

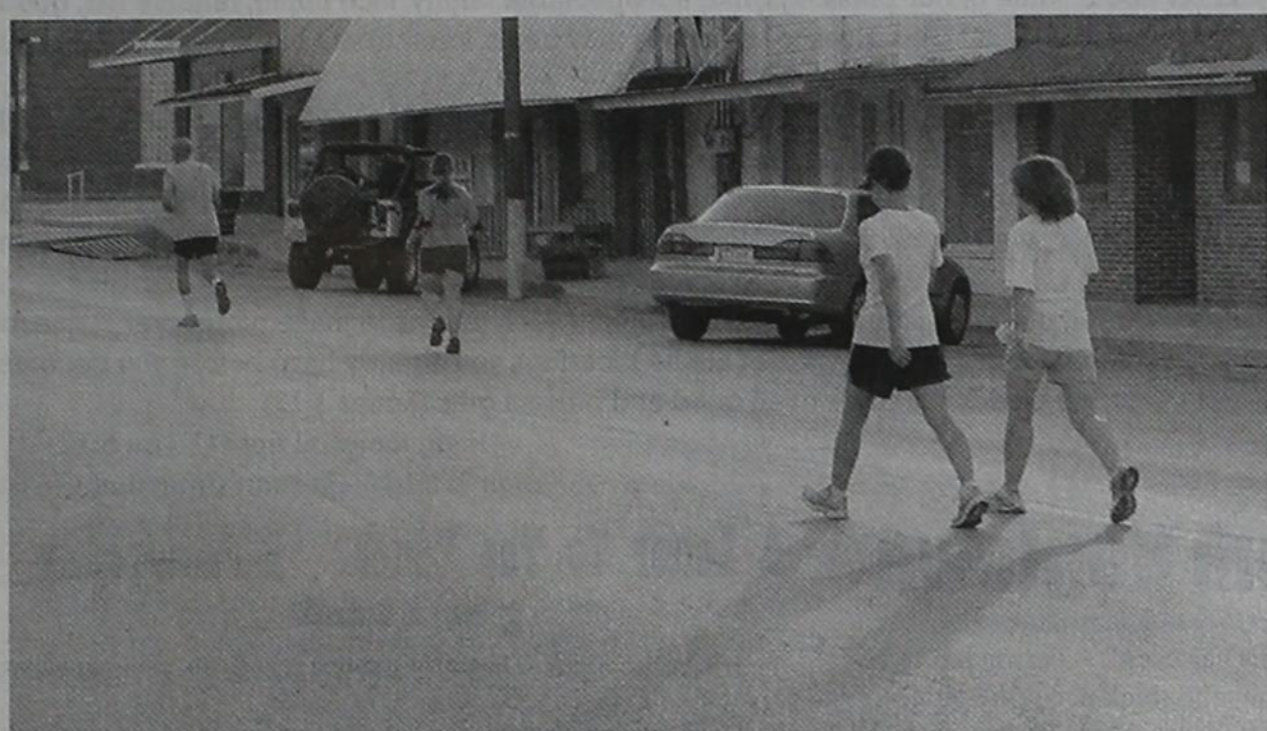
# The Gorman Progress

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

NUMBER TWENTY-NINE

JULY 21, 2011

## "TOUR THE PEANUT COUNTRY" 12TH ANNUAL BIKE RIDE AND WALK/RUN HELD JULY 16TH



### Stage 2 Drought Warning For Lake Proctor

The Brazos River Authority (BRA) is directing that Stage 2 - Drought Warning, of the BRA's Drought Contingency Plan, be implemented at Lake Proctor. The goal of the BRA Drought Contingency Plan Stage declaration is a three percent (3%) reduction of the use that would have occurred in the absence of drought contingency measures. Additionally, due to the extreme drought that covers virtually all of Texas, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has been urging all entities in the State to implement Drought Contingency plans to help extend the availability of necessary precious resources.

Upper Leon River Municipal Water District's Drought Contingency Plan Stage 2 - Drought Warning would, under normal circumstances, be enacted when Lake Proctor is at or below 40% of capacity which had been previously identified to correspond to a lake elevation of 1152.13 msl. As of 8 a.m., July 19th, Proctor Lake is at a recorded level of 1153.64 msl. However, in response to the notice from BRA received July 15th, requests by the TCEQ, and the District acknowledging the severity of the State-wide drought... Upper Leon River Municipal Water District's (or, the District) wholesale customers have been notified to implement the appropriate response pursuant to each of their respective Drought Contingency Plans. Our common goal should be to conserve our water resources and to apply prudent conservation measures in order to collectively meet the goals of the Brazos River Authority to achieve a three percent (3%) reduction in usage that would normally occur in the absence of drought conditions. Per the District's own Drought Contingency Plan Stage 2 - Drought Warning Condition, the District has a goal to limit total treated water used by all system users to less than 4.75 MGD (million gallons per day).

While this currently does not forcibly restrict or curtail use by the District's wholesale or retail users, conservation measures appropriate for each situation is strongly encouraged.

For those who receive their water service directly from the Upper Leon River Municipal Water District, and for other users of water from Lake Proctor, consideration should be given to any method whereby water may be conserved. Items to consider should include:

- Check for leaks and repair any found.
- Reduce non-essential water use.
- Wait until current drought has passed before establishing new landscaping
- Initiate landscape watering schedules for existing landscapes.

To share your thoughts on conservation methods others might benefit from, or if you have questions regarding the current status of the District's Drought Contingency Plan, please contact the General Office at 254-879-2258 or email Office@ulrwd.com.

### CHANGES IN DRESS CODE FOR GORMAN MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

1. Male students must wear clean clothing (shirts, slacks, jeans, and shorts) that fit appropriately. Pants must be worn at waist level. Male students will be permitted to wear long shorts, at or below the knee.
2. Female students must wear clothing (shirts, blouses, jeans, skirts and shorts) that fit appropriately. The top of a female's shirt should be now lower than the width of her fist from her collarbone. When wearing shorts, dresses, or skirts, the clothing item at hand must be no more than 3" above the knee.
3. No holes in pants in inappropriate places and no undergarments visible. No skin showing above fingertip level.

