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# The Gorman Progress

"Serving Gorman For Over 106 Years"

Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454

NUMBER NINETEEN

MAY 18, 2006

## Texas Shorthorn Field Day Meeting Set For De Leon

Floyd Ranch owned by Jon and Pam Floyd, De Leon, Texas will host a Shorthorn Field Day and the 2006 Annual Meeting of the Texas Shorthorn Association on Saturday, June 3. Floyd Ranch is located at 6150 Hwy. 6, 3 miles from De Leon and 8 miles from Dublin. Registration will be at 1:30 p.m., followed by a judging contest. Speakers will be Dr. Michael Burkey, DVM, on animal identification and Dr. George Ahlschwede, past president of the American Shorthorn Association, on Tibial Hemimelia, a genetic defect.

The annual meeting of the Texas Shorthorn Association is scheduled for 3:00 p.m., according to Dale Taylor, Wolfforth, association president. Business will include yearly reports, election of directors and officers, announcement of the Progressive and Pioneer Breeders and an auction of prime advertising space in the 2006 membership directory. Association members, Rodney McAnear and Cliff Wammack, will serve as auctioneers. During the business meeting the youth will swim and participate in volleyball, horseshoes and other outdoor games.

Judging contest classes will be reviewed at 4:30 p.m., followed by a tour of Floyd Shorthorn cattle. Mr. Floyd not only raises registered Shorthorns, but is also involved in the Durham Red program, utilizing Red Angus. The Floyd's and area Shorthorn breeders will host an evening meal and the awards program for the Texas Junior Shorthorn Association's educational activities.

Additional information on the field day, Shorthorn cattle or association membership can be obtained from TSA secretary, Belynda Rains, P. O. Box 387, Rotan, TX 79546 or by calling 325-735-2640.

## Kenneth and Salata Brown To Mark 60th Wedding Anniversary



The Children and Grandchildren of Kenneth and Salata Brown would like to invite you to their 60th Wedding Anniversary Reception, May 27th, 2006 2:00 until 4:00 PM in their home at 820 Walnut, Ranger, Texas. No gifts please.

### CAR WASH! -- CAR WASH!

American State Bank - Sat. May 20 - 9 a.m. til  
By Donation  
Help Send The Lady Panthers To Team Basketball Camp In June

### Locate Lost Graves

Have you ever tried to locate a lost or unmarked grave? One of the easiest and least expensive ways to locate these graves is by dowsing.

There will be a demonstration on dowsing for lost graves at the Victor Cemetery on Thursday and Friday, May 25 & 26, anytime from dawn to noon, and on Saturday, May 27 from dawn till 10:00 a.m.. Anyone interested in watching, learning or helping is welcome.

To reach Victor Cemetery from De Leon, go north on Hwy 16 about 6 miles, turn right (toward the east) on FM 2156 for about 3 miles. From Desdemona, go south on Hwy 16 about 4 miles, turn left (toward the east) on FM 2156 for about 3 miles. From Dublin, from the traffic light at Dairy Queen, take FM 2156 North (toward Lingleville) for about 1 1/2 miles, then left on FM 2156 for about 11 miles.

Anyone who is interested in learning about dowsing is welcome to come. If possible, bring 2 all-metal clothes hangers with you to practice with.

## Bed and Breakfast Getaway Drawing

Gorman Livestock Raisers Association is having a drawing for a Weekend Bed and Breakfast Getaway in Granbury. This is a value of over \$400. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. For tickets contact Mr. Boles at 734-2505, Cecilia Hirst at 734-4059, or Melissa Osborne at 734-2849.

The Gorman Progress Office Will Be Closed On Friday, May 19th Will Be Open On Monday As Usual.

## Juice - Too Much Of A Good Thing

Preschoolers who drink too much juice are more likely to be too short, and too heavy, for their age according to research. As a result, nutrition experts are advising parents and child care givers to limit juice to 3/4 cup per day. "Unfortunately, when it comes to juice, there's such a thing as too much" says Dr. Sharon Robinson, Nutrition Specialist with Texas Cooperative Extension.

While fruit and juice are part of a healthful eating plan, they should not be substituted for milk and other healthful foods. As always, a healthy eating plan is based on variety, balance and moderation.

When shopping for fruit juice, look for '100% juice' on the packaging. Powdered fruit-ades and fruit flavored sodas are no substitute for the nutrition that is in 100% fruit juice. "In fact," says Dr. Robinson, "sweet drinks not only add calories to the diet but they can spoil children's appetite for the foods they need to grow, develop, and stay healthy." Children who consume more calories than needed are more apt to be heavy for their age.

