



The Gatesville MESSSENGER

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& STAR-FORUM

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'Life-long' book lover gets library named after her

It was a fitting tribute for "a life-long" lover of books to have a library named in her honor.

Cindy Venable, 53, Gatesville Junior High School's recently retired principal, said of the naming of the library: "I am humbled, thankful and so grateful for everything the district has done for me and continues to do. Thank you so much."

The Gatesville Independent School District Board of Trustees unanimously approved June 21 the renaming of the school's library as

the Cindy Venable Library. Gatesville ISD superintendent, Barrett Pollard made the recommendation to rename the library in Venable's honor.

"Cindy has had a life-long love of books. Many of her reading skills came from a subscription to the Dr. Seuss Book-of-the-Month Club at an early age," said Charles Ament, a GISD colleague. "To see middle school kids loving the new library warms her heart."

Venable is retiring because of



CINDY VENABLE

health reasons. In 1997, a year before she officially joined the teaching ranks of the GISD, she first received the news that she had cancer. She battled her affliction, enduring surgery and treatments. Her fight inspired many in Gatesville to join in the annual Relay for Life benefit events.

This did not stop Venable from continuing to indulge her love of educating young minds. She was named "Teacher of the Month" in October of 2004.

"She has played an important role in the continued improvement of student performance as a classroom teacher and as an instructional leader," said Gatesville Elementary principal Pam Bone at the time.

Six years later, she was named assistant principal at the junior high school in 2010 — then principal two years later.

"(Venables) exemplifies the saying that Hornet Fight Never Dies,"

Please see LIBRARY, P. 10



Photo by Sabrina Anderson

Painting the town

Gatesville artist Niki Foster colors in an image projected on the side of a building in downtown Gatesville. Once finished, the mural will feature the Coryell County Courthouse along with a sentiment to the owner of the building.

Local artist creates murals around town

By Sabrina Anderson
Messenger News Reporter

Longtime resident of Gatesville Niki Foster is making the town beautiful one mural at a time.

Foster began painting as a young child and has only grown to be more passionate about the hobby since

then. She enjoys a wide variety of painting, such as canvas and mural painting, but says her favorite type of art to create is abstract.

Recently, she has painted a large mural on the side wall of the vacant building at the corner of E. Main

Please see MURAL, P. 10

Looking to view a fireworks display this weekend?

The City of Gatesville's annual Independence Day Fireworks display is Sunday — with the show starting just after dark.

Fireworks will be set off around Gatesville I.S.D., and will be visible from several parking areas. Seating is also available at McKamie Stadium.

The event is free.

Spectators are reminded to not move any barricades near parking lots and to not park in any of the construction areas around the high school.

A digitized legacy for retiring county clerk

Barbara Simpson's legacy as Coryell County Clerk will be the digitized files in the office — an accomplishment Simpson is most proud of.

"When I took office, there were no computers in this office and nothing had been digitized," she said, reflecting on her 28 years on the job. "I started digitizing (files) in 1993. Today, anybody in this office can look up what they need, and I think that is probably my best accomplishment for the future."

Simpson was honored in the County Commissioners' courtroom at the Coryell County Annex with her husband, Ray, and their daughters, Mickie, Marcie and Martie in attendance. Her work in Gatesville was the talk at the reception.

When she first arrived in Gatesville in 1975, she immediately sought out community service work — being a Sunday School teacher, Girl Scout leader and a member of the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce Board.

She has also been credited for

starting the Gatesville Senior Center and was the director of the facility until 1980.

"(Barbara) enjoys being associated with people of all ages and cultures. She is a highly motivated individual," her husband, Ray, said of her work with the senior center.

She became the county clerk in 1993.

"It's a learning curve when you take one of these offices," she said. She did make an impression on her staff: "I will forever be grateful that she approached me to come work for her twenty-three years ago. She has not only been a great boss to me, but she and her family have treated me like one of their own," said Coryell County District Clerk, Becky Moore.

Simpson took the accolades in stride.

"Everything I have done has been a pleasure to do," Simpson said. "When you walk away, you

Please see SIMPSON, P. 10



Photo by David Scott

Token of appreciation

Trent Farrell, 52nd District Judge, presents Coryell County Clerk Barbara Simpson, with a plaque to express the county's appreciation for her 28 years of service to the county. Simpson retired on Friday.

