



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

WEDNESDAY | August 11, 2021

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Q&A WITH BILL PARRY

Gatesville city manager talks budget

It's budget season in Coryell County and Gatesville City Manager Bill Parry is working hard to ensure a balanced budget. The Messenger emailed three budget questions to Parry on Aug. 5. Here are his responses:

QUESTION: We are getting close to the Council approving next year's budget. How has the process gone? What has been the biggest challenge?

ANSWER: Preparing for the fiscal year 2022 budget has been more challenging than in the past, primarily because of the impacts of Senate Bill 2 which constrains a rural community's ability to set a tax rate that is sufficient to provide a level of service our residents deserve, and accelerating the budget approval process by six weeks. If the Legislature's intention was to reign in double-digit valuation increases in cities along the I-35 corridor with SB 2, it has certainly impacted small cities like Gatesville, where valuations have increased annu-



Parry

PLEASE SEE CITY | 3

INSIDE TENNIS STAR WINS TOUGH MATCH



MARK GOODSON | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER
Gatesville Hornets tennis team off to promising start. PAGE 10

Filing deadline for GISD School Board is Aug. 16

BY KRISTEN MERIWETHER
Staff Writer

Residents who wish to run for the Gatesville School Board have until Aug. 16 at 5 p.m. to file. Seats held by Vice President Charles Alderson and board member Linda Maxwell are up for reelection. They have both served one three-year term.

Applications can be found on the Gatesville ISD website or picked up at the administration building at 311 South Lovers Lane.

As of Friday no one had filed to run. The School Board election is Nov. 2.



COURTESY PHOTO

Corey COGDELL-UNREIN

Three-time Olympian now calls Gatesville home

BY KRISTEN MERIWETHER
Staff Writer

When three-time Olympic trap-shooter Corey Cogdell-Unrein and her husband, former NFL defensive tackle Mitch Unrein, were looking for a new place to call home they wanted a plot with acreage and live water. After growing up in rural Alaska and Colorado, respectively, the pair wanted to give their son the opportunity to develop the same love and respect of nature they had growing up.

"We love the small-town feel, the sense of community, the 'God-fearing, American-loving' spirit of Texas and of Gatesville."

COREY COGDELL-UNREIN

"Texas always had a little piece of my heart and it felt like a natural choice when we started looking at different states to move to," Cog-

PLEASE SEE OLYMPIAN | 2



KRISTEN MERIWETHER | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

SHOOTING STANCE: Corey Cogdell-Unrein aims her shotgun on her ranch in Gatesville on July 29. The three-time Olympian recently moved to Gatesville and hopes she can get involved in the local 4-H shooting programs.

QUESTION & ANSWER CORNER

Q: When was the Coryell County courthouse building constructed?

A: Work was completed in 1897.

Send us your questions:
editor@gatesvillemessenger.com

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Write: P.O. Box 799, Gatesville, TX 76528

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COUNTY WIDE

Gatesville Primary School registration

The Gatesville Primary School registration for pre-k and kindergarten for the 2021-2022 school year will be Monday-Thursday each week from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. The school will be closed on Fridays.

Pre-k students must be four years of age on Sept. 1, 2021 and kindergarten students must be five years of age on Sept. 1, 2021.

Kindergarten registration will be at the Gatesville Primary main entrance, the north entrance facing the football stadium.

What the Gatesville Primary School will need for pre-k and kindergarten registration:

- Official birth certificate with the seal (not the hospital certificate).

- Complete, validated immunization record including four-year boosters.

- Social Security card of the child.

- Picture I.D. of parent enrolling child (driver's license).

- Proof of residency (utility bill, lease contract).

- Proof of income for household (three months pay stubs).

For additional information or if you have any questions, please contact the Primary office at 254-865-7264.

Fellowship group to attend concert

The Christian Adult Fellowship Events group (C.A.F.E.) at the First United Methodist Church will be going to see national gospel recording artist "Greater Vision" from Tennessee Aug. 14.

The group will leave the Methodist Church at 11:30 a.m., eat at Rosa's Cafe, then go to the concert at 3 p.m.

The price is \$30 for tickets and transportation. For more information, call Ruth Jones at 254-865-2112. Payment for tickets can be given to Mrs. Jones or paid at the Methodist Church.

Due to the popularity of the group, tickets must be purchased no later than July 22. The church phone number is 254-865-2520.

GriefShare to hold program

GriefShare will be held weekly from 5-7 p.m., at First Baptist Church of Gatesville beginning Aug. 25 and ending Nov. 17.

GriefShare is a faith-based program that focuses on grief topics associated with the death of a loved one. If you or someone you know are in need of support, encouragement and help on your journey of grief please consider coming to one of the meetings.

You may enroll online at <http://www.GriefShare.org> or in-person at the first meeting. There is a fee of \$15 for the workbook.

For questions call the church office at 254-865-2014.

Spurfest to be held Sept. 18

There will be something for everyone at the 20th edition of Spurfest at the Coryell Museum and Historical Center Sept. 18. The event is free and runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Activities will include "Old Time Demonstrations," the "Shriners Karem Cowboys," a quilt raffle, fresh churned butter and chuck wagon biscuits and gravy, and several activities for children. There will be vendors and music.

Visitors to the museum can see antique cars, the soda shop, the historic log jail and view a large collection of spurs in the "Lloyd Mitchell Spur Collection."

Food vendors can rent a space for \$60. Non-food spaces cost \$30 for a spot outside and \$40 for spaces in the air-conditioned Gilbreath Room.

For more information, call Hal Davidson or Erv Adams at 254-865-5007, or email to coryellmuseumhc@yahoo.com.

Beautiful quilt donated for Spurfest raffle

The Senior Citizen Center quilting ladies have donated a beautiful handmade quilt to the Coryell Museum to be raffled at Spurfest.

The museum will be selling 104 tickets at \$10 each. Tickets can be purchased from museum board members or by calling 254-865-5007.

Any volunteer interested in selling tickets can call Catherine Fulton at 254-223-0014.

The drawing will take place at Spurfest Sept. 18.

Best beard bragging rights

Gentlemen, ladies and children? Prepare to show your beards at Sprufest Sept. 18.

There will be four categories:

- New beards. Contestants must be clean shaven on Saturday, Aug. 7. Come by the Museum on that day from 10 am-4 pm or provide us with a selfie of your clean shaven face with a timestamp (or in front of a newspaper with that date).

- Existing beards. This will be judged on longest, fullest, most original, most like Grizzly Adams, etc. You can use styling tools, beard balm and waxes.

- Fake beards. This will be open to men, women and children. You can be as creative as you please. Contestants need to be at Spurfest to be judged. Times for judging will be announced in future Messenger articles.

OLYMPIAN

FROM PAGE 1

dell-Unrein said.

Texas was also able to offer something their now-former home state of Colorado wasn't—freedom.

"We felt like our freedoms were being continually infringed upon," she said. "It became an environment where we couldn't imagine raising a family."

Earlier this year they began looking for property within a two-hour drive of her sister in Burnet and found the perfect fit in Gatesville.

"We love the small-town feel, the sense of community, the 'God-fearing, American-loving' spirit of Texas and of Gatesville," she said. "We are excited to make this our new home, get involved in the community and raise our kids here."

BEIJING

Like many Americans Cogdell-Unrein watched the Olympics from home this year. It's the first games she's had to view as a spectator since her career began in 2006.

"It's been super bittersweet to watch," she said.

She watched her best friend Amber English win the gold in women's skeet shooting on July 26 and it brought back all the emotions of her Olympic career.

Her first games were in 2008 in Beijing, just two years after she moved to Texas to pursue Olympic shooting sports. A few weeks shy of her 22nd birthday, Cogdell-Unrein walked into Beijing National Stadium for her first opening ceremony.

"Walking through the tunnel, that's the moment when it really hits you that you are there and everyone is chanting, 'USA!' she said. "You can feel the excitement. It's incredible."

On the third day of the games she captured bronze in the women's trap event, besting Yukie Nakayama from Japan. As Cogdell-Unrein stood on the podium watching the American flag being raised, she said her life flashed before her eyes.

"You see all of the good days of training, all the bad days, all the people that helped you along the way, all the people that tried to tear you down," she said. "It's the most surreal moment."

Following her bronze medal win she soaked up the Olympics watching American swimmer Michael Phelps capture some of his record eight gold medals and the American women's softball and men's basketball teams claim gold.

YEARS IN TRAINING

The trap shooting event only lasts a few hours with individual shots taking mere seconds. But the training to develop into an Olympic caliber shooter takes years.

Cogdell-Unrein began hunting with her father at age three and continued to develop her shooting skills after joining a local 4-H club. She continued shooting recreationally in high school where she devel-



COURTESY PHOTO

PRACTICED SHOOTER: Years of training led to single moments in competition for Corey Cogdell-Unrein.