How much fruit and juice should you offer your preschooler? Most young children need about 1 to 2 cups from the MyPyramid Fruit Group each day. To determine how much food you should serve your child based on your child's age, gender and physical activity level visit <http://www.mypyramid.gov>.

The next time you take your child to the doctor, ask if your child's height and weight is right for this or her age. Remember, never place a child on a weight loss diet unless instructed by a doctor. Instead, serve foods based on MyPyramid during family mealtimes and enjoy regular family activity.

Texas Cooperative Extension offers nutrition education events in your area. To learn more, contact your local Family and Consumer Science County Extension Agent, Beth Stone at 254-629-2222 or [estone@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:estone@ag.tamu.edu).

## CITY WIDE SPRING CLEAN UP MAY 23 & 26

THE CITY WIDE SPRING TIME CLEAN UP DAY (S) WILL BE MAY 23 & 26. IT WILL BE YOUR REGULAR TRASH PICK UP DAY. IT WILL BE CURB SIDE. NO TIRES, NO BATTERIES, NO PAINT, OR REFRIGERANTS, PLEASE. THIS WILL BE A GREAT TIME TO GET YOUR RESIDENCE IN TIP TOP SHAPE. GET RID OF ALL THAT UNSIGHTLY ACCUMULATION OF "EXTRAS" GET OUT THE MOWER AND WEED EATER AND POLISH UP!! The City Crew Will Have the Limb and Brush chipper Available On Tuesday, May 23rd - All Day - Contact City Office.

## Super Notes

By David K. Perry

dperry@gorman.esc14.net  
734-3171

The big question on everyone's mind that is in the education business is, will the newly passed legislation regarding school finance be acceptable to the court and exactly what will it do to public schools in Texas? Only time will tell. There is rarely a piece of legislation passed of this magnitude that doesn't have to be tweaked several times before it actually accomplishes what it was created to do. Our thanks go out to Representative Keffer and his staff for all the hard work they endured and for representing us well.

Monday night we held our regularly scheduled board meeting at 7:00pm in the high school auditorium. After our usual opening with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance, Hollyann Wright read the prose to the board that she performed in Regional U.I.L. academic competition where she placed fifth. She did an excellent job. I think she should have won the competition! Hollyann then spoke to the board representing girl's athletics in support of the job Coach Tooley has done. Coach Tooley himself addressed the board next. He will not be with us next year and we wish him well in his career pursuits. Next, the board approved the consent agenda after making one correction to the minutes of the previous meeting. Coach Tyson announced that the Athletic Banquet would be hosted by ZJ's on Tuesday, May 16, 2006 at 7:00pm and that awards would be presented for all sports at the event. Mrs. Hampton then gave the counselor's report reviewing her counseling activities for the previous month. She also mentioned the Academic Awards Assembly on May 16, 2006 at 10:00am in the auditorium; Senior Community Service Project on the 15th, 17th, and 18th; and the Talent Show for grades 7-12 May 18th. Mrs. Reeves then gave the Elementary Principal Report where she commented on the many trips our children have made over the past week. Their enrollment is at 217 and our attendance rate is at 96.79% which is excellent. She also gave the results of our 4th, 5th, and 6th grade Science Fair. Those that placed are as follows:

Fourth Grade: 1st Place - MyKisha Hampton, 2nd Place - Rhys Vaughn, 3rd Place - Haven Johnson

Fifth Grade: 1st Place - Jasmeen DeLaTorre, 2nd Place - Joron Majors and Delila Hipolita, 3rd Place - Mario Silva and Viridiana Maldonado

Sixth Grade: 1st Place - Nathan Gee and James Thomas, 2nd Place - Rebekah Powell, 3rd Place - Erica Ortiz and McKenzie Osborn

Mr. Panter then gave the High School Principal Report and commented on how great prom was and thanked Mrs. Majors, Mrs. Gore, and the junior class for their work on it. He then stated that students will have their schedules for next year before they leave for the summer. He then mentioned up coming events including the Spring Band Concert Monday, May 15, 2006 at 6:30pm. The superintendent then gave his report which included several information items, but centered on compiling a list with the board of specifications for the proposed gym and fine arts building so that he could meet with the architect and relay the information. He also informed them that there would be an online driver's education course available to our students for the textbook portion of the course. The cost will be \$125.00.

The board then approved the Student Handbook for the 2006-2007 school year; Trustee Certification of Textbooks, and the adoption of a local wellness policy with votes of 6-0. They then tabled the approval of the school's contract for library services until the June meeting in order to give Mrs. Reeves time to assess the needs at the elementary library. The board then approved Stanley Walker as the Student Insurance carrier for 2006-2007 and a transfer of funds from investment to operations (FYI - we keep our money in investment accounts to earn maximum interest as long as we can). The board then went into executive session by order of the president to discuss personnel. When the board came out of executive session, motions were made, seconded, and passed to offer probationary contracts to Billy Fox and Dena Scitem for the 2006-2007 school year. The board then adjourned. Then next regularly scheduled board meeting will be at 7:00pm in the high school auditorium on June 12th.

