus- Zach Carlton- 6th place with a throw of 112' 9". Discus- Jon Fenley- 7th place with a throw of 107' 6". Triple Jump- Drew Flanary- 5th place with a jump of 38' 1 1/2". Matt Fox- Long Jump- 5th place with a jump of 18' 6 3/4".

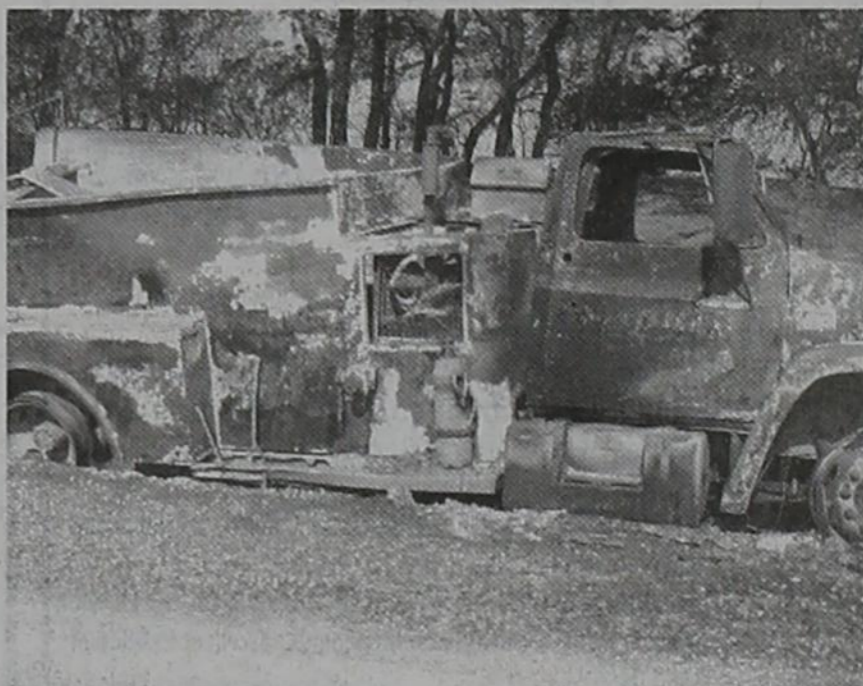


Sergio "Champ" Hipolito (second left) brings home a fourth place medal in the 1600 meter run from Zephyr. Sergio will compete at the regional track meet on May 3 at 1:00pm at ACU.

Wildfire Brings Havoc To Gorman Area

A Wildfire brought havoc and devastation to the area northwest of Gorman on Friday. Fire of unknown origin began just south and East of the Flatwood area and flamed by extreme high winds, spread through the area between FM 2526 and Flatwood Highway and continuing to the north of Kokomo destroying several thousand acres of grasslands and wooded areas. The wildfires were finally conquered north of the Kokomo Baptist Church near the Joe Bond place.

Following a blaze that destroyed a home on North Fisher street in Gorman the firemen were summoned to the wildfire area and with the help and unselfish heroism of all the surrounding area fire departments, the devastating fires were finally conquered, but not before they had claimed the life of an Eastland firefighter Gregory Simmons, 50, who was killed in the area around CR 323 when the wind-aided flames shifted and caught some fire trucks who were unable to escape the flames. Simmons was taken to the Eastland Memorial Hospital, but was pronounced DOA. Also in the same area the Gorman Fire Department lost one Attack Truck and three of the firemen received severe burns. Matt Clark received burns to his hands and face, Billy Don Simpson and Jim Guthery had severe burns to their face area. Clark was later transferred to a burn center in Dallas and will have to have undergo skin grafts to his hands. It was unknown if there were any other injuries reported in the fire.



Gorman received an evacuation warning from the Sheriff's department. School kids, nurses home patients and other handicapped people were transported to safe areas just in case the fire could not be contained. But thank God the unselfish firemen of the area were able to extinguish fire and the Gorman area citizens were able to return to their homes. The folks in the entire area have expressed their Thanks and Appreciation to all the area firemen for the Outstanding Efforts performed in our behalf. Enough cannot be said for their help.

Charlie Garrett Memorial Library

As a follow-up to the Employers' Luncheon held a couple of weeks ago in the Community Center by Texas Work Force, we are instituting assisted access to Texas Work Force job search web-site at the library. If you are seeking employment and would like information about this great web-site please call Vonetta Johnson at 325 795-4200 or drop by the library Wednesday afternoons from 3-5.

New books at your library this week are:

- Seen The Glory - a novel of The Battle of Gettysburg by John Hough, Jr.
- Dog Owner's Home Veterinary Handbook - Carlson and Giffin
- The American Medical Assoc. Home Medical Encyclopedia in 2 Volumes
- A Book of Photographs from Lonsome Dove by Bill Wiffliiff (Reference Only)
- Education of a Wandering Man - A Memoir by Louis L'Amour

Come and CHECK IT OUT!!

Carbon Community Center News

The Carbon 5th Saturday Musical will be held this coming April 30th. Music and dinner will be offered for \$5 beginning at 5:30pm. On the menu will be soup, stew, cornbread, desert and coffee, tea or water. Musicians and singers wishing to perform are requested to contact TJ Cummings at 254-488-1249 in order to be scheduled.

