

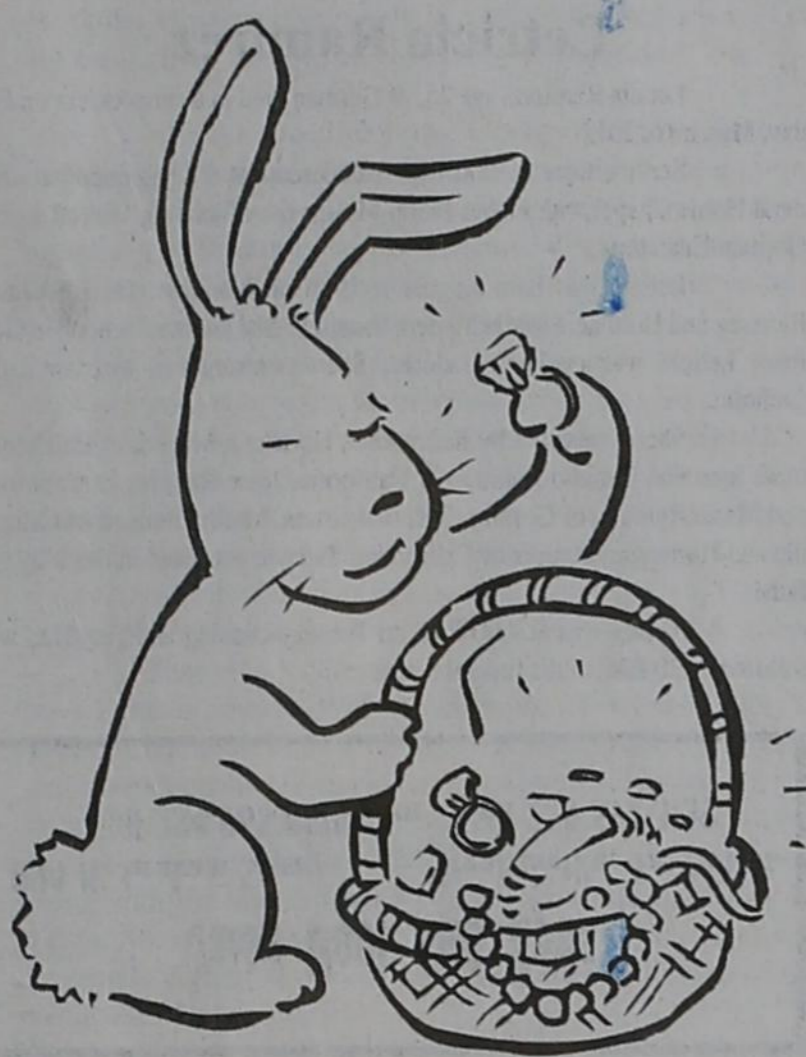
The Gorman Progress

"Serving Gorman For Over 112 Years"
Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454
2012 Member - Texas Press Association

NUMBER TWELVE

MARCH 22, 2012

Easter Treasure Hunt Saturday April 7th



The Annual Easter Treasure Hunt is set for Saturday April 7, 2012 at 2:00 pm at the Gorman City Park.

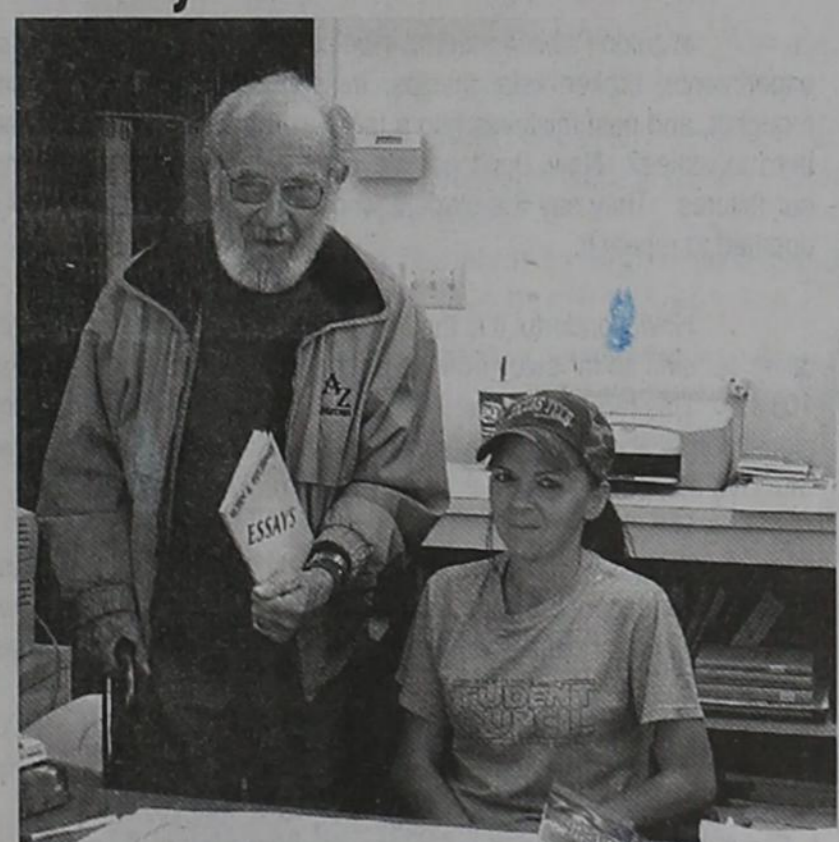
Age groups are 1 year old and under (child must be able to sit alone) 2 and 3 year old, 4-kindergarden, 1st and 2nd grade and 3rd and 4th grade.