### Letter To The Editor

I want to personally thank those that showed great concern for Josh after his injury during a combat attack in Afghanistan. I am greatly appreciative of the many prayers for Josh. They have been answered. I know the situation could have been much worse than it was and again I am thankful that is wasn't worse. I am very proud of Josh and the others for doing the job they do for our country. I never really realized the danger that our men and women face every second of everyday, until Josh became a Combat Medic in the US Army four years ago. To see him with a gun strapped to him while we Skype really gives a much deeper sense of danger they truly face. One of worst things for a parent is the phone call you get; the one that is dreaded twenty-four hours a day, every day. The one that says you son has been shot. July 6, 2011 was that day for me. Details were so sketchy that nothing could be said to anyone outside the family. However, that changed quickly. By the end of the day misinformation was out. As I said earlier, one of the worse things a parent can get is the phone call that their son or daughter has been shot, but almost worse than the call are the many untrue stories about what happened and the injuries sustained. I'd like to clarify the information about Josh in this writing.

On July 6, 2011, in the Eastern Province of Afghanistan, Specialist Josh Johnson was in the Aid Station about to head back to the bunker with the others when they came under attack. Specialist Johnson was waiting for the gunfire to cease so he could run to the bunker. Before he could make it out a round came through the Aid Station and hit him on the back of the right knee. Since he was alone, he immediately went into action. He rendered aid to himself; stopping the bleeding and bandaging himself so he would be able to make it to the bunker. Still under gunfire, he made his way to the bunker where the Medics took over and prepared him to be air-vacced. As they prepared him for the flight, they remained under attack. In an hour or so he was finally air lifted and on his way to Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan. There, he underwent surgery to remove the round from his knee.

From the time he was shot; July 6, and he reached home, July 13, he went through three stop-overs. When he was able to fly, he left Bagram, Afghanistan. From there, he stopped in Germany, then Maryland, California and finally home in Wahiawa, Hawaii. At every stop-over he was admitted in the Army hospitals and evaluated by the doctors. No surgery was done in Germany or Maryland; none has been done since the doctors removed the round in Bagram. He is now home with his wife, Kayla, daughter Blakely and his Army base family in Hawaii. As of Friday, July 15, 2011 the doctors are waiting for the swelling to go down. He will have a MRI and other tests done. The doctors will then decide if he needs surgery to repair any damage not noted at other evaluations. He still has stitches and is on crutches, and can put very little weight on his leg. I expect Josh to make a full and complete recovery with time. I would like to add that Josh did receive The Purple Heart and The Combat Medic Badge, both are outstanding honors. Please continue to pray for Josh and all the men and women who give to us what we take for granted..... Freedom.

A Thankful and Proud Army Mom, Vicki Brown

### EX-STUDENT'S NEWS

Our first meeting to make plans for this year's ex students Homecoming will take place on Thursday, July 22nd at 5 p.m. At The Dairy Queen in Gorman.

All Officers and anyone else who is interested are encouraged to attend.

K. Welch

## Redistricting Comes to Eastland County

County Redistricting: What is it and why do we need it? The year 2010 U.S. Census places the population of Eastland County at 18,583. This is an increase of 286 people over the year 2000 population of 18,297. While other counties are losing numbers, Eastland County has grown slightly. This is a sign of sustainable population levels for our county during the last ten years. Our county is slowly changing from primarily a rural area to a more suburban one. Think of all the people that you know that commute to work across our county and outside of our county and you may see what I mean. How does the population change affect redistricting for Eastland County? Each County Commissioner in each county across Texas is elected by the voters within a certain precinct. The boundaries or precinct lines are set according to the population numbers within each precinct. Federal law mandates that the population numbers for each commissioner precinct will be as uniform as possible. This is why Eastland County needs to be redistricted: Our population has shifted from the unincorporated areas to the cities within our county. The need to redistrict for us is rare as the last time that Eastland County had to be reapportioned along precinct lines was after the 1970 Census.

In advance of the 2010 Census, Eastland County retained the Austin law firm of Allison, Bass to assist us in case our county had to be redistricted. After the Census, Allison, Bass used the new numbers from the Census, reviewed the existing commissioner precinct lines, and sent Commissioners Court the findings that show that we must redistrict to be in compliance with state and federal laws. Here are the actual population numbers for each precinct: Pct 1-5260, Pct 2-4382, Pct 3-3810, and Pct 4-5131. The ideal population for each precinct would be 4646. Here is where the work begins. Pct 1 and Pct 4 must decrease population while Pct 2 and Pct 3 must increase population. These changes must occur to be in compliance with state and federal laws. To have an ideal population count within each commissioner precinct, Pct 1 must decrease by 614, Pct 2 must increase by 264, Pct 3 must increase by 836, and Pct 4 must decrease by 485.

To achieve this mandated change to the Commissioner boundaries, Eastland County has had public meetings to determine how the county can change the precinct lines to adjust the population within each commissioner precinct and not have an unworkable division of county road responsibilities. To state the proposed solution another way: We need to reconfigure the precinct lines to where each Commissioner adds or subtracts population as needed without huge changes to each Commissioner's county road and bridge duty. The redistricting to be done only concerns the County Commissioner precincts and the voting precincts for these elected positions. Justice of the Peace and Constable precincts will not have to change their boundaries. Eastland County Commissioners Court will continue to work on redistricting proposals to achieve legal compliance while best serving the citizens of our county. More public meetings will be held so citizen input can be utilized in drafting the final plan. I encourage you to watch for notices of these meetings and attend so your ideas can be heard. If you would rather phone in your concerns, please call my office number at 254-629-1263. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Rex Fields, Eastland County Judge

### Card of Thanks

We would like to thank everyone for the kindness and concern shown to Jackie and to all of us during his illness and at the time of his passing. We appreciate every act of kindness very much. Thanks also to Denver Rainey and Barry Schahn for their comforting words during the service, to the Messengers for the beautiful songs and music, and to the First Baptist Church for the meal after the service. We also appreciate the help of Ray Daniels, Carolyn Foster and Marjorie Treadway during this difficult time in our lives. May God Bless each of you for keeping us in your thoughts and prayers.