The Musical held January 29th was successful, featuring traditional country and western, western swing and, recently, gospel music. These groups were well received by the audience. We extend our thanks to these folks for using their talents to provide pleasure for others and we offer an open invitation to other individuals or groups to participate.

The Carbon Community Center is a non-profit organization made up of local citizens dedicated to providing a pleasant, well maintained location that serves the needs of the community by offering a meeting place with historical value. The Center is home for memorabilia from the Carbon ISD, which makes it a worthy site for reunions, weddings, anniversary celebrations, meetings, dinners and musicals. It is often used as the polling place for Carbon.

Our 5th Saturday Musicals are held to provide an occasion for folks to enjoy music played and sung by local folks, to appreciate good meals and to make funding available that helps with repairs and maintenance to the building. Make plans to invite your neighbors and bring your family. We hope to see you there.

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507 N. Fisher in Gorman
 Contact Sandy Files at 254-734-3659

Now Taking Accepting Bids
 Gorman Independent School District will be accepting bids for Institutional food items for the 2011-2012 school year. For a complete list of the items contact Gena Rone at 254-734-3171 ext 6. All bids are due on or before 3:00 p.m. Friday May 6, 2011

Awards will be based upon pricing and service. GISD reserves the right to reject all bids.

HELP WANTED
 Openings in Gorman for Full & Part Time food service experienced team members. Backgrounds & Drug screens will be administered. We pay above minimum wage & offer a pay raise upon ServSafe Certification. Apply online at www.richesondq.com

IMMEDIATE OPENING: Homestead Nursing & Rehabilitation of Gorman needs CNA's for 2-10 and 10 to 6 Shifts also All P.R.N. Shifts For additional information, contact the facility at 254-734-2202. EEOC FNC

COGBURN REALTY
 254-893-6666 DE LEON, TX

107.09 A, 2 mile S of Gorman FM 679: Old homestead w/large Oaks, old well, approx. 40 a good coastal, 40 a cultivated, small pond. \$2,150 per acre.
 2-1 Frame, window A/C, 50 x 125 lot. Only \$14,900 - Owner Financing
 3 - 1 1/2 - 2 Brick, 1348 sf, central a/c, some new carpet, metal roof, sunroom, large fenced backyard, near school, nice & Clean. \$41,500.
 35 A. M/L - Erath Co. N. De Leon, paved frontage, good small acreage recreational place, heavy brush cover, deer, wild turkey and hogs! Over 1/2 mile of creek frontage. \$3,495 per acre.
 3 + Acre, 3 - 2 3/4 - 2 brick, central A/C, 2375 sf, den + lg game room, nice carpet, metal roof, water well, 20 x 40 shop, secluded, lots of Post Oaks! \$119,500.
 9+ Acres, n/w Gorman: Beautiful landscaping, remodeled 2-story ranch style 3 - 2 home, 1700 sf, metal roof, carport, 30x40 metal shop, several wells, lots of trees. Nice! \$149,500.
 S/E Gorman: 45 A, sandy land, few Pecan trees, 7 water wells, irrigation reservoir, close to pavement. \$2,500 Acre.
 Near Gorman, 60 A m/l, 2-1 frame farmhouse, new windows/front door, new metal roof, 2 ponds, fenced, some Coastal, partly wooded, small barn/corral, water well, 2 car carport/storage. \$215,000
 S/E Gorman: 60 A, good sandy soil, some coastal, good fences, elec., nice pond site. \$2,800 Acre.
 100 A west De Leon FM587, 3 - 1 1/2 - 2 brick, 1444 sq. ft., C/HA, 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.
 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.
SELLERS SAYS MAKE OFFER!
 322A. Oak & Elm Trees, 2 creeks, great water shed project! 40 A. Coastal, owner reports 300 round bales/year, 55 A. Cultivable soils, 6 ponds, water well, 1200' metal Bldg with slab floor, elec. Deer, turkey, and other wildlife. \$2,300 A.
NEW - 396 A near Sipe Springs wildlife managed sportsman's dream ranch, lakes, ponds, elevation changes game feeders and blinds, hunter's cabin, remodeled brick ranch house, 30x40 metal shop & More. \$2,750 acre.
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20 ACRES, M/L, GORMAN - Good coastal & native grasses, 1 tank & partially fenced. Will be surveyed out of a larger tract. Could be very productive. A2
BETTER BELIEVE IT - There's plenty of room & privacy for the lover of country living on this 2 AC, m/FL. 3 BR, 2 bath brick-LR w/FP, DR & den. Outside is a deck w/ jacuzzi, a tank, 3 stg. bldgs. & lg. metal barn 2/2 heated & cooled rooms. Call today & enjoy the fresh air & Wide open spaces! HA2
 11.917 ACRES, M/L - GORMAN - 1 tank, 1 old water well, mostly mesquite and some oak. Excellent place to build. A3
MOTIVATED SELLER - Brick Home on 3.7 ac. - REDUCED - 3 BR, 1 3/4 baths, LR, DR, office, DAG, stg. Bldg. & metal barn w/elec., outbuildings. Excellent location at the edge of Gorman. 03
"EDGE OF GORMAN - 1.3 AC, m/l. Maintenance free Brick 3 BR, 1 3/4 bath, open LR-DR, kitchen area w/bk. bar, Utility, CH/A fenced yard, SACP w/stg. & barn. 06
HUNTING & GRAZING - 257.53 AC. Mostly mesquite, food plots for deer, grazing or hay, tanks, good fences on 2 sides, Nash Creek, rolling terrain A18
CHARM, WARMTH, COMFORT - This 2 BR, 1 bath brick has all of this & more. Large inviting living room, kitchen/dining combo, CH/A, utility w/extras, DACP & cov. porch overlooking the oversized back yard with it's beautiful pecan trees. Call us to make your appointment today! 08
PRODUCTIVE - 160 AC, m/l, N. of Gorman. Coastal, good soil, 2 tanks, water well & frontage on 2 county roads. A13
INVESTORS - INVESTORS - INVESTORS - Lots of possibilities - 2 story office building & old cafe. C19

