



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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75¢

SERVING CORYELL COUNTY SINCE 1881 | VOLUME 120, No. 123, ISSN No. 0894-4954



Revised jail contract saves county money

BY JEFF OSBORNE
Senior Staff Writer

Coryell County may have just found a way to cut its cost in housing jail inmates in Burnett County.

The counties had reached an agreement in June to house 50 inmates in Burnett for \$82,250. But because Coryell County could never reach that number, the contract was revised so that Coryell County

pays \$55 per day per inmate housed in Burnett County.

The Coryell County Commissioners Court was told Oct. 12 of the \$56,000 savings. A total of 805 inmate days at \$55 per day comes

out to \$44,275, the county commissioners learned.

"We didn't feel like we'd have any problem meeting that number initially, but because of staffing shortages in Burnett County and COVID

concerns (requiring more social distancing), we couldn't ever arrive at 50 inmates," said Coryell County Auditor Ben Roberts. "We paid the

PLEASE SEE JAIL | A2

Gatesville economic roadmap a federal grant away

BY JEFF OSBORNE
Senior Staff Writer

Looking to boost economic development in the area, the Gatesville City Council approved an application for a \$200,000 grant that requires a \$40,000 commitment from the city.

The \$200,000 American Rescue Plan Economic Adjustment Assistance Act grant would pay for Gatesville to hire a consultant to create an economic development plan for the city.



COURTESY PHOTO
"This is about taking care of small business ...," said City Manager Bill Parry, above.

A council resolution outlines a plan that would focus on economic resilience, which includes "identifying persistent economic challenges, development of early warning tools, creating flexibility and promoting a positive vision" for the community.

City Manager Bill Parry said if the grant is approved the economic development study would help Gatesville "put together a strategy. This is about taking care of small business" and creating jobs.

PLEASE SEE GRANT | A2



BELOVED FIGURINE: The animatronic butler named Lurch had moved to Waco with its owner, Harold Alexander, months ago to the chagrin of Gatesville locals. It is now back inside a window at the Coryell Museum.

PRODIGAL 'LURCH' RETURNS

Halloween fixture makes comeback in Coryell Museum

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Five years ago, Harold Alexander paid \$18.99 for an animatronic butler at the Goodwill store in Waco.

Little did he know he was bringing home to Gatesville a figurine that would capture the local imagination.

Alexander named the figurine Lurch, propping it up in the front porch of his house on Lutterloh and Main Street.

It didn't take long for his Halloween display to become a local hit.

As Lurch's popularity grew, Alexander decided to let Lurch remain on the porch and would dress him up for each season, holiday, or event.

For Easter, Lurch would be dressed in a bunny costume with

PLEASE SEE LURCH | A3

FIGHTING HORNETS BAND SHINES



MARK GOODSON | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Gatesville High School's Fighting Hornet Marching Band won best in Class 4A, and best color guard at the Lake Whitney Marching Festival. The Hornet Band placed second out of 29 bands.

County Court lauds youth for 4-H service

BY JEFF OSBORNE
Senior Staff Writer

With an emphasis on service, leadership and pursuing excellence, 4-H is helping to build a strong foundation for the future.

That was a message shared during the Oct. 12 meeting of the Coryell County Commissioners Court, as a trio of Coryell County Youth Ambassadors shared success stories.

One of the most recent examples of that success was the Coryell County livestock judging team winning a national championship. More details on that pathway to excellence and the hard work of those involved in achieving at the highest level will be featured in an upcoming edition of The Messenger.

"We recognize what great things y'all are doing and appreciate you teaching younger kids, as well. You can't have a good 4-H club without great leadership, and those efforts are paying off."

ROGER MILLER
Coryell County Judge

"These kiddos are investing in our future," said Becky Coward, Agrilife Extension agent for Coryell County with an emphasis on 4-H and youth development. "We've been traveling far and wide representing the community and also

servicing our local community." Samuel Belt, a senior 4-H ambassador, shows beef cattle - something that keeps him plenty busy beyond his leadership role.

PLEASE SEE 4-H | A2

QUESTION & ANSWER CORNER

Q: What is the highest point in Coryell County?