KRISTEN MERIWETHER | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

MARK OF COMPETITION: Corey Cogdell-Unrein displays her Olympic rings tattoo and her two bronze medals (2008, 2016). She got the tattoo after her second Olympics and incorporated the stars to represent her home-state of Alaska.

oped a true love for the sport.

She moved to Texas after high school in the spring of 2006 to pursue the sport and made her first national team after only three months of training. She beat women who had been in the sport 25 years and was asked by the Olympic coach to make the move to the Olympic training facility in Colorado Springs.

She would shoot four to five hours per day, five to seven days per week, and worked with a trainer and nutritionist to ensure her body was in peak form.

But the mental training was equally important. She worked with a sports psychologist on visual training drills to build up reflexes.

Like baseball players visualizing the crack of the bat on a home run swing, she would visualize the targets exploding and committed the path to a winning shot into memory.

"It's important to have everything in sync because your eyes lead your body. Everything is very instinctual and driven by reflexes," Cogdell-Unrein said. "It's important that you've done the work beforehand to have your body and mind in top form."

Even with all the training, it doesn't always pan out. In the 2012 London games she received death threats prior to the games from animal rights activists who objected to hunting videos posted to her

Facebook page. The British Secret Service was called in to protect her during the games due to the threats.

"That really put a dark shadow on my Olympic experience," Cogdell-Unrein said.

She hit 68 of 75 targets in the qualification round, placing 11th. She did not have a chance to shoot for a medal.

"I didn't perform up to my expectations at the 2012 Olympics largely due to a lot of those distractions," she said.

She credits her husband, who she was dating at the time, with encouraging her to continue competing. He was playing for the Chicago Bears and unable to attend the Olympics because of pre-season practice. But after the tough loss at the games he was there to support her.

"Our relationship at that time helped me a lot because I was dating another professional athlete," Cogdell-Unrein said. "We started feeding off each other's competitiveness and really encouraging and pushing each other."

SHOOT-OFF

The support and dedication to training paid off. Cogdell-Unrein hit a perfect 75 of 75 targets during the 2013 World Cup qualifying round, becoming only the second woman to achieve the feat.

The world record continues to stand. She took the momentum into the 2016 games in Rio de Janeiro hoping to achieve gold.

She ended the semifinal round tied with Natalie Rooney of New Zealand. They had a shoot-off to advance to the gold medal match

but Cogdell-Unrein missed the target.

In the medal matches she ended up in a tie and found herself in a second shoot-out. Her Olympics and the four years of training to get there came down to one final shot for the bronze.

Her heart was beating out of her chest. Instead of focusing on the miss she'd had earlier in the day, she focused on years of training.

"Your thoughts are like waves in the ocean. No one can stop the waves in the ocean, but you can learn how to surf them," Cogdell-Unrein said. "You can't ever stop negative thoughts from coming into your mind or doubt, but you learn how to combat that."

She set. Fired. Then watched the target explode. She burst into tears.

"It was a tremendous amount of relief," Cogdell-Unrein said.

WHAT NEXT

Cogdell-Unrein hasn't ruled out competing in the 2024 games in Paris but she said finishing building her family and giving back to the shooting sports are more of a priority right now. She plans on making a decision over the next six months.

She recently started coaching and is finding joy in watching the excitement on the kids faces when they break their first target.

"I would love to get connected with the local 4-H shooting program and the surrounding areas of Gatesville," Cogdell-Unrein said. "That's how I started and I think it's a great program to introduce kids to firearm safety, build their confidence and have fun in the shooting sports."



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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DEADLINES:

Submit all news articles, classifieds and display advertising by noon Friday for the Wednesday issue and noon Wednesday for the Saturday issue.

Articles about events that have occurred 30 days prior to submission will not be accepted. However, they will be accepted as paid advertisements.

All articles and advertisements must meet our standards and

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OUR MISSION: The Gatesville Messenger shall provide news and insights to our readers through the independent and impartial presentation of information that educates, enriches and entertains. We are proud to be a community newspaper committed to the people we serve.

NEWS FROM PEARL

Teeny stringy bikini begets Kentucky moonshine threats

BY BETSY CLARK

The Pearl Community Center Board met on July 19 and made and approved a motion to make the Sept. 11, 2021, Bluegrass Event the Pearl Homecoming/ Reunion with a special welcome to all new “Pearl-ites.”

All local and returning Pearl residents and new attendees and residents will receive special recognition and a hearty welcome during the show. Please put Sept. 11 on your calendar to come to Pearl and bring friends, family, and even people you meet on the street to Pearl. There’s no place like Pear.

CEMETERY PAVILION

The Pearl Cemetery Association met on Aug. 2 to review plans to build a pavilion to protect attendees from the often-harsh weather conditions during interments and services. In attendance were Chris Ray, Misti Ray, Linda Ray, Sue Wilhite, Bettie Blakley, Kay Pruett, Ronald Medart, Garrett Dickey, and Rhonda Dickey.

Donations are still being accepted. Send a donation or a donation in memory of a loved one to Pearl Cemetery Association, C/O Linda Ray, 1771 CR 152, Purmela, TX 76566. If you have any questions, call Linda at 254-865-

9282. Thank you in advance for your support.

BOOK SALE

The Pearl Cottage Bookstore and Resale Shop is always open whenever the Bluegrass events take place. This little store has over 6,000 books—both paper and hardback. Plus, you can find an eclectic mix of knick-knacks and glassware in the store. Actually, you just never know what you might find in the Book Cottage. However, you will always find smiles, laughter, and a welcoming atmosphere.

Most purchases are “buy what you want, pay what you



Clark

want,” and all proceeds go to benefit local charities.

By the way, there are at least nine different books about Pearl available for purchase ranging from \$5 to \$15 for all of you Pearl history buffs. See or call Linda Ray for more information at 254-865-9282. You can find more information about the Book Cottage on the Pearl Cottage Bookstore and Resale Shop Facebook page. Be sure to like the page to receive updated information.

FISH FRY

Sunday, Sept. 5, will be the annual Atchley Fish Fry and Silent Auction following the 10:30 a.m. service at Pearl Church of Christ.

The Fish Fry and Auction benefit scholarships for His Kids of Lampasas and local scholarships. Everyone is invited to attend. Auction items will begin to appear in the church dining room and Sunday school room beginning Aug. 22. Drop by and place your bids. Bidding usually closes at noon on the day of the auction. To donate items, please call Linda Ray at 254-865-9282.

THAT DARN TEENY BIKINI

As you might remember, the mysterious traveling bikini is no longer in my possession. I wish to thank the much-loved intruders who removed the darned thing a couple of weeks ago. Actually, I had pretty much forgotten the whole incident.

You know, out-of-sight out-of-mind. My reprieve was brief, however. It seems the trio who confiscated the detestable thing did not plan to keep it for themselves.

But, I wish they would have after the day I had yesterday. Can you believe I got a call all the way from Kentucky blaming me for the arrival of a package containing a teeny tiny, turquoise greeny, stringy bikini!

The offended party whose name I will not mention, (shhh...Ron McDonald),

claims that I sent the bathing suit — smaller than a pair of sunglasses that would only fit a cat — to his innocent wife, Marilyn! I have to admit that had I thought of that in the first place that I would have done exactly that.

I tried to explain to Ron that I regret that I had not had that thought first, but I informed him that I have evidence that will convict the guilty parties of the dirty deed!

Ron would not believe me and told me that he would not be sending any Kentucky moonshine to Margie, Linda and Kay ever again as our punishment.

Now, hold the phone... I never, ever asked for that liquid refreshment to be sent to Thelma and Louise plus one in the first place. (I heard through the grapevine that they found good uses for the high-powered concoctions and now everyone is more in love with their cooking than ever. Except for Linda whose favorite recipe is still Swansons and a microwave oven.)

But, Ron is still madder than a wet hen and is desperately trying to sneak the stringy greeny out of Marilyn’s possession. The problem is, Marilyn has suddenly developed an intense enjoyment for sunbathing

in the delightful blue grass by their crystal-clear pond in the middle of their pasture for hours on end.

Helicopters have started hovering, and they’re scaring the cows.

I told Ron it’s all his fault for moving to Kentucky in the first place. How can such a tiny thing cause such disastrous problems. I need a plan to rescue Ron, get the stringy bikini to the remotest part of the world, and restore peace and tranquility in Pearl.

After all, there’s no place like Pearl. Wait just a minute-cats! I think I’m about to have an idea...stay tuned.

The closing verse for this week comes from I Samuel 16:7b: ...For the Lord sees not as man sees; man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart. 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 betsyclark47@yahoo.com for information or to submit any Pearl news that you might have.

