

The Gorman Progress

2006 Member
Texas Press Association

"Serving Gorman For Over 106 Years"

Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454

NUMBER FORTY-SIX

NOVEMBER 23, 2006

Happy Thanksgiving

Carman Stops In Carbon For His Last Concert Of The Year

Carman is currently making his tour all about the local churches. He will be in Carbon on November 25th at Carbon Community Baptist Church 515 Anthracite. Doors open at 6pm, concert at 7pm. Tickets are \$15 each and can be purchased at Stage 21 Hair Studio- 629-8006, Regena's Attic 629-0939, the Chamber of Commerce 629-2332, and Jodi's Floral 629-2090 in Eastland; KGNZ 325-673-8801 in Abilene; ASAP Plumbing 254-965-7272 and Scriptures in Stephenville, in Gorman at City Grocery and ZJ's Steakhouse.



County Livestock Raisers Association Opens Emergency Relief Fund at First Financial Bank

The Eastland County Livestock Raisers Association has opened an account at First Financial Bank, Eastland to raise money to repair the damage caused by copper thieves at the Eastland County Livestock Showgrounds.

On Tuesday, November 14, 2006, the board of directors approved a \$16,000 proposal to replace the stolen materials and bring the affected buildings up to code. Work has to be completed before the livestock show which begins January 17, 2007, leaving very little time to raise the required funds.

"We are asking for the help of the people of Eastland County," said association president, Brian Perry. "We do not have the funds on hand to complete this project, let alone do the work needed and turn around and put on a stock show in mid-January."

Perry continued, "The costs of putting on the show would shock most people. It's a big undertaking, and our goal from year to year is just to keep the thing going. The circumstances which we face today are a huge blow to our organization, but we have faith that we will overcome them with the help of the good people of our community."

The Eastland Industrial Foundation has pledged to match the first \$2000 given to the fund. Benefactors may make contributions at any First Financial Bank location. Those wishing to give directly to the association may mail contributions to ECLRA, PO Box 795, Eastland, Texas 76448. Those with questions about the project are urged to call Mr. Perry at 254-631-7127.

"We are appealing to anyone who has been touched by this program through the years... anyone who has been affected by it or has a child or grandchild who benefited from 4-H or FFA," stated Perry.

"I went to college on a Texas FFA scholarship, and this county stock show played a huge part in getting that scholarship. I know the value of this program, and I believe the people of our community do too. I hate like crazy that we have to ask for help, but that's the reality of the situation. We look forward to working with the people of Eastland County and getting this project completed. We can't do it without them."

Kokomo Baptist Church To Mark 100th Anniversary Dec. 10th

Kokomo Baptist Church will dedicate their new church building and celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the church on Sunday, December 10, 2006. The church was organized on June 6, 1906, but due to the church building burning on January 1, 2006, the celebration had to be postponed until the new building was completely

The service will begin at 10:00 a.m. There will be a dedication service, special music, a brief history of the church, recognition of former pastors and their families, and former members. Dr. Jimmy Nelson, a Baptist Missionary who grew up in the Kokomo Baptist Church, will deliver the message in the worship service.

Lunch will be served in the fellowship hall at noon, followed by a time for visiting in the afternoon.

The church is located in the same place as the other church was at the junction of Hwy. 2526 from Carbon and Hwy. 2689 from Gorman, in the Kokomo Community.

Gorman 61, Covington 20

The Lady Panthers hosted Covington Lady Owls on November 14th. Both Lady Gorman teams showed their defensive strength against the Owls in a man-to-man match up that proved to be to powerful for the visiting team. One highlight of the Varsity game came when post player Kristy Carlton was guarding the Owls point guard and single-handedly stole the ball and drove the court for a lay-up. Kristy had a great shooting game hitting 7 of 8 attempts from the field. The Lady Panthers tallied 24 steals (Johnston 7, Longoria 5), 46 rebounds (B. Carlton 8), and 16 assists (Lewis 6).

Gorman	16	18	20	7-	61
Covington	2	5	4	9-	20

Gorman scorers:

B. Carlton 9, Johnston 12, R. Herrera 2, Longoria 5, Ka. Seaton 7, K. Carlton, 14, Thackerson 2, Jones 4, Granado 4, Ki. Seaton 2.

Gorman JV 9 14 12 15- 50

Covington JV 6 0 7 4- 17

Gorman scorers:

Burns 6, L. Herrera 2, Thackerson 10, Jones 4, Granado 6, Henderson 2, Shirley 2, Ki. Seaton 14, Laminack 2.

Mom's Day Out

MOMs' and parents;

Do you need some time to Christmas shop without your kids? Have you wondered when you would find the time to prepare for the Christmas holiday?

Firstfruits Christian Fellowship has the answer to your questions. "Mom's Day Out," is a day for you to shop, set-up your home for the holidays, clean, or just rest. We have set aside December 9th from 9:30 a.m. till 3:30 p.m. for you to have FREE child care. We at Firstfruits will open our doors at 9:15 to receive your kids and have a days worth of activities for them while you are gone. We will have more information in the following weeks or you can call 254-734-3203. So, mark your calendars for a day set aside especially for YOU!

Letter To The Editor

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the coaching staff and football team for an excellent season. We are very fortunate to have the likes of coach Talbert, coach Fox, coach Wiseman, and coach Cox on staff. Congratulations to the Panthers. If you will live your life the way you play football, there is no limit to the things you can accomplish! Great job Panthers! Bob Powell

Applications For 07-08 Alternative Certification Program

Applications for the Region 14 Education Service Center's 2007-2008 Alternative Certification Program for Math and Science teachers will be accepted until **February 16, 2007**. The program allows college graduates wanting to be Math and/or Science teachers to earn certifications as they train and teach full time, serving as interns with mentor teachers in area school districts. Participants complete training in the spring and summer prior to entering classrooms. During the internship year, training is continued.

Applicants are selected from those meeting the following admission requirement:

Received bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education.

For additional admission requirements, contact Region 14 ESC Alternative Certification Program.

The teaching certificate enables recipients to teach anywhere in Texas. Reciprocity is available in some other states.

For information on Region 14's Math and/or Science or EC-12 Special Education programs contact:

John Stevens (325) 675-8603
or
Janice Hill (325) 675-8605

Carman To Hold
Concert In Carbon
November 25th - 6 p.m.
Carbon Community
Baptist Church in Carbon
Tickets Available is
Gorman - Eastland
Abilene - Stephenville
Tickets are \$15.00 ea.

Panthers End Season In Bi-District Action

GAME AT A GLANCE		Gorman	Collinsville
11	First Downs	13	
45/251	Carries/Yds.	33/312	
24	Yds. Passing	65	
2 of 5	Passes/Comp.	3 of 7	
0	Interceptions	0	
0 - 0	Fumbles/Lost	0 - 0	
2/41	Punts/Avg.	1/32	
4/30	Penalties	8/63	

The Gorman Panthers ended their season on Friday night at Alvarado against the Collinsville Pirates in the Division II Bi-District Playoffs by the score of 34-20. The Big Red had a stalemate with the Pirates at the halftime intermission with a 20-20 score. But the Panthers couldn't muster any momentum in the last half while the Pirates added 14 points for the 34-20 finale.