Q&A

Corner:

Q: What was the name of the newspaper that published the Declaration of Independence?

A: The Pennsylvania Evening Post

Write, call or e-mail your question to
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County-wide

Revival season is upon us at Pearl Church of Christ

The Pearl Church of Christ, located at 6790 FM 183 in Pearl, will be having a revival on Saturday, July 10 at 7 p.m., featuring Roy Harris as the revival speaker.

Following the service, homemade ice cream and snacks will be served.

On Sunday, July 11 at 10:30 a.m., the revival speaker will be Chris Halpayne.

The service will be followed by a brunch.

The Pearl Church of Christ was established in 1895 and summer revivals were always a part of their ministry.

Many of the descendants of the church moved to Pearl during the Fort Hood Displacement in the 1940s. Most came from the Eliga and Stampede communities with surnames including Graham, Gartman, Thomas, White and Wilkinson - most of which attended the Eliga Church of Christ.

They held their summer revivals under a tent between the church and Cowhouse Creek. Early revivals at the Pearl Church of Christ were held under the Cedar arbors which was typical for the small country churches.

In 1904, the Pearl Church of Christ Tabernacle was built and became the home of their revivals.

The tabernacle has recently served as an outdoor church during the pandemic and has, since 1991, been the home of the church's Vacation Bible School each summer.



Courtesy Photo

"Lion of the Year"

The Gatesville Lions Club recently named Oliver Puhr as the "Lion of the Year." Club members have described Puhr as being a kind and encouraging person who has volunteered to lead and participate in multiple projects. Pictured above left is Oliver Puhr with out-going Lions Club president, Kent Scott.

Clawson clan to gather for 92nd reunion

The descendants of Nathaniel Clawson will gather at Faunt LeRoy Park in Gatesville July 8-11 to celebrate their 92nd Annual Family Reunion.

The festivities will begin Thursday evening with the Gayle Clawson Memorial Fish Fry. Hamburgers and reunion fries will be

served Friday. Saturday will be filled with water activities for young and old, along with a lot of visiting to catch up on all we have missed the past year. The Saturday evening meal will either be catered or potluck.

The family encourages you to bring your lawn chair and join us for any or all ac-

tivities and meals. Historical scrapbooks and photos will be on hand for all to enjoy.

Following COVID protocols of social distancing and wearing of masks is encouraged for anyone feeling more comfortable doing so. Bring your own individual meal if you prefer. All plans for 2021 are subject to change.



Photo by David Scott

New roadside sign for Coryell Health

Those driving on West Main Street may have noticed a change on the grounds of Coryell Health. A new and large display sign was recently installed so that visitors and patients will know where to turn to visit the emergency room, hospital and clinics.

CTHH opens facility for day visitors

The Central Texas Hospitality House announces the opening of their facilities for day visitors only which began on June 18. Hours will be noon to 6 p.m. Friday and 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Families visiting their loved ones in prison may come to the CTHH to rest and relax before or after their visit. Soft drinks and snacks will be provided free

of charge.

Their first visitor since re-opening on June 18 had driven from Brownsville - a six hour drive.

Overnight lodging will be available for visitors when the wardens restore the Special Visits, which allow two consecutive days with four hour visits.

CTHH provides hope and encouragement for families visiting their loved ones. No

funds are received from any governmental entities, local, state or federal. CTHH is funded by churches, businesses and individuals that share their vision. They are always looking for volunteers.

The Central Texas Hospitality House is located at 708 Hwy. 36 West in Gatesville. For more information, call 254-404-2260 or visit: www.cthhouse.org

Wishing you a safe and Happy July 4th

Come see Jesse Barron and friends!

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CENTRAL TEXAS HOSPITALITY HOUSE WELCOMES NEW MANAGING DIRECTORS – CONLEY AND NANCY BROWN

Conley and Nancy are not strangers to Gatesville. Conley was Head Boys' Track Coach and Assistant Football Coach in 1976 and 1977. Nancy, a Registered Nurse, chose to stay at home until their children were in school.

"The Browns have wonderful qualifications for the mission at Central Texas Hospitality House. It is a mission station, welcoming visitors from all over the world. The Browns have been missionaries most of their lives."