CITY

FROM PAGE 1

ally approximately 2 percent (until this year when it was 5 percent) — which I have to believe is an unintended consequence of the legislation.

Q: How do you feel this year’s budget priorities line up with the city’s Comprehensive Plan?

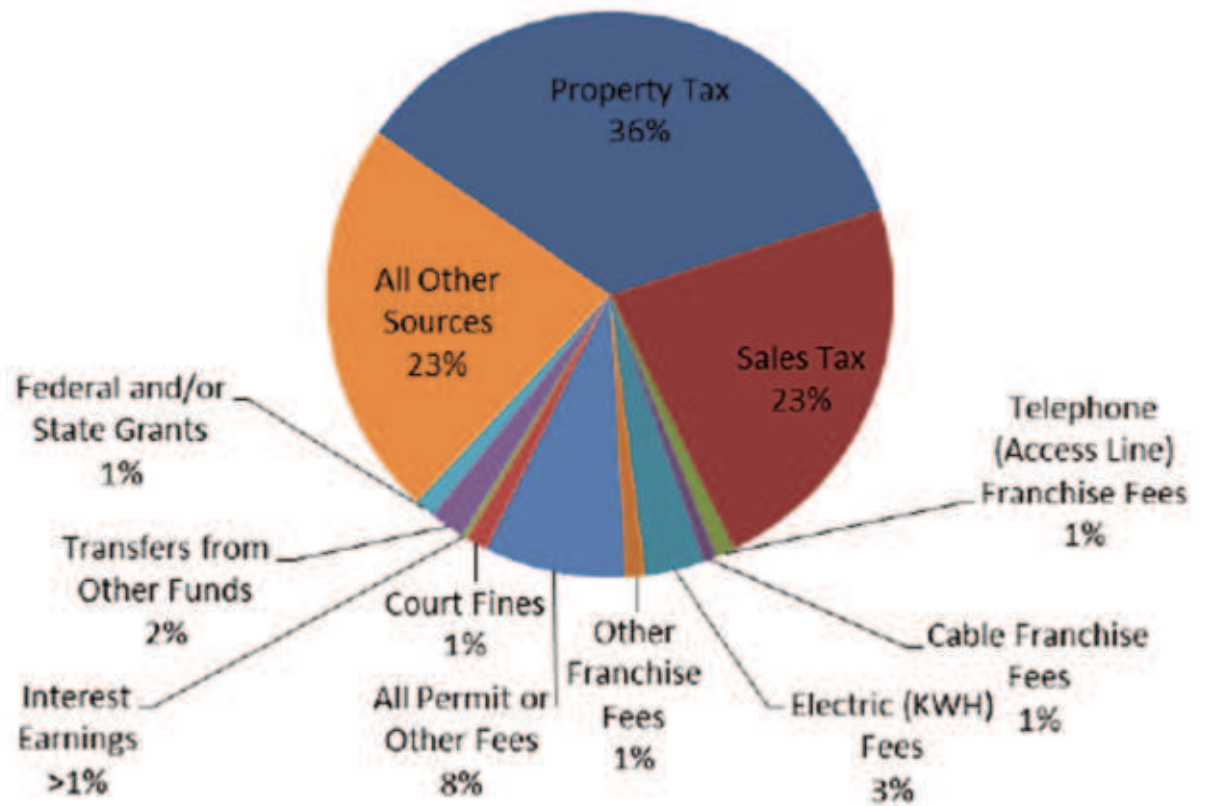
A: The budget was specifically built based on the Comprehensive Plan approved in May 2020. The process to update the Comprehensive Plan started with a survey of the residents assessment of the levels of service provided by the city, and services that were not offered but the residents desired. Two thirds of respondents rated Gatesville quality of life as “average.” They rated the quality of the library, fire department, and police department — all of which are funded solely by property taxes — as the highest quality. They wanted better streets, and curbside recycling was the number one service not offered they wanted. Two thirds of the respondents indicated they would support a tax increase to add services or increase the level

currently being offered, but overwhelmingly preferred the city pursue opportunities for state and federal grants. I contend the proposed budget reflects those priorities in the Comprehensive Plan.

Q: The City of Gatesville gets more of its revenue from sales tax than property tax. How does that compare with other cities? What challenges does that present?

A: I have included an “info-graphic” from the Texas Municipal League from an article titled “Where Do Cities Get Their Money?” This was 2018 data, but has been consistent. You will note on average, 36% of general fund revenue comes from property taxes, and 23% comes from sales tax allocations. The fiscal year 2022 budget was built on a revenue assumption that sales taxes accounted for 35.4% of general fund revenue (12.4% more than the average Texas city) and 32.4% from property taxes (3.6% less than the average Texas city). I am concerned that our budget is that reliant upon projected sales tax allocations — while enthusiastically asking residents to SHOP LOCAL!

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Mayborn Science Theater announces Aug. shows

The Mayborn Science Theater recently announced its Aug. show lineup which includes Saturday matinee and, evening shows, weekday matinees, free shows during the Central Texas College open house, Laser Friday and a tour of the night sky.

Tickets for the Saturday shows are \$7 for adults, \$6 for children age 3 to 11 and free for theater members.

The Saturday matinees open at 11 a.m. with a double feature: "Legends of Night Sky: Orion" takes a light-hearted look at the myths and stories associated with one of the night sky's most famous constellations, Orion, the great hunter of the winter sky.

Then, "Legends of the Night Sky: Perseus and Andromeda" is filled with humorous and exciting characters including Perseus the mighty warrior, Pegasus the winged horse, Cetus the sea monster and the fearsome monster Medusa. The entertaining tale is designed to engage and stimulate a youngster's interest in learn-

ing about the night sky.

At 12 p.m. is "Secret of the Cardboard Rocket." This is the story of two youngsters who turn an ordinary cardboard box into a magical rocket. Join them and experience a breathtaking, up-close look at each of our solar system's planets. With the help of an astronomy book that talks, the two adventurers spend a night exploring and learning interesting facts about each planet.

"Astronaut" takes you inside the making of an astronaut and how to become a part of the incredible journey of space travel. The audience will experience a rocket launch from inside the body

of an astronaut, explore the amazing worlds of both inner and outer space, float around the International Space Station and maneuver through microscopic regions of the human body. Show time is 1:30 p.m.

At 2:30 p.m., follow the path of a single photon as it is produced in a distant star, before it travels across the vast expanse of space to land on someone's retina with the show "Seeing: A Photon's Journey Across Time, Space and Mind." It explores some of the fascinating processes of the cosmos, from astrophysics to the biology of the eye and brain.

Another double feature is at 4 p.m. starting with "Black Holes: The Other Side of Infinity." The show takes you to a place from which nothing escapes, not even light, and where time and space literally come to end. Viewers encounter a range of spectacular cosmic wonders including a depiction of the beginning of the universe, endless seas of dust and gas drawn together by gravity to form the first stars, the

collision of two galaxies that cross paths in the vastness of space and a virtual trip into the center of the Milky Way galaxy. It is immediately followed by the show "Dark: Understanding Dark Matter" which highlights the search for dark matter - the most pressing astrophysical problem of our time. The solution will help us understand why the universe is as it is, where it came from and how it has evolved over billions of years.

The Saturday evening shows start at 6:30 p.m. with "Cosmic Origins Spectrograph" which highlights the current research of Cosmic Origin Spectrograph aboard the Hubble Space Telescope - the last instrument installed by the NASA astronauts. Spectrograph allows the audience an unprecedented view into the vast spaces between galaxies which surrounds our own Milky Way and an in-depth look at the exploration of this hidden universe as it decodes the secrets to the origins of the cosmos.

At 7:30 p.m. is the laser

light show "Laser Green Day" which features some of the rock band's biggest hits set to computerized graphics. Songs include "Welcome to Paradise," "Boulevard of Broken Dreams," "Minority" and many others.

Before school starts, weekday matinees are held each Tuesday and Thursday at 1:30 p.m. On Aug. 3 is "Exoplanets: Worlds of Wonder." and on Aug. 5 is "We Are Astronomers." The last week of summer vacation, enjoy the movies "Spirit Untamed" on Aug. 10 and "Wall-E" on Aug. 12. Both start at 1:30 p.m. Weekday matinees are then at 1:30 p.m. each Wednesday starting Aug. 18 with "We Are Astronomers" and on Aug. 25 is "Molecularium: Riding Snowflakes."

During the Central Texas College open house on Saturday Aug. 14, free shows will air starting at 9 a.m. with "One World, One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure." At 10 a.m. is "Kaluoka'hina: The Enchanted Reef." "Mars: One Thousand One" is at 11 a.m. The laser light show "Laser Tribute" is at noon. The free

shows conclude at 1 p.m. with Space Park Infinity."