The Family of Jackie Grice  
 Jana Grice  
 Julie May, Mallory and Ethan  
 Jeanna Burns and Brittany  
 Aaron and Ashley Grice and Jackson  
 Sue Ross and family  
 Max and Janice Grice and family

### ITEMS OF INTEREST

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

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

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

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

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**COGBURN REALTY**  
 254-893-6666 DE LEON, TX

3 - 1 1/2 - 2 Brick, 1348 sf, central a/c, some new carpet, metal roof, sunroom, large fenced backyard, near school, nice & Clean. \$41,500.  
 3 + Acre, 3 - 2 3/4 - 2 brick, central A/C, 2375 sf, den + lg. game room, nice carpet, metal roof, water well, 20 x 40 shop, secluded, lots of Post Oaks! \$119,500.  
 NEW - 34.5 A. HWY 8 - Desdemona, 30 acres Coastal, pond, excellent fences, large Post Oaks - nice home site. Water well, Natural gas and Elec. Available. Will divide in 1/2. \$130,000.  
 S/E Gorman: 45 A, sandy land, few Pecan trees, 7 water wells, irrigation reservoir, close to pavement. \$2,500 Acre.  
 S/E Gorman: 60 A, good sandy soil, some coastal, good fences, elec., nice pond site. \$2,800 Acre.  
 100 A west De Leon FM587, 3 - 1 1/2 - 2 brick, 1444 sq. ft., C/HA, fireplace, carpeted, some remodeling, 3 ponds, 30a crop land, 35a coastal, some native, fenced, 2 steel corrals, 2 wells, shop building. Nice setup. Mineral Rights. \$2,950.00 A.  
 107.09 A, 2 mile S of Gorman FM 579: Old home w/ large Oaks, old well, approx. 40 a good coastal, 40 cultivated, small pond. \$2,150 per acre.  
 179 A, south of Gorman: Part wooded, part old fields, deer & hogs, 2 nice ponds, sandy soil, elec., water well, metal building. \$2,350.00 acre.  
**SELLERS SAYS MAKE OFFER!!**  
 322A, Oak & Elm Trees, 2 creeks, great water shed project! 40 A. Coastal, owner reports 300 round bales/year, 5 1/2 A. Cultivable soils, 6 ponds, water well, 1200' metal Bldg. with slab floor, elec. Deer, turkey, and other wildlife. \$2,300 A.  
 NEW - 395A S/W Gorman, 1/2 Open 1/2 Wooded, small creek, 4 ponds, 40' elev. change, gravel road 2 sides, elec. available. Remote location, deer & wildlife. \$1,795.00 acre.  
 NEW - 396 A near Sipe Springs wildlife managed sportsman's dream ranch, lakes, ponds, elevation changes, some leasers and blind hunter's cabin, remodeled brick ranch house, 30X40 metal shop & More. \$2,750 acre.  
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**NEW & REFRESHING!** Lg. Open concept home with living area, FP, dining area, kitchen with island, custom cabinets & Granite counter tops, 4 BR, 3.5 baths, office, Cov. Porches, fenced back Yard, DDG & water well. HA6  
**20 ACRES, M/L, GORMAN** - Good coastal & native grasses, 1 tank & partially fenced. Will be surveyed out of a larger tract. Could be very productive. A2  
**BETTER BELIEVE IT** - There's plenty of room & privacy for the lover of country living on this 2 AC, m/FL 3 BR, 2 bath brick-LR w/FP, DR & den. Outside is a deck w/picuzzi, a tank, 3 stg. bldgs. & lg. metal barn 2/2 heated & cooled rooms. Call today & enjoy the fresh air & Wide open spaces! HA2  
**11.917 ACRES, M/L - GORMAN** - 1 tank, 1 old water well, mostly mesquite and some oak. Excellent place to build. A3  
**"EDGE OF GORMAN** - 1.3 AC, m/l. Maintenance free Brick 3 BR, 1 3/4 bath, open LR-DR, kitchen area w/bk. bar, Utility, CH/A fenced yard, SACP w/stg. & barn. 06  
**HUNTING & GRAZING** - 257.53 AC. Mostly mesquite, food plots for deer, grazing or hay, tanks, good fences on 2 sides, Nash Creek, rolling terrain A18  
**CHARM, WARMTH, COMFORT** - This 2 BR, 1 bath brick has all of this & more. Large inviting living room, kitchen/dining combo, CH/A, utility w/extras, DACP & cov. porch overlooking the oversized back yard with it's beautiful pecan trees. Call us to make your appointment today! 08  
**PRODUCTIVE** - 160 AC, m/l, N. of Gorman. Coastal, good soil, 2 tanks, water well s & frontage on 2 county roads. A13

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 PDF Ads - EPS or JPEG Photos By email  
 Publication Number - 222780  
 Publisher - Lonnie Bennett  
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 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, 196 S. Kent, Gorman, TX 76454. Periodical Postage Paid at Gorman, TX 76454. The Gorman Progress Reserves the Right to Refuse Any Advertising! Postmaster: Please send Change of Address To: Gorman Progress - P. O. Box 68 - Gorman, TX 76454.

**Obituaries**

**Glen Edward Warren**  
 Glen Edward Warren, age 65 of Gorman, passed away Sunday, July 17, 2011 at the Eastland Memorial Hospital.  
 Services were at 11:00 A.M. Wednesday at the Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Barry Schahn officiating. Burial was at Oaklawn Cemetery in Gorman.  
 Glen was born June 9, 1946 in Gorman, Texas to John Glendon Warren and Lora Faye Beaty Warren. He was a graduate of Gorman High School. He married Marilyn Robinett on July 22, 1966 in Comanche County. She preceded him in death on May 26, 1992. He later married Judy Morris in Gorman on April 17, 1999. Glen was a farmer and a member of the First Baptist Church.  
 He is survived by his wife, Judy Warren of Gorman; two sons, Justin Warren and wife, Nicole of Saginaw and Jade Warren of Gorman; step-son, Travis Johnston of Stephenville; step-daughter, Susan Riley and husband, Randy of Comanche; mother, Lora Faye Warren of Gorman; sister, Linda Stephens of DeLeon; brother, Mike Warren of Gorman; nine grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father, John Warren.  
**De Leon Study Club Plans Spaghetti Lunch**  
 The De Leon Study Club is making plans for another delicious Spaghetti Lunch. It will be served on Saturday, August 6th from 12 a.m. until 2 p.m. It will be at the new De Leon High School Cafeteria. This will also be the location of the Ex-Students Reunion.  
 The price is \$7.00 for Adults and \$3.00 for Children. The proceeds from this lunch will be used for many Civic needed Projects.