– CTHH chairperson Kay McCleary

After successful professional careers, they served in Agape Force Street Ministries. Conley, principal of a Christian school and Nancy served as a teacher. They also served in foster care for boys for 10 years and an orphanage in Sudan. The Browns were home parents at Father Heart Maternity Home and also house parents for sex trafficked minors and adult women. They served in Lifeway Haven, which trains women coming out of prison in life skills to live and work in the free world.

Conley and Nancy will commute to Gatesville from Huntsville, their home for the last 7 years. They have 8 children.

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Central Texas Hospitality House offers free lodging and food to families visiting their loved ones incarcerated in the Central Texas prison system. No funds are received from any governmental entities, local, state or federal. CTHH is funded by churches, businesses, and individuals that share our vision.

News from Pearl

By Betsy Clark



Update to the continuing saga of “The Young and the Rest of Us—and The Rest of Us Are in Pearl.” Now that Kay Prueitt has developed a liking for her new bikini the size of a pair of sunglasses, her dog named Pearl has developed a psychosis which is characterized by a propensity to run and hide under the nearest bed whenever her mistress, Kay, puts on the tiny garment and goes to her nearby pool aka the creek. This poor dog is traumatized, and her best friend and neighbor, Woodrow, can be heard for miles around sympathizing with his dear friend. I am a witness to Woodrow’s sympathetic howls which could be heard in stereophonic sound while I was working at the church last week. I knew instantly what was happening—Kay had on that blasted bathing suit and was either sunbathing or floating in the (um) pool. Heartbreaking. Will the person responsible for gifting Kay that crazy bikini please come forward and remove that horrifying garment from Kay’s possession? Pearl—the community and the dog--and Coleen and Randall (because of Woodrow’s great concern for his friend which he loudly laments), need help. Kay is out of control!! L. R., are you listening? Russell and Michelle, can’t you do anything with your mother? (Kay “affectionately” told me that if I write anymore about this, that I would be a “D. P.” Dead possum? Who knows! I’m not really scared (maybe a little!!).

In other news, this is the last call for everyone to come to Pearl for the monthly Bluegrass event! Give yourselves a break and come on down

(or up) to Pearl on Saturday, July 3rd! The free stage show begins at 1 p.m. in the Pearl Community Center auditorium. Kicking off the show will be “Pocket Change,” followed by House Arrest (2 p.m.), Bosque River (3 p.m.), Salt Kreek (4 p.m.), and finishing with “A Pearl Jam” at 5 p.m. The last event, coordinated by Anji Pearl Day, will include any pickers who want to jam on the stage for all to see and hear. This is a new addition to the Bluegrass Day and should be great fun. The show will close with the Pearl Jammers playing Amazing Grace. Remember, the doors open at 7 a.m. for all pickers and grinders. The Kitchen opens at 11 a.m. and closes at 5 p.m. I highly recommend everything on the menu in the kitchen—especially the PIE!! For more information about the stage line-up, please call Anji at (325) 665-7996. It’s gonna be fun!!

Saturday, July 3rd, is also Pearl Cottage Bookstore day!! The cottage is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The store has over 6,000 used hardback and paperback books along with various and sundry other items which have been donated to the cottage. Most purchases are by donation—buy what you want, pay what you want. No price tags to bother with here! All proceeds go to benefit local charities. The Book Cottage is a friendly place to shop, visit, and laugh!! Kay, Linda, and Corlisa operate the friendliest charity house in Texas!!

The next Pearl Community Center Board meeting is July 19th at 6:30 p.m., and the next Pearl Cemetery Board Meeting is June 28th at 7 p.m. Both are held at the

Pearl Community Center, and all are welcome to attend.

The three churches in Pearl invite everyone to attend any of their services. Pearl Community Church meets in their building at 9 a.m., Pearl Baptist Church meets under their tabernacle at 10 a.m., and Pearl Church of Christ meets at 10:30 a.m. in their building.

Mark your calendars for July 10th and 11th for the annual Pearl Church of Christ Revival. The service begins at 7 p.m. on Saturday evening with Roy Harris as the speaker, and there will be an ice cream supper following the service. Sunday, the speaker will be Chris Halpayne, and a brunch will follow that service. Everyone is invited to attend, and there is always plenty of food!