Laser Friday is Aug. 27 and starts at 7 p.m. with "Laser Vinyl." The show features some of the greatest classic rock artists including AC/DC, Aerosmith, Queen, Boston, Kiss, Journey, Van Halen and others. The rock music continues at 7 p.m. with "Laser Rock" featuring artists such as Rush, Ozzy Osbourne, Foreigner, David Bowie and more. At 8 p.m., "Laser Metallica" highlights some of the metal band's biggest hits with songs from the "Black" album and "Master of Puppets." Songs include "Fuel," "Unforgiven," "Nothing Else Matters," "Enter Sandman" and more.

Warren's Sky Tour is Saturday, Aug. 28 at 6:30 p.m. It offers a tour of the stars and constellations visible in the summer night sky. The tour preempts the regularly-scheduled show.

For complete show descriptions, directions, membership information and more, visit starsatnight.org.

Be on the lookout for asphalt paving contractor scams

Unscrupulous contractors can create countless issues for homeowners unlucky enough to hire them — especially for large, expensive projects such as asphalt paving.

The Better Business Bureau's Scam Tracker has received numerous reports of homeowners who, after hiring a contractor to install or renovate their pavement, end up with unsatisfactory results or nothing at all.

Last month, one Texas resident reported an asphalt paving scam where the contractor "claims they have leftover asphalt that they want to get rid of for free and will topcoat your driveway at their cost. They insisted on being paid in cash and the invoice was entirely handwritten. When I asked for a business card, they told me they would mail one to me."

HOW THE SCAM WORKS

The contractor contacts the homeowner, either by leaving a pamphlet or going door-to-door, claiming that they have been doing work in the area and noticed the condition of your driveway or sidewalk. Much like "free" roof inspections scams, the contractor may claim that they are able to give a discount or use leftover material from a nearby job site to reduce the price of conducting the repair or installation. Often, the upfront price requested by the contractor is a significantly higher percentage of the total cost than is typical.

Once you have paid for the services, the scam progresses down two main paths:

N Contractor disappears. Immediately after cashing your check or receiving payment through other means, the contractor simply vanishes. Provided contact numbers or emails go unanswered and, in some cases, the contractor may threaten legal action if you refuse to pay the requested amount.

N Unprofessional results. In many cases, the contractor conducts the work, but the end results are unprofessional, short-term and ineffective. The contractor may fail to install the asphalt properly, creating an unstable and poorly packed driveway that degrades significantly after the first heavy rainstorm. This may cause rocks and other chemicals to wash into your yard, impacting its growth and health or damage the tires of your vehicle when driving across the asphalt.

When attempting to contact the company that the contractor represented, either the homeowner will be unsuccessful or discover that the company has no record of the contractor who conducted the work. Contractors often use the guise of a legitimate, well-known company to convince wary consumers that they are protected in their investment.

HOW TO AVOID THE SCAMS

■ Be wary of unsolicited offers. Most contractor scams begin with a random encounter, where a contractor goes out of their way to offer an estimate on a job that was never requested. While door-to-door sale tactics are used

YARD OF THE MONTH

Joe, Dona take pride in their lawn



COURTESY PHOTO

Keep Gatesville Beautiful chose the yard of Joe and Dona Marble at 1304 College St. for its Yard of the Month in August. Joe says he began caring for other people's yards and planting gardens when he was growing up and it shows. Their flower beds have Elephant Ears and an assortment of colorful flowers, mostly Vincas which he says are deer proof. The pig figurine and the windmill add a whimsical touch and the rock house adds to the charm. Dona said Joe takes pride in his yard and is a hard worker who tends to their yard after a full day's work.

by legitimate businesses, it is important to exercise more caution when interacting with them to ensure you are not dealing with a scam.

■ Research companies and contractors. Use BBB.org and other services that allow you to read reviews, ratings and complaints of the company or contractor before paying any money. Often, a simple internet search will reveal companies or individuals that have been involved in fraudulent activities or

provided unsatisfactory work to previous clients.

■ Get everything in writing. Demand and expect estimates to be in writing before payment is even discussed. Do not allow a contractor to begin work until a written, signed contract is provided to you and includes, at a minimum, start and completion dates, a detailed description of the work to be provided, material costs, payment arrangements and warranty information.

■ Stagger payments. Most contractors require a percentage of the total price upfront, but it should never be the full price of the project. BBB recommends staggering payments over the expected length of the project, so the homeowner has the ability to inspect the work at various stages. If unfamiliar with the process, ask questions and have the contractor describe what they are doing in detail.

■ Use safe payment methods. Credit cards provide

greater protections for recovering lost money if dealing with a fraudulent company than debit cards or wire transfers. If paying by check, it should be paid to a company, not an individual.

■ Use BBB.org to search for paving companies in your area.

For more tips on how to hire a reliable and trustworthy contractor, visit BBB.org.

If you have been a victim of a scam, report it to BBB Scam Tracker.



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The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through law enforcement dispatchers during the period of August 2 - 4. While there were many calls, this is a partial list of more significant activity. Persons are reminded that only emergency calls should be made to 9-1-1, while all other calls to the police department should be made to 865-2226 or to the Sheriff's office at 865-7201.

GATESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

AUGUST 5
 9:51 a.m., a theft was reported in the 100 block of N. 29th Street.
 11:47 a.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 3400 block of E. Main Street.
 2:57 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 600 block of E. Leon Street.
 4:52 p.m., harassment was reported in the 200 block of Spindletop Street.
 5:04 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 100 block of Avenue C.

AUGUST 6
 12:14 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 2500 block of Jackson Drive.
 4:49 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2300 block of Osage Road.

4:52 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 200 block of Ash Drive.
 7:32 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 1500 block of W. Main Street.
 10:26 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 100 block of Pate Drive.

AUGUST 7
 2:26 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 100 block of Robert Evetts Drive.
 11:03 a.m., a burglary was reported in the 1400 block of W. Main Street.
 12:51 p.m., a hit and run was reported in the 1700 block of E. Main Street.
 9:34 p.m., an accident was reported in the 100 block of N. 31st Street.
 10:22 p.m., family violence was reported in the 400 block of S. 14th Street.

AUGUST 8
 7:22 a.m., a theft was reported in the 1900 block of E. Main Street.
 10:17 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 300 block of Winston Lane.
 7:39 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 1200 block of Saunders Street.

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pass as reported in the 2200 block of Bridge Street.
 12:38 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 4200 block of S. State Hwy. 36.
 2:06 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 300 block of Winston Lane.
 7:39 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 1200 block of Saunders Street.

CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

AUGUST 5
 8:08 a.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported on Osage Road and Hwy. 36 North.
 1:05 p.m., shooting was reported in the 1800 block of FM 2955.
 3:15 p.m., a reckless driver was reported on E. Hwy. 36.
 4:54 p.m., illegal dumping was reported in the 5600 block of FM 929.
 8:46 p.m., a stranded motorist was reported on TX Hwy. 236 and River Bottom.

AUGUST 6
 10:22 a.m., a theft was reported in the 2300 block of N. FM 116.
 11:12 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 2800 block of Mulberry Drive.
 3:26 p.m., a scam was reported in the 900 block of Cactus Lane.
 4:41 p.m., a reckless driver was reported on N. FM 116 and Pidcoke.
 6:42 p.m., found property was reported at the intersection of Main Street and 28th Street.

AUGUST 7
 7:08 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported on TX 236 near Mother Neff State Park.
 9:04 a.m., a welfare concern was reported on FM 2412 at Plum Creek.

AUGUST 8
 5:07 a.m., a prowler was reported in the 4900 block of E. Hwy. 84.
 12:07 p.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported in the 1600 block of FM 580.
 4:05 p.m., identity theft was reported in the 10000 block of S. Hwy. 36.
 5:32 p.m., missing livestock was reported in the 400 block of FM 1690.
 9:53 p.m., a theft was reported in the 400 block of Tom Sawyer.

Whatever happened to...

TWENTY YEARS AGO (2001)

■ Rita Thomas, assistant warden at the Mountain View Unit, was named senior warden at the Ellen Halbert Substance Abuse Facility in Burnet.
 ■ Amon and Latrelle Comer of Gatesville celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a reception at the First United Methodist Church parlor.
 ■ A retirement party was held for Hughes Unit Senior Warden, Herbert Scott, who was retiring with more than 30 years of service to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.
 ■ The Gatesville Drillers finished in second place in the Waco Semi-Pro baseball league with a season record of 14-4.
 ■ Lady Hornet Amanda Hopson was congratulated for a great play by teammates

Chelsea Barnett and Kristie Shelton.
 ■ Jed Gribble won the feature finisher trophy at the go-kart race Saturday in West. William and Janet Gribble went with him to the races.