A: The highest peak in the county can be found on the far western portion of the county. The peak, located near North Bee House Creek, has an elevation of 1,493 feet.

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OCTOBER BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

Texas Building and Roofing Supplies gets the nod



COURTESY PHOTO

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce October Business of the Month is Texas Building and Roofing Supplies. The general manager of the business is Ernesto Mendoza. The business is located at 200 Cattle Road in Gatesville. They can be reached at 254-865-5777. Business of the Month is sponsored by Extraco Banks and The Gatesville Messenger. The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce recognizes an outstanding business each month to spotlight. Nominees for Business of the Month must be a Chamber member.

GRANT

FROM PAGE A1

The two areas of focus would center on downtown development and also development along the Highway 36 corridor.

"I think it's important for Gatesville and would recommend two lines of development (downtown and Highway 36)," Parry said.

"You'd think (those areas) could feed off each other," said Councilwoman Meredith Rainer.

"I think so," Parry said. "I would hope the consultant would recommend programs for small business development to take advantage of resources available."

KEY AREAS FOR GROWTH

A previous economic study for Gatesville done by Charley Ayres, director of industry-education partnerships for Central Texas Workforce Solutions, indicated that department stores and sporting goods stores were two areas in which the community was underserved and where it could potentially see growth.

Putting together a plan to focus on key areas for growth would be beneficial to the community, Parry said.

A memorandum to the Council noted "the lack of a comprehensive economic development plan that has broad community buy-in has been a deterrent to achieving our primary economic development goal - which is to increase the tax base in order

to relieve some of the pressure associated with generating sufficient general fund revenues in order to provide (the best) level of service for our residents."

One of the challenges Gatesville faces in its economic goals, according to its application for the American Rescue Plan money, is that "approximately one-half of the city's population is incarcerated in five Texas Department of Criminal Justice facilities."

The application also noted that while Gatesville experienced an increase in population between 2010 and 2020, it was "not at the rate seen along the (Interstate 35/Interstate 14) corridors."

ECONOMY IN NEED OF BOOST

A report from the Com-

troller's regional report indicated the median household income in the region was \$50,242, while the median household income for Gatesville was \$42,122 — 67 percent of the national average and 84 percent of the regional average.

Another challenge cited in the application for funds is that "Gatesville is not significantly economically impacted by Fort Hood as the mission at North Fort Hood is to mobilize and demobilize reserve component soldiers who lack transportation, do not have family members, nor do they reside in the city."

A third challenge listed is that "a large number of Gatesville residents are not employed in Gatesville, opting to commute greater

distances for better-paying jobs.

Also, "the current low tax base ... coupled with a low number of taxable commercial properties makes it difficult to generate enough revenue to pay for municipal services. The intent of this economic development strategy will be to determine the best use of the downtown area to create opportunities for small businesses/entrepreneurs, while identifying the ideal location for larger commercial businesses."

The application further noted that the city grew by 928 residents from 2010 to 2020 despite the fact that there was a decrease of 544 prison inmates.

"Over the past 20 years, numerous businesses around the square have

closed resulting in vacant buildings which are an eyesore. There are several interested small business entrepreneurs who have said they cannot afford the capital cost associated with rehabilitating an existing building."

The economic study would help identify ways these entrepreneurs could tap into funds to develop viable businesses that would provide the community with additional services and shopping while also helping to boost Gatesville's tax base and revenue.

"Attracting businesses that are the right fit for the available workforce is critical to the success of the economic development strategy," the application stated.

4-H

FROM PAGE A1

"We travel pretty much every other week to shows, if not every week," he said. "I've recently showed cattle in Abilene and Waco, and there will be other shows leading up to the county fair in January."

Coward said Samuel is taking what he learns and passing it on to the next generation.

"He's a strong leader, and he's using his skills to help others," she said.

Cayleigh Coursey, a sophomore, is specializing in photography, and works closely with others who want to improve their skills in that area.

"We traveled to Dallas to work on photography in that beautiful area, and I'm planning a trip to take pictures of flowers," she said.