The Panthers took the opening kickoff on their own 38 but failed to make a first down.

The Pirates got the ball on their own 43 and went 67 yards in just 3 plays with Russell Carney racing in for the score from 38 yards out with 8:52 left in the first. Collin Cirrone added the point after and the Pirates were up 7-0.

But the Panthers came right back with a 69 yard drive of their own and Tony Perez scored on a 1 yard run with 3:51 left. Matt Underwood then ran the 2 point play in the end zone and Gorman was up 8-7. The drive featured a beautiful 73 yard scamper by Matt Underwood following a 10 yard penalty by Gorman and Reggie Sanchez had runs of 3 and 9.

The Pirates answered right back with a 67 yard drive in 5 plays with Brian Morgan getting the final 8 yards with 1:38 left in the quarter. A pass for the 2 point play failed and Collinsville was up 13-8.

But the Panthers weren't to be denied and got a drive started from their own 43 and scored in 7 plays with Underwood getting the final 8 yards on a run with 10:13 to play in the second period. The run for 2 points failed and Gorman led 14-13. The drive featured runs of 3 and 2 by Underwood, a beautiful scamper of 27 and another run of 2 by Tyson Swanner before an interference penalty against the Pirates set the Big Red up at the Pirate 8.

Then the Pirates fought back with a drive of 22 yards in 5 plays with Matt Linn going in from 2 yards out with 7:42 left in the half. Cirrone kicked the point after and the Pirates led 20-14.

Again the Panthers answered right back, getting in from 2 yards out with 3:37 left in the half. The drive featured runs of 11, 3, 3 and 2 by Tony Perez, and a fantastic run by Swanner of 48 yards. The Panthers overcame a 10 yard penalty also. The point after kick failed and the score was tied at 20-20.

Both bands did a good job of entertaining the fans at the intermission and the Panther Dance Team had a great performance.

The Pirates got another drive going on their several possession, getting the ball on Gorman 43 and scored in 10 plays with Matt Linn getting the final 1 yard. A pass try failed and the Pirates were up 26-20.

The Panthers got another drive going from their own 34 but turned the ball over on downs at the Pirate 25.

The Pirates then drive the distance in just 3 plays with Coby Ragsdale going 72 yards on a third down play and scored with 4:47 left

in the game. Russell Carney ran the 2 point play in and the Pirates had a 34-20 margin.

The Panthers couldn't move the ball on their next possession and the Pirates took over the ball and killed the time left on the clock.

Matt Underwood led the Panthers with 103 yards on 10 carries. Tony Perez had 66 yards on 14. Tyson Swanner ran for 71 yards on 8 tries. Reggie Sanchez had 10 on 7. Jack Fox was 0 on 3 and Orlando Valenzuela had 1 on 3.

The Panthers had a very good 6-5 season and the team and coaches Paul Talbert, Billy Fox, Howard Cox, David Wiseman are to be congratulated highly for their efforts.

We look for another good season next year.

Go Get 'Em Big Red!!!



Matt Underwood, Tony Perez, Aaron Keith, Corey Clark, David Ibarra and Tyler Johnson stop a Pirate in game action Friday.



Reggie Sanchez scampering to make a few yards in game action Friday.

Gorman JH competes In Perrin-Whitt Tournney

Gorman Cubs and Lady Cubs spent Thursday 16th and Saturday 18th in a Perrin gym working on basketball skills before district opener with Tolar on Monday 20th.

Lady Cubs results:

Gorman B v Perrin-Whitt B	16-13
Gorman B v Chico B	24-39
Gorman A v Perrin-Whitt A	38-11
Gorman A v Newcastle	34-39

Both girls teams took second place

Cubs results:

Gorman B v Perrin-Whitt B	31-33 (in double overtime)
Gorman B v Chico B	21-8
Gorman A v Perrin-Whitt A	23-27
Gorman A v Chico A	39-8

Both boys teams received consolation

The 2006-2007 Gorman Cubs are Cameron Clark, Matt Keith, Jacob Singleton, Kiefer Wilson, Cade Cole, Jonathon Fenley, Sergio Hipolito, Daniel Sherman, Josh Ryon, James Thomas, AJ Vaughn, David Velasquez, Matt Wedgeworth, JC Whitten, and Trevor Williams.

GSTC To Hold Santa's Workshop

Gorman Senior Travel Club to hold Santa's Workshop. Workshop set up to help with your Christmas decorating needs, hanging lights, putting Christmas trees, etc. Please contact GSTC sponsors at 734-4350 - Marco and Sonya or Jace and Misty at 631-7135 to set up an appointment.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING
PRAY FOR RAIN

Thank You

My family and I won't to Thank everyone for helping make my 90th Birthday celebration a great day to remember.

Icy Munn
 Jean, Johnny
 Jennifer
 Jay and Taran
 Nieces and Nephews

EDC Talk

The recycling projects at the Gorman Elementary were more than the previous year and very creative. Every year more and more students become a part of helping save the world by learning to recycle. The project is to make students aware of how important recycling really is. Some interesting and unique projects that I recall were a newborn baby by the name of Paperisha, a Kool-Aid purse, a colorful birdhouse, a cow, a windmill, a turkey, a caterpillar, and a tin can wind chime. My favorite two included the "Autumn Scenery" by Lauren Spivey and the "Pop Belly Pig" by Carissa Cole. The nuts-n-bolts wind chime was unique and very creative. All participants received a prize. First and Second place received lunch bags, T-shirts, and air fresheners. Other prizes included litter bags, stickers, tattoos, pencils, and bookmarks. This was a fun project and hope that next year will be even better and certainly with more participants. Thanks to those who participated in it.

The winners consisted of

INVENTIONS:

- Kindergarten:
 - First place-Rhett West
- First Grade:
 - First place-Jacob Ervin & Dianna Rainey
 - Second place-Caitlyn Rainey & Clarissa Cole
- Second Grade:
 - First place-Sydney Casey
- Fourth Grade:
 - First place-Russell Morrison
 - Second place-Brittany Burns
- Sixth Grade:
 - First place-Viridiana Maldonado

ART:

- First Grade:
 - First place-Isaac Segura & Rafeal Ortiz
 - Second place-Kade Sparger & Christie Shepard
- Second Grade:
 - First place-Carissa Cole
 - Second place-Talee Jones
- Third Grade:
 - First place-Cassidy Tolan



Obituary

Ruth Howe Wagner

Ruth Howe Wagner, age 93 of Fort Worth passed away Monday, November 20, 2006 at her residence. Services were held Wednesday, November 22 at 2:00 p.m. at Nowlin Funeral Home Chapel with Kenneth Wilson and Wynn Wagner officiating. Burial was in De Leon Cemetery.

She was a teacher, homemaker and bookkeeper.

She was born on January 31, 1913 in De Leon, Texas to the late Ben Howe and Lillian Lucretia Terrill Howe.

Survivors include her son, Wynn Wagner of Fort Worth; several nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, she was preceded by two brothers Donald Worth Howe and Fred Howe and one sister Alice Thompson.