Donations may be left at City Gro., Bob's Gro., or by contacting Johnny or Ina Smith at 254-734-2720.

Kokomo Baptist Youth Group To Hold BBQ Sandwich Lunch

Kokomo Baptist Church Youth Group is having a Bar-B-Que Sandwich Lunch Fundraiser. It will be at Kokomo Baptist Church on Sunday, March 25th. We will start serving at noon and will be serving a Bar-b-Que Sandwich, Chips, Tea and Dessert for \$6.00. You can dine in or carry out. Please come and help support our youth. All proceeds will go toward summer activities.

Henry Buchanan Presents Library With His New Book



Henry Buchanan is shown presenting his new Book, ESSAYS to Gloria Murphy, a member of the Charlie Garrett Memorial Library staff.

'Essays' is Doctor Buchanan's thoughts on just about everything. Here he tells the reader what he knows about the society we live in and what he believes about the way human society ought to be.

Sometimes the author has his tongue in his cheek, and sometimes he has his poison pen in his hand, but always he is seeking to express the Truth that Life has taught him in his ninety years. His essays are sometimes his own experiences and sometimes they are his reflection on the parade of Life that he watches and has recorded over a period of many years. The essays are political; they are religious; they are personal. They are always an attempt to grasp Truth by the forelock and to wrestle manfully with his adversary.

Buchanan's 'Essays' cover the range from an easy approach to life at home to a serious attempt at public office. It is his understanding of ancient mythology that sets his work apart and opens it to vistas of a modern view of Man and God.

In his art of piddlin' and doing nothing Buchanan reveals hidden achiever and when he writes about Man and God he reveals the mind of the minister struggling to understand himself and the people he feels God has made his responsibility because of his calling to be a minister of the Gospel.

Stop by and check out this new edition to the Library and also see all the other fine reading matter that the Library has to offer.

Recent Storm Damages Old Hospital

The storm clouds that blew thru on Monday brought high winds and heavy rain to the surrounding areas. Several in Gorman have said that they received an inch and half of rain. The high winds around noon took the roof off of the old hospital building and up rooted a tree on a north side of town. Other reports of rain were from 1 inch to 2 inches from around Lake Leon to Carbon and parts east. Thank God that we have received much needed rain to start the spring off this year.



Jr. High Boys Track Team Takes First Place At Cross Plains Meet With 211 Points

Field Events

High Jump - Hunter Childers 3rd place with a jump of 4' 8"; Rylan Laminack 2nd place with a jump of 4' 8"; Freddy Montelongo 1st place with a jump with 4' 11". **Triple Jump** - Freddy Montelongo 4th place with a jump of 31' 1"; Rylan Laminack 1st place with a jump of 35' 11". **Long Jump** - Jose Maldonado 3rd place with a jump of 15' 5"; Flavio Herrera 1st place with a jump of 15' 9 1/2". **Shot Put** - Ethan May 3rd place with a throw of 30' 11 1/2"; Hunter Childers 2nd place with a throw of 33' 2". **Discus** - Danny Limon 6th place with a throw of 69' 3"; Ricardo Olvera 4th place with a throw of 73' 3"; Hunter Childers 3rd place with a throw of 78' 7"



Running Events

2400 Meter Run - Rodrigo Mata 1st place with a time of 9:45.90; **4 x 100 Relay** - Ismale Herrera, Quinten Bell, Britt Hagan, Izael Herrera 4th place with a time of 1:00.80; Hunter Childers, Jose Maldonado, Flavio Herrera, Rylan Laminack 1st place with a time of 51.02; **800 Meter Run** - Britt Hagan 5th place with a time of 3:12.02; Rafael Mata 3th place with a time of 2:48.24; **100 Meter Dash** - Rylan Laminack 1st place with a time of 11.90; **4 x 200 - Relay** - Ismale Herrera, Quinten Bell, Britt Hagan, Ismale Herrera 5th place with a time of 2:06.23; Jose Maldonado, Hunter Childers, Flavio Herrera, Freddy Montelongo 1st place with a time of 1:50.41; **400 Meter Run** - Rafael Mata 3rd place with a time of 1:06.44, Rodrigo Mata 2nd place with a time 1:04.28; **300 Meter Hurdles** - Freddy Montelongo 1st place with a time of 56.59; **200 Meter Dash** - Rylan Laminack 1st place with a time of 25.56; **1600 Meter Run** - Rafael Mata 1st place with a time of 6:42.52; and **4 x 400 Relay** - Rodrigo Mata, Jose Maldonado, Flavio Herrera, Freddy Montelongo 1st place with a time of 4:18.08

Panthers Baseball News

EASTLAND 3 - GORMAN 1

The Eastland Mavericks defeated the Gorman Panthers 3-1 in a pitchers dual on Tuesday, March 6th. B.J. Ramirez scored the only Panther run in the 1st inning. The Panthers recorded 5 hits lead by Dakota Pacheco who had 2 singles. Pacheco gave up one earned run in 5 innings of work and was replaced by Zach Carlton in the 6th inning. The Mavericks were held to 6 hits and scored 1 run in the second and 2 in the fifth. The Double header with Santo on Friday, March 9th was cancelled and both coaches are trying to match open dates to reschedule.