Cayleigh is also a member of the Healthy Texas Youth Ambassadors. She works with children at the boys and girls club to teach them the importance of exercise and nutrition in maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

"She was teaching the kids how to chop veggies," Coward said, adding that an emphasis on safety was every bit as important as the focus



JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

FUTURE LEADERS: Three Gatesville 4-H ambassadors were recognized by the Coryell County Commissioners Court Tuesday. From left, Kylee Deason, Cayleigh Coursey and Samuel Belt.

on nutrition.

Kylee Deason, a senior, is showing cattle and angora

goats and is also among the 4-H program's local leaders. "We celebrate 4-H year

round in Coryell County — that's the truth," Coward said. "Each one of our

4-H members and clubs are involved in different programs, and we cover

the whole county. There is a strong element of leadership and community service. Your support is greatly appreciated."

County Judge Roger Miller said the leadership skills the youth learn in 4-H are invaluable.

"We appreciate so much y'all's involvement," he said. "You can look at our society and see so many problems. With kids in 4-H, we have a core of the good things in our society, they are developing skills, leadership, a heart for service."

"We recognize what great things y'all are doing and appreciate you teaching younger kids, as well. You can't have a good 4-H club without great leadership, and those efforts are paying off. We are also thankful for the parents that encourage, uplift and build them up."

Miller read a proclamation honoring local 4-H participants, saying that the knowledge and skills learned in the program helps the youngsters to develop into the community, state and national leaders of tomorrow.

"It builds character and installs the values that made our state and our country great," Miller said.

JAIL

FROM PAGE A1

\$82,250 for June, but then changed the contract."

Because of the size of the Coryell County Jail, the county often has to send inmates to neighboring counties. Outsourcing jail space

is costly and was one of the topics of discussion at a recent meeting.

"I would not pay them any more than what they provided services for," commissioner Kyle Matthews said.

Coryell County is also sending jail inmates to Bosque, Mills, Comal, Limestone, Erath and McLennan

counties as the need arises.

"Those agreements are for just a few here and there, not a large number (of inmates)," Roberts said.

BRIDGE CONTRACT

In other business, the commissioners adjusted the contract for work on the Yoder Bridge. Volatility in the cost

of materials prompted the action.

"The contract was originally done in September 2020," said Justin Latham, road and bridge administrator for the county. "Prices have increased by 7.1 to 7.4 % from last year."

"I'm honestly surprised it was that low. Most of the increases were due to steel

prices, which were up 30 to 40 percent."

The new contract will be valid through March 31, 2022. One of the increases is an adjustment from \$111,725 to \$120,000 for a 60-foot span of the bridge.

PER DIEM ALLOWANCE

County employees who are

traveling will be limited to \$60 per day for meal reimbursement after a measure was approved by the commissioners court.

The item was approved after Commissioner Matthews suggested there be a limit placed on the meal reimbursements.



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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DEADLINES:

Submit all news articles, classifieds and display advertising by 10am Friday for the Wednesday issue and 10am 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

newspaper format as determined by management.

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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.

The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through law enforcement dispatchers. While there were many calls, this is a partial list of more significant activity. Persons are reminded that

CITY OF GATESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Oct. 10
 1:31 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2300 block of E. Main Street.
 4:38 a.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 1800 block of Main Street.
 3:33 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 700 block of N. Lovers Lane.
 4:14 p.m., a threat was reported in the 600 block of E. Leon Street.
 8:57 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 400 block of 118th Street, Fort Hood.

Oct. 11
 1:13 p.m., criminal mis-

chief was reported in the 100 block of Dodds Creek Drive.
 3:48 p.m., a threat was reported in the 1400 block of Westview Drive.
 4:37 p.m., a burglary was reported in the 1000 block of 1000 block of E. Leon Street.
 6:37 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1000 block of Scenic Drive.
 7:55 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 100 block of State School Road.
 9:25 p.m., an accident was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.

Oct. 12
 6:12 a.m., an accident was reported in the 14000 block of Old Georgetown Road.
 9:11 a.m., a welfare concern was reported in the

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2100 block of E. Main Street.
 10:31 a.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 200 block of N. State Hwy. 36.
 1:56 p.m., harassment was reported in the 500 block of Leon Street.
 6:30 p.m., a reckless driver

was reported in the 3700 block of E. Main Street.

CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Oct. 10
 1:26 a.m., a livestock report was reported on FM 929 and Osage Road.
 10:20 a.m., a downed stop sign was reported on N. FM 116 and FM 1783.
 3:32 p.m., poaching was reported on Coryell Creek at the low water crossing.
 5:58 p.m., animal neglect was reported in the 1600 block of Oaksprings Road.
 9:08 p.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 1500 block of Quail Meadows.

11:42 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 1000 block of Old Pidcoke Road.

Oct. 11
 8:16 a.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 1000 block of Roberts Street.
 9:07 a.m., an animal complaint was reported on Airport Road.
 11:14 a.m., a major accident was reported in the 11000 block of E. Hwy. 84.
 12:10 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2300 block of U.S. Hwy. 84.
 12:40 p.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 500 block of CR 306.
 3:59 p.m., debris in the roadway was reported on FM 116 at Sierra Vista.

Oct. 12
 12:12 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported on FM 183.
 1:21 p.m., a theft was reported in the 200 block of Old Fort Gates Road.
 3:02 p.m., an animal complaint was reported on CR 227 and FM 182.
 5:26 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported on W. Hwy. 84 and CR 177.
 6:04 p.m., illegal dumping was reported in the 600 block of CR 245.
 6:20 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 1000 block of CR 245.

Crime Stoppers seeks help in solving recent firearm theft case

Centex Crime Stoppers can use your help in solving a firearm theft that happened sometime between Sept. 5, 2021 and Sept. 29, 2021. The weapon is presumed to have been sto-

len from a vehicle. The stolen weapon is an Italian-made semi-automatic 9-mm Tanfoglio Defiant Force Combat pistol, and resembles the more commonly known CZ models.

The value of the stolen weapon is approximately \$850. If you have any information about any case or any local crime, call Centex Crime

Stoppers 24 hours a day at 1-254-865-8477 (TIPS) or visit the website at www.Centexcrimestoppers.org or by downloading the "P3" mobile app available on both the

Apple app store and Google Play Store. You never have to give your name, and if your information leads to an arrest, you may be eligible for a cash reward.

Crime Stoppers, citizens, police, and the media working together can make our community a safer place to live. Together we can make a difference.

LURCH

FROM PAGE A1

rabbit ears and holding an Easter basket. At Christmas, he became Santa Claus. Alexander was always very

creative with Lurch and his wardrobe, turning the figurine into a local sensation. Motorists would stop and gawk from their cars as they waited for the traffic light to change. Occasionally, people

would stop and photograph Lurch and comment on how much they liked the costume he was wearing.

LURCH GOES AWOL
 Several months ago, people noticed Lurch was no lon-

ger standing vigil at the intersection. It caused quite a stir in Gatesville. Local Facebook pages and accounts, atwitter about the disappearance, sought answers. Alexander had decided to move back to Waco, and, of

course, his faithful animatron friend went with him.

The townsfolk sought a replacement.

"I... inquired whether (Alexander) would help the museum set up a mannequin like Lurch that we could dress for the holidays, etc. since everyone seems to miss Lurch in front of the house at Lutterloh and Main," said Rhonda Mohler, a Coryell Museum board member. "(He) offered to bring Lurch home to Gatesville along with all his costumes so all could enjoy seeing him again."

Life in a small town just seems to suit Lurch a little better, and it's a place where he can receive a little more

attention than he could get in Waco.

Lurch will continue to reside on Main Street, but at a different location than his previous address. Lurch can now be seen in the display window at the Coryell Museum where he will once again be modeling his seasonal fashions.

"I am so thankful that Lurch has brought so much joy to the Gatesville community," Alexander said.

The Coryell Museum and Historical Center is located at 718 E. Main Street in Gatesville.

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Now that we have slowed down and taken a breath, we would like to thank everybody that has supported Case through his healing! The benefit was a huge success and we could not have done it without our friends, family, & awesome community. God is Good, We love y'all!