CLASSIFIEDS

CLEARANCE '06 MODELS!
 3+2 D/Wides w/acreage, Rock F.P., corner breakfast room. \$0 Down, \$650 per mo., FHA 7%, 36 Mos. 817-279-8505
 RBI 35823 5-11-06 C

Repos, S/Ws, D/Ws Available
 If you own your land or a relative does, We Can Finance You! 817-279-8505
 RBI 35823 5-11-06 C

FOR SALE: Used washers, dryers, refrigerators, and freezers. 30 day warranty. Call 254-893-4198 or 254-842-8167. fnc

HELP WANTED: Live In CARE-TAKER for Elderly Gentleman. References Needed. Call 972-922-0111. FNC

HELP WANTED: Maintenance Person. Competitive wages, negotiable with experience. Apply in person at De Leon Nursing and Rehab, 809 e. Navarro, De Leon, TX 2-11-23 C.

WANTED: Deer Lease in Gorman Area. Three (3) Guns - Family Orientated. Call 469-628-8493 - Cell. FNC.

FOR SALE: Steel Barrels - Call Denver Rainey at 254-734-5131. FNC.

Paul Williams Roofing
 Carbon, Texas
 254-639-2330
 30 years of Service in Gorman Area
 Free Estimates
 Extended Warranties

NEW D/WIDES - 3+2
 w/acreage, \$0 Down, \$550 per mo., FHA, 7%, 360 mos. 817-279-8505
 RBI 35823 5-11-06 C

Pray For Rain
 Happy Thanksgiving

PYRAMID HEALTHCARE WANTS YOU!
 Pyramid HealthCare, a leader in the long-term care industry, is looking for qualified candidates to join our progressive team. Due to a recent increase in admissions *Heritage Manor of Gorman* currently have the following positions available:
 *LVN
 *Relief RN
 *CNA's
 *Cook
 *Housekeeping
 Please apply in person at 600 W. Roosevelt in Gorman, Texas
 Pyramid HealthCare EEOC M/F/D/V

Large Cedar Home
 w/acreage, \$0 Down, \$695 per mo.! Has great covered porch, Rock F.P., and Island Kitchen. 7%, FHA, 360 mos. 817-279-8505
 RBI 35823 5-11-06 C

BUYING
 Junk Cars and Pickups
 Jamie Mason
 DeLeon Auto Supply
 254/893-6776

WANTED: Year Round Lease in Gorman/Carbon/Kokomo/Desdemona area for either small herd of cattle or for hunting. Responsible local land owner. Small or large acreage. Contact Shawn at 817-219-0050 or 817-573-7817. FNC.

Town & Country REAL ESTATE
 BARBARA LOVE, Broker
 317 E. Main St.
 254-629-1725
 EASTLAND, TX 76448

Extra Large - 4+2 D/Wide
 w/acreage. Has den & parents retreat, Rock F.P., All New Black Appliances. \$0 down, FHA, \$695 per mo., 7%, 360 mos. -- 817-279-8505
 RBI 35823 5-11-06 C

Carpenter and Tools For Hire: David Butler 254-734-4333

POOR LITTLE HOUSE - needs to hear swish of paint brush & hum of handyman. Frame house with siding, 3 BR, 1 1/2 baths, space heat, window A/C, DDPC & stg. bldg. Call for details. 08

Your Electric Bill Too High!
 Lowest Rates In Texas! Lock In For Two (2) Years! Eula Miers 254-734-4371. FNC.

COMFY, COZY, AFFORDABLE!
 3 BR, 1 1/2 bath home on a large lot. Like new interior, granite counter tops, kitchen with ashwood cabinets, patio, SDG & 2 car carport. 04
HELP YOURSELF TO COMFORT! Enjoy life in this 3 BR, 2 bath brick home. Livingroom with F/P, dining, kitchen appliances, CH/A, covered patio, 2 car carport & storage bldg. 07
TAKE A PEEK - THEN SETTLE IN! 3 BR, 1 3/4 bath home with living, dining, CH/A, screened porch & 2 sheds. Act fast - it won't last! 011.

COGBURN REALTY
 893-6666 DE LEON, TX
NEW: 2-1-1 frame home, large corner lot, nice condition. Only \$17,500
NEW: 3-1-1 Frame, window a/c, 1473 sq. ft., roof, 10'1" garage, 2 bdr, den, storage shed. \$25,000.00
NEW: 2 houses - one money! 3 - 1 1/2 brick, metal roof, 1548 sq. ft., + 1 - 1 frame 648 sq. ft., several carports, window a/c, storage buildings, trees, large lot. Reduced \$52,900.00. "Owner will Separate" 13.958 acres west of De Leon: 2 or 3 bdr, 1 bath brick, 1375', garage and carport. Title in 5 pasture, 2 wells, big hayshed, older shop, 1/4 mile off pavement. \$112,500
NEW: 17.55 a west De Leon FM 587 mostly wooded, coastal, few Pecan trees, plenty water, & available, nice home site. \$2,750 acre
NEW: 30 a m/l, water well, elec., barn, coastal, old pond, good fences, 100s of small pecan trees. \$2,500 acre.
NEW: 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 \$295,000.00
NEW: 160 A m/l east Gorman on FM2921; 65 a m/l coastal, 75 a m/l wooded, water well, pond, steel corral, indications show lots deer, turkey and hogs, mineral rights, \$2,900.00
NEW: 240 a south Gorman, 120a fields, 80a wooded, 40a coastal, 2 small ponds, water well, in an great hunting area, lots of deer sign, great place! Mineral Rights \$2,250.00 acre.
We NEED Your Listings. The market is Good. Call Us. SELLING GORMAN - DE LEON AREAS OVER 50 YEARS

Gilder REALTY
 254-893-3404
 516 Hwy 6 West, De Leon
 Broker: Robert Gilder
 Agents: Ronnie Golden, David Gilder, Wayne Parsons