**Paul Ray Petree**  
 PAUL RAY PETREE - age 34 of Lafayette, Tennessee and formerly of Gorman, Texas passed away suddenly, Thursday, July 14, 2011. Funeral services for Paul Ray Petree were conducted Tuesday at 2 p.m. from the Chapel of Alexander Funeral Home. Interment followed in the Haysville Cemetery.  
 Paul was born on December 14, 1976 in Eastland, Texas to Betty Faye Reagan Petree and the late John Layton Petree. He was one of two sons born to this union.  
 While living in Texas, he enjoyed playing high school football. He has two sons by a previous marriage that still live in Texas. He later moved to Lafayette, Tennessee, where he met and married his wife, Casey Jenkins on March 14, 2009. They share three daughters, and Casey survives.  
 Paul loved being self employed as a welder. He worked long, hard hours so he could provide for his family. Family was very important to him.  
 Paul enjoyed sports. He liked watching NASCAR and football on the weekends. He also enjoyed going fishing with his family and friends.  
 Paul loved his lord and was a Christian. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends.  
 Paul is survived by: Wife, Casey Jenkins of Lafayette, TN, Sons, Kaiden Erick Petree, and Anthony Bryce Petree both of Texas, Daughters, Brooklyn Nicole Fitzgerald, Jersey Lane Petree, and Caitlyn DeShay Petree all of Lafayette, TN, Mother, Betty Faye Petree, and Brother, Aaron Petree both of Texas, Father-in-law, Bobby Jenkins, and Mother-in-law, Cathy Jenkins both of Lafayette, TN.  
 Alexander Funeral Home, Directors, in charge of arrangements. (615)666-2189 or [www.alexanderfh.com](http://www.alexanderfh.com)

**"On The Wilder Side"**  
 My daughter has been at that dreaded stage for a while. You know, the one where she wants everything she sees on TV. "Daddy, I want that." "Oooh, I want one of those." So far she wants about \$12,000 of toys for her birthday and double that for Christmas. And what makes it worse is that she'll get a toy and play with it for a little while, then it goes into the toy box, never to be seen again.  
 I would venture to say that we aren't all that different, especially when it comes to our prayer lives. God showers us with numerous blessings. We know about some of our blessings, like a respectable family, nice home, reliable car, good health, a good job. And there are some blessings that God gives to us that we may never know about like a car accident that you almost had, but thankfully, you were spared.  
 And yes, we do enjoy and appreciate all these blessings. And we thank God for them... until the new wears off. And then we put them in our "toy box" and don't think about them anymore. And then we see other people with better homes, nicer cars, easier jobs, more respected families and then we become very aware of all the things that we DON'T have and we think about all the things that the Lord HASN'T done for us. And we come to God with list of prayer requests that look more like a child's Christmas wish list.  
 As we approach God's mighty throne of grace, let us remember Phil 4:6 which tells us to make our prayer requests to God, but do it "with thanksgiving". In other words, be fully aware of all the blessings you already have before you become anxious for what you don't have, and know that God is the giver of all good and perfect gifts (James 1:17).  
 Fight the good fight (1 Tim 6:12) -  
 Jason Wilder - Gorman Church of Christ

**Pig Tales From Hogtown**

What a brutal summer this has been! A person has to be tough to live in Texas! Take a minute to think about the pioneers who traveled this land in covered wagons. How did they do it?! I still love it here and wouldn't want to live anywhere else.  
 I want to invite you all to come to the Desdemona Activity Center this Friday evening for our regularly scheduled 4th Friday dance. The concession stand opens at 6:00 and the music begins at 7:00. The admission is \$5.00.  
 Please mark your calendars for August 12th. It is time for the annual alumni dinner at the DAC. Visiting starts at 4:00 with dinner being served at 6:00. The menu will be fish, chicken, potato salad, beans and dessert. Even though this is called an 'alumni dinner', the event is open to everyone so bring your family and friends. The cost is by donation. Y'all come!  
 NOTE: Our 2nd Friday dance that would be held on August 12th will be moved back a week to August 19th.  
 I have an idea for a cool place to visit during the scorching heat wave - the Desdemona Public Library located in the Activity Center. The library is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from 3:00 until 5:00 and Tuesday evening from 6:00 until 8:00.  
 If you haven't seen our library, I think you will be surprised at the number books, books on tape and VHS tapes we have. Come and see for yourself. NOTE: there are several books that are overdue from the library. Please check to see if you have forgotten to bring a book back - we do not charge overdue fees.  
**Pray for rain.**  
 See you in Desdemona!  
 Carol Pell

**A Letter To The Editor** About America's Dilemma

By Henry A. Buchanan  
 The American's Dilemma: wanting it both ways and unwilling to pay for it.  
 The unemployment rate has gone up two tenths of a percent and the people who stand gaping at the polls are having a hernia and threatening to cut the President's cojones but it's the people in business who determine the job market. They have moved production lines to China and India because they can get cheap labor, then bring the finished product back and sell it at inflated prices.  
 These same people are represented in Congress where the members were elected because they promised to cut taxes and solve the problem by reducing expenses by firing more people adding to the unemployment figures.  
 At the same time we want a global economy with the good life for all the underpaid and starving people of Africa and Asia. But we can't have it both ways. We can't equalize the good life with the peoples of the world without giving up our Cadillacs and we can't pay our national debt without increasing taxes. We can't have left feet with right feet. No heaven without hell.  
 Republicans adamantly refuse to raise taxes, claiming an increase taxes would discourage business and result in greater unemployment. A few Democrats fearful of losing their offices go along. The President is caught in the middle, blamed for the bad conditions and required to both cut government services and lower taxes. But the tax is the only income the government has, and revenue is the only way we can deliver services. The war worsens the situation because it costs money and threatens the security of business. At the same time war provides employment in the form of a job for the soldiers and war is a boost to the economy because it means producing weapons that are to be destroyed by use and must be replaced. To stop the war and bring the soldiers home will increase the unemployment figures two ways: ex-soldiers out of work, and ex-munitions works out of work.  
 The challenge is to find ways for these men to do something useful and creative of more useful tools and instruments for our enjoyment than the hype of heroics in the form of dead soldiers at home and the American people hated abroad.  
 (s) Henry A. Buchanan  
 1131 N. Kent St. -- Gorman, TX 76454  
 254-734-4569 -- July 15, 2011

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

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**YARD SALE: SATURDAY - JULY 23RD - A.M. - 307 BRANDON PLACE IN GORMAN.**  
**GARAGE SALE:** in Gorman, July 23rd - Starting at 8 a.m. Located at the Bride of Christ Church and across the street from the Post Office. Hope to see you there. God Bless!!!