- Case & Kristen Jones

GATESVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Ribbon cuttings held for two local businesses



The Gatesville Messenger



Therapeutic Massage & Spa

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce recently had ribbon-cutting events for Therapeutic Massage & Spa and The Gatesville Messenger.

Therapeutic Massage & Spa is now open and operating from a new location at

303 N. Lutterloh. The owners are Brandi and Michael Bernquist. Brandi has had years of experience practicing massage therapy. She specializes in orthopedic, prenatal, hot stone, deep tissue, sports, lomilomi, Swed-

ish and reflexology massage. The business can be reached by calling 254-404-9000.

The Gatesville Messenger newspaper was purchased by the Hyde Media Group from Roberts Publishing Company in May. Sam Hous-

ton was named as the new publisher and David Montesino was named managing editor. The newspaper office continues to be located at 116 S. 6th St. The newspaper can be reached by calling 254-865-5212.

COUNTY WIDE

Tiny Tots costume contest

Coryell Health RehabLiving will be hosting its annual Tiny Tots Costume Contest on Friday, Oct. 29, at 2 p.m. for children as old as 4. The location for the contest will be outside of the RehabLiving facility. Contestants are asked to arrive 15 minutes before 2 p.m. The best costume will win a \$100 cash prize. Unfortunately, Coryell Health will not have any trick-or-treating this year.

Coryell Health RehabLiving is located at 110 Chicktown Road in Gatesville.

Pearl Community Center business meeting

The Pearl Community Center will be having its quarterly business meeting on Monday, Oct. 18, at 6:30 p.m. If anyone has business that needs to be brought in front of the board of directors, please contact Connie Long by calling 254-223-0621. The Pearl Community Center is located at 6301 FM 183 in Pearl.

Sausage Fest at the Grove

The Grove Community Center is hosting Sausage Fest, a bake sale and raffle on Saturday, Nov. 13. The meal will be from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Proceeds will be used for updates and improvements on the community center.

The menu will include sausage, noodles, pinto beans, coleslaw, bread, beverages, trimmings, and dessert. An Adult plate is \$12 and a children's plate (for those 10 and under) is \$6. Drive-through and take-out orders are available.

Sheriff's Office to host 'America's Last Hope'

The Constitutional Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association and The Coryell County Sheriff's Office invites the public to attend The County Sheriff: America's Last Hope. The event will take place on Wednesday, Oct. 20, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Texas Station Event Center located at 4105 TX-36.

Featured speakers at the event will include former sheriff, Richard Mack; Michael Perouka, a defender of the constitution; former sheriff, Brad Rodgers; Gary Heavin, event sponsor; and special guest, George Washington.

MOUND NEWS

School children participate in agriculture field trip

BY BARBARA HOPSON

A total of 820 fourth and fifth graders from schools all over Coryell County participated in the annual Kids Kows and More Science of Agriculture Day field trip at the Gatesville Civic Center last Tuesday for the National 4-H Week Oct. 3-9.

Several people from Mound attended National Fire Prevention Week in Gatesville at the Gatesville Fire Department Oct. 3-9.

Mrs. Carol (Reaves) Hamilton died Sunday Oct. 3, 2021. A memorial service was held Friday at Cashner Funeral Home in Conroe. Burial was in Pearl Cemetery in Pearl. Mrs. Hamilton was a cousin of the Hopson family and had many other relatives of Coryell County.

Miss Allie Faith McPherson was honored for her 11th birthday with a hamburger cook-out given by her parents and sisters, Mark, Kelli, Kinsley and Anna McPherson. Those attending were family and friends.

Julia, Brooke and Reese Dixon of Liberty Hill spent a few days in

Gatesville with their grandparents, Kenneth and Nancy Dixon. While here they visited with their cousins.

Lillian and Max McClellan of Fort Worth spent the weekend with their grandparents, Frank and Susie Hopson. While here they visited with their cousins.

Ruby and Jacklyn Pullen of Rockwall, great-nieces of Barbara Hopson, competed in the Lucky Dog Productions Barrel races in Texarkana Saturday morning. Ruby and her horse, Mr. Pickles, placed second in the under 12 age group. Jacklyn and her horse, Jazzy, had a great run but they did not place.