- 184 A, 2-1 frame home, 6 water wells, 2 reservoirs, 3 side roll irrigation systems, 15hp pit pump, 9 acre in pecan orchard, 76 acres in coastal, 55 acres in crop land, rest in native pasture. [JK01] \$524,920
- 165 A, 3-1 newly remodeled frame home, w/office, 12 waterwells, large reservoir, highway frontage, cross fences, coastal, pecan orchard, pipe corrals, storm cellar, bams, hunting, minerals. [ED01] \$549,000 REDUCED \$495,000
- 100 A, w/4,961 sq. ft. (CAD) 5-4 1/2 2-story brick home, fireplaces, game room, office, 2-car garage, 2-car carport, underground sprinkler, swimming pool, deck w/hot tub, 2 ponds, pipe corrals, pecan & oak trees. [FS01] \$850,000
- 80 A, w/1,943sf(CAD) 3-2 brick home, bams and shed, 3 wells, stock pond, cross fences, steel pens, almost completed roping arena. [CO01] \$459,000
- 70 A, w/1,894sf(CAD) 3-2 brick home, metal roof, carport, fireplace, approx. 14 acres pecan orchard, both sides of Leon River, coastal, 2 reservoirs, 4 wells, 3 bams, pipe corrals, equipment, hunting. [BC01] \$396,500
- 52 A, w/2,854sf(CAD) 4-3 brick home, carport, 5 water wells, 3 stock tanks, corrals, bams [PO1] \$250,000
- 11 A, w/16'x70' mobile home, well, rural water, oak trees [TC01] \$70,000
- 10 A, horse facility w/ 16x76 Mobile home, approx. 2,600sf of bams and sheds, cross fenced into four pastures, highway frontage [KW01] \$125,000
- 243 A, Comanche Co, one reservoir, 14 irrigation wells, irrigation pit, highway frontage, cultivation, costal, native pasture [AB01] \$473,850
- 240 A, with pivot irrigation system, 2-stock tanks, approx. 7,000sf of bams and sheds, pipe corrals, creek, hunting, minerals [LU01] \$798,500
- 158 A, rolling terrain, 2 tanks, well, coastal, native, cover for deer and turkey hunting, all weather roads, minerals, approx. 4 miles from Dublin [CS01] \$395,000
- 150 A, rolling terrain, approx. 90 acres wooded, 4 waterwells, irrigation pit, stock tank, excellent deer and turkey hunting, Minerals. [LO01] \$442,500
- 140 A, recreational, cattle, or horse, creek running thru, water wells, good fences, hunting deer, turkey, hogs, some farm eq. available, minerals negotiable, possible owner financing. [CSK01] \$350,000
- 100 A, with 5 stock tanks, waterwell, pipe corrals, good fences, improved varieties of coastal, native pasture, cultivation, and hunting. [MMS01] \$225,000
- 81A pecan orchard, approx. 900 improved variety trees, underground drip irrigation on, 9 wells, tractors, shaker, other equipment. [REM01] \$326,000
- 60 A, stock tank, approx. 13 A wooded, coastal and hunting. [DO01] \$165,000
- Nursing Home, 12,961 sf (CAD) building, kitchen, dining room, lobby, nurse's station, 2 PT rms, 22 double rooms, 2 quad rooms, 1.3 A [CCH01] \$59,000
- 3,925sf(CAD) Metal Commercial Building, walk-in cooler, central heat & air, office & storage areas, restrooms [BW02] \$75,000

See Pictures at: www.GilderRealty.com

Gorman City Commission Minutes

NOVEMBER 02, 2006

The Gorman City Commission met on the above date. Those present were Mayor Robert Ervin, Commissioners Joe Casey, Nathan Files, and Don Underwood. Absent was Charlie Torre. Others present were Cameron Gulley, CPA, Officers Barbara Fenley, and Joe Canterbury.

Nathan led the opening prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Ervin called the meeting to order @ 5:30 p.m.

Nathan made the motion to approve the minutes with one correction. Don made a second and the motion carried 3-0. The correction was: Nathan made a second to contribute \$300 / year to GISD for the LED sign. Motion carried 3-0.

Cameron Gulley, CPA was present to discuss the financial audit report. Cameron made several recommendations to the City Commission about generating revenue and making correct budget decisions and amendments.

Joe made a motion to approve the bills for payment with a second from Nathan. Motion carried 3-0.

Cliffa Vaughn was not present.

Joe made the motion to appoint Suzan Lipson to the Charlie Garrett Memorial Library Board. Nathan made a second. Motion carried 3-0.

At 6:38 p.m. Nathan made the motion to go into Executive Session. Don made a second. Motion carried 3-0.

At 7:00 p.m. Joe made the motion to adjourn from Executive Session and return to Regular Open session. Don made a second. Motion carried 3-0.

Robert excused himself from the meeting before 6:38 p.m.

Don made the motion to add to personnel policy of employees and police employees: When ANY Officer or Employee of the City of Gorman is involved in an accident / incident situation, a blood test must be submitted immediately. Joe made a second to the motion. Motion carried 2-0. (Nathan being Mayor Pro-Tem)

There being no further business for discussion Don made the motion to adjourn with a second from Joe. Motion carried 2-0, time was 7:05 p.m.

Small Town Christmas Parade Entry Form

Presented by the GSTC - Gorman Senior Travel Club
 Downtown Gorman
 Saturday, December 9, 2006
 Lineup will begin at the school at 5 and parade starts at 6
 Return this form to: Kaci Seaton, P.O. Box 195, Gorman, Tx 76454
 For More Info please contact Kaci at 254-734-5414

Name _____
 Address _____
 Telephone _____

Neugebauer Sees Opportunities in Next Congress

Washington, DC - With the mid-term elections completed and the Republican leadership team in place, Congressman Randy Neugebauer, who will be in his third term in the U.S. Congress, sees opportunities for conservative principles and farm policy in the 110th Congress.

"In January, Republicans will return to Congress as the minority party. As a result, conservatives will face new challenges during the 110th Congress," Neugebauer said. "However, the new Congress also presents us with new opportunities. We have the opportunity to return to our core principles of smaller government, strong national security, and respect for the values that have helped make America great. We also have the opportunity to fight for an aggressive anti-terrorism strategy by supporting our military in Iraq, Afghanistan, and across the globe. This morning, the Republican conference selected its leadership team for the 110th Congress. It is essential that this team, which includes Texans Rep. Kay Granger and Rep. John Carter, is able to unify Republicans as we work to accomplish these important goals.

"The 110th Congress will also present the opportunity to strengthen U.S. farm policy. I look forward to returning to the House Agriculture Committee for a third term. The Committee will have a full plate in 2007 as we write the next Farm Bill. I have spent much of the last year touring the 19th District, as well as most of the country listening to the views and ideas of farmers and ranchers in our region. It is clear that most believe the current Farm Bill has been a success and that many of the same policies should be continued. As one of the country's most important agricultural regions, West Texas deserves a voice at the negotiating table when Congress determines the future of farm policy in America. I will be that voice."

Business Directory

R&R ORNAMENTAL FENCING
Wrought Iron Fencing
 • Wrought Iron
 • Chain Link
 • Pipe
 • Etc.
Masonry & Concrete
 • Rock, Brick, Block
 • Columns
 • Patios
 • Siding
 • Walks
 • Etc.
Mario Ramirez - Owner
 Business: (254) 734-4144
 Mobile: (254) 842-8925

CUSTOM HOME BUILDERS
 SINCE 1980
 Let Us Build Your New Home or Room Addition
 If You Can Dream It, We Can Build It!!
T. J. Clark Construction Co., Inc.
 (254) 734-2755
 P. O. Box 176 -- 111 E. Roberts St. -- Gorman, Texas 76454
 General Building Contractors - All Work Guaranteed
 Custom Homes - Remodeling - Commercial - Industrial - Farm
 Financing - Free Estimates - Design, Engineering & Plan Services

Riley Gardner Memorial Represented By
JONELL TORREZ - 254-734-2535
 Our Memorial Display Is Now Located Behind Higginbotham's Funeral Home. We Guarantee You Can Buy The FINEST QUALITY Memorial At The LOWEST PRICE. All Work Guaranteed.