Important dates to remember:

5/18 - Secondary Talent Show is tentatively scheduled for 2:30pm; 5/19 - Elementary Field Day; 5/21 - Baccalaureate 7:30pm in the auditorium.

Time continues to tick away and this year will be over at the end of next week. Please make sure your child does not leave anything at school. Have them check the lost and found. Things accumulate over the year. Please have them turn in all school property. If you see a school textbook at your home this summer, please return it to the school. Sometimes kids accidentally leave their books at a friend's house and forget about it. You could save someone a lot of money. Textbooks are not cheap!

Remember that college classes will be taught this summer in our distance learning lab and they are open to the community. If you would like to take a course or just to see what is offered, contact Susie Hampton at the high school.

It takes community involvement for a school to be successful and you are welcome to get involved at Gorman ISD anytime. Remember, this is your school; these are your children; and these children are your future! Come help us shape the future.

## Gorman High School Graduation And Banquet Schedule for 2006

Academic awards: Tuesday, May 16 at 10:00am in auditorium  
Athletic awards: Tuesday, May 16 at 7:00pm at ZJ's  
Baccalaureate exercise: Sunday, May 21, 2006 at 7:30pm in auditorium.

8th grade graduation: Thursday, May 25, 2006 at 7:30pm in auditorium.

High School graduation: Friday, May 26, 2006 at 7:30pm at Brogdon Field. (If inclement weather arrives, we will move it to the auditorium).

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL THE SCHOOL AT 734-2614

## GHS Baccalaureate Set For Sunday, May 21st at 7:30 p.m.

Processional  
Senior Class and Faculty

Invocation

John Howard, Minister Abundant Life Church

Memories

Senior Class

Baccalaureate Sermon

Barry Schahn, Minister, First Baptist Church

Benediction

Richard Watson, Minister,  
New Hope Baptist Church

Recessional

Senior Class

## Oakland Cemetery Report

The Oakland Cemetery Report - Due to rain at that time we were not able to have our Meeting at the Cemetery on May the sixth.

The next meeting time is set for Saturday, May the Twentieth at 10:00 a.m. at the Cemetery. In case the roads are bad again, we have an alternative meeting place here in Gorman now.

The alternative meeting place will be at the Gorman Family Bible Church Fellowship Hall. The meeting would convene as usual at ten o'clock in the morning.

Again we beg of you to please be present. Everyone is needed to be with us and to be an active part of the Association.

If you have loved ones there or just lots to be used later you are a part of the association.

So please come and take your place in the Association and start supporting it. Good things don't just happen, they have to be worked on to be a success.

So please Help those who have worked so hard to keep the cemetery beautiful. We hope to see you on May 20th.

Opal Burton, Sec.

## Ag Commissioner Susan Combs To Hold Meeting



Join Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs, Thursday, May 25, 2006 2:30 p.m. Community Meeting Gorman Community Center, 118 S. Kent, Gorman, Tx.

Come meet Commissioner Combs at this open forum and discuss issues that are affecting Texas agriculture and rural communities. She will discuss rural economic development, the Texas Yes! Program, and the department's new Certified Retirement Community and biofuel incentive programs.

For more information contact: Lori Dodd, Gorman Development Corporation - (254) 734-3933 [gcdc@cctc.net](mailto:gcdc@cctc.net).

## The Howard Hagood's To Mark 50th Anniversary



Please join us for the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Patricia and Howard Hagood on May 21, 2006 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Gorman, Texas. Given with love by their children and grandchildren. Cards and letters documenting memories of the couple will be appreciated in lieu of gifts.



## Local Scouts To Hold Drawing



The Local Scouts are selling tickets on this bronzed, ceramic statue. It measures 12" x 12" - retails for \$40.00. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Drawing will be held May 18th. Donation and drawing sponsored by Becky Laminack. Proceeds to benefit the local Scouting program and Relay for Life. Contact Lora Lewis or most any scout to purchase tickets at 254-734-4480 or 734-6701. Thanks for your support!!

## Randy's Roundup

A Weekly Newsletter from Congressman Randy Neugebauer  
May 15, 2006

### Making Choices

Being a United States Congressman often boils down to the simple act of making choices. Each day, there are choices that need to be made regarding national priorities and whether or not to support particular pieces of legislation. It is a responsibility each member accepts, and one that I take seriously. Last week, members of the House had several opportunities to make some important choices regarding national security and the federal government's use of taxpayer dollars.