The closing verse for this week comes from Isaiah 40: 28-30: Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; His understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might He increases strength. ESV

To keep up with the latest Pearl news online, you can go to the “Pearl Cottage Bookstore” Facebook page, the “Pearl Community Center” Facebook page, or the “Pearl Church of Christ” Facebook page. The Pearl Community Center also has a website: www.pearltxcommunitycenter.com. Or you can contact me at betsyclarke47@yahoo.com for information or to submit any Pearl news that you might have.

Fourth of July events...

Independence Day Bash

The First United Methodist Church will be having a “4th of July Bash” on Sunday July 4, from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m.

The public is invited to join church members in the field by the church’s garage. There will be a free bounce house with slides, obstacle courses, ice cold watermelon,

bottled water and much more.

Some seating and tables will be provided, but those attending are encouraged to bring lawn chairs.

First United Methodist Church is located at 2600 E. Main Street. For more information about the event, call 254-865-2520.



Reading of Declaration of Independence

On Friday, July 2, at 10 a.m., local members of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association will sponsor a reading of the United States Declaration of Independence. This will take

place in the 52nd District Courtroom in the Coryell County Courthouse.

Local TCDLA members participating in the reading will include Allen Place, Paul Harrell, Janet Prueitt, Shea

Place and Greg Simmons.

The public is invited to attend this reading celebrating our country. For more information or if there are any questions, please call 254-865-8475.

Grace Bible Church to host Independence Day celebration

Grace Bible Church will be hosting an Independence Day celebration on Saturday, July 3 from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m.

BBQ sandwiches, hot dogs, drinks and desserts will be served until 8:30 p.m.

For the kids, there will be inflatables, games, Bingo, train rides, corn cannon and music. Everything is free and everyone is welcome to attend..

Grace Bible Church is located at 4012 US Hwy. 84. For more information, please call 254-248-0053.

Ringling in Independence Day

The VFW Post 8577 is inviting everyone for an open house on July 4th from noon-5 p.m.

The post is celebrating Independence Day and serving brisket, sausage and chicken, potato salad, macaroni salad

and baked beans.

Food will be served at noon following an 11 a.m. traditional bell ringing ceremony in the parking lot.

The VFW Post is located at 1509 Golf Course Road in Gatesville.

Exchange Club to give kids flags

The Exchange Club of Gatesville GIVEAKI-DAFLAG project will take place on Sunday, July 4 prior to the fireworks display.

Because of July 4 falling on a Sunday this year, the Exchange Club will not host a Veteran’s Breakfast. A Veteran’s Breakfast will resume in November on Veteran’s Day.

The Exchange Club of

Gatesville would like to thank all veterans, active duty military and their families for their devoted service to the United States.



New Dialing procedures for Texas customers in 254 area code

10-digit dialing instituted to facilitate access to National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

Austin-- Texans with phone numbers in the 254, 361, 409, 806, 830, 915 and 940 area codes now need to dial 10-digits (area code + telephone number) for all local calls.

On July 16, 2020, the Federal Communications Commission issued an order, FCC 20-100, approving 988 as the three-digit abbreviated dialing code for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

The order requires all telecommunications providers, including telecommunications carriers, interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) providers, and one-way VoIP providers (covered providers), to make any network changes necessary to ensure 988 access by July 16, 2022.

Several Texas area codes (254, 361, 409, 806, 830, 915 and 940) have numbers with a 988 prefix. Therefore, those areas must transition from seven-digit to 10-digit local dialing. (Areas shown in yellow on this map are not affected by this change.)

Saturday, April 24, 2021 marked the beginning of a “permissive dialing period” in which callers in those area codes can still complete a call with seven-digit dialing.

When that period expires on Oct. 24, only calls dialed with ten digits will be connected.

After the permissive dial-

ing period, local calls dialed with only seven digits will reach a recording prompting them to hang up and dial again using both the area code with the seven-digit telephone number.

Important safety and security equipment, such as medical alert devices, and alarm and security systems must be programmed to use 10-digit dialing.

Many systems operate on 10-digit dialing by default, but some older equip-

ment may still use seven-digits.