 GEORGE THOMAS GREEN
 1944 - 2013

THE GORMAN PROGRESS
 P. O. Box 68 - Gorman, Texas 76454
 Phone 254-734-2410 or 2411 - Fax 254-734-2799
 Email - gprogress@txbusiness.com
 PDF Ads - EPS - JPEG Photos (Only) Email - jake@txol.net
 Publication Number 222780
 PUBLISHER: Joe Bennett
 ASST. PUBLISHER: Lonnie Bennett
 EDITOR & SUBSCRIPTIONS: Lonnie Bennett
 SUBSCRIPTION RATES: By Mail in Eastland and Comanche Counties - 1 year -- \$13.50; Outside Eastland and Comanche Counties but in Texas - 1 year -- \$18.00; and Out of State - 1 year -- \$20.00; Effective 2-2006. (First Increase Since 1997)
 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.
 Entered as Periodical Postage Paid at the Post Office in Gorman, TX 76454, under the Act of March 3, 1978. Published Weekly by Gorman Progress, 106 S. Kent, Gorman, Texas 76454. Periodical Postage Paid at Gorman, TX 76454.
DISPLAY AD RATE \$3.00 Per NAA COL. INCH
NATIONAL AD RATE \$4.00 Per NAA COL. INCH
 Advertising Line Rate - 2678
 NO COMMISSION DISCOUNTS
 CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS
 .20 Cents a Word
 Minimum Charge - \$3.00 per Issue - CASH Charged - Additional Fee - \$1.00.
 No Commission
 Additional 50 cents for Borders. Wedding Announcements - \$5.00 / \$10 with Picture - Weddings - \$10.00 Minimum.
ADVERTISING DEADLINE - TUESDAY NOON
 Card of Thanks - \$3.00
 THE GORMAN PROGRESS RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ANY ADVERTISING. POSTMASTER: Please Send Change of Address To: GORMAN PROGRESS, P. O. Box 68, Gorman, Texas 76454-0068

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

Congratulations to the Gorman Panthers for making it to the playoffs for the first time in eight years. They played an excellent game last Friday against Collinsville, but lost 34-20. This was a great accomplishment for one year for Coach Talbert and his crew and for our boys. Next year, I expect we will be stronger, more experienced, and a district champion contender. I hope you all enjoyed this years season and that you look forward to next year's season as much as I do.

Now it is time to focus on basketball and U.I.L. academics, as well as stock shows. I don't think anyone will have time to be bored. Please support our students in these events too. They work hard to prepare and do there best in every area of competition and deserve and need your attendance at events.

Again, thank you to all the folks that voted for the school bond and to all the people that worked so hard to pass it. While we wait for EDA funding to be approved by the legislature we will do everything we can to try and be ready to begin the process once the legislature comes through.

Here are a few dates you might want to remember:

- 11/27 JH BB @ Ranger 4:00
- 11/28 HS BB Here 4:00
- 11/30-12/2 Rising Star BB Tournament
- 12/5th and 7th - Elementary and Junior High UIL

We held a special called school board meeting on November 16, 2006 at 7:00pm to canvass the votes from the bond election. Daryl Hirst gave the invocation, a quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 7:01pm. Present was Daryl Hirst, Melinda Harrington, Beth Underwood, Mark Simmons, Larry Thompson, Jeff Seaton, and Superintendent Perry. The votes were canvassed and no irregularities were found and the count from the County Clerk of 250 for the bond and 226 against was approved as the official tally. The meeting was then adjourned at 7:23pm.

K'Ann Howard was in competition last Friday in Weatherford, Texas at Weatherford High School. She was named second alternate to the next level of competition for a spot in the all state choir. She performed in concert Saturday evening with all of the contestants and it was wonderful. She has been such a blessing to our school and she represents us so well everywhere she goes. Unlike other areas of competition, K'Ann is competing against students from 5A schools through 1A. Thank you K'Ann for doing such a great job!

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

Pig Tales From Hogtown

Our garage sale was a huge success this past weekend. Lots of people found many good bargains. We appreciate all of you who came and a great big thanks to all who helped.

The computer at the Activity Center is now hooked up to the internet and ready for use. We would like to welcome anyone, young and older, to come use it. There will an adult at the Center from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m., Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, beginning Monday, November 27th. Desdemona school age children who may need help with their homework are invited to come.

When the shelving is completed our library will be ready for us. We are hoping that will be very soon. We already have lots of good books.

The Desdemona Fire Department has purchased land south of the Desdemona Church of Christ on Hwy. 16. The Activity Center is planning a benefit in the Spring to help out with the new fire department building.

We are getting ready for our Christmas Store that will be starting Thursday, November 30th, and continuing through Saturday, December 2nd. Lots of gift items and home baked goodies will be available.

The Desdemona Activity center is also available to the public to rent for parties, reunions, weddings and etc. Some dates have already been filled. Call Floyd Moore at 758-2610 if interested.

A quote from my cookbook - "Laughter is a tranquilizer with no side effects."

Have a great week, Delores Tucker.

TXOL
INTERNET
\$9.95 For 50 Hours to
\$23.50 Unlimited
See Lonnie
At The Gorman Progress
Call 254-734-2410



THIS IS LITTER TOO.

This message brought to you by Keep America Beautiful, Inc. and The City of Gorman
Supported by funding from Philip Morris USA.

KOKOMO NEWS

BY ZELDA JORDAN

This is a beautiful time of the year, A time of Thanksgiving for all the blessings that we receive each day, and a time to get together with family and friends. I hope each of you have a wonderful Thanksgiving Day, then let every day be a day of giving thanks to God for his goodness to us.

Bro. David Bush of Cisco preached at the Kokomo Baptist Church on Sunday morning, November 19, using the scriptures Matthew 4:17 and Mark 1:14-15. His sermon was on repenting and believing the gospel and entering into a relationship with God. Jimmy Little directed the music with Daryl Hirst at the piano and Glynda Bond at the organ. Thomas Seay blessed our hearts with the special music "Little Is Much If God Is In It" with Daryl at the piano. "Happy Birthday" was sung to Jimmy Little.

Visitors in the service were Bro. Bush's grandson, Cody Buckles of Cisco, Amanda Johnson and Ben, Bailey and Brylee of Gorman, Bailey Thomas of Eastland, and Travis Clayton.

Following the worship service a beautiful Thanksgiving dinner was enjoyed in the fellowship hall. Joe Bond voiced the prayer of thanks. We at Kokomo have so much to be thankful for with the completion of our new church building along with all other blessings.

There will be a dedication service for the new building and a celebration of the church's 100th anniversary on December 10. The service will begin at 10:00 A.M. Dr. Jimmy Nelson, a Baptist Missionary, who grew up in the Kokomo Baptist Church, will preach the morning message. Former pastors and their families and former members will be recognized. The public is cordially invited to attend and share this special day with us.

The evening service on November 19 was dismissed so the members could attend the Community Thanksgiving Service at the First Baptist Church in Gorman. What a blessing we all received from the congregational singing, special music by the Messengers, the challenging message from Bro. Barry Schahn, the wonderful fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ, and the bountiful refreshments in the fellowship hall.

Dr. Jimmy Nelson will preach at the Kokomo Baptist Church on Sunday, November 26.

Woodrow and Helen Browning visited in Graham on Saturday and Sunday with their children and grandchildren, Donna, Gary, Lesley, Melanie and Garrett Gatlin and Gary, Rebecca, Emily and baby Lance Browning. They enjoyed the opportunity to hear Melanie sing in the youth choir of the First Baptist Church, and to see Lesley in a school play on Sunday afternoon.

Our congratulations to Gary and

Rebecca Browning, and Emily, on the birth of their baby son, Lance.

Laverne and Tommy Carr of Lake Whitney, Mickey Carr of Dallas, Johnny and JoAnn Scitern, Kris, Karsyn and Kendall Scitern, and Keri, Nicholas, Kelsey and Nashon Guthery of Gorman enjoyed an early Thanksgiving dinner with their mother and grandmother, Troy Scitern on Saturday.

Visiting with Charles and Carolyn Little on Sunday, November 19 were Jim and Judy West of McGregor, Jerry West and Kelsey of McGregor, Jennifer and Steve Millsap and Chelsea, Colton and Landlin of McGregor, Larry Sandlin of Cisco, Aaron Sandlin of Carbon, David and Shiry Dale, Justin Dale, Colleen Williams, Jarrod Dale of Eastland, Cari and Kay Coleman of Holland, Ross Coleman of Dallas, Scotty, Caye, Zack and Zane Mauney of Santo, Charla and Danny Burgess of Gorman, Alan, Justin, Ally and Emma Little of Kokomo, Shonie, Rachael, Arin, Olivia and Alexandra Lolley of McGregor.

Charles and Carolyn Little and Emma Little went to Weatherford to watch Zane Mauney play football in the Toy Bowl on Saturday.

Carolyn Little, J.R. Jones and Lisa Laminack attended the funeral service for Nelda Hunter, formerly of Gorman, at Putman on Monday.

Howard Hagood of Gorman visited with Oren and Norma Webb on Monday.

Travis Clayton is making his home with his grandparents, James and Mary Donham. Welcome to our community Travis.

Glenda Black of Abilene spent several days last week with her mother, Zelda Jordan. Leon Black of College Station also visited with them and checked the deer feeders, and trimmed some trees around Zelda's house.

Congratulation to my Great-Grandson, Justin Miles of Austin, who shot his first deer while on a hunting trip with his dad, Joe Miles, near Bronte, TX last weekend.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING.

Cisco Junior College Wrangler Band To Present Concert

The Cisco Junior College Wrangler Band, under the direction of Manuel Martinez, will proudly present a holiday concert on Friday, December 8 at 7:00 p.m. The Holiday Extravaganza will be held in the Harrell Fine Arts Auditorium on the Cisco campus and will feature the Jazz Band as well as the Chamber Ensemble and Concert Band. Admission is free, and refreshments will be served following the performance. Everyone is invited to join the CJC band for this night of traditional holiday music and celebration.

Specializing In All Types Custom Farming™
Hay Baling - Custom Plowing - Planting - Brillion Seeding



Brent Henderson
Custom Farming

Home: 254-445-2481
13223 S. FM 219

Cell: 254-485-6038
DUBLIN, TX 76446

ITEMS OF INTEREST

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

Gorman Senior Citizens meet Every Wednesday at 11:30 in the Gorman Senior Center. Bring Covered Dish or \$3.00 Per Plate.

Gorman Oaklawn Cemetery Donations can be sent to Aline Garrett, P. O. Box 711, Gorman, Tx 76454 or to American State Bank.

LIBRARY — Charlie Garrett Memorial Library is open every Monday thru Friday from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday mornings from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and Saturday mornings from 9 to 12 starting September 2nd.

FOOD BANK
New Hours - 10 - 11:00 a.m.
Second Thursday

Boy Scouts
Meeting Week
Tuesdays — 6:00 p.m.
Methodist Church

SANDRA CAGLE WILL BE IN GORMAN AT THE CITY OFFICE TO RENEW AUTO LICENSE PLATES. HER NEXT VISIT - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20th FROM 9 - NOON

Oakland Cemetery Association is accepting donations for the Care of the Cemetery. Donations can be sent to Oakland Cemetery Association, 503 N. Fisher, Gorman, Tx 76454, or American State Bank, Gorman, Texas 76454.

4-H - Meets Second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall - Amy Wood - 734-2973.

VET Science 4-H Project - 4th Tuesday each Month. Technology Center / Gorman Community Center. Contact Lee or Amy Wood at 254-734-2973.

Gorman Masonic Lodge No. 716 A.F. & A.M. Regular stated meetings are 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Members are urged to attend. Visitors are always welcome. Mark Wilkerson, Master — Pat Moseley, Secretary.

Letter To Gifted Students and Parents

Gorman ISD
P.O. Box 8
Gorman, TX 76454,
(254) 734 - 2617

Gorman ISD
P.O. Box 8
Gorman, TX 76454
(254) 734 - 2617

Estimados Padres,

Nuestro testamento distrito escolar está dirigiendo un programa para los estudiantes con el potencial en académico y las habilidades del pensamiento creativo-productivas en las calidades K-6 durante el próximo año escolar. Cualquier niño en el K-6 que usted cree es un intelectualmente el aprendiz dotado es elegible ser nombrado. Aquellos nombrados pasarán por un procedimiento de la granza. No debido a las pautas estatales, todos nombraron que los estudiantes reunirán los requisitos de la admisión.

Si usted desea nombrar un niño, por favor haga para que venga a la Oficina Elemental y completando el formulario apropiado. Cualquier nominación debe hacerse antes del 1 de diciembre de 2006.

Finalmente, por favor sea consciente que si usted o un maestro nombran a su niño, la comprobación especial se necesitará para completar el proceso de identificación.

Atentamente,
Kristin Matteson
El Coordinador dotado y Talentoso

Dear Parents,

Our school district will be conducting a program for students with potential in academic and creative-productive thinking skills in grades K-6 during the coming school year. Any child in K-6 who you believe is an intellectually gifted learner is eligible to be nominated. Those nominated will go through a screening procedure. Because of state guidelines, not all nominated students will meet admission requirements.

If you wish to nominate a child, please do so by going to the Elementary Office and completing the proper form. Any nominations should be made before December 1, 2006.

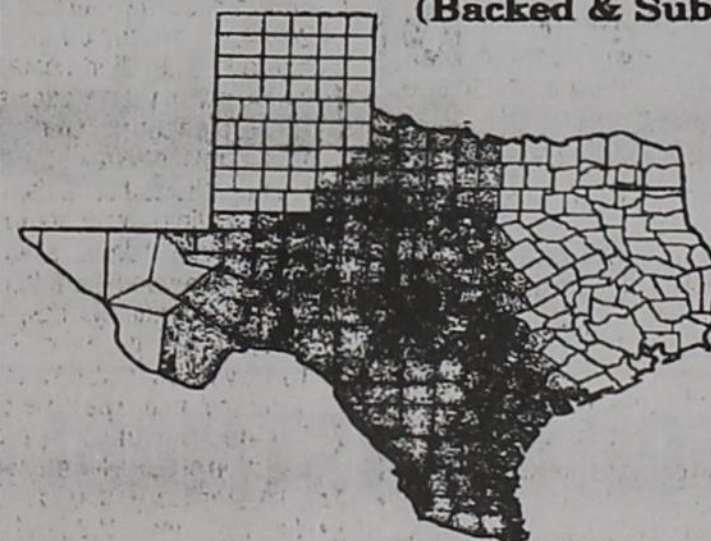
Finally, please be aware that if you or a teacher nominates your child, special testing will be needed in order to complete the identification process.

Sincerely,
Kristin Matteson
Gifted and Talented Coordinator

WHITTENBURG CROP INSURANCE OFFERS

DROUGHT PROTECTION

PASTURE & HAYLAND INSURANCE (Backed & Subsidized by USDA)



Now available in Central, South, and West Texas Until Sales Closing November 30, 2006

As a long time Rancher myself I fully understand your wishes and concerns. Let me know that you are interested and either myself or one of my agents will travel to you and discuss this program. We can figure a quote based on your information for your operation. We provide personalized service for our customers before, during and after the sale.