On Wednesday, I chose to support tax relief legislation and prevent a tax increase from being levied on middle-class Americans. As a result, working families will be able to keep more of their hard-earned dollars by avoiding falling into the trap of the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT). This legislation will prevent 15 million middle-class taxpayers from being victims of the AMT in 2006. Additionally, the bill keeps in place other important tax relief measures that have encouraged investment, benefited small businesses, and contributed to our current healthy economy. Specifically, our economy has experienced 32 months of consecutive job growth. That total now stands at 5.3 million jobs since August, 2003.

Later in the week, I chose to support legislation that will benefit our troops fighting abroad as well as our military families here at home in the 19th District. This bill provides a 2.7 percent pay raise for the members of the military as well as \$390 million for body armor and other protective devices for our troops on the battlefield. I also worked with House leadership to get \$49 million included in the bill to upgrade housing for our military families at Dyess Air Force Base. These funds will help build 199 new housing units at the base.

### Border Security in Primetime

President Bush will address the nation during primetime tonight on the issue of border security. He will lay out his vision for how America should solve this important issue. I will post my reaction to the President's remarks on my website - [www.randy.house.gov](http://www.randy.house.gov) - following the conclusion of the speech.

-Randy

## Arbor Day Foundation Offers Best Tree-Care Advice In Free Pruning Guide

Those who care about trees will find advice on pruning and related topics in The National Arbor Day Foundation's free booklet, "How To Prune Young Shade Trees." From pruning in the early years of a tree's life, to learning how to strengthen trees by removing branches, this illustrated, easy-to-follow guide offers timely, and practical tips.

"How a tree is pruned in its first few years of life will affect its shape, strength, and even lifespan," said Arbor Day Foundation President John Rosenow. "People who value their trees will learn how to make them safer, more beautiful, healthier, and easier to maintain with this guide and its step-by-step illustrations."

Other tips in "How to Prune Young Shade Trees" covers the best ways to make a pruning cut, how to prune for form, and how to maintain a tree's health by removing trouble spots. It also offers such basic advice as how to hold a pair of pruning shears and make cuts at the proper angle.

For your free copy, send your name and address to: *How To Prune, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410* or go online at [www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org)

## CJC Summer Semester Registration Open At Abilene and Cisco Campuses

Cisco Junior College will soon begin regular registration for the Summer I semester. Registration at the Abilene Educational Center will be Tuesday, May 23 from 8:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. and Wednesday, May 24 from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon on a walk-in, first come, first served basis. Open registration at the Cisco campus is scheduled for Thursday, May 25 from 8:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.

The first class day at both locations is Tuesday, May 30. For more information about CJC, to view summer schedules, and to apply online, visit our website at [www.cisco.cc.tx.us](http://www.cisco.cc.tx.us)

## House Democrats Unveil Comprehensive Biodiesel Energy Package

### Energizing America:

### Farmers Fueling Our Nation's Energy Independence

Washington, D.C. - In response to the overwhelming public demand for new direction and leadership to meet the energy needs of America's families, a group of leading Democrats in the U.S. House of Representatives announced a real plan to invest in America, grow our energy, and establish energy independence at a press conference today.

The plan, developed by the Rural Working Group, would rapidly expand the production and distribution of biofuels; encourage the deployment of new engine technologies for flex fuel, hybrid and biodiesel vehicles; and encourage cutting-edge research to develop the next revolution in renewable energy.

"The energy challenges facing our nation are real, but Americans are ready to meet the challenge," said House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi. "The answer is right here at home. From corn in the Midwest to soybeans in North Carolina, we grow the crops that can be converted into the biofuels that power our cars. It is good for the environment, good for our economy, and it is good for our farmers."

"This plan is home-grown and American owned," said House Democratic Caucus Chairman James E. Clyburn. "It severs the ties to foreign imports and puts American production and growth first. It provides a stark contrast to the Republican plan that I call the methadone treatment for oil dependency-replace the addiction to foreign oil with an addiction to foreign ethanol."

"This legislation sets a path to energy independence for the United States that is fueled by our nation's rural communities," said Agriculture Committee Ranking Democrat Collin C. Peterson (D-MN). "The Rural Working Group's proposal includes practical solutions that will expand ethanol and biodiesel production and will make sure that Americans can find flex-fuel vehicles at auto dealerships and biofuels at local gas stations."

"Rural Americans are being hit particularly hard by high gas prices," said U.S. Rep. Bob Etheridge (D-N.C.), Co-chair of the Rural Working Group. "However, our farmers and our economy stand to benefit from this crisis if we make a commitment to change the way we get our fuel. The answer to our fuel crisis is growing in our fields. By investing in biofuels, we are not only making energy more affordable, we are also investing in rural America." Every dollar we invest in domestic biofuel production is a dollar that stays in America and creates good-paying jobs.