Panthers Start District With Win Over Cross Plains 10-0 at Gorman

The Gorman Panthers opened District Play with a 10-0 shutout of the Cross Plains Buffaloes on Friday night. Dakota Pacheco struck out 11 and recorded a no hitter. It is the second no hitter of the season for the Panther pitching staff.

The Panthers outthit the Buffs 5 to 0. Lead by Matt Fox with 2 Doubles and 4 RBI's and Jon Fenley with 2 Singles and 3 RBI's. Zach Carlton also had a Single and 1 RBI. The Panthers drew a base on balls and had 2 hit batsman. The Panthers and Lady Panthers both travel to De Leon on Tuesday night and the Panthers host Goldthwaite here on Friday night at 5 p.m.

The Panthers are 3-4 on the season and 1-0 in District. Please come out to the Ball Park and support these young men. They are doing a great job of representing our Community and would really appreciate seeing you!!!

AARP Driver Safety Program
De Leon Senior Center
March 29, 2012
12-4 p.m.
To register, call 893 6311

Helping Our Soldiers In Afghanistan

One of our Local Soldiers, David Ibarra has asked for help for his comrades and himself. They don't have access to materials and are in need of anything that can help them out from socks to books. So Join us on March 31st at the Senior Citizens Center - All Day in Gorman to donate and help our Soldiers. God Bless.

The items needed are: Baby Wipes, Soap, Books, Snacks, Cross Word Puzzles, Powder, Flavored Water, Beanies, Stamps, Toilet Paper, Seasoning Mixes, Ramen Noodles, Macaroni, Thank You Letters from Kids, Hard Candy, Sugar Packages.



MISS AND LITTLE MISS -- Miss Gorman - Mykisha Hampton and Little Miss - Markee Simmons participated in St. Patrick's Day Parade in Dublin.

Pig Tales From Hogtown

We had a great time at the jam session last Tuesday evening. There were over a dozen folks who came to play and sing and several folks who came to listen. We invite anyone who likes to jam with acoustic instruments to come to the Desdemona Activity Center on the second Tuesday of each month. The fun starts at 6:30.

Hope you are all planning to come to the Italian dinner that we will have here at the DAC next Saturday, March 24. I hear the ladies are cooking up a storm and I am sure it will be delicious! Serving starts at 6:00 and the cost is by donation.

The annual DAC craft show will be held on April 21. If you would like more information, please call me at 254-758-2420.

Do you have lots of stuff piled in your garage or attic – stuff that is too good to throw away but that you do not use anymore? Would you consider donating it to the DAC for our annual garage sale? If so, please call me at the above number to arrange to get your items here.

On Thursday, April 5th, we will have an AARP Driver Safety Program here at the DAC. This class may enable you to get a discount on your insurance. The class will be held from 12:00-4:00. The cost for AARP members is \$12 and for non-members is \$14. Please bring check or money order – no cash. To register, please call 254-965-2145. All seniors in the area are invited to attend this class.

Our hearts are heavy here in Desdemona. Please say a prayer for the family of Clyde Johnson who passed away last Friday.

See you in Desdemona!

Carol Pell

2012 Gorman Track Schedule

Saturday	March	24	Meridian	Girls/Boys
Friday	March	30	May	Boys
Saturday	March	31	Ranger	Girls
Thursday	April	5	District Track (Blanket)	Girls/Boys
TBA	TBA	TBA	Area Track	Girls/Boys
Fri/Sat	April	27, 28	Regional Track (ACU)	Girls/Boys
Fri/Sat	May	11, 12	State Track (Austin)	Girls/Boys

2012 Gorman Junior High Schedule

Monday	March	26	Strawn	Girls/Boys
Monday	April	9	District Track (Zephyr)	Girls/Boys

Boys Coach: James Gerick
Girls Coach: Tommy Simmons

GARAGE SALE: 607 S Brewer - Friday, March 23 and Saturday, March 24th - 8 to 5 p.m. Luggage, puzzles, books, clothes, grills, games and Lost of Miscellaneous. Everything is good. No JUNK. ITP

YARD SALE: 615 Hall Street in Gorman - Behind Bob's Grocery. Saturday, March 24th - All Day. ITP

Obituaries

Clyde L Johnson

Clyde L. Johnson, age 68 of Desdemona, passed away Friday, March 16, 2012 at a Fort Worth hospital.

Memorial services were at 11:00 A.M. Tuesday at the Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel in Gorman with Denver Rainey officiating.

Clyde was born March 23, 1943 in Gorman, Texas to Samuel Doyl Johnson and Alma Lucille Carter Johnson. He married Karen DaSha Sharp on March 29, 1964 in Desdemona. Clyde owned and operated a seed and fertilizer business in Desdemona and later a pawn shop in Stephenville. He was a member of the Church of Christ.