CALL FOR DETAILS

TED HIGGINBOTTOM
OFFICE 432-758-2652 / CELL 254-366-6023

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Desdemona News

By Vonnie Guthery

Desdemona Monthly Musical will be cancelled for November and December due to the busy "Holiday Season." This country and western musical will start back up on the 4th Saturday in January and continue thru the year 2007. All area musicians, singers and visitors are always "Welcome" to attend each month. Admission to this event is "Free".

A Country Arts and Crafts Show will be held on Thursday, November 30th thru Saturday, December 2nd at the Desdemona Community Center School Gym. Our "Country Kitchen" will be serving breakfast and lunch each day. Vendors from all around the area will set up and display special items for your shopping pleasure. Come early to do your Christmas shopping for that special gift. Have your picture made with Santa. To rent a space for this event - Call Linda Lindley at 254-758-2691.

Remember the sick and shut-ins during this Holiday Season. Send cards to those in rest home from our Community. Take time to visit these - as they appreciate a card or gift.

Please contact this reporter with your weekly news. Your help will be appreciated. Thanks.

Roy and Angela Powledge and children, Colin, Kaley and Lane hosted a birthday supper on Sunday night for Pug Guthery. Others attending were Vonnie Guthery; John and Karen Fair; Belinda Guthery; Holly Guthery and daughter, Karsan Jade; Sonja Hornback and son, Justin all of Desdemona.

De Leon Country Christmas

Don't forget! Country Christmas will be Friday, December 8th in City Hall Auditorium. The De Leon High School Band will perform at 5:30 in front of City Hall. Santa will arrive at 6:00 p.m. in the Covered Wagon pulled by Dollie. Riley's Studio will be taking pictures with Santa. New this year, The Theater Troupe will be taking pictures with The Grinch.

The Theater Troupe will have an Ornament Contest Booth where you can decorate your own ornament for \$1.00. There will be two age groups, 3-5 years of age and 1st - 6th grade. The ornaments will be judged at 8:30 p.m. Prizes will be given and you may take your ornament home.

Carla Landreth will be signing her new book "Silk Stocking Road".

The City of De Leon will be having a Chili Supper cooked by Nicky Wilkerson. We expect lots of craft and food vendors plus many other things. Bring the family out for an evening of fun. There will be lots of fun things to see and do. Call Barbara at the Chamber 254-893-2083 for more information.

Photos From The Game At Alvarado



See Lonnie At The Gorman Progress Call 254-734-2410

TXOL INTERNET
\$9.95 For 50 Hours to
\$23.50 Unlimited

Thanksgiving Travelers Should Slow Down, Buckle Up And Drive Sober

Thanksgiving travelers should expect to see plenty of Highway Patrol troopers out on Texas roadways. Troopers will be looking for drivers who are speeding, driving while intoxicated or who are not properly restrained, or have passengers who aren't buckled up.

"Thanksgiving should be a happy time," said Col. Thomas A. Davis Jr., director of the DPS. "Don't turn the holiday into a tragic time for you or others because of bad driving decisions."

During the Wednesday through Sunday Thanksgiving period last year, DPS troopers wrote 14,686 tickets for speeding and 3,358 tickets for no insurance. They wrote 2,138 tickets for no seat belts and 298 tickets for child restraint violations. DPS has a no-warnings policy for seat belt and child restraint violations.

Troopers also arrested 613 people for DWI and issued 60 tickets to minors who were operating a motor vehicle after consuming alcohol. "If you drink, you should not drive. Be sure to designate a driver who has not been drinking alcoholic beverages," Col. Davis said.

DPS is participating in Operation CARE—Combined Accident Reduction Effort—a nationwide effort by police agencies to reduce fatalities on major interstate highways during holiday weekends.

Plan your route and be aware that construction may delay your travel.

Since roads are more likely to be crowded, DPS reminds drivers to leave themselves plenty of time to get where they're going. Avoid bad driving habits that lead to road rage, such as:

- Not using turn signals
- Driving in the passing lane
- Tailgating, flashing lights or honking
- Using high beams in traffic
- Not allowing adequate time for a given trip.

When confronted with aggressive drivers, the DPS recommends that you:

- Put your pride in the back seat and move aside.
- Do not speed up, block lanes, slam or tap on brakes.
- Report extreme cases of reckless driving to the appropriate authorities when the incident occurs.
- Do not retaliate, gesture or make eye contact.
- Make sure everyone is buckled up.

-- Randy's Roundup --

A Weekly Newsletter from Congressman Randy Neugebauer
November 20, 2006

Update on Ag Disaster Assistance

As I mentioned last week, the focus of Congress between now and Christmas will be on approving the annual spending bills that have yet to be completed. While all of these bills are important, I am particularly interested in the bill that will fund agriculture programs in 2007. This bill remains the best opportunity to pass agriculture disaster assistance for those producers hit hard by this year's drought.

The House has passed its version of the agriculture spending bill, but the Senate has not. The Senate, however, did make some progress last week as it reached an agreement to bring up its version on December 5. An agreement has been reached in the Senate that would allow a vote on an amendment providing relief for either 2005 or 2006 losses. The Senate sponsors stated they expect to have enough votes for passage of the amendment and the bill.

When work on the disaster assistance package is complete, my attention will turn to the task of writing the next Farm Bill. The House Agriculture Committee, which I will begin a third term on in 2007, will be the center of next year's debate over this important piece of legislation.

Medicare Open Season Reminder

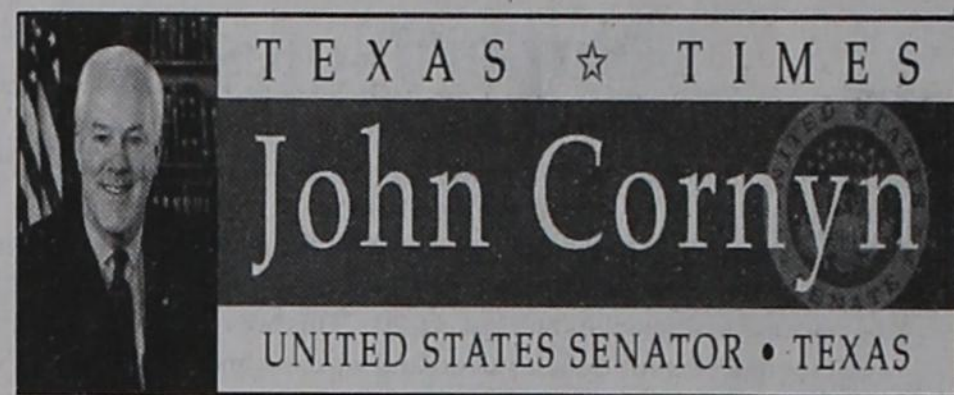
The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) last week began the Open Enrollment Period for the Medicare health and prescription drug plans. The Open Enrollment Period runs through December 31.