Barbara Hopson

Matti and Lillie Mann showed at the Heart of Texas Livestock show this past weekend. Matti had the third-place Duroc in her class and Lillie, took third place Cross in her class.

Samuel, Charles and Thomas Belt showed their steers at the Heart of Texas Fair and Rodeo. They showed well both days and enjoyed the experience.

Carolyn Blakley visited College Station with her daughter, Emma

Blakley, on Saturday. They both attended the Texas A&M versus Alabama football game.

Don and Sue Jones had Sunday lunch at a local restaurant with Kelby and Sterlin Shults, Bobby Jones, Larry Johnson, Colbi Allison, Brad and Morgan Deats and family.

Ron and Blayn Smith of Dallas visited Sunday afternoon with Don and Sue Jones, Kelby and Sterlin Shults.

Joseph, Helen and Debbie Piller, Chris and Jennifer Miller, Ronnie, Kay, Amanda, Slayton and Caymbri Fisher and Claudia Brown went to watch Brodie play football against St. Stephens Episcopal School in Oglesby.

John Paul Stephens and his daughters, Christina and Rebekah Stephens of Flower Mound, spent the weekend with Ray and John Stephens.

Martha Lawhorn visited last Friday in Gatesville with Mrs. Doris Hoff.

Mrs. Elizabeth McCorkle recently visited in Buda with her son, Alan McCorkle and family.

Tammy Roe of Nemo, Patti

Thompson of Longview and Mrs. Beth Haines of Gatesville recently visited with David and Pam Hopson. While here they all went shopping and sightseeing in Hico.

Beth Haines of Gatesville, Margaret and Pam Hopson, and Kinsley and Allie McPherson visited last Sunday afternoon with Barbara Hopson.

Several people of Mound attended the wedding of Miss Courtney Nicole Smith and Billy Tate Shoaf at the Harvey's Ranch last Saturday evening in Gatesville. Courtney is the cousin of Barbara Hopson.

Several people from Mound attended the 2021 Gatesville High School Homecoming on Oct. 8, which included the bonfire, pep rally, and Homecoming football game against Salado, plus class reunions and the alumni banquet. This year king and queen were Evan Hanson and Jozy Jackson.

Barbara's notes: Happy Birthday to Kathi Taylor and Donna Kuykendall



DEAR FRANKIE

Feeling resentful of being dressed up

Dear Frankie,
Don't get me wrong; I love my mom. I'd even say she's perfect, except for one thing. She loves being hip, wearing torn jeans and shoes with spikes (even though she has a bad foot). I love to see the outfits she comes up with. But I wouldn't say I like seeing them on me.

At Christmas, she dressed me up like a reindeer; Easter was rabbit ears, and on Halloween, a costume for the dog parade competition. Thank God I didn't win. Can you imagine the reaction at the dog park? It would take me years to live it down.

The rest of the year, it's bandanas and bows. Lassie and Rin-Tin-Tin were revered dogs. They didn't wear clothes. So why me, I ask?
Cordially,
Camilla

Dear Camilla,
I'm with you, Camilla 100%. I think dressing up a dog is demeaning and disrespectful. Remember in my earlier column I told you that humans believe they are our parents and parenting is the most competitive sport in America? So, they dress you up and show you off like you were their child. Your Mom means well. It's her way of expressing love.

Yeah, I know a cookie would be better; but try telling her that. Whatever her reason, don't put up with it. When you see her approaching, run away, hide under the bed. If she does catch you, squirm and make it hard

for her to dress you.
As a last resort, I'm not saying you should do this, but a dog friend told me that every time her mom dressed her up, she immediately peed on the rug. After countless carpet-cleaning episodes, the mom put two and two together and threw all her dog clothes away.
Sometimes, Camilla, you need to resort to extreme measures.
Best,
Frankie

GENEVA WOODRUFF
Frankie is a rescue dog and an emotional support animal for Geneva Woodruff. Woodruff is a retired educator.

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GAME WARDEN FIELD NOTES

Swarm of bees attack unsuspecting rancher

DAVID MONTESINO | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

The following items are compiled from recent Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) law enforcement reports.

BEE CAREFUL!