He is survived by his wife, DaSha Johnson of Desdemona; daughter, Toni Carlile, and husband, Kevin of Lantana, TX, son, Brentley Johnson of Mora, NM; mother, Lucille Johnson of Desdemona; two brothers, Paul Johnson of Lubbock and Roy Johnson of Desdemona; grandchildren, Cole Christian, Collin Christian, Kathleen Matzky, Dalton Carlile, Samantha Carlile, Sabrina Carlile and Sarah Carlile. He was preceded in death by his father.

Memorials may be made to the Desdemona Activity Center.

Leticia Ramirez

Leticia Ramirez, age 25, of Gorman died in a car accident on Friday, March 16, 2012.

Service were at 2:00 P.M. Wednesday, at the Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel with Father Philip McNamara officiating. Burial was in Gorman Cemetery.

Leticia was born August 1, 1986 in Seminole, Texas to Jesus Ramirez and Hortencia Maria Madera Ramirez. She attended school in Gorman. Leticia was a college graduate. She was a surgeon's assistant and a Catholic.

She is survived by her mother, Hortencia Madera of California; three brothers, Claudio Ramirez of California, Jesse Ramirez of California and Mario Ramirez of Gorman, TX; two sisters, Martha Bennett of California and Hortencia Ramirez of California. She was preceded in death by her father.

Rosary was at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday evening and visitation will follow at 7:30 P.M. at the funeral home.

Call 254-965-4125 or Call 254-592-3159
894 N. Graham Street -- Stephenville, TX 76401
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SCHOOL MENU Week of Mar. 26 thru Mar. 30

BREAKFAST
MONDAY - Cereal, Yogurt, Juice and Milk
TUESDAY - Apple Cinnamon Muffin, Fruit, Juice and Milk.
WEDNESDAY - Cheese Toast, Hashbrown, Juice and Milk.
THURSDAY - French Toast, Fruit, Juice and Milk.
FRIDAY - Biscuit, Sausage, Gravy, Juice and Milk.

LUNCH
MONDAY - Cheese Pizza, Corn, Salad, Oranges, and Milk.
TUESDAY - Oven Fried Chicken, Potato Wedges, English Peas, Rolls, Applesauce Cake and Milk.
WEDNESDAY - Frito Pie, Salad, Broccoli and Ranch, Crackers, Fruit and Milk.
THURSDAY - Steak Fingers, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Gravy, Roll and Honey, and Milk.
FRIDAY - Panther Burger, Chicken Burger, Potato Rounds, Burger Salad, Ice Cream and Milk.

"On The Wilder Side"

I cannot verify or deny this, but allegedly one day Thomas A. Edison's shop was on fire. As he helplessly watched it burn, taking his costly experiments up in flames, he called his son Charles. "Come!" he said. "You'll never see anything like this again!" Then he called his wife. As the three stood gazing, Edison said, "There go all our mistakes. Now we can start over afresh." In two weeks he had rebuilding the plant, and it was not long before he invented the phonograph.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could all throw all of our failed experiments, broken relationships, misspoken hurtful words, rude thoughts, and past mistakes into a large warehouse and watch them burn to ashes? Now, don't get me wrong, it is good to learn from our failures. They say the student who doesn't learn from history is doomed to repeat it.

How wonderful it is that in Jesus Christ we are told that God takes our sins as far away from us as the East is from the West (Psa 103:12). This morning we had the opportunity to wake up and completely forget about yesterday's mistakes and sins. And tomorrow we will have the chance to forget about today's problems as well.

They say that we shouldn't waste our life away wishing for tomorrow because we should enjoy today. At the same time, we shouldn't ruin our moment today because we are dwelling on our past sins and failures.

Fight the good fight (1 Tim 6:12) -
Jason Wilder - Gorman Church of Christ

Gorman Church of Christ Meeting Times

Sunday Morning Bible Class - 10:00
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:45
Sunday Evening Worship - 6:00
Wednesday Evening Class - 7:00

A Letter To The Editor

About Killing Sixteen People - By Henry A. Buchanan

When a United States soldier, Staff Sergeant Robert Bales slipped away from this barracks at night and went on a killing spree among the Afghans, he was sending a message back home to the people here. The war has driven him crazy, and he wants the people who sent him to this war to know it.

It is a message to the President. Don't wait until 2014. Get out of this place now. It is a message to Congress; get your act together and stop financing this war against the people of Afghanistan.

It is a message to American churches: stop praying for our troops who are "in harm's way." Do something – at least say something – about the people our troops are killing.

It is a message to all the American people talking about what we ought to be doing to the 'rag heads.' We are doing it, and what we are doing is not a pretty sight to look at.

All right. The man is crazy. He has his personal problems, but the war has driven him crazy. And we are to blame because we sent him to war to be an American hero for spreading freedom and democracy. He is a killer, spreading death, and if the American people can't see that this is what we are doing, then the American people are crazy. Or blind.