"Renewable biofuels like ethanol and biodiesel are not only a key way to reduce our dependency on foreign oil and strengthen our national security, but they represent an investment in the future of rural America," U.S. Rep. Stephanie Herseth (D-SD), Co-chair of the House Rural Working Group said. "As patriotic Americans, we can be part of the solution to one of the biggest problems facing our country, by making ourselves energy independent, and in the process, we can preserve our way of life in rural America."

## Texas House Votes 136 to 8 for HB1

The House voted to concur with changes made to HB 1 in the Senate, sending the massive school property tax cut plan to the governor's desk.

The vote was 136 to 8.

The move leaves only HB 2 (in conference) and HB 5 (returned to Senate on a point of order) pending in the Capitol from the Perry-Sharp tax plan. HB 1, though, is arguably

the most important of the five bills as it is the only one to address the June 1 Supreme Court deadline on fixing the unconstitutional school property tax system. The bill knocks the tax rate down to \$1.33 next year and down to \$1 in the following year. Included by the Senate are a number of extra provisions to raise teacher pay through across the board raises and incentive programs and extra money for high schools to address dropout rates. Senators also established a new uniform school start date, a new tax rate election date as well as a provision to turn low-performing schools over to private contractors.

## FBC Summer Camp

The First Baptist Church would like to invite all children between the first and sixth grades to join us at camp this summer. Camp is always an enjoyable and uplifting experience for every child.

Camp dates as follows:

Lad and Lassie Camp - June 16-17

(Grades 1 - 3)

Pre-Teen Camp - July 24-27

(Grades 4 - 6)

Youth Camp - July 17-21

(Grades 7 - 12)

Registration forms can be picked up at the church office, your Sunday school or CIA teacher. A non-refundable deposit of \$10 must be paid before May 1, 2006.

For more information please contact: **First Baptist Church, 734-2420.**

## Pig Tales From Hogtown

Have you been to Desemona lately? Good things are happening here. The slab for the new Desdemona Activity Center has been poured and the walls will be going up soon. A very good time to come and view the goings-on will be this weekend. We are having a Huge Garage Sale to raise money so we can raise the walls! If you have been to one of our sales before, you know we always have lots of good stuff. The sale will be held in downtown Desdemona, May 18, 19, 20. Times will be Thursday and Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 7 and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We welcome two new members to the Activity Center board. They are Grant Lewis and Monty Williams. The president of the board is now Floyd Moore.



Shown above discussing the project prior to pouring the slab are, left to right, Bob Wisdom, Robert Tucker, Roy Johnson, Leo Williams and Delores Tucker.



The slab for the Desdemona Activity Center building was poured May 10th. David Gilder, center, of Gilder Construction is shown receiving payment for the job from Floyd Moore, Jr.; standing next to Gilder is Larry Wilson. The slab is 60'x100' or 6,000 Sq. Ft..

## HOGS ARE COMING

The Harley Davidson Owners Group (HOG) state rally will be held in Abilene May 18-21. According to the Abilene Convention & Visitors Bureau, thousands of bikers are expected to participate. Every highway leading to Abilene is sure to have Harley motorcycle traffic going and coming between May 18 and 21.

Community leaders in cities surrounding Abilene have been notified of the expected bike traffic and have been given tips on how to be prepared.

- Ample premium gas at convenience stores and stations

- Retail store owners prepared to ship purchases since very little can be carried on a motorcycle

- Motel rooms needed in outlying communities since Abilene does not have adequate space to accommodate the number of HOG members anticipated

- Citizens aware of the high volume of noise that is produced from a large number of Harleys traveling in groups

On Friday and Saturday, May 19-20, HOG members will likely be venturing out into the region on "observation excursions" planned for two suggested routes, one north and one south of Abilene. Each route includes two fort sites along the Texas Forts Trail as well as "back roads" to explore.

Most planned activities for the rally are exclusive to HOG members; however, two events are open to the public, a gigantic bike parade and a bike show. On Saturday, May 20, the parade is set for 10:30 and will follow a route from Dyess Air Force Base along South 1st Street to Treadaway to South 11th Street and on to the Taylor County Expo Center. On-lookers are encouraged to arrive early for a good viewing spot. The bike show is from 11:30-5:00 at the Expo Center.

As the Harley Davidson Owners Group members discover the Texas Midwest, citizens in the region are encouraged to offer them a hearty welcome. Return visits mean an economic boost locally as well as for the region.