The Gorman Progress
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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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Pig Tales From Hogtown

It is very difficult to write this article today. As you know, Eastland lost one of its volunteer fire fighters in last week's fire north of Gorman. Our prayers are with the family and friends of Greg Simmons.

I read in the paper last week that someone is removing road signs and burn ban signs in the area - folks, do you not realize that the next emergency could involve your family or someone you care about? How do you think emergency vehicles could get to them if someone removed road signs? If someone is passing through our area, they could throw a cigarette out the window not realizing that a burn ban is in effect. What if that cigarette is in front of your loved one's home? Please do not do this.

On a happier note, the spring craft show at the Desdemona Activity Center was a success! Our vendors brought a great variety of items to sell, the bake sale went very well, as usual, and many folks enjoyed lunch at the concession stand. A huge 'thank you' to all who participated!

This Friday is our regular 4th Friday of the month dance with 'Burning Daylight'. The concession stand opens at 6:00 and the music starts at 7:00.

See you in Desdemona!
 Carol Pell

A Letter To The Editor - The Question of Easter

By Henry A. Buchanan
 Did Jesus Rise From the Dead? Is He Coming Back? Will We Live Again?

An affirmative answer to these three questions gave birth to and built the church of the first century and of the nineteen centuries intervening the death of Jesus of Nazareth and the tragedy that struck Japan on March 12, 2011, revealing that we live in a beautiful but dangerous world that is the joint creation and joint care of God and Man.

But we can only answer "yes" to the three questions if we can see the events of history in their mythic nature. And this is possible only if we know the nature of the myth: a meeting of God and Man on the plane of human history in an experience that enables man to discover and to understand and to appreciate Life in its tragic and glorious potential.

To understand what Myth is, we must clear away false notions in common usage today of what myth is. Myth is not a mistaken notion; myth is not an outmoded concept. Myth is not a falsehood, not an untruth, not a lie. Myth is truth, more specifically a vehicle on which Truth is transported and brought to us. What makes myth different from all other forms of storytelling is this: there is a divinity present or hovering nearby. To put it bluntly, God speaks to Man in a myth. This is what makes the story of Jesus' resurrection the supreme and glorious myth. It is the Truth that God in Jesus Christ overcame and overcomes death with New Life.

Jesus' bodily resurrection means that the influence, the impact of His person on His close followers was so powerful that He created in them the church which is His Risen Body composed of men and women who saw the invisible, heard the inaudible voice and spoke with and walked with the Man who had changed their lives from despair into hope, and they accepted the challenge to change their world of slavery and death into the heaven of freedom and life.

He is not coming back in clouds of glory and attended by an army of avenging angels. He has come back in a thousand humble faces of love and pity and mercy to walk among us in the form of a needy child and in the bent body of an aged man or serving woman in whose toothless smile heaven's glory may warm the earth.

Yes, He lives thus among us whenever and wherever we who have felt His touch, also touch and heal the one who needs that touch.

He is here and the eyes of faith may see His Face, the ears of hope may hear His Voice, and He walks with Us when we match our stride to His on errands of mercy and courage. This enables us to brave the dangers of this world and to see its beauty and become with Him the Co-creators of Heaven on this Earth because we have discovered the secret of love.

To dream of a Heaven in which there is no sickness, no sorrow, no trouble and no death is irresponsible and unrealistic. To create on Earth a Heaven in which Christians heal the sick, comfort the sorrowing, respond with wisdom and courage to the troubles of our world, and create the Hope of Life out of the tragedy of death, is our Resurrection, our experience of Easter.

Henry A. Buchanan
 1131 N. Kent St. - Gorman, TX 76454
 254-734-4569 April 21, 2011

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"On The Wilder Side"

I could live the rest of my life and be a happy man if I never have to do it again... Evacuate! This past Friday started like any other Friday. Drink coffee, go to the post office to pick up the mail, and work in the office for a bit. But this dry weather and gusty winds made Gorman the target for one large fire pit. So we all had to leave. Go Go Go, somewhere, anywhere, just GO. Several things went through our minds as we packed our bags. What should we save from the impending fire? Our family, picture, records, our family pet... check! What will we need for the upcoming days should we lose everything? Clothes, diapers, formula, gasoline... check! What about everything we are leaving behind? Lock the doors and windows... check! Renter's insurance should we have to start over... check!