(s) Henry A. Buchanan

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3+ Acre, 3 - 2 3/4 - 2 brick, central A/C, 2375 sq. ft., den + lg. game room, nice carpet, metal roof, water well, 20 x 40 shop, secluded, lots of Post Oaks! \$119,500.
6A: 3-2-2 brick, 1766 sq. ft., central A/C, new floors, 5 y/o roof, metal shop, equip. Shed, RV storage, new well & Septic, beautiful Oaks, 70+ Peaches, pavement. Nice!! \$159,900.00
17.25 A: HWY 8 Desdemona, 10+ A Coastal, pond, new fences, nice Post Oaks, nat. gas/elec. available. \$79,000.
S/E Gorman: 60 A, good sandy soil, some coastal, good fences, elec., nice pond site. \$2,800 Acre.
77 A: South of Gorman, fields/some wooded. Deer & other wildlife, 2 small ponds, elec. available. \$2,000 acre.
100 A west De Leon FM587, 3 - 1 1/2 - 2 brick, 1444 sq. ft., C/HA, fireplace, carpeted, some remodeling, 6 ponds, 6 water wells, steel pens. \$525,000.
2 steel corrals, 2 wells, shop building. Nice setup. Mineral Rights. \$2,950.00 A.
158A, 4-2-2 ranch-house, central A/H, fireplace, metal roof, 150+ A. Coastal, 2 pivots, good fences, 6A Lake, 2 ponds, 6 water wells, steel pens. \$525,000.
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 - 395A S/W Gorman, 1/2 Open 1/2 Wooded, small creek, 4 ponds, 40' elev. change, gravel road 2 sides, elec. available. Remote location, deer & wildlife. \$1,795.00 acre.
407 A: N/E Gorman, 3 pivots, 16 wells, 8 ponds, 3 metal buildings, sets steel corrals, irrigated Bermuda grass, 100' x 100' metal roof & more! \$3,500 acre, possibly divide.
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88.7 ACRES - GORMAN AREA - Good sandy soil-all coastal Bermuda grass, water well, 1 stock tank & Good fences. A12
LISTEN TO THE QUIET! Private & close to Gorman-beautiful ONE OWNER - 3 BR, 1 3/4 bath brick home on 10 AC, m/1. 2 water wells, coastal, outbuildings & garden spot. Call to find out more! HA1
BEAUTIFUL OAK TREES LEAD THE WAY to 2 story home on 44.7 AC, m/1 2 BR, 2 bath, LR, DR, upstairs balcony w/outside stairs & amazing view! Stg., shop w/equip. shed, approx. 256 AC. of good coastal & old irrigation pit. HA2
BEAUTIFUL HOME + 3.7 AC + REDUCED PRICE-WHAT A DEAL! Brick home w/spacious interior in excellent condition. Outside is room for it all-sheds, stg., RV cover & workshop. Make an appointment and see for yourself! O3
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
NICE BRICK HOME ON CORNER LOT - 2 BR, 1 bath, formal LR/DR, family room, wood floors, fresh paint, SAG + CP & nice patio. O2
CHARM, WARMTH, COMFORT - This 2 BR, 1 bath brick has all of this & more. Large inviting living room, kitchen/dining combo, COA, utility w/exits, DACP & cov. porch overlooking the oversized back yard with it's beautiful pecan trees. Call us to make your appointment today! O8
PRODUCTIVE - 306 AC, m/1 N. of Gorman, Coastal good soil, 2 tanks, water well s & frontage on 2 county roads. A13

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March 15, 2012

Thank you, thank you, thank you to the family of H.P. Brelsford. You might remember in a previous article we told about a donation of a painting of H.P. Brelsford by his great grandson Dr. W.G. Brelsford. Dr. Brelsford sent a nice letter to the Museum this week with some more details on the life of his great grandfather. But, to our great surprise enclosed was a nice check to the Museum in honor of H.P. with a hope for additional donations from the W.G. Brelsford family and other Brelsford relatives. Again, THANK YOU to the Brelsford clan!

Window work continued this week at the Museum as the men from Mike McClure Construction finished up the install of tinted uv film to the windows on the south side and front of the Museum. This film should cut the uv ray penetration up to 99% to cut down on any damage to exhibits, plus it should help keep the Museum cooler this summer and the utility bills down! Let's hope so!!

With the window work that has taken place the last week or so, the Museum is currently in a bit of disarray. Please excuse our mess as we continue to preserve your Museum!

We had hoped to bring a preservation workshop next week to the Museum to help us all understand the best preservation and display techniques. But, circumstance beyond our control with the elevator issue has prevented this from going forward. But, we promise to have the workshop sometime later in the year with or without (let's hope not) an elevator.

Yes the elevator is still an issue. But we have a solution. If 84 generous people out there would match the check sent by the Brelsford family, our elevator problems could be resolved!

Thanks to Jodee and Patty Flippin for loaning the Museum a piano stool and two antique irons for our displays! The Museum also received photos and information on the Tudor (now Tudor) and Gailey families who settled along the far eastern county line. Now you know where the Tudor Road name came from!

Thanks to Katherine Gordon Rice a solution and use for the enormous amount of books left in the Museum building from previous book sales has been found. Katherine has seen furniture and artwork created from old books elsewhere. She has been gathering the hardback books from the boxes and boxes of books and has taken them to the new e-Center here in Eastland. There she, along with the youth, started creating furniture items for the e-Center. We are anxious to see some of these creations. And we are extremely grateful the books are being recycled instead of seeing the inside of a dumpster!

This past weekend we discovered the Museum does not have a copy of the big red Eastland County History Book - Gateway to the West. Someone wanted to look for family information in the book and we could not help them. If anyone might have an extra copy, or just a copy you would part with, the Museum would be grateful.

The Museum hours of operation are Thursday through Saturday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Want to volunteer?? Stop by the Museum and sign up!

See you next week!