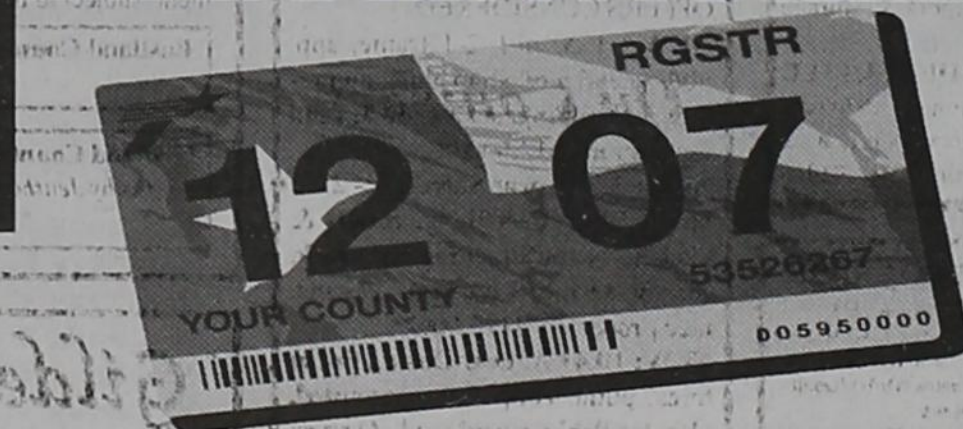
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\* \$79 one-way fare and taxes may not be available on all flights. All fares are one-way. Must be purchased by May 27, 2006 for travel by September 11, 2006. Taxes are non-refundable and do not include P.C. segment tax or September 11th security fee of \$4.00 per segment. Travel can be booked at Allegiant Air ticket counter or through Allegiant Air call center. All fares are available for \$100 per segment. A segment is defined as one take-off and landing. Fair rates, rules, and conditions apply. See website for details. Restrictions apply.

## Legislature Passes Ban On Protest At Military Funerals

The Texas Legislature passed House Bill 97 today, which would ban protests or other disruptive behavior at funeral and burial services for Texas military men and women.

"There is a time and place for protests and dissent, but it's not at funeral and burials for U.S. soldiers. Their families have through enough pain and trauma without these demonstrations," says State Rep. Jim Keffer (R-Eastland).

House Bill 97 criminalizes protesting within 500 feet of a cemetery or facility being used for a funeral service beginning one hour before a service and ending one hour after the service is complete. Such acts will be classified as Class B misdemeanor in the Penal Code. The legislation will not prohibit patriotic displays.



## Watching for Birds

As prices for oil and gas remain unacceptably high, Texas is turning to alternative energy sources. Texas already leads the nation in generating electricity through wind power - much of it in the Panhandle. Now there are proposals to build big wind turbine farms along the Gulf near Galveston and Corpus Christi.

But there are complications. Environmentalists point to the Texas coast as a prime travel route for hundreds of bird species migrating to and from Mexico and Central America. Researchers are making certain the wind farm propellers will pose no danger to the migrating birds. It's all a reminder that virtually every "easy" solution to our energy supply problems has a potential downside.

It also points out the growing importance of birds to Texas. Bird-watching has become one of the state's more popular pastimes and tourism attractions. The American Birding Association has named Texas the best place to bird-watch for five consecutive years. 'Birding,' as it's known, is our state's fastest-growing form of nature tourism. That has two beneficial consequences: it promotes the conservation of natural habitats, and it strengthens our local economies.

Texas is home to a greater variety of birds—more than 600—than any other state. Three-quarters of all American birds either migrate through Texas or reside here. One reason is our diverse surface geography. Another is our key location in traditional migration patterns. And maybe even birds know what we know: Texas is just a great place to be.

In the early days of the Texas Republic, famed naturalist James J. Audubon landed at Galveston and traveled parts of Texas sketching wildlife for his classic book, "Birds of America." It's safe to say he was impressed. Visiting South Texas in 1837, Audubon observed, among other birds, the ivory-billed woodpecker. Until it was reportedly spotted again last year in Arkansas, the ivory-bill had been considered extinct for 60 years.

Great birding venues exist all across our state. A watcher with good eyesight can see 10 types of hummingbirds in the Davis Mountains in West Texas. Bird watching can be combined with general enjoyment of the wilderness - near Alamo, Texas, you might see various birds, butterflies and even a rare ocelot at the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge. In the often tropical weather of the Rio Grande Valley, birders may spot spectacular visitors such as a Mexican northern jacana, with its bright yellow-green wings.

But the Texas Gulf Coast is properly described as the crown jewel of bird-watching venues. The Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail spans the entire 624 miles of our Gulf Coast, from Beaumont to Brownsville - the first of its kind in the nation.