THIRTY YEARS AGO (1991)

■ The new Coryell County Jail passed its first inspection and will begin admitting inmates Sept. 9, reported Sheriff Gerald Kitchens.
 ■ Harold G. Cohagan retired from MATES in Gatesville after working over 27 years as a member of the workforce there. He started out as a helper June of 1964.
 ■ Oglesby Methodist Church was celebrating its 100th birthday with a special worship service commemorating the event.

■ Elzie L. and Faynell Clay of Gatesville celebrated their 47th wedding anniversary. Elzie L. Clay and Faynell Fullwood were married August 12, 1944.
 ■ Shirley Beth King Chafin of Pearl was honored on her 60th birthday with a surprise 60th birthday party at the Bee House Methodist Church. Mrs. Chafin was born Aug. 2, 1931 in Pearl.
 ■ Competing in the 35th Central Texas Registered Angora Goat Raisers Association show and sale from Ewant were Ronnie Smith and Keneth Smith, both of Triple-S Angoras, and Otha Medart.

FORTY YEARS AGO (1981)

■ Voluntary water rationing went into effect in Gatesville. City Manager Bob Stevens "reluctantly" requested

the city council to authorize voluntary water rationing.
 ■ Jack W. Gunlock, head football coach at Gatesville during the 1960s, resigned last as Temple High School principal to enter private business in Temple.
 ■ The athletes he tutored as head of Gatesville High School's sports program (1944 to 1956) banded together to pay tribute to Coach Lloyd Mitchell, a legendary figure, and his wife, Madge.
 ■ Mr. and Mrs. Billy McKenzie and son, Justice, left the Osage community for Adelaide, Australia, where Mr. McKenzie was to be employed by an oil company for a year.
 ■ Eighteen-year-old Lanelle Hopson annexed more fiddling honors for the Pat Hopson family of Mound when she won the championship of the women's division of a

statewide contest staged at Burnet by the Texas Old Time Fiddlers Association.
 ■ Mr. and Mrs. Tom C. Dowleann of Mound celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary. Mr. and Mrs. Dowleann, formerly of Seabrook, were making their retirement home in Mound.

FIFTY YEARS AGO (1971)
 ■ A memorial tribute to the late H. K. Jackson Sr., longtime Gatesville civic leader, was made during formal dedication ceremonies for the town's new National Guard armory.
 ■ Gatesville's beautiful Cindy Easley, who already owned an imposing collection of titles, was going to Houston to compete in the Miss Texas World pageant.
 ■ Floods in Coryell County during a July 24-25 storm

covered 8,000 acres of the Leon River flood plain downstream from Gatesville and inflicted damages totaling \$285,000.
 ■ John Clary, one-time Coryellite and son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin D. Clary, formerly of Gatesville and Turnersville, was recently cited for his work as city manager at Harlingen.
 ■ Debbie Tippit, Gatesville Riding Club sweetheart, was testing the comfort of one of two new Longhorn saddles that were to be awarded the high point boy and high point girl in Gatesville's annual junior rodeo.
 ■ Mr. and Mrs. Sam Barnard celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary with an ice cream supper in the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. F. (Buster) Cole of Flat. It was given by their children.

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FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Death a painful reality we all face sooner or later

SAM HOUSTON

Sam Houston is the publisher of *The Messenger*. He is also an actor, author, playwright, performer and entertainment producer/promoter.

This past week a young friend of mine had the unfortunate experience of having their grandmother pass. By the time a person reaches my "ripe old age" of 65, a close family member's death is something you have experienced multiple times. I have lost all my grandparents, my folks, and most all my aunts and uncles. It is never a pleasant experience.

Undoubtedly there is sadness and grief, and many times there is remorse for not having invested more time and effort into a relationship with the person who passed. Dealing with death does become easier with each occasion. A person starts to understand passing on is part of the natural process and

the eventual end for all of us. We grieve, we remember, we rejoice, and we move on with living the rest of our lives. Watching my young friend this week, it was both painful and enriching to see her pass through her "first loss."

The young woman's grandmother had been her babysitter a great deal when she was



Houston

little and the two undoubtedly had a very close connection. I heard my friend say to several others, "My Granny raised me." I know for a fact the young woman comes from a good home with two hardworking parents and the statement was not intended to take away from her parents at all. Rather it reflected how important her grandmother was to her growing up and how impactful the relationship was to her becoming the outstanding young woman she is today.

I saw the anxiety on this young woman's face as her Grandmother entered hospice, and when the declaration of death was made, with all its sudden finality, I could

feel her pain and sense of loss. I spoke to her and counseled with her, hoping somehow my many experiences of dealing with the death of others would somehow comfort her.

I am very fond of this young woman, and it pained me to see her in agony. I hoped kind words, and relaying to her what I had learned in the journey of life, might comfort her. I am prayerful my words helped, but a big part of me knew the only solace she would find would be in her personal faith, in her understanding of the inevitability of all our deaths, and the joyful memories she would always carry with her.

As I drove to the funeral, it was raining in Hood County. I prayed it would be sunny when I arrived at the funeral's location. Nothing more depressing than a dark, rainy day for a funeral. Fortunately, when I arrived at the funeral home, the sun was out, the

day was beautiful, and I found my young friend surrounded by a loving family and friends. She smiled and appeared to be at peace with what she had been forced to experience.

During the service, my friend spoke and read a special poem for those in attendance. I knew it would be very difficult for her to speak and to read the poem and I understandably feared she might break down or be unable to finish. My mind even created contingent plans in my brain to leave my seat and come assist her if she could not get through the reading. My young friend made me very proud. She read the poem with conviction, passion, and clarity; just as her grandmother would have wanted.

After the service, my friend told me she appreciated me coming to the service and smiled at me. I could see in her eyes she still had grief, but she had come to grips

with her first experience with death. It is a sad and unfortunate part of life but a road all of us travel. While I feel sadness for her loss, and I am so pleased with the outstanding young woman she truly is, and the way she handled herself. She had a learning experience, a difficult but necessary one. One we all have if we are blessed to be on this earth for very long.

Thought for the day: It is hard to forget someone who gave you so much to remember.

Until next time ...

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300-400 lb.	130-165
400-500 lb.	130-155
500-600 lb.	130-145
600-700 lb.	125-140
700-800 lb.	115-130

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Yield Grade 1&2	80-104

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Park Rangers recognized for World Ranger Day

Park Rangers gathered July 31 to celebrate World Ranger Day as they celebrated their unwavering commitment toward stewardship of the 88 parks in the Texas State Parks system.

Initially created by the International Ranger Federation, World Ranger Day celebrates the work park rangers do daily to protect the planet's natural treasures and cultural heritage.

Texas State Park rangers cover many roles throughout Texas to keep parks functioning smoothly for visitors to enjoy. These roles include maintenance, welcoming and orienting park guests, natural and cultural resource management, outdoor education and outreach, and state park law enforcement. Park rangers from different regions in Texas spoke about what a typical day looks like, their path to becoming a ranger. Ranger also included what advice they would give to aspiring park rangers, their most memorable story, and what they like most about being a park ranger in Texas.

"My path to becoming a park ranger started when I graduated from college,"



DAY OF THEIR OWN: Park rangers in Texas were recognized for their stewardship of park lands.

Candyce Johnson, Assistant Superintendent at Abilene State Park, said, "I worked as an intern through the Student Conservation Association at National Wildlife Refuges and National Parks in Florida, Louisiana, and Arizona. The experience I gained qualified me to be interviewed and ultimately hired for the Park Operations Trainee position at Dinosaur Valley State Park."

Thomas Teggegan, Office Manager at Lockhart State Park, said the new and exciting challenges he faces are what he loves most about be-

ing a park ranger.

"In addition to welcoming new guests to the park and sharing the history of this beautiful historic CCC park," Teggegan said. "I am responsible for ensuring our front office runs smoothly, and our maintenance staff gets all the supplies and materials they need bought and delivered to the park. This often means doing a great deal of research, pricing, and reaching out to a variety of vendors to meet the unique needs of our park."

Martin Creek Lake State Park's Lead Maintenance

Ranger, Steve Propes, said working as a park ranger has many positive aspects, including assisting park visitors, meeting so many good people, and forging friendships with staff, volunteers and visitors.

"I love the variety of tasks that present themselves each day," Propes said. "I enjoy working to preserve our resources and working to make Martin Creek Lake State Park the best it can be."

Dedrick Miller, Park Police Officer at Cedar Hill State Park, recalled one of his more memorable stories when he arrived at his first duty station.

"Within my first few days on the job, I received a call about a group of people who were lost in the woods and became exhausted," Miller said. "At this point, I was still learning the details about my new job location. After an exhaustive search, I was able to find the family and provide them with the assistance that they needed. The great appreciation the family conveyed reminded me of the importance of my job."

"The advice I would give an aspiring park ranger is to get involved with parks early on

through volunteer opportunities or internships," Montse Canedo, Park Interpreter at Brazos Bend State Park, said. "These are great ways to start getting experience, get familiar with the job, and build connections within the parks and the agency. Don't be afraid to approach the park rangers when you visit the park and talk to them! We have many roles like customer service, park maintenance, education, etc., so it's always a good idea to talk to the rangers and find what interests you most."

Thanks to the invaluable work of park stewards working at Texas State Parks, park visitors can continue to be able to enjoy these unique places for future generations.

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OBITUARIES



FRANCES MENCHACA
August 17, 1933 - July 31, 2021

Frances Menchaca passed away peacefully Saturday, July 31, 2021 at her home in

Gatesville. She was 87 years old. Services will be held virtually Via Zoom on Saturday, August 7, 2021 at 2:00 pm, with her nephew, Kenneth D. Veazey officiating.

Frances was born on August 17, 1933, in Gatesville to Lee Ortega Sr. and Anita Fernandez Ortega. Growing up she was very attentive to helping her family and others. She could light up a room with her smile and her loving disposition. Growing up with so many brothers and sisters was the joy of her life! She could tell stories that would either keep you laughing or crying. Family always came first! She never met a stranger and was always willing to help her family and others.

She began working at a very early age in Waco in the retail clothing business, as she always held a manage-

rial position wherever she worked. After 15 years of traveling to Waco, she was hired as the General Merchandising Manager at HEB in Gatesville, opening the Store in 1969. She worked in that capacity for almost four decades. She was loved by all her customers, who always looked for her to assist them in whatever they needed. She made many lifelong priceless friendships, both long-standing and new, while working at HEB. HEB was her enjoyment and never complained about having to work long hours. She traveled many a night to assist in other HEB locations throughout Central Texas.

Frances then branched out into the Real Estate Market here in Gatesville. She was very skillful at being able to negotiate for properties and find tenants who just

needed someone to believe in them and extend a helping hand. To say she had a very big heart would be an understatement. She had a truly generous spirit.

Frances was preceded in death by her parents, Lee and Anita Ortega; two brothers, Raymond and Johnny Ortega; two sisters, Sarah Garcia and husband, Louis, and Rachel Ortega; brother-in-law, Kenneth N. Veazey.

Frances is survived by her husband of 32 years, Ray Menchaca; daughter, Cynthia Bond (Ronnie); son, Milton Maxwell (Marcella); stepdaughter, Monica Menchaca; grandsons, Matthew Bond (Stephanie), Aaron Bond (Leina); granddaughters, Jaqueline Raney (David), and Victoria Obenland (Timothy); great-granddaughters, Brittany Bond, Alexis Bond, Maddison Bond, Liliuokalani

Bond, Makena Bond and Anabelle Obenland; and one great-grandson, Grayson Obenland.

Other surviving family members include, Jesse Ortega (Rosie), Gilbert Ortega (Harriett), Lee Ortega Jr. (Hilda) and Daniel Ortega (Cecile); sisters, Leonora Esparza (Lupe), and Gloria Veazey. She had so many nieces and nephews which were all very "special" to her! And many spiritual brothers and sisters.

Frances was very proud to be one of Jehovah's Witnesses. Frances was baptized at Cowboy Stadium in Arlington at an International Convention on June 28, 2014 where she was one of hundreds to be baptized that day. She loved talking about the Bible and hope for the future. She always shared her conviction with any-

one she talked to, in person or on the phone. Her most treasured thoughts were about the resurrection hope which she believed with all her heart and looks forward to that day to be reunited with her family and friends according to the scripture found at John 11:25, which says, Jesus said to Martha: "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who exercises faith in me, even though he dies, will come to life." Her hope was to enjoy that life forever on a paradise earth that Jesus promised. Until that day comes, she is resting peacefully in Jehovah's memory. Despite her illness, Frances kept a very positive attitude and a beautiful example for her family and friends to imitate.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to jw.org.



GARY KIT VOSS
July 8, 1940 - August 3, 2021

Gary Kit Voss, 81, of Bryan, passed away peacefully with his family at his bedside, on August 3, 2021. Gary was born July 8, 1940 in Jonesboro, Texas, to Harry Schloeman and Lenora Carpenter Voss.

Gary had a happy childhood, growing up on the family farm. He attended school in Jonesboro but transferred to Gatesville to participate in

FFA and athletics, he graduated in May of 1958.

He attended Texas A&M in 1959, graduating May, 1963 with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration. Gary loved A&M, he was a member of the Corps of Cadets, and was involved in many clubs associated with the University, as well as The Association of Former Students.

He was an avid sports fan, enjoying game days, basketball, baseball and football. After graduation, Gary re-

mained a lifelong die-hard fan of his Aggies, his favorite colors were maroon and white.

In June 1964, Gary was employed as an insurance agent by Allstate Insurance Company, Gary remained with Allstate and served the Bryan community for the next 37 years. He retired, December 31, of 2001.

Gary leaves behind a deep legacy through his family, he is survived by his son, Timothy Kit Voss; daughters and sons-in-law, Jackie Voss-

Konderla and Jimmy, Jennifer Jones and Albert, Tammy Chewning and Chip; grandchildren, Kristal Millsap, Tony K Voss, Wesley Konderla, Cory Konderla, Ashley Konderla, Robby Hawkins and Trinity Chewning; great-grandchildren, Dayton, Anthony, Natalee, Madilyn, Chase, Jamie and Josie.

Funeral services are entrusted to Memorial Funeral Chapel of Bryan.

Visitation will be held on Sunday, August 8, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm, at the fu-

neral home. Funeral service will be held on Monday, August 9, at 10:00am at Bethel Baptist Church, located at 9900 SH 30, in College Station. Interment will follow at Old Bethel Cemetery.

The family would like to thank the staff at St. Joseph Manor and Hospice for their exceptional care they gave Gary.

Memorials may be made in Gary's honor to Still Creek Ranch, 6055 Hearne Rd, Bryan, TX 77808.



FRANCIS FAYE COLLINS HALL
October 11, 1943 - August 3, 2021

Francis Faye Collins Hall, beloved wife, sister, mother, and grandmother died peacefully with family and friends at her side on August 3, 2021, at the age of 77.

Visitation is scheduled for Sunday, August 8, 2021 from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Scott's Funeral Home in Gatesville. Funeral services will be held at 10:00 a.m., Monday, August 9, 2021 at Scott's Funeral Home, followed by a burial service at North Belton Cemetery at 1:30 p.m.

Fran or "Sanci", as her grandchildren, nieces, and nephews called her, was the first child of Melvin Julian and Johnnie Faye Collins. She was born in Longview, Texas on October 11, 1943. Her father, a US Marine, was

serving in the Pacific Theater of Operations at Guadalcanal when she was born. Fran lived in Central Texas for most of her life. She called Gatesville home for the last 30 years.

Soon after graduation from Belton High School in 1962, Fran began her 34 plus year career as a Department of the Army Civilian. At the age of 20, Fran married Hugh James Hall and began their 57 years of marriage together that included one son and two grandchildren.

Fran's faith and family were her life. She had a servant's heart and a unique gift for bringing people together, was a living example of a Proverbs 31 woman, and supported both her husband and son through a combined

72 years of service to our Nation. Fran always put others before herself, whether it was the hundreds of care packages she sent to Soldiers while deployed, volunteering at Coryell Memorial Hospital, or serving on several committees at Live Oak Baptist Church. As the matriarch of the Hall and Collins families, she enjoyed keeping us together, connected, and loved by planning reunions and researching genealogy. Fran's steady hand and unfailing support provided her husband and son a firm foundation to lead Soldiers in very difficult times during their military careers. She was recognized twice by Governor George Bush and Governor Rick Perry as a Yellow Rose of Texas for her

service to Soldiers and their families. Fran was deeply loved and will be missed by everyone she touched.

Fran enjoyed her career with the Department of the Army with assignments at Naval Weapons Station Yorktown, Fort Eustis, Camp Mabry, and twice at Fort Hood. She also worked for the United States Postal Service and NASA. During her tenure as an Army civilian, Fran received many awards culminating with her induction as a Fort Hood Hero in 2008. She also served as a Malcolm Baldrige Examiner on teams across several Texas installations, Ft Bagg, NC, and Washington, DC.

Fran is survived by her husband, Brigadier General (Ret) Hugh Hall of Gatesville;

son, Major General (Ret) Bill Hall and wife, Wendy; grandchildren, Whitley and Walton of Bryan; brother, Mike Collins and wife, Sybil of Salado; sister-in-law, Sandy Collins of San Carlos, CA; sister-in-law, Fran Falls and husband, Gene of Newport News, VA. Fran was blessed with her beloved nieces and nephews, Kelli, Missy, Marie, Crystal, Megan, Kevin, Kenneth, Michael, and Seth; as well as numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Melvin & Johnnie Faye Collins; brother, Charles Collins and sister, Rebecca Ray.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society.



RHONDA RAY MORGAN
December 5, 1954 - August 7, 2021

Rhonda Ray Morgan, age 66 of Oglesby, passed away on Saturday, August 07, 2021 in Temple.

The family will receive

visitors from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at Scott's Funeral Home in Gatesville. Rhonda and her family will be escorted to Ater Cemetery by Road Riders for Jesus MM, with anyone wishing to participate at 10:30 a.m. Graveside services will follow at 11:00 a.m., officiated by Pastor Roger West. The family requests that anyone in attendance be dressed casually.

Rhonda was born on December 5, 1954 in Clifton, to the late R.B. and Patsy Vaden Ray. She grew up in and around Jonesboro, graduating from Jonesboro High School in 1972. She graduated from Temple Junior College's Licensed Vocational Nursing Program in 1977. She later became an R.N., working as the Director of Nurses at Hillside Nursing and Rehabilitation in Gatesville and Ridgecrest

Retirement Center in Waco. She married Russell Morgan on April 8, 1985. They were active in their church, Trinity Fellowship Church in McGregor, Road Riders for Jesus MM and various homeless ministries.

Rhonda is survived by her husband, Russell Morgan; daughters, Amanda Ebner and husband, Jerry, Sandra Sanders and husband, Gary; brother, Don Ray and wife, Theda; grandchildren, Skyelar Sanders, Gage Sanders, Sara McDonald, Dutch Riefler, Emily Riefler, Jeep Sanders, Granger Sanders; and numerous nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family request memorials be made to, Journey to the Streets Homeless Ministries, c/o Journey Christian Community, 10424 China Spring Rd, Waco, TX 76708.



OBITUARY GUIDELINES

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Obituaries placed by next of kin must be verified with the facility handling the body or the church where service will be held. You must provide the contact info for verification when submitting the

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099 PUBLIC NOTICES

JENNIFER NEWTON
CLERK OF THE COUNTY COURT
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GATESVILLE, TEXAS 76528

TO: DECEDENT'S UNKNOWN HEIRS
UNKNOWN ADDRESS
UNKNOWN STATE

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF CORYELL.

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ERIKA MCGINNIS, DECEASED, CAUSE NO 21-10495, COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS. ROY WERNER CASSATT FILED IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS ON THE 2ND DAY OF JULY, 2021, AN APPLICATION FOR INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION AND LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 401.003 OF THE TEXAS ESTATES CODE AND APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP SAID ERIKA MCGINNIS DECEASED.

SAID APPLICATION SHALL BE HEARD AND ACTED ON BY SAID COURT ON OR AFTER THE FIRST MONDAY NEXT AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF TEN DAYS FROM DATE OF POSTING THIS CITATION, THE SAME BEING THE 16TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2021, AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS.

ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN SAID ESTATE ARE HEREBY CITED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY AT THE SAME ABOVE MENTIONED TIME AND PLACE BY FILING A WRITTEN ANSWER CONTESTING SUCH APPLICATION SHOULD THEY DESIRE TO DO SO.

THE OFFICER EXECUTING THIS CITATION SHALL CAUSE TO BE PUBLISHED, ONCE, NOT LESS THAN TEN DAYS BEFORE THE RETURN DAY THEREOF, EXCLUSIVE OF THE DATE OF PUBLICATION, IN A NEWSPAPER PRINTED IN GATESVILLE, CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS THE ACCOMPANYING CITATION, OF WHICH HEREIN IS A TRUE COPY AND RETURN THE ORIGINAL COPY OF THIS CITATION TO THE CLERK STATING IN A WRITTEN RETURN THEREON THE TIME WHEN AND THE PLACE WHERE THE CITATION WAS PUBLISHED.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE COUNTY COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS THE 4TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2021.

JENNIFER NEWTON
CORYELL COUNTY CLERK
CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

BY: *Jennifer Newton*



THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF CORYELL.

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF NOBE HOEFLING, DECEASED, CAUSE NO 21-10493, COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS. LEAH RENAY WESTCOTT FILED IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS ON THE 2ND DAY OF JUNE, 2021, AN APPLICATION FOR INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION AND LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 401.003 OF THE TEXAS ESTATES CODE AND APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP SAID NOBE HOEFLING, DECEASED.

SAID APPLICATION SHALL BE HEARD AND ACTED ON BY SAID COURT ON OR AFTER THE FIRST MONDAY NEXT AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF TEN DAYS FROM DATE OF POSTING THIS CITATION, THE SAME BEING THE 16TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2021, AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS.

ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN SAID ESTATE ARE HEREBY CITED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY AT THE SAME ABOVE MENTIONED TIME AND PLACE BY FILING A WRITTEN ANSWER CONTESTING SUCH APPLICATION SHOULD THEY DESIRE TO DO SO.

THE OFFICER EXECUTING THIS CITATION SHALL CAUSE TO BE PUBLISHED, ONCE, NOT LESS THAN TEN DAYS BEFORE THE RETURN DAY THEREOF, EXCLUSIVE OF THE DATE OF PUBLICATION, IN A NEWSPAPER PRINTED IN GATESVILLE, CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS THE ACCOMPANYING CITATION, OF WHICH HEREIN IS A TRUE COPY AND RETURN THE ORIGINAL COPY OF THIS CITATION TO THE CLERK STATING IN A WRITTEN RETURN THEREON THE TIME WHEN AND THE PLACE WHERE THE CITATION WAS PUBLISHED.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE COUNTY COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS THE 4TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2021.

JENNIFER NEWTON
CORYELL COUNTY CLERK
CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

BY: *Jennifer Newton*



THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF CORYELL.

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF SCOTT ANDREW LEMON DECEASED, CAUSE NO 21-10505, COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS. PATRICK LEMON FILED IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS ON THE 27TH DAY OF JULY, 2021, AN APPLICATION FOR INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION AND LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 401.003 OF THE TEXAS ESTATES CODE AND APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP SAID SCOTT ANDREW LEMON DECEASED.

SAID APPLICATION SHALL BE HEARD AND ACTED ON BY SAID COURT ON OR AFTER THE FIRST MONDAY NEXT AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF TEN DAYS FROM DATE OF POSTING THIS CITATION, THE SAME BEING THE 16TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2021, AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS.

ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN SAID ESTATE ARE HEREBY CITED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY AT THE SAME ABOVE MENTIONED TIME AND PLACE BY FILING A WRITTEN ANSWER CONTESTING SUCH APPLICATION SHOULD THEY DESIRE TO DO SO.

THE OFFICER EXECUTING THIS CITATION SHALL CAUSE TO BE PUBLISHED, ONCE, NOT LESS THAN TEN DAYS BEFORE THE RETURN DAY THEREOF, EXCLUSIVE OF THE DATE OF PUBLICATION, IN A NEWSPAPER PRINTED IN GATESVILLE, CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS THE ACCOMPANYING CITATION, OF WHICH HEREIN IS A TRUE COPY AND RETURN THE ORIGINAL COPY OF THIS CITATION TO THE CLERK STATING IN A WRITTEN RETURN THEREON THE TIME WHEN AND THE PLACE WHERE THE CITATION WAS PUBLISHED.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE COUNTY COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS THE 5TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2021.

JENNIFER NEWTON
CORYELL COUNTY CLERK
CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

BY: *Jennifer Newton*



HUNTING

FROM PAGE 10

rifle was shooting properly. What I learned that day in my youth was the importance of investing in quality rifle scopes and making sure to have a properly-sighted rifle.

Rifle scopes are a unique and diverse segment of hunting equipment. Scopes can range from \$30 to \$3,000 and everywhere in between. Like most things, you'll pay for higher quality pieces of equipment. While I don't advise robbing your bank account for the latest and greatest rifle scope, acquiring a scope that fits your budget and has the highest quality can make or break your hunt.

With quality brands like Vortex optics that have a wide array of hunting scopes, a typical rule of thumb for purchasing a rifle scope is that it should cost at least

the same amount as the rifle. This helps to ensure that a higher quality rifle is paired with a higher quality scope, and the combo operates at its peak performance.

Spending a day at the range and sighting-in your rifle — while it can be a little expensive with the current ammunition supply — is one of the most rewarding things you can do with your rifle. Even if you sighted-in your rifle the previous season, sighting-in your rifle frequently can make or break your hunting season.