Your Eastland County Museum

Preserving the great history of Eastland County for Eastland

County and the world!

eastlandcountymuseum@gmail.com

Carbon Volunteer Fire Department FISH FRY

The Carbon Volunteer Fire Department will have a Fish Fry on March 31st at the Carbon Community Baptist Church. Menu includes fish, hush puppies, french fries, beans, coleslaw, dessert and drink. Serving begins at 5 P.M. and end sat 7 P.M. Cost for Adults is \$8.00 and \$5.00 for Children.

The wives of firemen are reminded to please bring a dessert — any other ladies are welcome to also participate. (Please call Mittie Bledsoe - 254-639-2494.)

Please Come Join Us For A Good Meal And Support A Good Cause. Thank You For Your Help.

Items of interest

Men's Community Prayer Breakfast meets at 7:00 a.m. On the third Wednesday of each month in the Fellowship Hall of the First United Methodist Church in Gorman.

Gorman Senior Citizens meet once a month on 3rd Wednesday at 11:30 in the Gorman Senior Center. Bring Covered Dish or \$3.00 Per Plate.

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

4-H - The Club is going to meet the first Wednesday of each month in the New Gym. All people interested in participating are encouraged to attend. The meeting will be at 3:45 -4:45. For more information Call Cindy Underwood 734-5085.

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

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

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

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. Stan Harper, Master - Kenneth Good, Secretary.

Gorman Oaklawn Cemetery Association is accepting donations for the Care of the Cemetery. Donations can be sent to Oaklawn Cemetery Association, 7726 CR 362, Desdemona, Tx 76445 or to American State Bank, Gorman, Texas 76454



"It's time to get your gardens and flower beds ready. Statistically, there is only a 20-30% chance of freeze and The Greenhouse opens March 30th with all your vegetable seedlings, landscape plants, bedding plants, and hanging baskets and much more."

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PETS

Top 5 Healthy Habits for Pets and Their Owners

NewsUSA

(NU) - Pets are the lights of their owners' lives. And keeping pets healthy is key to extending the warmth and love for years.

Dr. Ernie Ward, nationally renowned veterinarian, pet author and founder of the Association for Pet Obesity Prevention, offers his 'Top 5 Healthy Habits' for pet owners to help ensure pets stay happy and healthy throughout the year.

1. Healthy Eats and Treats. The most important decision you make each day regarding your pet's health is what you feed it. When choosing pet food, look for meat as one of the first few ingredients, and avoid by-products, artificial flavors, colors and preservatives whenever possible. When it comes to treats, look for low-cal options that confer some health benefit. Treats that help maintain healthy joints, clean teeth or ensure pills are taken are recommended. The Greenies Brand specializes in great-tasting treats individually formulated to deliver these benefits. If you're going to give treats, make them count!

2. Brain Boosters. Most people love puzzles - and so does your pet! One of the best ways to feed and treat pets is with a food puzzle. These clever devices hide your pet's food or treats until they unlock the secret and get their goodies. These tools engage your pet's brain and bust boredom while you're away. Forget peanut butter-stuffed toys; these toys stimulate thought and don't pack on the pounds!

3. Power Play. Walking your dog and playing with your cat each day

keeps them trim, healthy and mentally alert. Pets that don't receive enough physical activity ("lap potatoes") have the highest rates of weight-related diseases such as arthritis and diabetes and suffer from behavioral problems. For dogs, 20 to 30 minutes of brisk walking each day benefits both ends of the leash. For cats, two or three five-minute play periods are plenty. And don't worry! Walking with your pet can be fun! Try programs like Greenies Wag & Walk 4Life, and get active with your pet.

4. Paws Together. It's more fun to play with other dogs! Socialized dogs are simply better behaved and more fun. Visit a dog park, enroll in training classes or become active in serving your community. There are endless ways to get you and your dog to interact with other pet lovers. Share the fun and join a new pack!

5. Pets and Vets. Somehow pet owners started believing that the only time you need a vet is when something is wrong with your pet. The secret to a long and healthy life is vet visits when everything appears fine. A pet owner's primary goal should be to prevent disease, not only treat it. Changes in diet or lifestyle, giving nutritional supplements and exercising more are straight forward solutions. Sometimes you just need a prod, other times a push. Your veterinarian is your pet's voice; let them speak for your pet by visiting once a year for young pets and twice yearly for those over age seven.

For more best-care tips for pets, visit www.greenies.com and www.dremieward.com.

Carbon Community Center News

The Carbon 5th Saturday Musical will not be held March 31st, due to a scheduling conflict with the Carbon Volunteer Fire Department's Fish Fry. The next 5th Saturday Musical will be held June 30th, with music and dinner offered for \$5 beginning at 5:30pm.

The Musical held December 31st was enjoyed by all. Enthusiasm was evident when drawings were held at various times throughout the evening. Local merchants donated a wide variety of items that were awarded to lucky recipients.

Donations given away were provided by Fullen Motor Company, Francie's Fountain and Deli, Amber's, Bryan's Auto Supply, Valentino's Restaurant, McDonald's, Randall Ford, Fullenwider Dodge, Gold Lantern, Hallmark Cards, Majestic Theater and Tractor Supply Company. These donations were won by Billy Mitchell, Doug Sessums, Bernice Mitchell, Janis Keith, Gayle Blacklock, Buddy Notgrass, R.L. Miller, Margie Lassiter and T.J. Cummings.