Included in this vast spread - big even by Texas standards - is the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, just north of Rockport, winter home to the endangered whooping crane. Further south on the trail, native birds such as the oriole, the flycatcher and the kingfisher congregate in a much-visited state park on the Rio Grande.

Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State Park, near Mission, houses the headquarters of our World Birding Center. It's a collaboration of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services and nine Valley communities. The 10,000-acre center's mission is protecting native habitat and increasing awareness and appreciation of birds and wildlife. It opened officially only in 2003, but it's already world famous.

The Center is actually nine different sites. It includes a wide array of habitats along a 120-mile stretch from South Padre Island west to Roma, Texas. The Center promises visitors a "birders' eye view" of the seasons in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. In winter, there are warblers, sparrows and purple martins. The spring brings swallows and migrating raptors. Summer offers the long-billed curlews and orchard orioles. With autumn arrive buntings, cuckoos and ruby-throated hummingbirds.

This is all great for Texas tourism. In 2001, wildlife-associated recreation - fishing, hunting, and wildlife-viewing, including birding - contributed \$4.7 billion to the Texas economy. Nature tourism alone contributed \$301 million in additional local tax revenues.

Bird-watching offers a great opportunity to enhance enjoyment of nature and further our understanding of nature's delicate relationship with man. For communities and the entire state, bird-watching provides the all-too-rare harmony between economic well-being and environmental conservation.

Texans are fortunate indeed. Almost year-round, we need look no further than our own backyard to watch a woodpecker negotiate the trunk of a tree, or listen to a mockingbird croon from a tree branch. Watching the millions of birds that live in or visit Texas is yet another great way to enjoy the beauty of our state.

Sen. Cornyn is a member of the following Senate Committees: Armed Services, Judiciary, Budget, Small Business and Entrepreneurship, and Joint Economic. He is also the chairman of the subcommittees on Immigration, Border Security and Citizenship and Emerging Threats and Capabilities. He served previously as Texas Attorney General, Texas Supreme Court Justice and Bexar County District Judge.

## Desdemona News

By Vonnie Guthery

P. E. "Shorty" Fox of Desdemona celebrated his 83rd Birthday on Sunday with a Family Dinner at the "Our Place Restaurant" in Dublin. Those attending were Larry and Gay Moore of Desdemona; Bruce and Renee White and children, Chelsea and Cory of Stephenville; Paul and Susan Moore and children, Hagan and Scarlett of Lingleville.

Robert and Ima Brown spent a few days this past weekend in Christoval, TX south of San Angelo. They stayed at a Bed and Breakfast Resort where they enjoyed watching deer, turkey and many different kinds of birds that came close to their cabin. They reported a wonderful trip.

Dorothy Roberts had triple stent heart surgery last Wednesday at the Medical Plaza Hospital in Fort Worth. She is at home at this time and doing much better. Remember her with your cards and prayers. Her address is P. O. Box 156, Desdemona, Tx 76445.

Robert and Ima Brown visited last Saturday in Fort

Worth with their son, Robert Alton and Jana Brown and children, Preston and Julie. The occasion was to help their grandson, Preston celebrate his birthday.

Roy and Angela Powledge and son, Lane hosted a Hamburger Cook Out on Mother's Day. Those attending were Dean and Judy Powledge of Cisco, Jackie and Debra Powledge and son, Rendon of Covington, Marty Powledge of Plano, Pug and Vonnie Guthery, Karen Eaves, Lorin Eaves, Belinda Webb and Holly Guthery all of Desdemona and John Fair of Whitney.

Colin and Kaley Garcia visited the past weekend in Whitney with their dad, George and Christal Garcia and son, Gavin.

Remember - "Birthday Card Shower" for Estelle Lindley on Sunday, May 21. She will celebrate her 90th birthday and would enjoy hearing from all of her friends and neighbors in this area. Her address is 420 Cr 4980, Desdemona, Tx 76445.

**Answer to last week's riddle:** Can you name 10 body parts (no slang words) that have three letters each - (1) Lips - (2) Eyes - (3) Ear - (4) Hip - (5) Toe - (6) Jaw - (7) Gum - (8) Leg - (9) Arm - (10) Rib. Average person gets only seven or eight. So how did you score?

"Pot Luck Supper" will be held on Saturday, June 10 at the Desdemona Community Center School Building. This event will begin at 6:00 p.m. Bring your favorite dish of food and enjoy the fellowship with your friends and neighbors. Everyone is invited to attend.

Larry and Gay Moore enjoyed the past weekend visiting and sight-seeing in South Texas.