The new prescription drug benefit has helped reduce health care-related costs for many seniors. In fact, average annual savings are topping \$1,200 for beneficiaries. For those who are unhappy with their current plan or who would like to expand their coverage, now is the time to take a look at their options and determine if even greater savings are available. There are no penalties for switching, but the next opportunity to adjust beneficiaries' plans will not occur until the end of next year.

There are several resources, including the internet (www.medicare.gov) and the toll-free number 1-800-MEDICARE, that are available to help beneficiaries compare plans and gather more information.

--Randy

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



Learning From The Election

On Nov. 19, 1854, General Sam Houston was baptized in Little Rocky Creek in Washington County. He also joined the Independence Baptist Church that day. Gen. Houston took these steps at the urging of his wife and mother-in-law, who both desperately wanted Gen. Houston to moderate his habits, and to live a more sober and devout life.

I've always believed in periodic re-evaluations, and in course corrections as the results warrant. For those of us entrusted with public office, there is nothing like an election to provide information on what changes are needed.

The election results were a powerful reminder of who works for whom in our democracy. We work for the people—not the other way around. Public officials must adhere to our principles and beliefs, but we also should remember who we work for, and who has the final say.

On Nov. 7, control of both houses of Congress was turned over from the Republicans to the Democrats. It's safe to say that voters made a similar judgment about the way things were going in Washington as that of Houston's wife and mother-in-law. They wanted change.

As a Republican, I've been asked what I learned from this election. My short answer is this: our principles are sound, but we've strayed from them. Complaints about complacency and non-responsiveness reach critical levels. Business as usual in Washington frustrated a growing number of voters, and the majority party was held accountable.

One source of frustration was the re-emergence of "earmarks," projects for their own districts sponsored by individual lawmakers. This "pork-barrel" spending was attacked by Republicans in their successful 1994 Contract With America, and a cleanup soon followed.

But in recent years, with Republicans in charge of Congress, earmarks have returned with a vengeance. The Congressional Research Service counted some 16,500 earmarks in 2005 spending bills, at a cost of almost \$50 billion. This is unconscionable, and the public knows it. I hope Congress knows it now, too.

I've heard many complaints about backroom deals and secrecy in Washington, both in Congress and the rest of government. I've long believed the public should have far more information about the way decisions are made, so they can make an informed judgment. In the coming Congressional session, I plan to work across party lines to open up access to government information, particularly through reform of the Freedom of Information Act.

I believe voters were also angry at our seeming inability to come to grips with the even bigger problems of overspending, particularly on entitlements. Health care costs in Medicaid and Medicare are rising at a double-digit rate, and the huge Baby Boomer population is preparing to retire and receive Social Security payments. Yet proposals for reforming these entitlements—to the dismay of many—have become bogged down in partisan bickering.

Another major factor in the election was documented cases of unethical behavior by Congressmen, their aides, and lobbyists that in some instances crossed over into outright criminal conduct. Of course, officials from both major political parties were caught up in these charges. But the voters rightly demanded change, and the party in power was held accountable.

Frustration over Iraq was also part of the election. Some Democrats have called for a withdrawal from Iraq, either immediately or through a set timetable. In my view, that is not the correct course of action, nor is it in the long-term interest of our country or the world.

Most Americans realize that Iraq is part of a larger war against Islamic terrorism, what some have called the major struggle of the 21st Century. They realize the conflict will be long, and costly, but they know it is a battle that must be joined to ensure the safety and security of our country.

I believe the American people are looking for confidence that we have a plan to win this war, not merely to carry it on. President Bush is now re-evaluating our approach. My hope is that Democrats, now in a Congressional majority, take their criticism of our Iraq operation to a positive level, and work constructively with the President on a plan to win the war against terrorism.

Some commentators have suggested Republicans lost the majority because we were too conservative, and others have said we have not been conservative enough. In my view, the core Republican principles remain sound: limited government, individual responsibility, and opportunity for all. We have to do a better job in the future of advocating, and delivering, on these principles.

I am privileged today to occupy the U.S. Senate seat first held by Sam Houston, a man whose career in public service for our state and its people will likely never be matched. Gen. Houston was serving in the U.S. Senate when he was baptized at the Independence Baptist Church.

The church pew in Independence where Houston sat during services has been preserved so that visitors may view it. It serves as a testimony to man's power to turn weakness into strength, and his ability to learn from missteps of the past. That power is as strong today as it was 150 years ago.

Apply to be Texan



When you place that vehicle registration sticker in the corner of your windshield, you're helping build and maintain our highways, roads, and bridges. That's why your Texas Department of Transportation urges you to *Put Texas in your corner.*

Not only does it say you obey the law, it says you're sticking up for all of us. To learn more, visit us online at: www.texasinyourcorner.com, or call (512) 465-7611.

Put Texas in your corner.



EARN MONEY FOR CHRISTMAS!

Do you need a way to get out of debt or send the kids to college?

Do you dream about how you can afford a bigger home or a nicer car?

This is my idea of the perfect network marketing company! To provide something that everyone:

- is already using
- NEEDS to use every month
- has budgeted to use every month
- wouldn't dream of ever being without and
- is priced less than the top competitors...ELECTRICITY!

No inventory to buy No product to sell No monthly quotas No inflated prices

Simple plan with 3 streams of income including an excellent RESIDUAL INCOME!!!

- Immediate income - you can earn \$500.00 within your first 2-3 weeks
- Leadership Bonus income - you can earn \$50.00 or \$250.00 on your team to UNLIMITED DEPTH!
- Residual income -- you can earn income on 1000's of customers, every month, to UNLIMITED DEPTH!

You get to save money on your own electric bill every month AND make money on hundreds of electric bills every month. Plus you can enjoy the tremendous tax advantages of owning your own thriving business!

Many single mothers as well as married couples have made hundreds within their first 1-14 days!

Please visit my website: www.thumperenergy.igniteinc.biz and click on Powerful Opportunity for a 10 minute multimedia presentation!

You are welcome email me at jake@txol.net

The road to prosperity is just one decision away!



See Some Red
Save Some Green
Through January 2, 2006

SAVE **2006 Pontiac Gran Prix Sedan**
SAVE **Sport PKG - Preferred Package - #24929**
SAVE **RED TAG EVENT SALES PRICE \$18,895 + T.T.&L.**



SAVE **2006 Chevrolet Cobalt Coupe**
SAVE **Cruise Control - #25905**
SAVE **RED TAG EVENT SALES PRICE \$11,693 + T.T.&L.**



SAVE **2006 Chevrolet Equinox**
SAVE **LS - #25528**
SAVE **RED TAG EVENT SALES PRICE \$17,648 + T.T.&L.**



SAVE **2006 Chevrolet Colorado**
SAVE **4 Speed Auto Transmission - #25213**
SAVE **RED TAG EVENT SALES PRICE \$13,999 + T.T.&L.**



All Rebate and Incentives to Dealer.

Picture and Vehicle may vary. All W.A.C. All prices + T.T.&L.

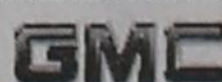
Chevy. Driving Texas.

BAYER MOTOR CO.

1-800-843-5230 • 218 E. Grand • Comanche, Texas

M-F 7:30 - 5:30 • Sat. 7:30 - 3:00

Web Pages: www.bayermotor.com or www.bayermotorco.com



WE ARE PROFESSIONAL GRADE.