Additional donations have been received from The Silver Bullet, Higginbotham Brothers, Greer's Clothing and Radio Shack, and drawings will be held to determine lucky winners during the next Musical in June.

Groups performing were well received by the audience. We extend our thanks to these musicians for using their talent 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 and is an ideal site for reunions, weddings, anniversary celebrations, meetings, dinners and musicals. It is often used as the polling place for Carbon. If you are interested in using the Center for your next meeting, please contact Janis Keith at 254-639-2210, or LaTonne Rogers, at 254-639-2551.

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 long range plans to invite your neighbors and bring your family to our June Musical.

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HOME & GARDEN

Spring Checklist for Home and Lawn Care

NewsUSA

(NU) - Whether you're considering the resale value of your home or are simply resigned to doing maintenance projects to keep your house in good condition, your lawn and garden could certainly benefit from some TLC of the home- and lawn-improvement variety this spring.

The exterior of your house commands most first impressions, and even mild winters inflict seasonal damage. If you don't know where to start, a home-improvement project checklist may help. Consider the following lawn- and garden-maintenance tips from home- and garden experts at HGTV and MarthaStewart.com:

- **Remove piles of dead leaves from the lawn.** Not only will your grass grow greener, a clean lawn helps maximize fertilizers and pesticides. Don't make the mistake of fertilizing your grass too early though. April is the general benchmark; any sooner might result in yellow spots and dried-out patches of grass.
- **Check gutters for leaks and debris.** Loose gutters cause improper drainage, so water can collect in basements and crawl spaces. Downspouts should point away from the foundation of the house and must be clear of all debris.
- **Start a roof fund.** It's a good rule of thumb to check your roof for rotted, buckled, loose or missing shingles after winter because summer sun will only worsen the damage. Since roof maintenance is so expensive, it's also smart to start a fund before you need it.
- **Remove piles of wood or debris stacked near the home.** Firewood should be kept far away from the foundation, and stacked



Protect your home by doing some lawn and garden maintenance this spring.

18 inches off the ground. These preventative measures help keep insect pests from exploring your home.

- **Don't strain yourself, and stay hydrated.** This might be the first time you've done any heavy lifting or spent hours in the sun for months. Remember to drink plenty of fluids, take breaks and stretch your muscles. If you suffer from backaches and muscle strains, keep some relief like Absorbine Jr. (www.absorbinejr.com) on hand. Its herbal ingredients and uncanny ability to ease muscle and back pain make it a must-have for yard work.
- **Call a professional to clean your AC unit.** Heating and cooling experts recommend an annual servicing since clean coils work more efficiently. When the summer's blazing heat drives you indoors, your family will appreciate having an AC operating at peak levels.

HOME

De-Junk Before Spring Cleaning

NewsUSA

(NU) - Spring is rounding the bend - meaning we're shedding the winter blues and leaping at the chance to glimpse real sunlight. It's also when the age-old practice of spring cleaning comes a'knocking.

Some say spring cleaning originated with the Chinese, who roll up their sleeves and sweep their floors to clean out the bad luck and misfortune of the previous year.

Others say it's just biology. Winter's lack of sunlight causes us to produce hormones that induce sleep, and spring cleaning is our way of waking up from a melatonin lethargy.

Regardless, we feel compelled to kick out the dirt and grime and open our windows. To help give you a head start, we consulted the removal specialists at 1-800-GOT-JUNK? The experts say you must first get the junk out in an environmentally friendly way so the real cleaning can begin.

"We're heading into our busy season now, and every spring our customers tell us the same thing: 'I'm trying to spring clean, but I have so much stuff!'" explains 1-800-GOT-JUNK? public relations director Tania Venn. "Over the years, we've accumulated the best tips to help people get prepared for spring cleaning."

- Read on for de-junking 101:
1. **Set goals.** Your clear vision will help keep you motivated.
 2. **Plan ahead.** Where will you take recyclable items? Donatable items?



Before you can spring clean, it helps to get rid of the junk accumulated over the year.

3. **Take advantage of family and friends.** Hold a house spring cleaning, and offer to return the favor! Perhaps find a new home for some of your things?
4. **Focus on one room at a time.** The success of finishing one room will drive you on to the next.
5. **Remove unwanted items.** Create a staging area, or remove them to preserve clarity.
6. **Be ruthless.** Anything that you don't use regularly or has no sentimental value should get taken away.
7. **Organize the room.** Use existing organizing units, or purchase new ones.
8. **Clean.** It's beyond satisfying.
9. **Reward yourself.** If you're following the list, you deserve it.
10. **Professionalize.** Consider using a professional service to remove junk, organize or clean if you feel overwhelmed.

To learn more about de-junking and eliminating clutter the environmental way, go to 1800gotjunk.com.

SENIORS

The Best Investment You Can Make for Your Grandchildren

NewsUSA

(NU) - Grandparents and grandchildren have much to learn from one another, and such valuable relationships should be cultivated. Oxford University research has shown that 'involved' grandparents contribute significantly to better-adjusted grandchildren.

The research suggests that children find unique acceptance in their relationships with grandparents, which benefits them emotionally and mentally. The grandparental bond is built on communication. In fact, most children studied did not identify distance as an important factor if communication was strong.