**Employment-Drivers:** Coastal Transport. CDL-A w/X Endorsement. 23 yrs Old, 1 Yr Tractor Trailer exp. Home every day! Scheduled Days Off. 800-633-2808 2TP

**Stephen P. Kelly, M.D.**  
**Medical Director**  
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**THE ARMSTRONG FAMILY SINGERS**

OF GARLAND

**JULY 31, 2011 -- 3 P.M.**

**COUNTY GOSPEL CHURCH IN MORAN**

Come and Enjoy Jesus With Us -- "Free Admission"

**Host Families Needed in Gorman**

In August, Academic Year in America (AYA) is looking for Gorman families to host high school exchange students from all over the world.

This year, AYA is bringing hundreds of high school students to the U.S. to learn about American culture while living with volunteer host families and studying at high schools across the nation. American families have the unique opportunity to learn about the student's culture during this mutually rewarding exchange.

AYA can help families find the ideal student for their home. The result is an enriching, lifelong relationship with a young person from abroad. In addition, for families looking to learn more about a specific culture or language, hosting a student is a fantastic way to experience the world without leaving home.

Students are ages 15 to 18 and arrive with full medical insurance, spending money, and the hopes of experiencing life in America through the eyes of a caring host family. The students stay with their host for five or 10 months and attend the local high school.

Who can host a student through AYA? According to AYA Director Melanie French, an important aspect of the AYA program is that there are many types of people who can host.

"Just as there is no typical American family, there is no typical host family," states French. "Retirees, single parents and young couples are all able to give an international student a good home. Some host families may not even have children of their own. Bringing a student into your home can mean giving the gift of culture to yourself, your family, your community - whomever would benefit from exposure to a new culture."

To learn more about hosting an exchange student with AYA, call Stella at (800) 322-4678, ext. 5164, or email aya.info@aifs.org. Visit AYA on the web at www.academyyear.org.

**Cancer Support Group Offered By Cancer Services Network**

Cancer Services Network will offer a six-week educational support group for those interested in learning to live beyond a diagnosis of cancer. Sessions are set for 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Thursdays beginning August 18, 2011 at the Hinds Square Classroom located at 100 Chestnut, Suite 112. Cancer Services Network is an agency of the United Way of Abilene.

This group is designed for patients, caregivers, family and friends affected by cancer in anyway. In a supportive and interactive environment, this group will focus on the practical, emotional and physical aspects of living with cancer. Topics will vary each week. Week 1: Telling your Story; Week 2: Dealing with Emotions, Thoughts and Feelings; Week 3: Using Spirituality to Cope with a Cancer Diagnosis; Week 4: Communicating with your Family and Loved Ones; Week 5: Communicating with your Medical Team; and Week 6: Coping with the Side Effects of Cancer Treatment.

Aimee Colley, LMSW, social worker at Cancer Services Network, will facilitate the groups. Colley has fourteen years' experience in the area of oncology. There is no charge associated with the support groups. Register by calling (325) 672-0040 or via e-mail acolley@cancerservicesnetwork.org. This program is made possible by a grant from the Discretionary Grant Cycle of the Community Foundation of Abilene.

Cancer Services Network is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that provides emotional and financial support to underserved cancer patients and their families in a 19-county area of West Central Texas, including: Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Taylor and Throckmorton.

**FREE Childhood Immunizations**

(Available for children 2 months to 18 years of age)

Sponsored by:

Abilene Care Van & Caring For Children Foundation of Texas

**Thursday, August 4<sup>th</sup>**

**5 pm - 7 pm**

**Medical Care Mission**

**1857 Pine, Abilene, TX**

\*Please bring your child's immunization record  
\*Child must be accompanied by parent or guardian  
\*VFC Eligible

For additional information please call  
2-1-1 Texas A Call for Help

**Abilene Care Van  
FREE Immunizations**

0 - 18 YEARS OF AGE, VFC Eligible

Thursday 08/04	Medical Care Mission 1857 Pine	5PM- 7PM
Thursday 08/18	Medical Care Mission 1857 Pine	5PM- 7PM
Thursday 09/01	Medical Care Mission 1857 Pine	5PM- 7PM
Thursday 09/15	Medical Care Mission 1857 Pine	5PM- 7PM
Thursday 10/06	Medical Care Mission 1857 Pine	5PM- 7PM
Thursday 11/3	Medical Care Mission 1857 Pine	5PM- 7PM
Thursday 12/01	Medical Care Mission 1857 Pine	5PM- 7PM

Please bring your child's immunization record.  
No appointment necessary.  
Child must be accompanied by parent or guardian.

For additional information please call:  
2-1-1 A Call For Help  
Or visit:  
www.carevan.org

**Texas Dairy Queen Operators' Council Donates \$33,834 To Shannon Stone Memorial Fund**

Monday, the Texas Dairy Queen Operators' Council announced it is donating \$33,834 to the Shannon Stone Memorial fund set up by the Texas Rangers after Stone's death Thursday. Stone, a Brownwood, Texas firefighter died July 7 after a fall from the left field stands at Rangers Ballpark in Arlington while attempting to catch a baseball for his 6-year-old son.

On Saturday, the TDQOC officials announced that they would donate \$1 for each person in attendance at Sunday's game between the Texas Rangers and the Oakland Athletics to help support Stone's family. The attendance at Sunday's game was 33,834.

"Like the rest of the country, we were extremely saddened by the accident that took Shannon Stone's life and wanted to do what we could to help Mr. Stone's family," said TDQOC President Larry Newell in a news release. "Dairy Queen, like the game of baseball, is a family destination and both are part of virtually every community in Texas. When something like this happens, the family needs the help of their community more than ever. As a Brownwood firefighter, Mr. Stone spent 18 years selflessly serving his community and as part of that extended community, we want to give something back to his family."

The Dairy Queen restaurants in Texas are represented by the Texas Dairy Queen Operators' Council, which includes approximately 200 franchisees who own nearly 600 restaurants throughout the state. The council provides guidance and support for the owners.

Local Dairy Queen owner Doris Richeson presently sits on the Texas Dairy Queen Operators' Council, and it is not her first term. In 1977, she became the first woman to serve on the council and, in the 1980s, her leadership marshaled enough strength, in true Texas fashion, to keep marketing dollars in Texas for a Texas advertising campaign, and the right to keep the TDQ food system, which is unlike that of the American Dairy Queen system.

Based in Graham, Texas, Richeson Management Corp. owns and operates 51 Dairy Queen locations across the state, which has a positive effect on all 48 city economies where the stores are located. Ms. Richeson's first storefront was purchased in 1969.

Seasonally, Richeson Dairy Queens employ up to 800 across the state. Richeson DQ's yearly grocery list consists of almost one million pounds of potatoes, half a million pounds of American beef and a quarter of a million gallons of dessert mix.