Contact your medical alert or security provider if you are not sure whether your equipment needs to be reprogrammed to accommodate the upcoming change to 10-digit local dialing.

Any needed reprogramming of alarm and home security equipment must be done during the permissive dialing period from April 24 to Oct. 24 to avoid interruption of those services.



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City of Gatesville

4TH OF JULY

Fireworks Show

Sunday, July 4, 2021

Begins at Dark (around 9:30 pm)

The fireworks will be set off in the vicinity of Gatesville I.S.D. and will be visible from multiple parking areas.

Seating is also available in McKamie Stadium bleachers (no access to field)

Do not move any barricades or park in any of the construction areas around the high school.

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Sports



Gatesville hosts baseball camp

Gatesville ISD has a busy schedule of sports camps set. This week it was baseball for the first through ninth graders at Ryan Powell Memorial Park.

Coach Chase Smith ran the camp with the help of Hornets varsity players.

Wrestling will hold a camp July 21-23 for incoming first through eighth graders. Cost is \$40.

Contact Robert Clater, Jr. (254) 339-7033.

Volleyball will hold a camp July 26-28 for incoming first through ninth graders at Sydney L. Pruitt Gymnasium. Sessions are 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$40.

Contact: coach Janey Weber at (254) 216-2976.

Football will hold a camp for seventh through ninth graders from July 26-28 at Tommy Davidson Field. Cost is \$40.

Contact: coach Luke Howard at (254) 679-9061.

Tennis will hold a camp July 29-31 at the GHS tennis courts for kindergarten-ninth graders. Sessions are 2-4 p.m. on the 29th and from 8-10 a.m. on the 30th and 31st.

Contact: coach Wendell Jones at (254) 258-2585.



Photo by Mark Goodson



Photo by Mark Goodson

First grade work

First grader Jagger Newman was quick with reactions in a drill run by Hornet head baseball coach Chase Smith.

Bear concentration

Bear Hodges works on his hand-eye coordination in an early drill Monday at the Gatesville baseball camp. Hodges is a first grader. The camp runs this week at the high school field. More than 50 campers showed for Monday's first session of fundamentals. Some of the Hornets' high school players helped work the camp.

Gatesville workouts

Gatesville athletes are encouraged to attend respective speed and strength workouts throughout the summer.

Following are upcoming times:

Speed and strength workouts

High School: Monday through Thursday - 9th-12th graders 7-8:30 a.m.

Junior High: Monday through Thursday - 7th-8th graders 8:45-10:15 a.m.

Sport-specific skill workouts

Football (stadium): Monday Wednesday - 7th-8th graders 8-8:45 a.m., 9th-12th graders 8:45-9:45 a.m.

Volleyball: Tuesday

-Wednesday 7th-8th graders 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.; 9th-12th graders, 8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m.

Baseball: Tuesday and Thursday - 7th-8th graders 8:00-8:45 a.m., 9th-12th graders 8:45-9:45 a.m.

Cross Country: Tuesday and Thursday - 9 a.m.

Football: Monday and Wednesday - 7th-8th grad-

ers 8:00-8:45 a.m., 9th-12th graders 8:45-9:45 a.m.

Softball: Monday - 7th-12th graders 10:30 a.m. to noon.



Gatesville Hornets

Gatesville Hornets football 2021

Date	Opponent	Time
Friday, Aug. 13	@ McGregor scrimmage	7:15 p.m.
Thursday, Aug. 19	Fairfield scrimmage	6:15 p.m.
Friday, Aug. 27	Llano	7:30 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 3	@ Glen Rose	7 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 10	@ Lorena	7:30 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 17	@ Hillsboro	7:30 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 24	Lampasas	7:30 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 1	bye	
Friday, Oct. 8	Salado*	7:30 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 15	China Spring*	7:30 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 22	@ Robinson*	7:30 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 29	Connally*	7:30 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 5	@ Jarrell*	7:30 p.m.