Unfortunately, hearing loss is the number-one challenge to communication. According to the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD), age and hearing loss are strongly related - 30 percent of seniors from 65 to 74 years old suffer from a hearing disability. For adults 75 years of age or older, hearing loss jumps to 47 percent.

"It doesn't take a PhD for my patients to understand the many costs of hearing loss," says Sreek Cherukuri, MD, a certified ear, nose and throat physician based in Chicago, Ill.

Beyond emotional well-being, even something simple like taking the grandkids to the pool can turn dangerous if grandma can't hear possible cries for help. Driving puts the children at risk if the grandparents cannot hear oncoming traffic or car horns.

The NIDCD reports that only one out of every five people who



Don't let hearing loss affect time with the grandkids.

needs a hearing aid actually wears one. This is largely due to the extravagant cost of most hearing aids.

"I found that I saw too many patients with hearing loss going home without a solution because they couldn't afford hearing aid prices," says Dr. Cherukuri.

Cherukuri's response was to develop inexpensive but effective hearing aids. "With today's technology, a quality hearing aid shouldn't cost more than a digital camera or iPod," Cherukuri says.

MDHearingAid, found at www.mdhearingaid.com, isn't just a reliable source for affordable hearing aids, it's also a good source for expert consumer information.

"You should see a physician and get the best hearing aid you can afford. We offer an excellent choice for those who cannot afford a custom hearing aid." Seniors should enjoy the benefits of their ripe age. This includes plenty of quality time with grandchildren.

Get more info on hearing loss and cost-efficient alternatives at MDHearingAid.com.

TPWD Exploring Non-lethal Burro Control at Big Bend Ranch State Park

AUSTIN - The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) is continuing to explore the feasibility of non-lethal alternatives to manage the feral burro problem at Big Bend Ranch State Park.

Since the mid-2000s, TPWD's State Parks Division has explored non-lethal options such as live trapping to remove the burros. State parks staff met early on with veterinarians and other experts with the USDA-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) based in Presidio, but APHIS was unsuccessful in trapping feral burros along the US-Mexico Border within the state park.

In 2007, no feasible alternatives had been found and TPWD began lethal control. In 2008, the agency temporarily ceased lethal efforts to allow Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue to try live trapping burros at the park, but after nearly two years of efforts by the group no burros were caught.

In 2011, TPWD Executive Director Carter Smith challenged critics of the department's burro control methods to bring resources to bear on the problem and to suggest practical alternatives.

"We have said consistently that Texas Parks and Wildlife does not have the financial resources to control burros at Big Bend Ranch State Park through alternatives such as capture and quarantine, but that we are open to substantive discussions with interested parties who wish to offer their own resources to help address this problem," Smith said. "However, any proposed plan must account for adequate and sustained funding, and we must be clear that the goal is to remove feral burros from the park."

The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) has offered its resources to assess non-lethal options. In January, state parks and HSUS staff met at Big Bend Ranch to allow HSUS to assess the landscape and conditions. HSUS is working with a private contractor to conduct an aerial survey to determine the numbers and locations of burros at the park, an essential first step to assess costs and feasibility of control options. TPWD has agreed to cost-share up to \$10,000 help pay for the survey, which should occur this spring.

If HSUS determines that non-lethal alternatives are feasible, the organization will prepare and submit to TPWD for its consideration a proposed timeframe, strategies, methods and resources required to accomplish non-lethal management alternatives. At present, there is no formal proposal or agreement between TPWD and HSUS.

"We understand concerns that have been expressed by many people and are open to considering feasible, non-lethal alternatives," Smith said. "However, our basic policy is unchanged. Our responsibility to protect Big Bend Ranch State Park's sensitive lands and waters is our highest priority. The need to control feral burros to protect park resources remains, and if non-lethal methods are determined to be unfeasible, we retain the option to conduct lethal control as conditions require."

Smith said if HSUS is able to commit to adequate and sustained funding for burro control, and if the methods proposed by the humane society are accepted by TPWD, the agency will facilitate HSUS efforts by furnishing access, information and other available resources.

The burros are a feral, exotic, invasive species threatening the state park's native plants and animals, precious desert springs and seeps, and other natural and cultural resources, a threat similar to that posed by feral hogs and other invasive plants and animals across Texas. TPWD has a statewide policy to control all such exotic, invasive plants and animals on its public lands. In 2011, the agency posted an online factsheet with photos and video detailing the park burro problem.

Removal of burros has been an opportunistic activity that occurs in the state park at times when visitor safety can be assured. The high season for BBR visitation is October-April. It is normal and customary for TPWD to curtail burro control during these months due to heavier public use in back country areas. Smith said it is not likely that TPWD will conduct lethal burro control in the near future, until it has been determined whether any non-lethal methods are feasible.



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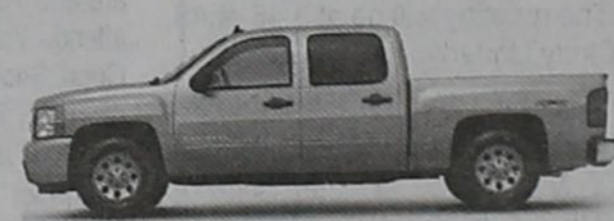


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