A swarm of bees attacked a rancher utilizing an open top bulldozer to clear brush from his property when he inadvertently ran over their hive. Unable to be removed from his vehicle, a ranch hand covered him in blankets and called emergency services for assistance. Supported by local EMS, Sheriff's Department, and the Eldorado Volunteer Fire Department, Schleicher and Sutton County Game Wardens responded to the incident. The volunteer fire department sprayed down the area to remove some of the bees. One of the responding wardens, an avid beekeeper

in his spare time, applied his knowledge to reach the rancher. Wearing his personal beekeeping suits, the wardens and sheriff removed the man from the bulldozer. Since the area was inaccessible to EMS vehicles, the wardens cleared their truck and transported the severely stung operator to EMS vehicles who were waiting to take him to the hospital. He recovered from his injuries.

TUBIN' TO THE OLDIES

Real and Uvalde County Game Wardens received a call about a 67-year-old man who had been separated from his family while tubing down the river. After interviewing the family and the outfitter, wardens determined the tuber failed to exit at the designated area and continued downstream. One warden drove to a nearby

ranch where he launched a drone in an attempt to locate the tuber. At the same time, the other warden spoke to the foreman of the ranch and requested assistance in locating the tuber.

The foreman spoke to a group of tubers who said they saw the individual. The information was relayed to both wardens. Based on the tips, the wardens located the individual and returned him to his family.

SHELL SHOCKED

A state biologist contacted a warden about an inquiry made by a local elementary school regarding rehabilitating Texas tortoises. After learning more about the situation, the warden determined that the school was keeping approximately 24 tortoises inside a small atrium on school property.

Unfortunately, the tortoises were a threatened species and unable to be possessed by any individual or entity. School staff stated that several years ago they acquired two tortoises and over the years, students brought more tortoises into the facility.

The warden arrived at the school to collect the tortoises for TPWD assisted relocation. In doing so, the curious students and staff gathered around the atrium to watch. The warden made use of the attention by turning the removal into an impromptu educational program on the tortoises and their natural habitat. The tortoises were later released at a nearby ranch in prime Texas tortoise habitat.

MOTHER KNOWS BEST
Over the Memorial Day

weekend, game wardens conducting water safety patrols were sent videos of a man jumping off a red and white boat, harassing and capturing a Canada Goose. Despite efforts to locate the boat and the individuals involved, wardens were unable to track them down.

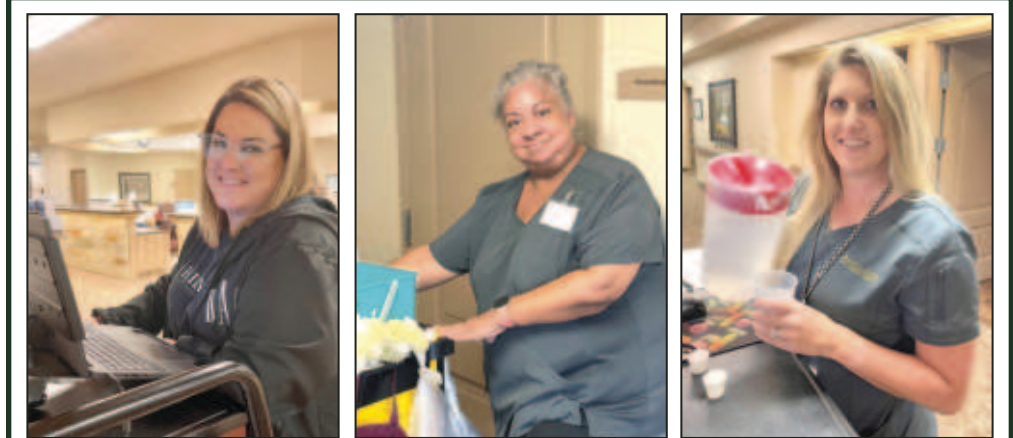
Two months later while conducting a water safety check on a different boat, the wardens noticed several of the occupants on the vessel wearing identical hats to those in the video. One of the wardens humorously asked about the hats and if they knew the individual who had caught the goose in the video. The occupants confirmed they knew him and affirmed their knowledge of the "goose video."