**Happenings At FBC!!!**

Released! By accepting Jesus as your Lord & Savior you receive the free gift of forgiveness, all your debts are cancelled, and His blood cleanses & removes your sin stains. You are released from the darkness of sin to walk in His Light. Praise God!

Mark your calendars:

**July 24th** - Brisket Lunch after 11am Worship Service - Youth Fund Raiser.

**July 25th thru 28th** - Mission Camp - Please pray for our kids & summer camps.

**July 31st** - 6pm - Fifth Sunday Singing at Kokomo Baptist Church.

Children's Sermon: Traci showed the children a bottle and asked what it was. They replied, "Sunscreen!" We wear sunscreen at the pool to protect our skin from being sunburned. The Bible is a lamp unto our feet and a light for our path so we may know right from wrong and be protected from sin. Reading God's Word is our "sunscreen for life".

Bro. Barry's Message: "Experiment With Jesus" - John 9:25 - "Mad Scientists" create things all the time from experimenting with different ideas. Is it possible for all of us to invent "something"? Many inventions were born in the state of Texas. When Bro. Barry was a little boy he put cards in his bicycle spokes to make noise and as a teenager he put a glass pack in his car to make louder noises. Bro. Barry picked at Glen Warren for "Engine Brakes". We have a tendency to remember noises. Think of the very first time someone told you about Jesus, the first time you were told of your Heavenly Father, and the first time you were told that Jesus died for your sins.

I. Test HIM. - We all come to know Jesus differently. God knows we are treading in treacherous & dangerous days. Seek the Lord and rest assured He is real.

II. Try HIM. - Put your trust in the Lord. Open up to feel His presence. Jesus healed a blind man's sight. Modern day miracles happen. May you know the will of God in your life.

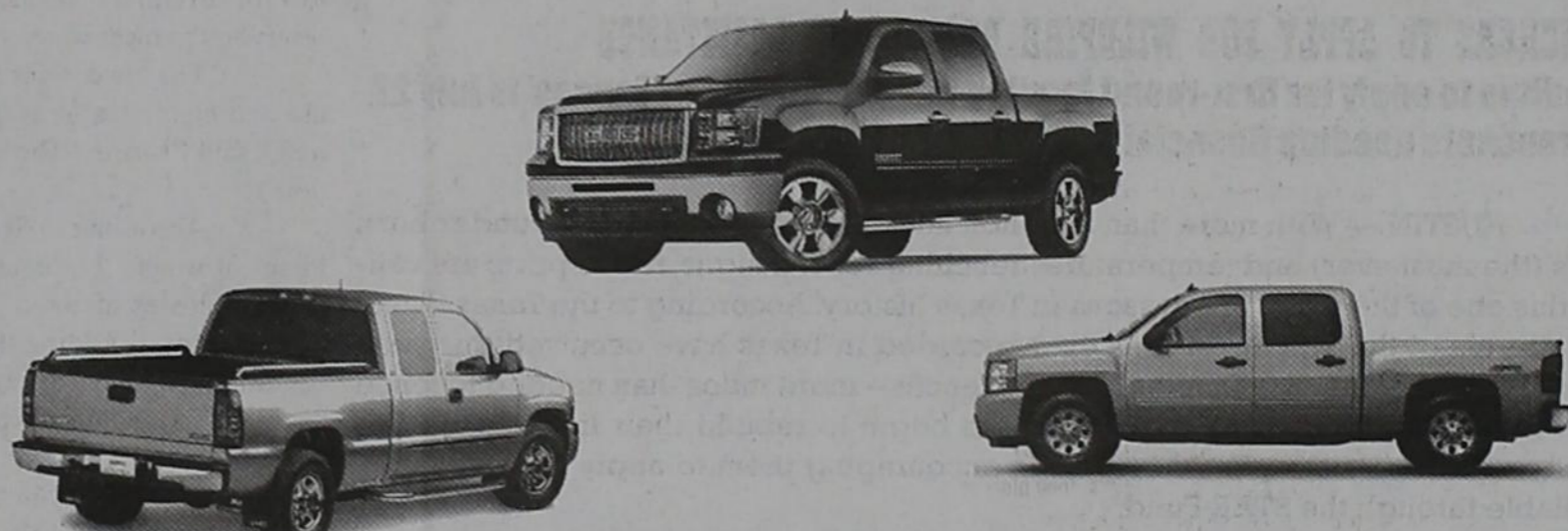
III. Taste and See HIM. - People see the Lord in Children of God that continue His Word today. Experience Christ! God is close, know Him personally, fellowship with Him, and get thick in a relationship with Him. God knows everything; He knows exactly what will happen now and next.

You Will Never Regret It! NEVER!!! Jesus will make a difference in your life - Only God can redeem us and renew us in Christ. Glory to God!

If you are reading this and you have not accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior please call Bro. Barry, ask Bro. Barry to talk with you about being saved or just ask him to pray with you, just call (254) 734-2420. Our Worship Service begins at 11:00AM on Sunday Morning - please come & join us! Remember: God loves you like no one else!  
Email: fbcgorman@hotmail.com

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# Desdemona News

By Vonnie Guthery

**Desdemona Monthly Musical** will be held on Saturday night, July 23rd at the Community Center. Concession Stand opens at 5:30 p.m. Serving sandwiches, homemade pies and drinks. All area musical groups are invited to attend. This is a "SMOKE FREE" environment and the admission is "FREE".

Virgil and Jo Holdman recently sold their home in Desdemona. They will be moving soon to Dallas to be near their son, Dale. Good Luck to this family.

**First Baptist Church** of Desdemona invite Visitors to attend on Sunday at 10 a.m. for Sunday School and 11 a.m. for the Morning Worship Service. Our pastor, Bro. Charlie Johnson and wife, Jana are doing a great job as leaders for Church services. They enjoy living in this Community and making friends with everyone.

Ila Mae (Hare) Bays passed away last week. Ila Mae and her brother, Loy Hare attended school in Desdemona.

Shirley Nicholson passed away last week. Burial was in the Jenkins Cemetery near Brownwood. Shirley and her husband, Ralph are former residents of Desdemona. He worked for Mobil Oil Co. in Desdemona.

Friends of Desdemona sends sympathy to these families.

**Desdemona Homecoming and School Reunion** will be held on Saturday, August 13, 2011 at the School Gym. Morning program begins at 10:00 a.m. Noon Meal will be catered. Ex-Students, Teachers and Friends are invited to attend. Mark your calendar for this date and make plans to attend. This annual affair began in 1921 and has continued thru the years except during World War II when tires and gasoline was rationed. Please contact this reporter at P. O. Box 187, Desdemona, Tx 76445 if you have a change of address. I Need This for the mailing list. Thank You.

Have A Nice Day, Vonnie

## USDA Reassures Farmers and Ranchers in States Affected by Extreme Weather

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) reminds farmers and ranchers in states across the country that USDA offers a variety of resources for those affected by recent extreme weather, including floods, drought, fires and tornadoes. USDA also urges producers in need or those with questions to contact their local county or state USDA Service Center or Farm Service Agency office for assistance. In a recent tour of flooding in Iowa and Nebraska, as well as droughts and wildfires in Arizona and New Mexico, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack promised farmers, ranchers and others that USDA would continue to work hard to deliver assistance to those in need.

"America's farmers and rural communities are vitally important to our nation's economy and our values, and my heart goes out to all who are facing hardships because of severe weather and natural disasters," said Vilsack. "In the past two months alone, I have visited with hundreds of Americans who have had to put their lives and livelihoods on hold to deal with floods, tornadoes, drought and wildfires. Since the beginning, I have instructed USDA staff in the affected states that our main priority must be to work with farmers, ranchers and others to explain the type of aid that is available. We will continue to listen to your concerns and, whenever possible, offer assistance to help you through these difficult times."

Heavy rainfall, snowmelt, and flood conditions have caused crop damage and slowed planting in many states. USDA's Risk Management Agency reminds producers faced with questions on prevented planting, replant, or crop losses to contact their crop insurance company for more information. Other types of USDA assistance available to those affected by flooding include the Emergency Loan Program and the Emergency Watershed Protection program.

USDA reminds producers affected by drought and fires that resources are available to cover losses, including losses to livestock, crops, orchard trees, and private forests. Types of USDA assistance to farmers and ranchers may include the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE), federal crop insurance, and the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program.

Through spring and summer, drought and wildfires have affected millions of acres of cropland, forests and grasslands in the United States. Drought conditions stretch from Arizona to the southern Atlantic States.

USDA continues working with state and local officials, as well as our federal partners, to make sure people have the necessary resources to recover from these challenges.

To learn more about USDA's disaster assistance, please visit [http://www.usda.gov/Emergency\\_Preparedness\\_and\\_Response.html](http://www.usda.gov/Emergency_Preparedness_and_Response.html).

## COMMISSIONER STAPLES AND DOZENS OF STAR FUND DONORS ENCOURAGE RANCHERS TO APPLY FOR WILDFIRE REBUILDING ASSISTANCE

### Deadline to apply for first-round funding for 'Operation New Fences' is July 22 for ranchers needing financial assistance to rebuild fences

AUSTIN — With more than 3 million acres burned, 242 counties under burn bans (the most ever) and temperatures reaching record highs, fire experts are calling this one of the worst fire seasons in Texas history. According to the Texas Forest Service, six of the 10 largest fires ever recorded in Texas have occurred this year, scorching more than 5,000 miles of ranch fences — more miles than needed to fence the entire perimeter of Texas. As ranchers begin to rebuild their lives, Texas Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples is encouraging them to apply for assistance available through the STAR Fund.

"Texans are suffering through one of the worst wildfire seasons on record and are struggling to rebuild from unprecedented devastation," Commissioner Staples said. "The acreage ravaged by these fires equals more than the combined areas of Delaware, Rhode Island, Washington D.C. and one-third of Connecticut. Our farmers and ranchers are losing their livelihoods, and ultimately, all Americans will suffer through increased food prices. Texans help their neighbors in need, and now is the time to assist families in rebuilding their lives and the farming and ranching operations on which we all rely."

To start the rebuilding effort, the Texas Department of Agriculture is now accepting applications for the STAR Fund. The fund was created solely with monetary donations from private individuals and companies to help ranchers rebuild fences through an initiative created by Commissioner Staples called, "Operation New Fences." McCoy's Building Supply generously donated the first \$20,000.

"We have a deep connection to West Texas — as ranch owners, and as we serve the farm and ranch community at McCoy's Building Supply," said Brian McCoy, president and CEO of McCoy's Building Supply. "The devastation of these fires is tremendous, but in the true spirit of Texas, we will recover together. We're grateful to be a small part of the large work that is to be done."

Additionally, Valero Energy Corporation donated \$10,000. Thanks to these generous contributions and donations from Texans across the state, those approved for STAR Fund assistance may be awarded a voucher for fencing supplies worth up to \$500 (exact voucher values will be determined based on the number of eligible producers applying).

"Texas ranchers have taken a huge economic hit due to the ongoing wildfires," said Joe Parker Jr., rancher and president of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association. "The cost of rebuilding fences has soared to over \$50 million, and that number keeps going up as wildfires continue to burn. Thankfully, some relief is in sight through TDA's STAR Fund and the generous private donations of Texans across the state. If you're a rancher who's been devastated by these wildfires, now is the time to apply for these resources."

STAR Fund applications may be downloaded at [www.TexasAgriculture.gov](http://www.TexasAgriculture.gov). To be eligible, applicants must have applied for federal assistance through the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) and submit the ECP 848A form with their application. Applications will also be available at local AgriLife Extension offices in counties that are eligible for ECP funding. All applications must be mailed to TDA and postmarked by July 22, 2011.

Wildfires are still burning in Texas, and the impact to ranchers is not over. A second round of funding is planned and needed in the fall to help additional farmers and ranchers impacted by on-going wildfires. To make a donation to the STAR Fund, or for more information, visit [www.TexasAgriculture.gov](http://www.TexasAgriculture.gov) and click on STAR Fund. Ranchers may also call (512) 475-1615.

## USDA Deadline to Apply for SURE Crop Disaster Benefits is July 29

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) announces that the deadline to apply for assistance for 2009 crop losses under the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) program is July 29, 2011.

The SURE program compensates producers for production and/or quality losses during times of disaster. All producers who have experienced crop production and/or crop quality losses must apply for SURE program benefits by the deadline.

To meet program eligibility requirements, the farming operation must be physically located in a county that was declared a primary or contiguous disaster county by the Secretary of Agriculture under a 2009 Secretarial Disaster Designation.

Producers located in designated disaster counties must have suffered at least a 10 percent loss on a crop of economic significance and purchased crop insurance through the Federal Crop Insurance Act or the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP).

However, an operation located in a county that did not receive a primary or contiguous disaster designation, can still qualify for SURE benefits if the actual farm production was less than 50 percent of the normal production on the farm due to a qualifying disaster event.

Producers and legal entities collectively cannot, directly or indirectly, receive more than \$100,000 in SURE and other FSA disaster assistance payments. FSA disaster programs include SURE, Livestock Forage Program (LFP), Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), and Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-raised Fish (ELAP).

Producers or legal entities, whose nonfarm income is more than \$500,000, are not eligible for SURE program payments.

For questions regarding the SURE program, please contact the Eastland County FSA office at 254-629-1636 extension 2.

## Homestead Happenings

Last Thursday was Shake & Make Ice cream day. Everyone had fun shaking their own ice cream. Thanks to Jana Grice, Jordan and Weldon Scitern for their help. On Friday we had watermelon slicing. Everyone agreed that the best tasting watermelons were the ones you stole and ate right in the field.

On Monday we held our monthly birthday party following Monday afternoon Singing. Those having birthday in July are: Harry Lynch on the 11th, Troy Scitern on the 22nd and Frankie Stacy on the 25th. Amy Wood did a fantastic job on the cake as usual. Thanks Amy.

Tuesday was remember the 1950's day. Everyone was encouraged to wear a '50's outfit. That afternoon we had a sock hop with some great songs from the '50's followed by good ole coke floats.

On Thursday we will be doing some baking, come join us and see "what's cooking".

Carolyn Little visited with Nell McAnally, Rozell Caraway and Leta Hogan. Dillon Huse of Troup visited Sue Simmons, Earl Taylor, of Bellmead, Jerry and Sylvia Shugart of Clovis N.M., Kenny Welch, Faye Faulk, Deana and Lanie Scitern, Johnny Smith, Jordan and Weldon Scitern, B.E. Simpson, and Wilburn Overstreet visited Edgar Reynolds.

Wilburn also visited Ima Brown, and Melvin Daniels. James and Mary Jesse of Ft. Worth visited T.D. Whitehorn. Jana Grice visited Ima Brown. Visiting Rozell Caraway were Bo Caraway, Kathy Scitern, Jordan and Weldon Scitern, and Deana and Lanie Scitern.

Maxine Huddleston visited Frankie Stacy. Visiting Sunny Kellogg were Tacy Warren and Frances and B.E. Simpson. Visiting Mary Kirk were Pat & Sarah Baze of Dublin, Karen Kirk, Mary Reeves and Caro Boswell. Visiting Troy Scitern were Tommy and LaVern Carr of Whitney and Jordan and Weldon Scitern.

Pray for Rain

## Hydrologists Advise Residents To Expect Lower Lake Levels

According to the National Weather Service, Texas is currently experiencing one of the worst droughts in recorded history. The US Drought Monitor classified about 70 percent of the state and most of the Brazos River basin as being in "exceptional" drought conditions as of June 29. This is the most severe category on the scale.

For most of the State of Texas, the drought of record occurred in the 1950's following several consecutive years of drought conditions. While many areas of the state are expected to surpass record drought levels this summer, Brazos River Authority hydrologists are advising that if current conditions persist residents should expect decreased river flows and lower lake levels.

"Though the current water supply in the Brazos River Authority system is at 82 percent, the exceptional drought conditions that began last fall are starting to take a toll on water supplies throughout the basin," said Brad Brunett, Authority Water Services manager. Most areas are anywhere from 12 to 20+ inches below normal rainfall for the period from October 2010 through June 2011.

"With the extremely dry conditions, the amount of water flowing in the river has been very low for several months now," said Brunett. "We have been releasing water from most of our system reservoirs to meet water supply needs throughout the basin," Brunett said.

The lower river flows and lake levels are due, not only to a lack of rain, but increased water use and high rates of evaporation. "We've seen unusually high temperatures for this time of summer," said Brunett. "The extremely windy conditions have also added to very high rates of evaporation."

According to Senior Hydrologist Chris Higgins, weather conditions have resulted in large losses of water. "For example, on Lake Granbury the hot, windy days with low humidity have resulted in losses of about 300 acre-feet in one day which is about a 1/2 inch drop in the lake level," said Higgins. "Adding these high evaporation rates to increased water use and extended drought conditions, we have to expect water levels will drop."

To put this into perspective, 300 acre-feet of evaporation lost equals 97.8 million gallons of water or:

- § 148 Olympic-sized swimming pools,
- § 1.96 million bath tubs full of water,
- § 61.09 million toilet flushes or
- § 4.88 million loads of laundry.

As reservoir levels drop, the Authority cautions that boat docks and ramps may become unusable. For those with docks, consider removing your boat from the water to dry dock and utilize boat ramps where available. Boat ramp closings will be posted on the Authority web site as they occur. For questions, call 888-922-6272.

Additional information and graphics are available at <http://www.brazos.org/DroughtStatus.asp>

## USDA-FSA to Host Four Webinars on Hispanic and Women Farmer and Rancher Claims Process

(COLLEGE STATION, TX) — June 23, 2011 — USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Executive Director Juan M. Garcia today announced four webinars (internet-based virtual meeting) to discuss the USDA Hispanic and Women Farmer and Rancher Settlement Claims Process and current FSA loan programs. These webinars are scheduled for June 30th, July 14th, July 28th and August 11th at 7:00 PM.

On February 25, 2011, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and Department of Justice Assistant Attorney General Tony West announced a process created to resolve the claims of Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who assert they faced discrimination when seeking USDA farm loans during certain periods between years 1981 and 2000. The optional claims process offers a streamlined alternative to litigation and provides at least \$1.33 billion in compensation, plus up to \$160 million in farm debt relief, to eligible Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers.

The interactive webinars will provide an overview of the USDA Hispanic and Women Farmer and Rancher Claims Process as well as FSA farm loan program updates. Farm loan program topics to be discussed include interest rates, terms, and eligibility and security requirements.

"I encourage producers who want more information about the claims process or about FSA farm loan programs to register for one of these webinars," said Garcia. "The webinars are free and open to the first 100 participants who register," he said.

Garcia emphasizes that these webinars are intended as forums to discuss the general plan for the claims process and FSA webinar hosts will not be able to discuss the details of any individual claim during the course of the webinars.

To view the webinar schedule and register, please go to [www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA\\_File/tx\\_hwwebinar\\_2011.pdf](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/tx_hwwebinar_2011.pdf).

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