Throughout the typical wear and tear on your rifle, your scope can get bumped or dropped, resulting in your rifle no longer being sighted-in properly. So take some time during the pre-season to fire a few bullets at the range to ensure that your rifle is properly sighted-in.

wburkhead@quailforever.org



COURTESY PHOTO BY WILLIAM BURKHEAD

SIGHT IN: Zach Burkhead sighting-in a hunting rifle at the range.

FISHING

FROM PAGE 10

submersible lights is the fact that the bugs are kept at bay. Very little light is reflected up, which cuts down on the bugs. You know and I know that the bugs can get unbearable from a hanging white light.

The action can be tremendous under lights. Concentrating the baitfish will bring in the predators and at times the action will be outstanding especially if the fish are in a feeding frenzy. Many indoor fishing docks across the country use lights to attract fish. It is a known technique.

There are many different portable lights on the market, but there are four types I am aware of. They include floating sealed beam lights, fluorescent lights, LED lights and submersible halogen lights. All of these types of lights will do the job. There are pros and cons to each of them.

Light Emitting Diodes (LED) are lights that generally have the longest life and use the least amount of energy.

Many of these types of lights will run the night on a few dry cell batteries. Those that I have seen are configured in a submersible vertical tube.

Submersible halogen lights operate under the surface so there is minimal impact due to wind and waves and you of course minimize the bug impact with the light under the water. When night fishing on a boat with lights, it is a good idea to anchor the boat securely so that movement is minimized. The floating lights you choose can be placed right next to the boat. The other submersible type lights can be lowered to a desired depth around the boat.

Wait a few minutes and the baitfish will move in. The bigger predators will more than likely be under or on the edge. Be careful not to spook the predators. Work different depths until you

FOOTBALL

FROM PAGE 10

selves," Howard said.

The Hornets will face Fairfield in its second scrimmage Aug. 19 at Gatesville.

The regular season opener is Aug. 27 against Llano at Gatesville.

Jonesboro has been working sophomore Garrett Young at quarterback in its early drills. Young steps into the role of running the offense.

In the first week of practice, Young and the Eagles spent a lot of time working base plays.

The Eagles have also debuted a new practice field this season.

Traditionally, the Eagles have practiced on the main

field at Pruitt Field.

This year, they have an alternate facility, utilizing the new baseball field.

At Oglesby, the Tigers are practicing on their traditional practice field. The field on the practice field and at the stadium are in prime shape compared to previous years.

"It's pretty amazing what a little water can do," said assistant coach Chris Villarreal.

At one of last week's first practices, the Tigers loosened up with a four-corner drill with players rotating from each corner as quarterbacks fired passes. It was a quick drill that helped the Tigers on their pass-catching skills.

The Tigers expect Blake Thompson to be the featured back this year.

locate the best depth. If for some reason the fish don't move in, move and find another potential spot.

michael.acosta@att.net | 254-396-4855

SUDOKU

Solution for the puzzle that ran August 7.

1	7	8	2	3	4	6	5	9
4	9	6	8	1	5	2	7	3
3	2	5	7	9	6	1	8	4
6	8	7	3	4	1	5	9	2
5	4	1	6	2	9	7	3	8
9	3	2	5	8	7	4	6	1
2	6	9	4	7	8	3	1	5
7	1	3	9	5	2	8	4	6
8	5	4	1	6	3	9	2	7

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7		1				8		3
				7		9		2
	5	6			1		2	
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	1		6			5	3	
3		8		6				
1		9				6		7
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INSIDE HUNTING

Take the time to sight-in your rifle



WILLIAM BURKHEAD

William Burkhead is a wildlife biologist for a conservation organization called Quail Forever.

Crawling through dense mesquite thickets in the hot sun of West Texas, I worked my way toward a group of hogs that had been feeding near a dirt path. After I had made the painful trek (and having one too many cactus spines stick into my knees), I had a clear shot at a young boar that was sure to make its way to the smoker.

The boom of my rifle sent the group running into thicker brush, only for them to make their way back after merely five minutes.

The boar, untouched by my 6-mm bullet, was unamused by what was a surefire shot. Frustrated, I sighted the boar once more to fire a round.

Again, I missed the shot, this time clearing his back by a foot.

The boar I attempted to harvest had bested me, and rightfully so. I had negated to follow through my duty as a hunter to ensure that my

PLEASE SEE **HUNTING** | 9



PROPER SCOPE: A Ruger American Rifle with a properly sighted-in Vortex Diamondback riflescope.

COURTESY PHOTO

GATESVILLE TENNIS

Hornets' Early win tough tennis matchup

BY MARK GOODSON
Staff Writer

Slone Early, the No. 1 boys' singles player for the Gatesville Hornets, won a tough matchup with Lake Belton's Brodie Reed in the home opener for the Gatesville team tennis squad Aug. 3.

Early won, 6-4, 6-4, in a grueling matchup with the Lake Belton sophomore ace.

The Hornets captured the team match, 10-9, to improve the Hornets to 2-0 in the fall season.

In doubles, Early and Ty Warren posted a 6-2, 7-5 win over Caden Marshall and Cole Wieters.

Gatesville ace Stormy Tatum cruised to a 6-0, 6-0 win over Jillian Webb in singles.

Other wins in girls' singles were by Anna Mitchell 6-2, 6-1 over Maya Davies Honea, Julee Sun over Gracie Stoddard, 6-0, 6-2 and Kasey Fitzer over Elena Judd, 8-4.

Gatesville picked up three wins in girls' doubles.

Stormy Tatum and Julee Sun won 6-1, 6-0, over Maya Davies Honea-Gracie Stoddard.

Anna Mitchell and Bri Alexander posted a 6-0, 7-5 win over Jillian Webb and Rachel Kim.

The third girls' doubles win was posted by Preslea Edmond and Olivia Walker over Victoria Melendez and Elana Judd, 5-7, 6-1 (10-8)

Dayne Zacha and Fitzer posted a 1-6, 6-3 (12-10) win in mixed doubles.

Taking losses in boys' singles were Alex Scott, Jesse Strange, Carlo Martinez and Tyler Hutts.

In girls' singles Bri Alexander, Preslea Edmond and Olivia Walker took losses.

The Scott-Martinez and Strange-Hutts doubles team took losses for the Hornets.



EYES ON THE BALL: Gatesville's tennis ace, Slone Early, took a tough match from Lake Belton's Brodie Reed — 6-4, 6-4.

MARK GOODSON | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

ON FISHING

Night fishing under the lights

MICHAEL ACOSTA

As a licensed professional fishing guide, Michael Acosta shows you how to find them. He has been fishing all of his life, and has been a licensed guide since 1998.



Acosta

the bugs, but in reality it is usually the plankton that are attracted to the light, which then brings in the small fish and then the bigger fish.

The night lights available these days come in a variety of colors, but most agree that green lights are generally the best. Science will tell you that the most penetrating frequencies of light in the water are blue and green in the spectrum of available colors. White lights are still offered and they do work, as white has all the colors of the spectrum. However, the general consensus is green is all that you need. Some folks may disagree.

Most of all the newer lights and some of the older lights are submersible. The big advantage to

An alternative to beat the summer heat and to enjoy some great fishing is to fish at night. The night has other advantages such as generally less wind and no skiers or Jet Skis. A little breeze is still preferred especially on those hot humid stale nights.

Fishing under the lights has been around forever. Most folks who live on the water have lights on their docks that attract fish. I have used a lantern, hanging it off of the edge of the boat to do the same thing.

Many folks believe that the lights attract bugs (and they do) and the fish move in to feed on the bugs. Yes some of the fish do feed on

PLEASE SEE **FISHING** | 9

HAPPY TO BE BACK AT VOLLEYBALL PRACTICE



MARK GOODSON | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Lady Hornet sophomore Barrett Boyd was back at practice after competing in a heptathlon last week in Houston.

GATESVILLE FOOTBALL

Hornets put on pads at practice for first time

BY MARK GOODSON
Staff Writer

Gatesville turns its attention to the second phase of two-a-day football workouts with their first scrimmage Friday Aug. 13 at McGregor.

The Hornets put on their pads for the first time Saturday Aug. 7.

"Right now, were just working on us and getting better," Gatesville coach Luke Howard said prior to the Saturday debut in pads. "it's always nice to get the pads on and see who surfaces."

The Hornets coaches plan to carry "40-45" athletes on the varsity this season. The Hornets leaders in the early drills have been quarterback Wesley Brown, lineman Evan Hanson and wide receiver Carson Brizendine.

"We're concentrating on our-

PLEASE SEE **FOOTBALL** | 9