They pointed to a male in the back of the boat and identified him as the "goose

capturer." The Wardens asked the identified male to join them on their boat for further questioning.

The male admitted he was the one in the video and said his mom had warned him he was going to get into trouble. He added, "I should've listened to my mom!" Wardens explained to the individual the definition of "Hunt," according to Texas law is "To capture, trap, take or kill, or any attempts thereof."

The individual was issued a citation for "Hunting Canada Geese in a Closed Season." He was also issued a written warning for "Hunting Canada Geese by Illegal Means and Methods." The goose survived.



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Mindfulness

"Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things."
Colossians 3:2 NIV

Mindfulness is a new-sounding concept that has been around for a while. Paying attention to our attention is a perennial issue for saints and sages, both because our minds are prone to wandering and because we can easily fill our minds with junk. Almost two-thousand years ago Marcus Aurelius said, "The things you think about determine the quality of your mind. Your soul takes on the color of your thoughts." This is vitally important because we become what we think about. And of course, much that goes on in our minds enters through the gates of our senses. What we see and hear on the internet and on television enters our minds, and we cannot un-see or un-hear

it. An essential part of mindfulness is guarding the senses and being careful what we let into our minds, and ultimately, into our souls. Our mind is like a bus, and our thoughts and feelings are like the passengers on the bus. They may be calm and orderly or loud and unruly. But we are the driver of the bus and we have control over where the bus is going. We can also let off certain passengers as we drive, and there are some passengers we should never let on in the first place.
- Christopher Simon



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BETHEL HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH: Hemmeline Cemetery Rd.; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m.
BETHLEHEM PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH: Elder, Hugh Montgomery, pastor; Peabody community 5 miles south of Pearl on FM 1690; Sunday services - Morning worship 4th Sunday each month at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH: Steven L. Bogan, pastor; Hwy. 84 and FM 116; Sunday services - Bible study 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m., evening worship 6:30 p.m.
COLD SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH: Bob Phillips, pastor; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m., evening worship 5:30 p.m.
EASTWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH: Lynn Parks, pastor; 2518 East Main; Sunday services - Sunday School 9:45 a.m., morning worship 10:50 a.m.; Wednesday evening services, 6 p.m.
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF EVANT: Andrew Newton, pastor; Live Oak Street and Memory Lane; Sunday services - Sunday School 9:45 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m., evening worship 6 p.m.
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF FLAT: Sunday School 9 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.; Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 7 p.m.; Wednesday Youth Group & Kid Knights 7 p.m.; Wednesday Supper first Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m.; Men's Breakfast second Saturday of each month at 7:30 a.m.
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF GATESVILLE: Mark Rich, Pastor; 912 E. Main Street; Sunday services - Sunday School 9:30 a.m., morning worship 10:45 a.m.
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF OGLESBY: Jeremy Sanders, pastor; Sunday services - Bible study 9:45 a.m., morning worship 10:50 a.m.
GATEWAY BAPTIST CHURCH: Michael Bragdon, Pastor; Hwy. 36 East; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m., evening worship 1:30 p.m.; Wednesday Service 7:00 p.m.
HARMONY BAPTIST CHURCH: A.C. Painter, pastor; 1750 FM 215; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m., evening worship 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday evening worship 6:30 p.m.
HAY VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH: 3110 Hay Valley Road, off Hwy 36 North. Sunday morning services - Sunday School 10:00 am, Worship 11:00 am. AWANA children's ministry Sunday evening 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Bible Study for men and women on Wednesday at 6:30 pm.
JONESBORO BAPTIST CHURCH: Matt Dossey, pastor; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 10:50 a.m.
KING BAPTIST CHURCH: Charles W. McKamie, pastor; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m., evening worship 6 p.m.
LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH: Royle T. Cockrell, DMin., Pastor; Corner of FM 107 & HWY 36 in Gatesville; Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Morning Service 11:00 a.m., Second Service 1:00 p.m., Family Bible Study Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.
LIVE OAK BAPTIST CHURCH: Bro. Ken Laney, pastor; FM 107; Sunday services - Sunday School 9:15 a.m., morning worship 10:30 a.m., