

The Gorman Progress

"Serving Gorman For Over 108 Years"
Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454

2009 Member - Texas Press Association

JANUARY 1, 2009

NUMBER FIFTY-TWO

Happy New Year

From
The Gorman Progress - Lonnie, Debra and Joe

Notice Of Meeting!!

Notice is hereby given that Eastland County Commissioners' Court will meet in a Special Meeting at 9:00 a.m. On Friday, January 2, 2009 in the Eastland County District Courtroom, Eastland, Texas, to consider the following agenda items:

1. Oath of Office Swearing Ceremony for Newly Elected Officials

Posted by order of Eastland County Commissioners' Court.

Any of the above and foregoing agenda items, which require action, may be acted upon by the Commissioners' Court.

Senior Citizens

News

By Carol Ward

Since we did not meet the week of Christmas, or this week of New Years, there isn't much news to write about. I mainly wanted to remind you of our Concert on the 7th of January in the new year. Sandra Brudnak and her harpest will be at the Center around noon to entertain us. I do hope many of you will come out to enjoy. This is so good of them to give of their time. This is a first as far as I know at the Center.

I assume we all made it through Christmas. Sometimes it becomes too much, we stray from the true meaning. Our family gathered Christmas Day at my daughters, Becky Swanner. We enjoyed a very good meal of Chicken and dressing, ham and pork ribs. Tim cooked ham and ribs outside, so delicious. Naturally had all the trimmings. We also exchanged gifts in the Chinese Christmas method.

Daisy Slaton had the majority of her family home on the 27th to celebrate. Her daughter, Bennie Gale was in from Alabama. Also grandson, Sterling McCauley was here before his move to Arizona with ATT. I'm sure they all enjoyed one another.

I do hope the FBC group is enjoying their Ski Trip to Angel Fire in New Mexico. This is a first for some of them. My daughter and two of her children are with them. Keep safe.

Hope all is well and see you on the 7th. Carol.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

SANDRA CAGLE WILL BE IN GORMAN AT THE CITY OFFICE TO RENEW AUTO LICENSE PLATES. HER NEXT VISIT IS WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21ST FROM 9 TIL NOON.

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

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

Food Bank

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

Boy Scouts

Meeting Weekly
Mondays - 6:00 p.m.
Methodist Church

Oakland Cemetery Association is accepting donations for the Care of the Cemetery. Donations can be sent to Oakland Cemetery Association, P. O. Box 532, Gorman, Tx 76454 or to American State Bank, Gorman, Texas 76454

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

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

Gorman Masonic Lodge No. 716 A.F. & A. M. Regular stated meetings are 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Members are urged to attend. Visitors are always welcome. Gerald Ragland, Master - Roscoe Reeves, Secretary.

Building Construction Continues During School Holidays



Martha Rainey Leaves For Treatment on January 3rd

WELL, HERE WE ARE, MARTHA LEAVES SATURDAY, JANUARY 3RD, AND BECAUSE OF THE GENEROSITY OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS GREAT TOWN AND THE SURROUNDING AREAS, WE MADE IT. THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH AND THANKS TO C & H MONOGRAM FOR LETTING US KNOW ABOUT THE T-SHIRTS AND DOING THEM FOR US, THEY WERE A WONDERFUL SUCCESS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO KEEP UP WITH THE ONGOINGS OF MOMS TREATMENT, LOG ON TO WWW.FREEWEBS.COM/MARTHARAINY AND YOU CAN READ HER UP TO DATE BLOG. AGAIN THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT AND PRAYERS. NOW WE WOULD LIKE TO ASK THAT YOU KEEP HER IN YOUR PRAYERS AS SHE DEPARTS JAN. 3RD AND RETURNS JAN. 31ST.

NEW YEAR'S EVE SINGING AT NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

The New Year's Eve Singing at New Hope Baptist Church will begin at 8 p.m. We will break at 10 p.m. For a Time of Food and Fellowship, then sing in the new Year until Midnight +. "Specials Welcome" and Lots of Congregational Singing!!! New Hope Baptist Church is located at 109 Country Road 321, West of Gorman - Church Phone Number is 254-631-8938. MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND.

Happenings At FBC!!

Meaningful! Christmas Day is past, however, the meaningful and glorious birth of Jesus will light each day of our lives all year long.

Mark your calendars:

Dec. 31st - 8pm - Join us at New Hope Baptist Church to sing in the New Year!

Jan. 1st - Happy New Year to all!

Children's Sermon: Ellen Tucker talked to the children about the good times and troubled times of the past year. When we have problems and troubles we can give them to God in prayer. The Bible says God will give us peace. The heart gives life to the body, and our heart and mind can be guarded through Jesus. Ask Jesus for peace this New Year, and you will receive it.

Praise Music: We're all grateful to God for the talents of each member of the FBC Praise Band. The band led us in worship to our Lord through songs and music.

Bro. Barry's message was "Where are the Wise Men" - Micah 6:6.

The Bible tells us that the wise men brought gifts to Jesus. The wise men departed for their country in another direction. The wise men provided an example for us. Have you ever wondered what may be on God's Christmas List?

THE GIFTS TO GOD:

1. Justice - Life at times seems unfair. God wants us to be fair, honorable, and just in dealing with our fellow man at all times regardless of skin color, status, or wealth. To God, all men and women are created equal.
2. Kindness - Give love, mercy, and gentleness to all. Jesus worked on earth as a carpenter, and He showed kindness to everyone. Even healed those cast out by others. Filling our Churches with the light of Jesus and His water of life will rid Churches of unsuccessfully dealing with humanitarian troubles.
3. To Walk Humbly - In a world that is greedy, hateful, proud, and boastful God's people have a responsibility to set themselves apart. Are you following the lead of Jesus so you can be recognized as a child of God?

The wise men knew the difference between giving and receiving. Three Christmas gifts we can give to God: Justice, Kindness, and a Humble Walk. Yet amazingly, we don't have to have money to give them. We don't have to have talent to give them. Everyone here can bring them. It will make this Christmas your best ever! Give to God!

We all joined together in prayer for Martha Rainey and the treatment she will receive; thanks be to God for all that has already happened to make this journey possible!

Our Worship Service begins at 11:00AM on Sunday mornings - please come and join us!
Remember: God loves you like no one else! Email us at fbcgorman@hotmail.com

Obituaries

Ruth Ann Gilbert

Ruth Ann Gilbert, age 83 of De Leon passed away on Wednesday, December 24, 2008 at Comanche County Medical Center. Services were held Monday, December 29th at 10:30 a.m. At De Leon First United Methodist Church with Pastor Lisa Neslony officiating. Music by Vicki Robinett. Burial was in Murray Cemetery in Carbon.



She was born on November 25, 1925 in Abilene to the late Charlie James "C.J." Thompson and Alice Gertrude Howe Thompson. She married George R. Gilbert on April 15, 1945 in Gorman.

She was a homemaker. In her earlier years she worked at Gorman Peanut Company where she met her future husband, George. She also had been employed as secretary for Lone Star Gas Company; former secretary and teacher aide for Birdville ISD. She had resided in De Leon thirty years, having previously lived in North Richland Hills. She was a member of De Leon First United Methodist Church. She had previously served as president of Study Club in Goldthwaite. She was a member of De Leon Shakespeare Club, United Methodist Women and De Leon Bridge Club.

Survivors are one son, George R. "Gil" Gilbert, II and wife Belinda of Keller; three daughters, Jane Traweek and husband Lonny of College Station, Margaret Longbottom and husband John of North Richland Hills, and Nan Baker and husband Rick of Arlington; one brother, C. J. "Jim" Thompson, Jr and wife Mary of San Angelo; 9 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren; step-brother Bob Brogdon and wife Melody of Clearlake; one sister-in-law, Darlene Gilbert of Denver and step sister-in-law, Helen Shipley of Weatherford.

She was preceded by her husband, George R. Gilbert, and step-brother, Dr. William M. "Bill" Brogdon.

Pallbearers were Seth Longbottom, Shay Traweek, Chris Gilbert, Phillip Cadenhead, Matt Garrett, and Terry Day.

Ina Jo Russell

Ina Jo Russell, age 81 of Gorman passed away Sunday, December 28, 2008 at her home in Gorman.

Services was 10:00 A. M. Wednesday, December 31, 2008 at the Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Barry Schahn and Bro. Denver Rainey officiating. Burial was at Oaklawn Cemetery in Gorman.

Miss Russell was born February 17, 1927 in Gorman to Whit Russell and Sadie Lindley Russell. She attended Gorman Schools. She worked at the tailor shop, Birdsong Peanuts, the Gorman nursing home and at the 7-11 as a clerk for many years. She was a member of the First Baptist Church in Gorman and an avid cat lover.

Survivors include a sister-in-law, Adele Russell of Everman; five nieces, Susan and Tom Arnold of St. Simons Island, GA, Katy and Mike Czaikowski of Sugarland, Sarah and Dwane Anderson of Jesup, GA, Sandra Porter of Gorman and Stephanie Russell of Everman; four nephews, Steve Russell of Everman, Skip and Peggy Russell of St. Simons Island, GA, Mark and Tresa Russell of North Richland Hills, and Jonathan and Katy Russell of Hurst and numerous great nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, one sister, Ima George Porter and two brothers, Whit "Buster" Russell and Wade Russell.

Harvey Lee Winn

EASTLAND- Harvey Lee Winn age 79 of Carbon died Tuesday December 23, 2008 in Eastland. Funeral Services was at 1 PM Saturday in the Peace Chapel in Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring Texas.



Born November 11, 1929 to A. F. "Bud" and Viola [Fields] Winn in Big Spring, he attended the Big Spring Schools, after graduation he began working for Southwestern Bell Telephone as a lineman. He was drafted into the US Army during Korea and served in the Signal Corps. He returned to Big Spring after the war and continued a career with the telephone company retiring on July 15, 1989 from the Toll Center in Midland. He married Billie Vaughn on April 15, 1954 in Colorado City Texas and they lived in Big Spring and Midland, she preceded him in death on July 26 1990. In 1991 he bought a farm and moved to carbon where he raised cattle and farmed. He was a member of Wilshire Park Baptist Church in Midland, the Pioneers of America and he played on the Company Softball Team.

He is survived by; Son Steven Lance Winn of Irving, Texas; A Brother and sister in law, Clifford & Jo Ann Winn of Ft. Pierce Fla.; Sisters in law and husbands, Jo Nel & Alan Miles of Colorado City, Texas, Jancie and Eugene Hall of Midland Texas; Nieces and Nephews, Barry Winn, Debbie Lusk, Trese Killian and Andrea Cunningham. Numerous Aunts, Uncles and Cousins.

Anna Marie Green

Anna Marie Green, age 72 of De Leon passed away on Sunday, December 28, 2008 in Abilene. Memorial Services were held Wednesday, December 31 at 11:00 a.m. at De Leon First Baptist Church; body donated to medical science. Musicians were Lloyd and Pam Rush.

She was born on June 10, 1936 in Farmington, NM to the late J. T. Archuletta and Irene Marie Gutierrez Archuletta. She married Orville L. (John) Green on September 10, 1971 in Brownsfield.

She was a homemaker. In years past, she was a hairdresser, antique appraiser, worked as a cosmetologist for Braniff Airlines; she was a caregiver for her parents and was bookkeeper/dispatcher for her husband, John, in his business, Lee Ann Trucking. She had resided in De Leon since 2000, having previously lived in Corsicana. After moving to De Leon, she was a member of the Shakespeare Club, Republican Women and devoted many hours of service to the De Leon Food Pantry and Clothes Closet and was actively involved in the Gift Life program. She was an active member of De Leon First Baptist Church; loved to play "42" and enjoyed Senior Adult Night playing games at her church. Anna was a devoted wife, precious friend who was always willing to go the extra mile. Her sweet spirit and kind heart will always be remembered by all those she met.

Survived by her husband, John Green of De Leon; 5 daughters, Teresia Calabro and Sheila Alexander, both of Buffalo, New York; Melody Wilson of Atlanta, GA., Joretta Williams of Farmington, NM and Wardena Heiberman of Albuquerque, NM; a brother, Orlando S. Archuletta; sisters, Mollie Jeantet of Ureka, CA., Agnes Lancaster of Rising Star, Ruth Candelaria of Farmington, NM, Maria Lemery of San Jose, CA., Hope Johnson and Rita Blake, both of Los Angeles, CA.; 7 grandchildren, Tiffany, Benjamin, Brandy, Paula, Ashley, Melanie and Jennifer.

She was preceded by her parents, brother Felix Archuletta; one son, Charles Wendell Green; a sister, Delia Blize and great-grandson, John Bailey Callabro.

Memorials was be made to Southwestern Medical School, 5323 Harry Hines Blvd. in Dallas, Texas 75390.

GORMAN JH BASKETBALL SCHEDULE 2008-09

GAMES WILL BEGIN AT 4:00 P.M. AND FOLLOW THE ORDER OF: GIRLS-B, GIRLS-A, BOYS-B, BOYS-A

DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME
8-Jan	EVANT	HERE	4:00
15-Jan	DELEON	HERE	4:00
22-Jan	MERIDIAN	HERE	4:00
29-Jan	EVANT	THERE	4:00
5-Feb	DELEON	THERE	4:00

BOYS COACH: BILLY FOX
GIRLS COACH: DENISE SCOTT

Classifieds

WANTED: Wanted - DRIVERS - For Local Trucking Company. Home nights!! Must have CDL and Clean MVR, 2 yrs. Experience Required. Weekly Pay and Paid Vacation - 254-968-7068. 4-1-8 C.

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VERY PRODUCTIVE - 40 ACRES, M/L, NW OF GORMAN Good coastal and native grasses, good fences and cross fence, County Road frontage, 1 stock tank and water in the area. Call us today to take a look!! A19

INVESTORS - INVESTORS - INVESTORS - This property consists of 2 structures. A 2 story office building, old cafe. This property has a lot of possibilities!! C19 DO A LITTLE AND SAVE A LOT! Great potential for this 3 or 4 bedroom, 3 bath brick home nestled in 7 wooded acres with outbuildings at the edge of Gorman. SAVE \$\$\$ HA17

Now Accepting Bids
The City of Gorman has two vehicles up for public bid. Please submit your bid in writing and take it to the City office at 116 S Kent St., or you may mail it to City of Gorman, P O Box 236, Gormann Tx 76454 The City of Gorman reserves the right to refuse any or all bids submitted.

LOOKING TO LEASE:
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Gilder REALTY 254-893-3404
Comanche Office: 325-356-3739
Broker: Robert Gilder
Agents: Ronnie Golden, David Gilder, Wayne Parsons, Bobby Newman, Debbie Gilder, Neal Butler

455A, wells, tanks, creek, tree covered, hunting, Hwy.6 frontage [RS01] \$1,912,000
320±A, on Turkey Creek, creek, wildlife cover, tanks, well, hunting [ET01] \$880,000
SOLD 250±A, on Gopperas Creek, wooded, coastal, lake, cabin, rural water [LB01] \$795,000
243A, reservoir, wells, irrig. pit, on hwy., cultivation, costal, pasture [AB01] \$2,500/acre
REDUCED 236±A, wells, tanks, rolling terrain, hunting [DS02] \$2,495/acre \$1,995/acre
SOLD 231A, on Leon River, wells, pecan trees, hunting [BK01] \$665,200
81A, Pecan Orchard, 900± improved variety, underground irrig, wells [REM01] \$405,000
52A, 4-3 Brick Home, carport, wells, tanks, corrals, barns [LP01] \$239,500
51A, highway frontage, spring creek and hunting [RP01] \$182,000
45A, 7 irrig. wells & pit, buried mainline w/risers, minerals available [NF01] \$2,500/acre
30A, 3-2½ Custom Home, garage, porch, shed/shop, barn, wells, tanks [DB01] \$450,000
21±A, 2-2 16x72 mobile home, well, World Feeder Costal Bermuda grass [MS03] \$105,000
20A, excellent home site, costal, rural water avail, hunting, minerals neg. [WM01] \$75,000
19±A, rolling terrain, Live Oaks, hunting, near Proctor Lk, will divide [LR03] \$2,750/acre
4+A, 4-3 Remodeled Brick Home, additional recreational room, water well [RH02] \$149,900
REDUCED 5A, 3-1 Frame Home, near Proctor Lk., barn, rural water [LC01] \$92,500 \$89,500
5A, 4-2 Brick Home, metal roof, carport, pecan trees, wells & tank, fenced [WK01] \$90,000
3-2 Frame Home, CH&A, water well, carport, storage building, large lot [LR04] \$39,900
REDUCED 2-2 Mobile Home 14X70, 12x28 add-on, strg. bldg./carport [PA01] \$29,900 \$22,500
REDUCED 2-1½ Frame Home, attached garage, storage building [ST01] \$75,000 \$69,000
2-1 Frame Home, 2.3 A, screened porch, water well, storage bldg. [GB02] \$55,000
2-1 Fleetwood 14x52, shaded corner lot, well, underground sprinkler, carport [JT03] \$35,000 #125

More Info & Pictures at: www.GilderRealty.com

COGBURN REALTY
254-893-6666 DE LEON, TX

NEW: De Leon: Nice older 3-1 Frame home, 1308 sf, new roof & Plumbing, 2 car garage, fenced yard, corner lot, large Pecan trees. \$33,900.
NEW: Desdemona, 4 A, older 3-1 frame, well & septic, workshop, beautiful location, large trees. \$59,900.
NEW: S/E Gorman: 45 A, sandy land, few Pecan trees, 7 water wells, irrigation reservoir, close to pavement. \$2,500/Acre.
NEW: S/E Gorman: 60 A, good sandy soil, some coastal, good fences, elec., nice pond site. \$2,800 Acre.
38 A M/L south Gorman: Fronts FM 679, about 10 A. large Pecan Trees, nice location for pond, good fences, sandy land. \$2,500 Acre
40 A m/l, south Gorman, pasture, fenced, small cabin, water well, small pond, elec., sandy soil, paved road. \$2,500 acre.
77A Sipe Springs, deer, turkey & 2 stocked ponds, Live and Post Oak, mineral rights. Insulated 30x40 steel Bldg., a/c, 7 living quarters. Nice Getaway! \$3,250 A.
NEW: Gorman, 44A, 2-2-2 bi-level frame home, 1728 sf, central a/h, metal roof, covered upper deck, several wells, buildings, coastal, Deer & other wildlife \$250,000.00
100 A west De Leon FM587, 3 - 1 1/2 - 2 brick, 1444 sq. ft., C/HA, fireplace, carpeted, some remodeling, 3 ponds, 30a crop land, 35a coastal, some native, fenced, 2 steel corrals, 2 wells, shop building. Nice setup. Mineral Rights. \$2,950.00 A.
NEW: 130 A, West Carbon, approximately 40a cult., 35a coastal, pond, elec., county water. \$2,400 Acre.
NEW: S/W De Leon: 131 A with 12 acre lake! 66a coastal, 53a farm land, well, 3 ponds, great fences, good horse place, hunting. \$3,000 Acre.
156 A. Carbon, 1/2 wooded - 1/2 fields, deer, turkey, 3 ponds, nice 2 - 2 mh, central a/c, barn, corral, county water. \$4,000 acre.
179 A. south of Gorman: Part wooded, part old fields, deer & hogs, 2 nice ponds, sandy soil, elec., several water wells, condition is unknown. \$1,950.00 acre. **SELLERS SAYS MAKE OFFER!!**
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CARD OF THANKS - \$5.00

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Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm, or corporation which may appear in the columns of the Gorman Progress will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the Publisher.

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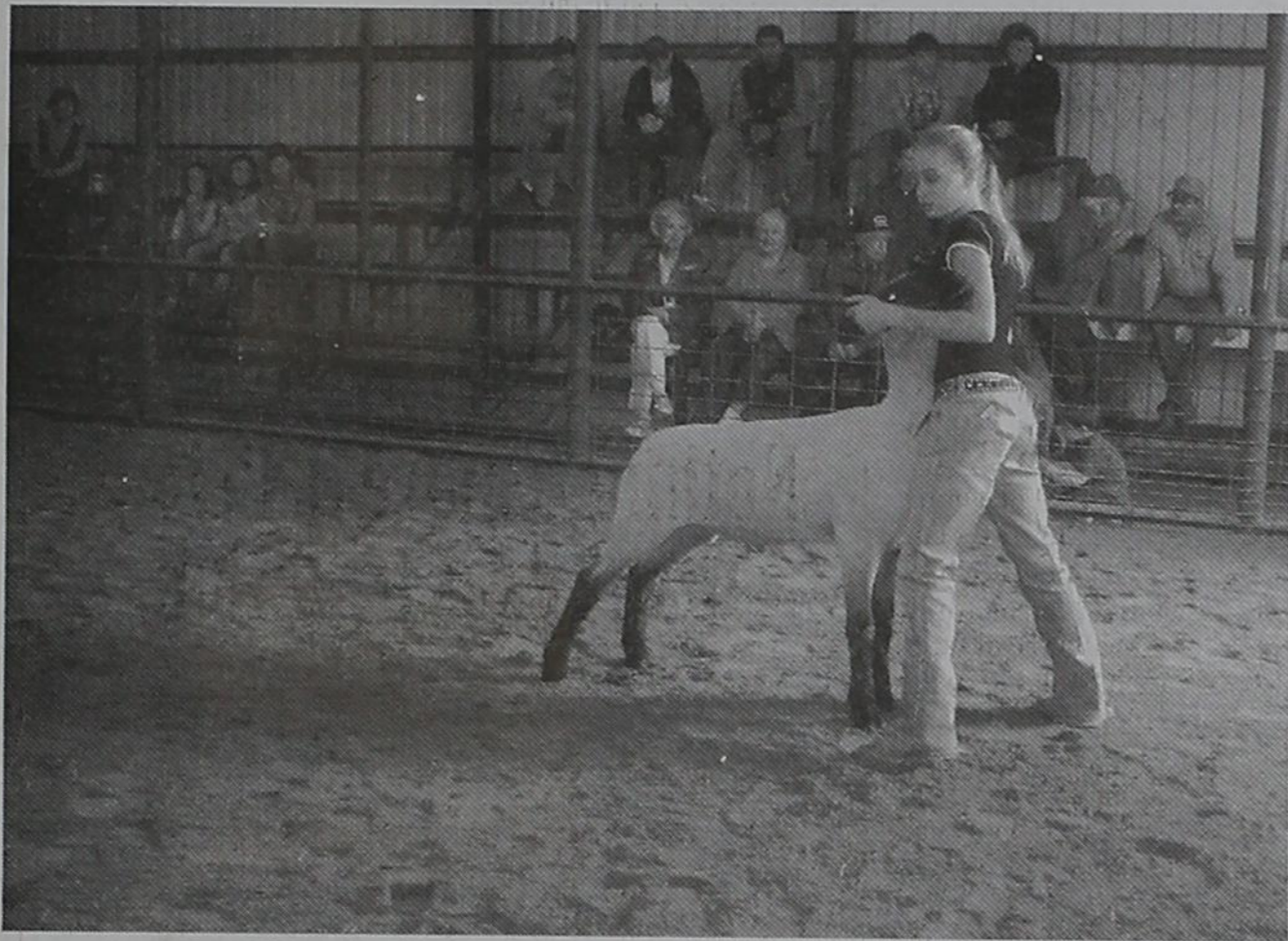
Gorman Livestock Show



Peewee Goat Showmanship: Lt-Rt Karsyn Scitern, Jordan Scitern (Blue Ribbon), Nashton Guthery, Kelsie Guthery, and Kyndall Scitern.



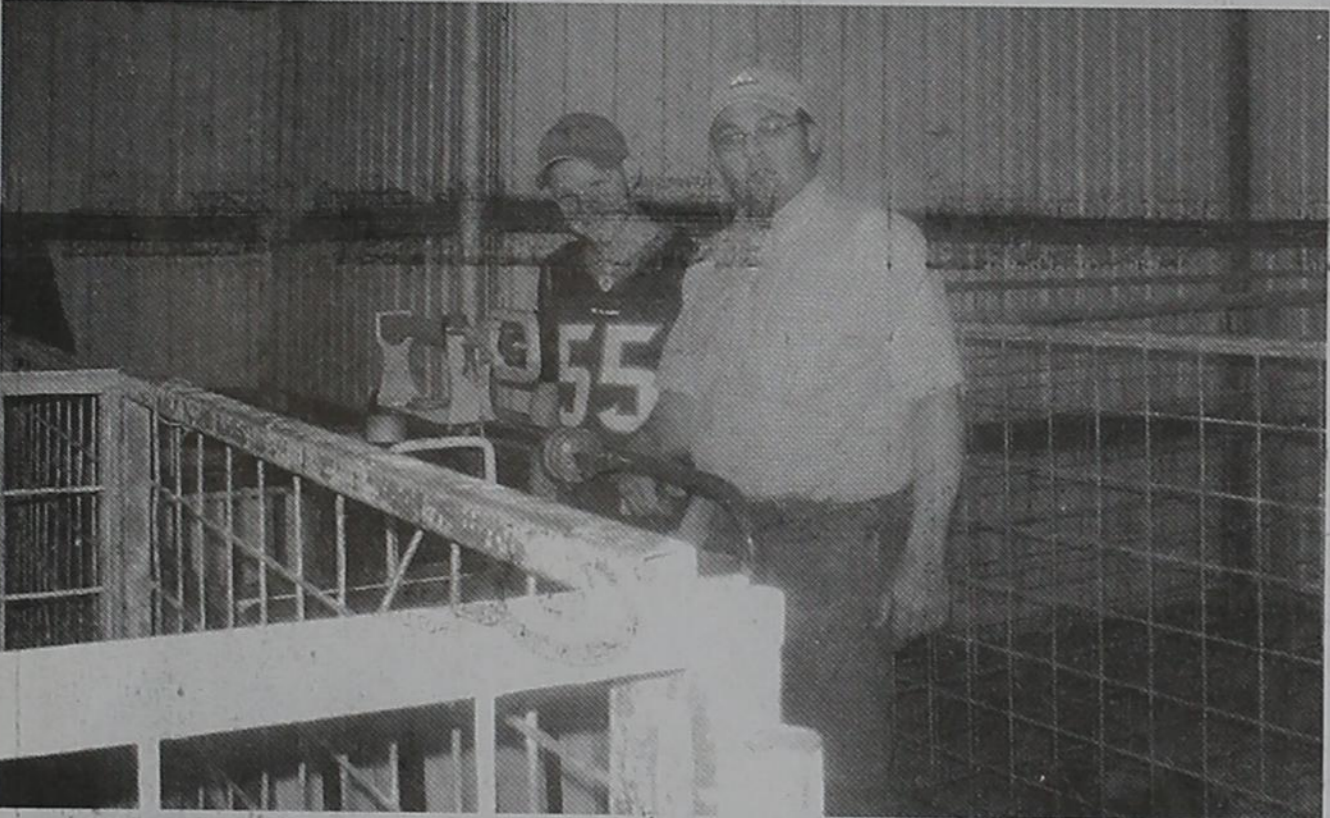
Peewee Showmanship Lt -RT Jordan Scitern, Karsyn Scitern (Blue Ribbon), and Keaton Mobre.



Grand Champion Market Lamb and Senior Showmanship: Madison Warren



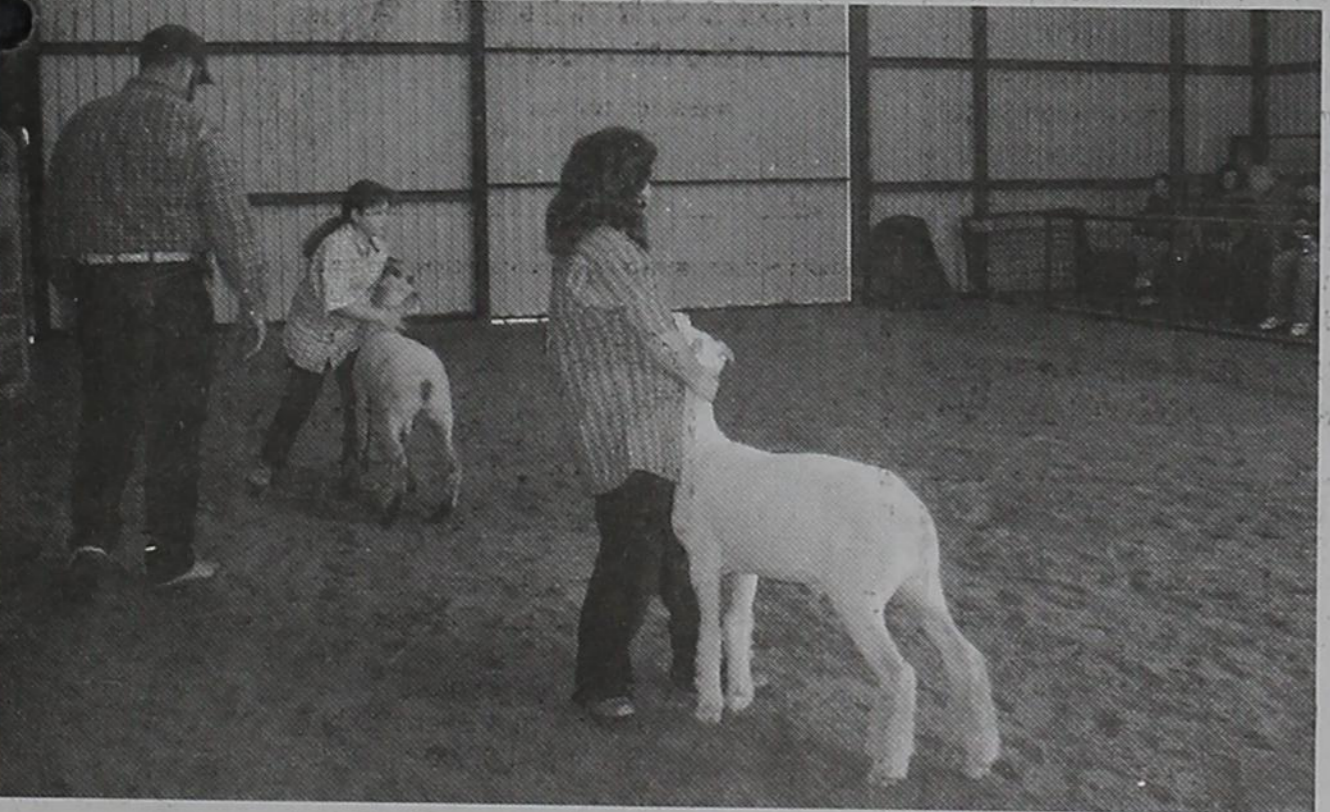
Getting their goat clean before the show



Making sure they are weighed correct



Junior Showmanship: Sara Woodall



Reserve Fine Wool Cross - Kathryn Woodall (left) and Reserve Fine Wool - Karthryn Woodall - Shown by Sara Woodall (right)

Pig Tales From Hogtown

If you would like a place to welcome in the New Year that is not too far from home and a place to take the whole family, come to the DAC on Wednesday evening. We invite everyone to bring a favorite game and a snack to share and help us celebrate the end of one year and the beginning of a new one. The fun starts at 7:00 P.M. There is no charge for this evening of fun. Y'all come!

Our usual first Saturday 'Breakfast at the DAC' will be held this coming Saturday, January 3rd from 7:00 A.M. until 10:00 A.M. Join us for a delicious breakfast of eggs, sausage, bacon, pancakes, biscuits and gravy. Cost is by donation.

We are planning to have a chili supper on January 10th at the DAC. Doesn't a bowl on chili sound good on these cold evenings!

The general meeting of all members of the DAC will be held on January 22, at 7:00 P.M. Please come and renew your membership or join for the first time. Membership is \$25.00 per year. This will entitle you to vote, serve on the board and get a discount if you want to rent the building. We will need to fill some spots on the Board of Directors at this meeting - please let us know if you would be willing to have your name placed in nomination.

Johnny Johnson and the Memory-Makers will be back on January 29 for an evening of music and dance. Please join us at 7:00 P.M. The cost of admission is \$4.00 per person.

A very Happy New Year to everyone! Carol Pell



Clipping and preparing a goat for show.

LARGE ITEM PICK UP JANUARY 8

Large item pick up will be January 8, 2008. Have your large item curb side for this pick up. Please remember that this is one large item. If you have questions please call City Office @ 734-2317.

Desdemona News

By Vonnie Guthery

"Christmas Holiday" visitors with Bernard and Ann Keith were Johnny and Sandy Cameron and Danny Cameron of Justin; Bill and Tami Sanders and Robyn of San Antonio; Billy and Nikki Febinger, Christopher, Allison and Erin of Cleburne; Brad and Priscilla Keith and children, Brett, Brian, Jeanna and Andrea of Louisville, Kentucky; De and Vicki Robinett, Keitha Robinett and Lexie all of De Leon; Pug and Vonnie Guthery, Lorin Kaye all of Desdemona.

Pug and Vonnie Guthery hosted the Guthery Family Holiday Dinner last Sunday. Those attending were Frank and Ella (Guthery) Reeves of Irving; Richard and Glenda (Foreman) Garrett of Justin; Ricky and Ranell Foreman of Marbleton, WY.; Thomas and Vicki Seay, David and Martha Guthery all of Gorman; Bobby Koonce of Stephenville; Karen (Guthery) Fair, Belinda Guthery, Holly Guthery and daughter, Karsan, Angela Powledge and son, Lane all of Desdemona.

Holiday visitors with Humpy and Betty Duke were Rodney and Debra Duke of Pantego; Ronda (Duke) James and daughter, Emily of Whitney; Scott and Risa (Duke) Ashley and daughter, Lauren, Brandon and Daydra Ashley all of Midlothian; Russell Duke and daughters, Elise and Katie of Stephenville; Rusty and Samantha Duke and daughter, Cadence of Desdemona and Susan Benbrook and son, Bram of Houston.

Colin and Kaley Garcia spent the Christmas Holidays visiting with their Dad, George Garcia and family in Cleburne.

Robert and Ima Brown had several visitors thru the Holidays. Family members and kinfolks came from Grove, Oklahoma; San Antonio; St. Louis, Missouri; New York, Grand Prairie and Arlington.

Karen (Guthery) Fair and granddaughter, Lorin hosted Christmas Eve Holiday Supper. Those attending were Pug and Vonnie Guthery, Belinda Guthery, Holly Guthery and daughter, Karsan, Roy and Angela Powledge and son, Lane, Sonja Hornback and son, Justin, Donal and Kandice Cogburn and children, Dylan and Taiah all of Desdemona.

"Happy New Year" from Pug and Vonnie Guthery.

USDA Announces 2009 DCP Sign-Up Begins Today Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program Sign Up to Begin in the Spring

USDA's Farm Service Agency announced that enrollment for the 2009 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) Program for farms with base acres begins today both online and at local USDA service centers and continues until June 1, 2009.

Producers are encouraged to make use of the eDCP automated website to sign up for this important program. However, producers can visit any USDA Service Center or their administratively assigned center, to complete their 2009 DCP contract.

The June 1, 2009 deadline is mandatory for all participants. USDA will not accept late-filed applications.

The electronic DCP (or eDCP) service saves producers time, reduces paperwork and speeds up contract processing at USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices. It is available to all producers who are eligible to participate in the DCP Program and can be accessed at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dcp>. To access the service, producers must have an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account, which requires filling out an online registration form at <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov> followed by a visit to the local USDA Service Center for identity verification.

USDA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2009, eligible producers may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment for each commodity associated with the farm. USDA will issue advance direct payments beginning Dec. 2008. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices. Counter-cyclical payments are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is statutorily set below its target price. The effective price is the higher of the national average market price received during the 12-marketing year for each covered commodity and the national average rate for a marketing assistance loan for the covered commodity.

Producers who are eligible for the DCP Program will also be eligible to enroll in the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program. The enrollment period for the ACRE Program will begin in the spring. Producers may first enroll in the DCP Program, elect to receive advance direct payments and then later modify their enrollment to include the ACRE program or they may wait and elect to enroll in DCP and ACRE at the same time in Spring 2009.

The optional ACRE Program provides a safety net based on State revenue losses and acts in place of the price-based safety net of counter-cyclical payments under DCP. A farm's payment is based on a revenue guarantee calculated using a 5-year average state yield and the most recent 2-year State price for each eligible commodity. For the 2009 crop, the 2-year price average will be based on the 2007 and 2008 crop years.

An ACRE payment is issued when both the State and the farm have incurred a revenue loss. The payment is based on 83.3 percent (85 percent in 2012) of the farm's planted acres times the difference between the State ACRE guarantee and the State revenue times the ratio of the farm's yield divided by the State expected yield. The total number of planted acres for which a producer may receive ACRE payments may not exceed the total base on the farm. In exchange for participating in ACRE, in addition to not receiving counter-cyclical payments, a farm's direct payment is reduced by 20 percent, and marketing assistance loan rates are reduced by 30 percent.

The decision to enroll in the ACRE Program is irrevocable. The owner of the farm and all producers on the farm must agree to enroll in ACRE. Once enrolled, the farm shall be enrolled for that initial crop year and will remain in ACRE through the 2012 crop year.

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New Year's Resolutions For Your Car

(NewsUSA) - New Year's resolutions can be about more than shedding a few pounds and exercising more.

Simply changing a few habits can help your vehicle last longer, command a higher resale price, pollute less and burn less gasoline. Here's helpful advice from the experts at the non-profit National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) - the group that tests and certifies automotive technicians:

- Clean out your vehicle. Remove unnecessary items from the passenger cabin and the trunk; less weight means you'll use less gasoline. Remove that rooftop cargo carrier when you're finished hauling - you'll cut down on gas-hogging wind resistance.

- Check your tires' pressure once a month. Tires with low pressure cause the engine to work harder - and to burn more gasoline - to move the vehicle. Poorly aligned wheels and improperly inflated tires also wear out faster, costing you money in replacements.

- Follow your carmaker's recommended service intervals. A neglected vehicle burns more gas and will break down more often than well-maintained machines. The owner's manual spells out which systems need servicing and when.

- Fouled spark plugs and clogged filters waste gasoline. Routine oil changes will keep your vehicle from aging before its time. If you notice changes in engine performance, like rough idling or poor accelerations, you are due for a visit to the shop. Also, never ignore a "service engine" light.

- Resolve to become a better driver. Avoid jack-rabbit starts - sudden accelerations waste fuel and strain the engine. Speeding greatly decreases miles per gallon, so drive the speed limit. When possible, use cruise control to maintain a steady pace. Aggressive hard starts and stops wear your brakes out faster. Finally, consolidate your errands to minimize short trips.

- Look for high-quality repair shops. ASE was founded as a non-profit, independent organization dedicated to improving the quality of automotive service and repair through the voluntary testing and certification of automotive technicians. ASE-certified professionals wear blue and white shoulder insignia and carry credentials listing their areas of expertise. Their employers often display the blue and white ASE sign.

Visit www.ase.com for seasonal car-care tips and more information.



Seven Tips to Relieve Your Aching Back

(NewsUSA) - Whether it's from playing golf, working in the yard or simply sitting at a desk, statistics show that two-thirds of U.S. adults will experience back pain in their lifetime.

In your day-to-day activities, are you putting unnecessary strain on your back? Here are some ways to protect your back and relieve back pain:

- * Stand up straight. Good posture will relieve pressure from your lower back.

- * Stay fit. Exercise is important for keeping your muscles strong and maintaining a healthy weight. Being overweight puts more of a strain on the back. People who exercise infrequently also are more prone to back injury because their muscles are not accustomed to the exertion.

- * Have an ergonomic work area. Your chair should support your lower back and help you maintain good posture. If you work on a computer, the screen should be positioned so that you do not have to tilt your head up or bend your neck down to see it. Sitting in the same position for a long period of time also strains your back. Get up from your desk and walk around several times a day.

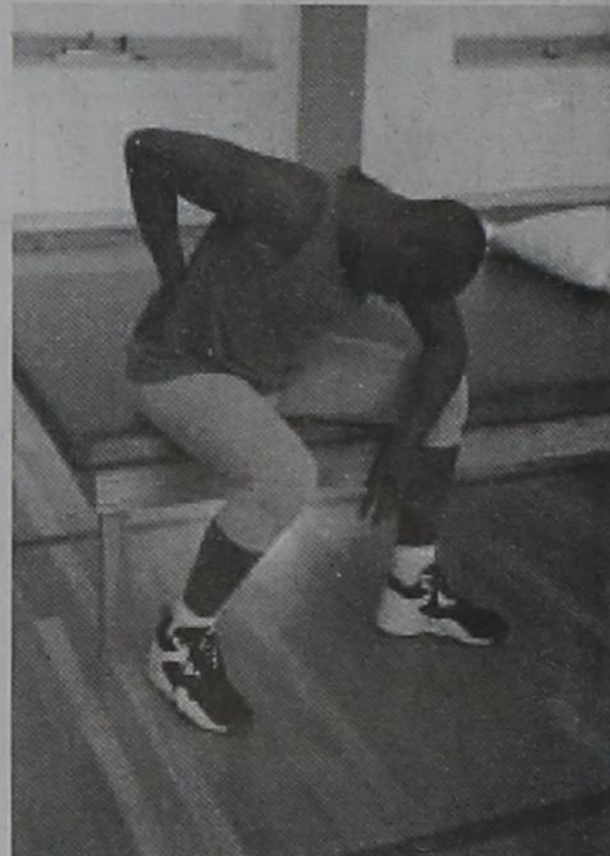
- * Evaluate your mattress. A mattress that is too soft or too firm can be a major culprit in back pain. Flip your mattress several times a year to keep it from wearing out in the spot where you sleep.

- * Lift properly. Keep your back in its natural position and bend your knees. Do not twist your body or bend at the waist while lifting. If something is too heavy, do not lift it by yourself; ask for help.

- * Try yoga. Yoga involves special stretching exercises that will loosen the muscles in your back.

- * Use a pain relieving patch. The Absorbine Jr. Back Patch, for instance, was developed to target back pain with deep, penetrating heat. The blend of menthol, camphor and eucalyptus oil goes straight to the point of pain to relieve back spasms and muscle aches. According to the manufacturer, it relieves chronic back pain for up to eight hours.

For more information, visit www.absorbine.com.



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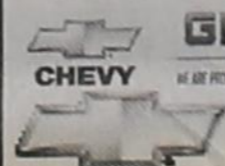
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