Situations like this remind me of the very startling fact that this world is not my home, I'm just passing through. My treasure is laid up somewhere beyond the blue. All of my lifelong effort of collecting stuff is in vain. Everything I've saved for, everything I've built, everything I cherish is nothing but potential tender for the next fire, flood, or thief. The words of Jesus in Matthew 6:19-21 are sobering: "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Maybe we should consider this evacuation as an audit rather than a false alarm. When our Lord does return to take us with Him, will you look back like the wife of Lot (Gen 19:26), or will you eagerly go with Him and leave this world behind? Where is your treasure?
 Fight the good fight (1 Tim 6:12)
 Jason Wilder
 Gorman Church of Christ

FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION
SATURDAY, APRIL 30
10:00 A.M. -- HWY 377 IN TOLAR, TX
 Tractors, Pickups, Cars, Cattle Trailers, Horse Trailers, Chisels, Planters, Grain Drills, Tandems, Hand Tools, Power Tools and Approximately 200 Small Items.
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A rent House owned by Denver Rainey was in gulfed in fire on Friday morning, April 15th. The Gorman Fire Department with help from De Leon, Desdemona and Carbon worked to get the fire stopped. During the cleanup of the house fire the fire on CR 323 was reported and most of the fire departments were sent to the Wildfire just East of Flatwood Community. The House was reported to be a total loss.

HOMESTEAD HAPPENING

This week is NATIONAL VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION WEEK. We would like to thank everyone who volunteers in any way at Homestead. You are greatly appreciated by the residents and staff. If you would like to be a volunteer just let us know. Thank you again volunteers.

We would like to welcome Sue Simmons to our Homestead Family. Sue moved here from Baltimore Maryland to be closer to her brother, Eugene and Claudia Simmonds. Welcome Sue.

What started out last week as a nice calm week, ended rather not so nice. As most of you already know Gorman residents were advised to evacuate. The decision was made to move our residents to our sister facility in Baird. We could not have done this without the tremendous amount of volunteers who showed up to help. We had people from all over come and offer their assistance. Some spent time with the residents just reassuring them and visiting with them. All the residents were real troopers. Some of the residents rode a school bus for the first time.

Our monthly birthday party will be Monday April 25 following Monday afternoon Gospel Singing. We have two birthdays this month, Sue Simmons on April 12 and Lula Schneider on April 30. Everyone is invited to come and join us.

On Tues. and Thurs. we made our Easter Hats. We will be modeling them on Friday.

Darrell Graham wrote a beautiful poem about Easter, be sure to read it. Next Tues. morning will be poetry time and Darrell has agreed to bring some of the poems he has written and read them for us. Come and join us on Tues. April 26 at 10:30 and listen to some great poetry.

We would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter. Remember the reason for the season.

It Seemed An Ordinary Morning

*'Twas a morning like this morning,
With the sunlight peeping through.
Just an ordinary morning,
For the likes of me and you.*

*But, somehow it just feels different,
Troubling sadness fills the soul;
As the women walked so softly,
With a tomb their final goal.*

*But they find to their amazement,
Empty tomb, the sunlight shows.
Grave clothes lay as He had left them,
When the Son of God arose.*

*Rose in majesty and splendor,
Precous Lamb of God most high.
Over death and cross victories,
Raised in triumph to the sky!*

*Seated on His throne of glory,
At the Father's own right hand.
Pleading with the Father for us,
So that in His grace we stand.*

*That one day, we'll rise to meet Him,
When on earth we cease to roam.
He will welcome all His children,
To their final, peaceful home.*

Darrell Graham - 2011

Dublin Round-Up For REHAB Sale

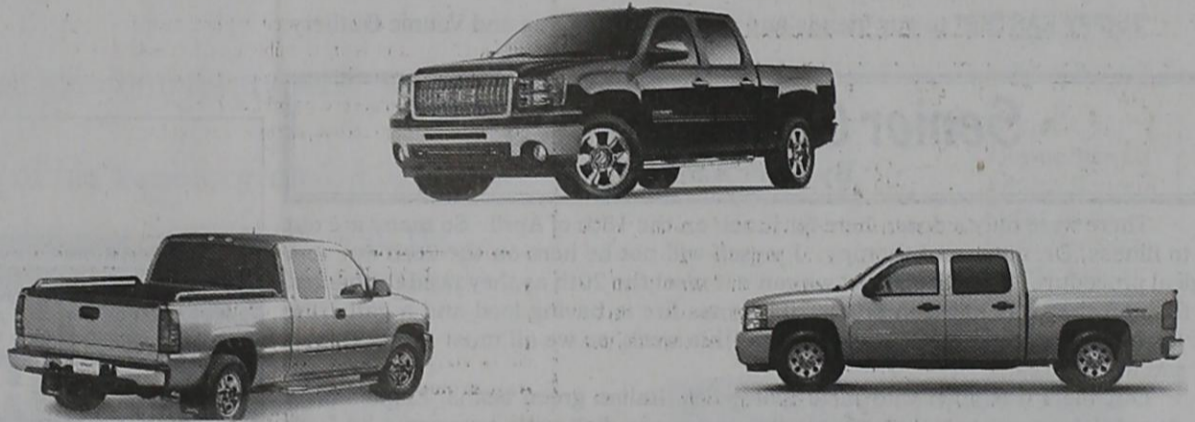


Cayce Pratt is leading the Llama donated by Frank Green at the Dublin Round-Up for REHAB sale. Hosted by Dublin Livestock Auction on April 8th, the event was a great success raising \$13,321 to benefit the West Texas Rehabilitation Center.

Open and Cosmic Bowling!
Join us for Buzz Free and BYOB Cosmic Bowling Call for days available for this service. Another great reason families come to Lone Star Lanes for good, clean fun!
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Livestock Indemnity Program Benefits Available to Producers Suffering Wildfire Losses

As the drought in Texas continues, wildfires are a daily threat to livestock operations across the state. In the event of losses experienced as a result of wildfire, eligible ranchers and livestock producers can apply for benefits through the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) administered by USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA).

LIP compensates livestock owners and contract growers for livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather, including losses due to hurricanes, floods, blizzards, wildfires, extreme heat and extreme cold. Eligible losses must have occurred on or after Jan. 1, 2008, and before Oct. 1, 2011.

A notice of loss must be filed with FSA within 30 days of when the loss of livestock is apparent. Livestock that die within 60 days of the date of the qualifying event, but prior to Oct. 1, 2011 will be considered eligible for loss benefits.

USDA has established normal mortality rates for each type an weight range of eligible livestock, i.e. Adult Beef Cow = 1.5% and Non-Adult Beef Cattle = 3%. These established percentages reflect losses that are considered expected or typical under, "normal" conditions.



Producers will be required to provide verifiable documentation of death losses resulting from an eligible adverse weather event.

After filing a notice of loss, livestock producers should file a LIP application as soon as possible to avoid a delay in processing and receipt of disaster assistance.

For more information on LIP, the LIP application process and other FSA programs, please contact the Eastland county office at 254-629-1636 or visit FSA online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/tx>.

Be Sure to File a NAP Notice of Loss for Fire Damage within 15 Days of Loss

Farmers and Ranchers who participate in the Farm Service Agency's Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP) are reminded to file a notice of loss within 15 days of when any loss is apparent. If you purchased a NAP policy for native or improved grass for hay or grazing, and your pastures or fields burn in a fire, please be sure to file a notice of loss immediately. Even if you have already filed a



notice of loss for drought, you need to file an additional notice of loss for fire.

Desdemona News

By Vonnie Guthery

Desdemona Monthly Musical will be held on Saturday, April 23rd at the Community Center (former school building). Concession stand opens at 5:30 p.m. Serving sandwiches, homemade pies and drinks. Come early to enjoy supper with all of the group before the music program begins at 6:00 p.m. There will be Country and Western music with some gospel and bluegrass included. All musicians and singers are invited to attend. This is a "Smoke Free" environment and the admission is "FREE".

First Baptist Church of Desdemona had low attendance last Sunday due to several members on the sick list and others on vacation. Bro. Charlie Johnson, his wife, Jana and all the members invites visitors to attend next Sunday at 11:00 a.m. For the "Easter Service".

"Congratulations" to Gerald and Shana Lewis on the arrival of their baby girl, born on Tuesday, April 5 weighing 6 lbs and 12 ounces. Anyssa Klair is welcomed at home by a big sister, Madilyn. Grandparents are Harold "Buckshot" Lewis of Jakehamon Community; Clifford and Galyna Holland of De Leon.

Robert and Ima Brown hosted a "Birthday Celebration" on Sunday, April 10th at their home in Desdemona. The occasion was to celebrate all family birthdays in the month of April. Birthdays for this month includes Ima and her two granddaughters, Lindsay Dain of New York and Julie Brown of Fort Worth. Several other family members attended to enjoy the good food and fellowship.

Friends of Desdemona send sincere sympathy to the family of Arlona (Ash) Barnes, 78 of Mesquite. Survivors include her husband, Harry Barnes, their children and grandchildren; two brothers, P.D. Ash of Stephenville and Arlington Ash of Clyde; sister, Eula Jean (Ash) McConal of Stephenville. Preceded in death by her parents, John and Minnie (Young) Ash; brother, Johnny Ray Ash; sister, Arlena (Ash) Foreman. The Ash Family are former residents of Desdemona where all their children attended school and graduated. Arlena graduated with the Class of 1950.

"HAPPY EASTER" to our friends and neighbors from Pug and Vonnie Guthery.

Senior Citizens News

By Carol Ward

There were only a dozen here for lunch on the 13th of April. So many are out due to illness, Dr. appt. and therapy. I myself will not be here on the 20th due to a surgical procedure. I just found out we can not meet the 20th as they need the center. The fireman that was killed in our terrible grass fire is having food and a gathering here for him. We are supposed to have rain this week, so we all must pray. It is so very sad in our area.

Our meal was good with meat loaf, pizza, Italian green beans, English peas with carrots, corn, pinto beans, cornbread and a egg dish with asparagus by Beth Shirley. Desserts were low with Jello and a pie. Then Crystal Conway saved the day with a cake. She is from Integra Care in Cisco. She visits us every few weeks. We had not seen her since her baby boy was born in February. Sure good to see her looking good. Wilburn Overstreet gave the blessing for all.

I visited Daisy Slaton on Saturday the 16th of April. She is much improved. Walking again with her walker, and more alert. She seems happy and likes the Woodlands. It is such a lovely facility with lots of help. Actually better than home, more people around for your needs. She was playing dominoes when I arrived with two other ladies.

My son Mark and wife Sandra will carry me to Houston this time. His son lives in Spring, so will stay till Easter. They only have upstairs bedrooms and that's out for me. I may stay with a brother-in-law in Willis or get a motel. I'm quiet nervous about this trip as I now know what to expect. I'll be glad when it is over. Then I will go back the 1st of June for consultation, after school is out, my daughter Becky can carry me for whatever treatment.

Hope to see you all on the 27th of April. Keep well and happy. Also have a good Easter celebration. Carol.

BRIDES-TO-BE!
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For Your Wedding Needs Please Come By To View Our Book of Wedding Invitations and Accessories
The Gorman Progress - 734-2410

Happy Easter!!!

Community Garden Project

Gorman Community Garden is having a clean up day for the site on April 23rd from 9am to 12pm. The garden's location is on the corner of Ector and Houston street. It is on Mrs. Lasater's lot. If you would like to reserve a space in the garden be sure come help. Everyone is welcome to participate in the garden. To ensure that our garden has a friendly atmosphere there will be guidelines everyone must follow.

1. You have till the end of May to plant in your space; unused plots will be extended to members who would like to garden it.
 2. If you become unable to garden your space you must contact a leader of the garden so the space may be utilized.
 3. Be respectful of others garden; only pick what is yours.
 4. No chemical fertilizers, pesticides or fungicides will be allowed; you may use organic products only.
 5. Children must be supervised at all times.
 6. You may have a fence around your space if it is see through and no taller than 1 foot high.
 7. The garden will be open from dawn till dusk 7 days a week.
 8. No one will be allow to drive on the property; please park on the side.
 9. The City of Gorman nor anyone associated with the Community Garden will not be held liable for any injury to persons or property resulting from garden activity.
 10. If disputes accure between gardeners they will be fined the 1st time; the 2nd will result in gardeners no longer able to use the garden.
 11. All gardeners are allowed on the garden section of the property only. Violators will not be allowed to use the garden.
- This is an opportunity for our community to come together. Come enjoy the Gorman Community Garden!!!

Gorman Schools Menu for Apr. 25 - Apr. 29

BREAKFAST

MONDAY - Cereal, Toast, Sausage, Juice, and Milk.
TUESDAY - Breakfast Pizza, Hashbrown, Juice, and Milk.
WEDNESDAY - Pancakes, sausage, Juice and Milk.
THURSDAY - Breakfast Burrito, Banana, Juice and Milk.
FRIDAY - Bacon, Eggs, Biscuit, Juice and Milk.

LUNCH

MONDAY - Chicken Fried Steak or Chicken rings, cream potatoes, green beans, oranges, biscuit and Milk.
TUESDAY - Sub. Sandwiches, tuna sandwich, lettuce, tomato, pickle salad, chips, fruit and Milk.
WEDNESDAY - Ground Beef and Macaroni, steak fingers, potato smiles, English Peas, Biscuit, Strawberries and Bananas and Milk.
THURSDAY - Honey Lemon Chicken, Smoke Sausage, Broccoli and Rice, Carrot coins, bread slice, peanut butter cookie and Milk.
FRIDAY - Tacos, Meat and Cheese Nachos, Tossed Salad, Spanish rice, refried beans, crackers, sherbet and milk.

1st Annual Cross Timbers

Health Clinics, Inc. Golf Classic

Saturday, May 14th
Registration 7:00-8:15 am 8:30 am-TEE OFF
4 person Scramble - Breakfast and Lunch Provided
Par Rules and Regulations
Prizes for Hole in One and 1st, 2nd and Third Place Teams
Sponsored by: Cross Timbers Health Clinics
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For more information email: ssmith@crosstimbersinc.org



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Dublin Dr Pepper would like to announce that we are in search of a new Miss Pretty Peggy Pepper. If you are between the ages of 18 - 22 years of age as of June 1, 2011, contact Dublin Dr Pepper for an application. You can also go online at www.dublindrpepper.com to download an application.

General Rules and Regulations include: Must be single, not co-habiting, not been married and have no children. Must live within a 45-mile radius of the Dr Pepper Bottling Co of Dublin, Texas. Must be able to attend all Dublin Dr Pepper Bottling Company conventions and make guest appearances as Miss Pretty Peggy Pepper at all required community-wide special events. Must wear the Miss Pretty Peggy Pepper wardrobe with a good attitude, well-rounded knowledge of Dublin Dr Pepper and a big smile! Must be able to have fun and enjoy meeting new people! Cannot hold any other title during the reign as Miss Pretty Peggy Pepper. Reign will be for one full year.

All completed applications are to be submitted to Dublin Dr Pepper NO LATER THAN 2:00PM MONDAY MAY 9. For more information you can contact Lori Dodd at 254-445-4210 or lori@dublindrpepper.com.

Fundraising:
The New Mindset for the 21st Century

Leading of non-profit organizations, whether community-based or faith-based, are still depending on a fundraising model that evolved in the late 1980's and 1990's - and has at its roots approaches dating back to the 1900's!

With the advent of the Internet, instant communications, social networking, and innovations such as micro-grants, most non-profit development efforts are lagging way behind the socio-technical curve.

This seminar will address all these issues, giving you a clear roadmap to the future using concepts and language appropriate for services as well as seasoned pros.

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

1. The difference between grant-writing and grant research.
2. The importance of 'capacity building' in preparing organization for competitive grants.
3. The importance of relationship-building in modern fundraising.
4. New techniques that leverage the partnership between business and social concerns.
5. The roles of the board, the executive director, the development officer, and key stakeholders.
6. How to develop a strategic-grants plan that includes unusual funding sources.

Time & Place: Wednesday, April 27th at noon
The Grandview Hotel, 209 W. Main St. Eastland, Texas
The seminar is free and a brown bag lunch will be provided.

Sponsored by:
The Eastland Chamber of Commerce, the Eastland Centre for the Arts, the Cross Timbers Fine Arts Council, and the Art Divas

Please RSVP to the Eastland Chamber, 254-029-2332 or info@eastlandchamber.com

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Thank You!!

As many already know the fires of last Friday forced the community of Gorman to evacuate. We evacuated Homestead Nursing and Rehab of Gorman which is not an easy task, but we were able to make the move to our Homestead facility in Baird very quickly and smoothly due to so much help. We want to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt thanks to all of those who came to our aid.

Light House Hospice, Alpha Omega Hospice, The City of Ranger (sent police, firefighters, ambulance), Ranger ISD (school buses), Gorman ISD (especially bus driver Ron Childress for transporting us to Baird then returning to bring us back to Gorman). Thanks to our corporate leadership David Byers and Rick Williams, our sister facility in Baird who came and helped us evacuate, transport and put us up in their building, and Cisco who came and assisted as well as our facilities in Hillsboro and Itasca who stood ready to receive us if needed. Huge thanks goes to so many in our great community of Gorman and our resident's family members who came out to lend a hand. Finally as Administrator

I want to thank and commend our great staff of nurses, CNAs and support staff both on duty and the many that came in to help get our residents to safety, each and everyone of you are awesome and I am proud to work with such a great team.

I want to thank all the Area Firefighters will worked diligently to help protect our Community

Thanks so very much.
Tim Thomas, Administrator,
Homestead Nursing and Rehab of Gorman

REMINDER
TRASH PICK UP ON TUESDAY BEGINS AT 7:00 a.m.
IF YOU DON'T WANT YOUR TRASH TO BE MISSED
YOU MUST HAVE IT OUT BY THE CURB.

Special Easter Service Planned At Country Gospel Church of Moran

Special Easter Service is set for April 24th at 3:00 p.m. At Country Gospel Church of Moran. Hat Day for the Ladies Contest is being held. Special Singing and Speaking. Door Prizes. SeayClearly Photography will be taking pictures for the families that would like to have photos!!

A Easter Egg Hunt for the children will be held. Stay for the Free Meal Afterwards!!!

Everyone Welcome to attend. Bring the Whole Family!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Gloria Copeland To Visit Cisco On September 17-18

Leading Christian minister and *New York Times* best selling author Gloria Copeland will speak September 17-18 at the Myrtle Wilks Community Center in Cisco, 1498 I-20 West.

Gloria will minister at the Fall Conference hosted by Mountain Top Church. Additional details will be available later, but mark the dates and plan to attend and receive insights from anointed teacher of God's word.

Gloria and her husband, Kenneth, Co-founded Kenneth Copeland Ministries in Fort Worth, Texas in 1967.

She preaches worldwide the truth and freedom she has found in God, sharing honest, straightforward messages about how the Word of God has taken her from a life of failure and defeat to a life of victory.

The community center is located on the north frontage road of Interstate 20 on the west side of Cisco, just east of Highway 206.

5th Six Weeks Honor Roll

- | | | |
|------------------|--|---|
| 6th Grade | A Honor Roll | A-B Honor Roll |
| | Izael Herrera
Sam Rainey
Mayra Ramirez | Austin Byrd
Bradi Campbell
Sydney Casey
Kacye Dodd
Shawn Estrada
Mayra Gutierrez
Karina Lira-Moreno
Ricardo Olvera
Dayanna Palacios
Audriana Segura
Dylan Walton |
| 7th Grade | A Honor Roll | A-B Honor Roll |
| | Rylan Laminack
Garet Vaughn | Hunter Childers
Arlette Giles
Flavio Herrera
Vanessa Longoria
Alexia Madera
Yulissa Madera
Jose Maldonado
Betty Montelongo
Kodie Sparger
Turner Whitten
Kathryn Woodall |
| 8th Grade | A Honor Roll | A-B Honor Roll |
| | Evajacquelynn Rainey
Lauren Spivey | Adriana Brown
Brittany Burns
Danny Flores
Cindy Gonzalez
Cosette Keeping
Holly Rainey
Lacey Wilson |

Proclamation

Whereas, Gregory Mack Simmons was a member of the Eastland Community for more than a decade; and

Whereas, Gregory Mack Simmons served his community well; and

Whereas, Gregory Mack Simmons gave of his time to protect his fellow man by serving 21 years of his life as a volunteer fire fighter with the last 11 years as a member of the Eastland Volunteer Fire Department; and

Whereas, Gregory Mack Simmons made the ultimate sacrifice on Friday, April 15, 2011 when he made his last fire call; and

Whereas, Gregory Mack Simmons died in the line of duty fighting the Eastland County 323 Fire; and

Whereas, Gregory Mack Simmons always believed he could never be paid to fight fires...and for that reason he volunteered his services; and

Whereas, on April 20, 2011 the fire bell will ring and Gregory Mack Simmons will not answer that call; and

NOW THEREFORE I, MARK PIPKIN, Mayor of the City of Eastland, under the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Statutes of the State of Texas, and the Charter of the City of Eastland, do hereby order and proclaim that April 20, 2011 shall be known in Eastland as

GREGORY MACK SIMMONS DAY

A copy of this proclamation shall be publicly announced as well as being posted at the Eastland Fire Department and Eastland City Hall.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the City of Eastland to be affixed hereto on this the 18th day of April, 2011.

Mark Pipkin
Mark Pipkin, Mayor
City of Eastland

HOME

Blackout Shades Proven to Help You Sleep Soundly

NewsUSA

(NU) - Do you have trouble falling asleep or staying asleep through the night? The importance of a good night's sleep is well known. According to the National Sleep Foundation, adequate sleep has been associated with a better mood, better health and better job performance. It's important to address factors that might interfere with a good night's sleep. Light is one of these factors. The body responds to light as a cue to stay awake, so sleeping in a dark, quiet room can help you fall asleep, stay asleep and wake up refreshed.



Specialized window shades can block out the light as well as save on energy bills.

A full night's sleep is especially important for children. Studies suggest that most children need about nine hours of sleep each night and that children who get enough sleep behave better and perform better in school than those who are chronically sleep-deprived. Additional research has shown that children who have sleep problems are at greater risk for depression and anxiety later in life, and they are more likely to abuse drugs and alcohol as teens and adults.

The Cellular SlumberShade, the official window shade product of the National Sleep Foundation, can help improve sleep by keeping excess light out of a room. The SlumberShade features unique sidetracks that attach magnetically to a window frame for easy installation. When it's time to clean the windows, the sidetracks are easy to remove. These sidetracks block the gaps

of light that standard cellular shades let in. They are UV stable, available in several colors to match your window trim. In addition, all SlumberShades have a specialized seal along the top for complete blockage of exterior light.

The shades are made of Comfortex's blackout cellular fabric, which not only blocks incoming light, but also provides insulation around your windows to help reduce heating and cooling costs. When SlumberShades are installed over a double-paned vinyl window, they provide an R-value of 7.0, which is two to three times greater than that of a similar shade without sidetracks.

SlumberShades need not be limited to the bedroom. Install them in a media room to eliminate screen glare.

For more information about SlumberShades, visit www.comfortex.com.

HOT DEALS ON NEW VEHICLES



2011 Chevy 1500 Ext. Cab LS

Stk. #8319, 4.8 V8

MSRP \$29,810
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Stk. #8373

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Stk. #8375

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Stk. #8391

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2009 Chevy 1500 WT

Reg. Cab, Stk. #8124A

\$14,500

2008 GMC Sierra 1500

Z71, 4x4, Stk. #8285B

\$21,995

2007 GMC Yukon XL

Denali, Stk. #8352B

\$28,000

2008 Saturn Aura XR

4 dr., Stk. #8428

\$13,500

2009 Buick Enclave CXL

Stk. #8176C

\$29,025

2007 Chevy Silverado 1500

Ext. Cab, Stk. #8392B

\$15,995

*All prices +TT&L

PRE-OWNED TRUCKS

- 2003 Dodge SLT, only 26,000 miles, Stk. #8459.....\$13,595
- 2007 Chevy 1500 Ext. Cab, LT, Stk. #8392B.....\$15,950
- 2005 Chevy 1500 Ext. Cab LS, Stk. #8165A.....\$12,500
- 2006 Chevy 1500 Ext. Cab, 4x4, WT, Stk. #8359B.....\$9,250
- 2006 Ford F150 Reg. Cab, XLT, Stk. #8281A.....\$11,950
- 2005 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab, LS, Stk. #8396.....\$13,500
- 2006 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab, WT, Diesel, Stk. #8398.....\$18,900
- 2008 Chevy 2500, Ext. Cab WT, 4x4, Stk. #8397.....\$12,950
- 2004 GMC Sierra SLE, Crew Cab, 4x4, Stk. #8419.....\$18,500
- 2004 Chevy 1500 Ext. Cab, 2x2, Stk. #8430.....\$12,750
- 2009 Chevy 2500 WT, Crew Cab, 4x4, Stk. #8400A.....\$25,000
- 2009 Chevy 1500 Reg. Cab, 2x2, Stk. #8124A.....\$14,950
- 2009 Chevy 1500 Ext. Cab, 4x4, LT, Stk. #8322B.....\$26,500
- 2009 Ford 150, Reg. Cab, SXT, Stk. #8081A.....\$16,750

SPORT UTILITIES

- 2007 Chevy 1500 Tahoe, LT, Stk. #8391.....\$23,495
- 2005 Lincoln Aviator Luxury, Stk #8018E.....\$12,995
- 2006 Toyota Rav4, Stk. #8265C.....\$12,995
- 2004 Chevy Trailblazer LS, Stk. #8424A.....\$9,950

CASH CORRAL

- 2001 Ford Ranger, Stk. #8451.....\$5,395
- 2006 Dodge 1500 Mega Cab, SLT, Stk. #8287C.....\$9,950
- 1997 Ford F150 Ext. Cab XLT, Stk. #7942F.....\$4,995
- 2005 Pontiac Grand Am GT, 4 dr., Stk. #8438.....\$6,950
- 2002 Chevy Malibu LS (only 22,000) miles, Stk. #8439.....\$7,995
- 2001 Pontiac Sunfire, 2 dr., Stk. #8431.....\$4,999
- 2003 Chevy 2500 Ext., Cab, 2x2, Stk. #8413.....\$8,999
- 2003 Chevy 2500 Reg. Cab, Flatbed, Stk. #8418.....\$8,950
- 2004 Chevy Suburban 1500, Stk. #8381B.....\$9,995

HAPPY EASTER!!

PRAY FOR SOME RAIN!!!