* denotes District 9-4A, Div. II games

Hornets freshmen/JV

Gatesville Hornets freshmen/JV football 2021

Date	Opponent	Time
Friday, Aug. 13	@ McGregor scrimmage	6 p.m.
Thursday, Aug. 19	Fairfield scrimmage	5 p.m.
Thursday, Aug. 26	@ Llano	5/6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 2	Glen Rose	5/6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 9	Lorena	5/6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 16	Hillsboro	5/6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 23	@ Lampasas	5/6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 29	bye	
Thursday, Oct. 7	@ Salado*	5/6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 14	@ China Spring*	5/6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 21	Robinson*	5/6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 28	@ Connally*	5/6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 4	Jarrell*	5/6:30 p.m.

* denotes District 9-4A, Div. II games

Jonesboro Eagles

Jonesboro Eagles 2021

Date	Opponent	Time
Thursday, Aug. 12	St. Jo	5 p.m.
Thursday, Aug. 19	@ May	6 p.m.
Friday, Aug. 27	Coolidge	7:30 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 3	@ Perrin Whitt	7:30 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 10	JCCA	7 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 17	Blum	7 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 24	@ Milford	7:30 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 30	Turkey Valley @ Trent	5 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 8	bye	
Friday, Oct. 15	bye	
Friday, Oct. 22	Zephyr*	7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 29	Lometa*	7 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 5	@ Evant*	7 p.m.

* denotes District 15-1A division games

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Courtesy photo

Wonder wall

Local artist, Niki Foster, makes progress on the mural she is painting on a building at the corner of Main and 6th streets, near the Coryell County square.

library...

continued from Page One

Pollard told the board of trustees. Venable, born and raised in Gatesville, is often described by friends as adventurous and whose life “exemplifies one of strong faith, love and integrity,” said Gatesville Primary School Principal Mashara Streater. Streater points out her friend’s penchant for travel, including excursions to Japan, New York, San Francisco, Chicago, Las Vegas and New Orleans. She has gone rafting and zip lining in Costa Rica, she said. “(She is) one of the most fun-loving and adventurous people I know,” Streater added.

Simpson...

continued from Page One

need to walk away.” She is walking away after perhaps one of the hardest years in memory. “I don’t remember a year in my life like 2020 — nothing like the pandemic — it closed us all up and there’s a good part of that as well as a bad part,” she said. “I know that I reflected a lot more when I couldn’t go anywhere or do anything.”

Homestead fair draws in crowd

The City of Gatesville and Keep Gatesville Beautiful hosted a successful Homestead Fair on Saturday at Gatesville’s Freedom Park.

Vendors who sell or trade home-grown or home-produced items in accordance with the homesteading theme were invited to set up for free.

For more information about the Homestead Fair, call Cheri Shepherd at 254-499-0102.

Pictured right: Lonny Clyde Ayres provided entertainment for the crowd at the homestead fair.

The photo below shows vendors and shoppers taking advantage of the shaded area of Freedom Park. Photos by Mark Goodson.



mural...

continued from Page One

Street and N. 6th Street on the square. The mural features the Coryell County Courthouse, various florals and a pickup truck that belonged to the owner of the building, Randy Hitt’s, brother.

“I wanted Gatesville to have something that you could stop and take a picture of and let everyone know where you’ve been,” said Foster. “We have a great, beautiful downtown, and I’ve kinda always hoped that I could help beautify and make Gatesville have that.”

Foster said this opportunity to show her work and leave her mark in the town she was raised in is one of the best feelings, and she couldn’t be more excited. As a part-time artist, Foster also said it’s difficult to get the chance to publicly show her work and inspiration.

“I want to encourage people to take care of what we have,” said Foster. “We have an awesome town. We just need to get inspired and freshen it up a little.”

Foster also has other mu-

rals located at the Gatesville Primary School and for the business she works full-time at, Blackacre Title Company at the Gatesville and Waco locations. She plans to complete several other murals over the next year around the town and is excited to take on these future projects to help bring in visitors.

For more information or questions about her paintings and murals, you can visit her Facebook page, Wonderwall Mural Art.

Cove man sentenced to life in prison for child sex abuse

A Coryell County jury found Francis Jarad Cola, 44, of Copperas Cove, guilty of sexually abusing children June 24.

Cola was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

In August of 2019, the

Texas Department of Family and Protective Services and the Copperas Cove Police Department investigated a complaint that Cola was sexually abusing two children. He was arrested in December.

Prosecutors said the abuse lasted for months.



FRANCIS JARAD COLA

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