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'06 Buick Rendezvous	Leather, V6, 13K, Warranty	\$19,950
'06 Chevy Trailblazer	LS, cloth, 11K, Warranty	\$20,500
'06 Cadillac CTS	Leather, Sedan, only 8K, Warranty	C A L L
'05 Buick Century	V6, auto, 27K, Warranty	C A L L
'05 Buick Le Sabre	Leather, V6, 13K, Warranty	C A L L
'05 Buick Le Sabre	Cloth, V6, 19K, Warranty	C A L L
'05 Cadillac Sedan Deville	Leather, V8, 18K, Warranty	C A L L
'05 Chevy Cavalier	Auto, 4-cyl., 4K, Warranty	\$12,500
'05 Chevy Malibu	Classic, cloth, 23K, Warranty	\$12,750
'05 Chevy Uplander	LS, DVD, 16K, Warranty	\$19,500
'05 Chevy Colorado Crew Cab	LS, cloth, 18K, Warranty	\$19,995
'05 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab	Z-71, V8, 28K, Warranty	\$24,900
'05 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab	LS, V8, 31K, Warranty	\$20,500
'05 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab	Duramax, 4X4, 19K, Warranty	\$34,950
'05 Chevy 3500 Crew Cab	Duramax, 4X4, Dually, 21K, Warranty	\$35,950
'05 GMC Envoy	Leather, sunroof, 18K, Warranty	\$22,500
'05 GMC 1500 Reg. Cab	V8, auto, 15K, Warranty	\$17,500
'05 GMC Canyon Crew Cab	Crew Cab, only 7K, Warranty	\$20,900
'05 Jeep Liberty	Cloth, V6, 31K, Warranty	\$16,995
'05 Pontiac Grand Am	Auto, V6, 17K, Warranty	\$13,500
'05 Pontiac Grand Prix	Cloth, auto, 16K, Warranty	\$16,500

2004 • 2004 • 2004

'04 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab	LT, cloth, 23K, Warranty	\$22,250
'04 Chevy 1500 X-Cab	LS, V8, 24K, Warranty	\$18,950
'04 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab	LS, 4X4, 46K, Warranty	\$23,995
'04 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab	Duramax, 4X4, 24K, Warranty	\$32,500
'04 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab	Duramax, 4X4, 23K, Warranty	\$32,950
'04 Ford Escape	XLT, V6, 18K, Warranty	\$16,900
'04 Ford F150 Reg. Cab	STX, Auto, V6, 9K, Warranty	\$14,900
'04 Ford F150 Crew Cab	XLT, 4X4, 17K, Warranty	\$26,500
'04 Ford Mustang	V6, auto, 51K, Warranty	\$12,995
'04 Dodge Durango	Limited, leather, 36K, Warranty	\$19,950

2003 • 2003 • 2003

'03 Chevy Avalanche	Cloth, V8, 18K, Warranty	\$21,500
'03 Chevy Monte Carlo	V6, cloth, 38K, Warranty	\$13,500
'03 Chevy 2500 Reg. Cab	4X4, 5 Sp., 56K, Warranty	\$15,900
'03 Chevy 3500 X-Cab	Duramax, dually, 117K	\$18,900
'03 Chevy Tahoe	LS, 3 Row Seat, 54K, Warranty	\$21,000
'03 Chevy Trailblazer	LS, cloth, 39K, Warranty	\$16,250
'03 Chevy Suburban	LS, cloth, 48K, Warranty	\$19,900
'03 Ford F-150 X-Cab	4X4, V8, 41K, Warranty	\$19,250
'03 Volvo V70	Leather, sunroof, 26K, Warranty	\$23,500

2002 • 2002 • 2002

'02 Chevy Trailblazer	LS, cloth, 45K, Warranty	\$14,900
'02 Nissan Frontier Crew Cab	4X4, Auto, 40K, Warranty	\$16,500
'02 Oldsmobile Alero	4 Door, 4 cyl., 59K, Warranty	\$ 8,250



2001 • 2001 • 2001

'01 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab	4X4, leather, 149K, Warranty	\$12,995
'01 Dodge 1500 X-Cab	Auto, V6, 77K, Warranty	\$ 8,995
'01 Ford F150 Super Crew	XLT, 4X4, 101K, Warranty	\$14,500
'01 GMC Sonoma X-Cab	Auto, V6, 81K, Warranty	\$ 8,995

2000 • 1999 • 1998

'00 Buick Le Sabre	Cloth, V6, 59K, Warranty	CALL
'00 Ford Explorer	XLT, V6, 71K, Warranty	\$ 9,500
'00 Ford Mustang	Auto, V6, 66K, Warranty	\$ 8,995
'99 Ford G5 300	Leather, sunroof, 71K, Warranty	\$16,900
'98 Chevy 1500 X-Cab	V8, auto, 91K, Warranty	\$ 7,995

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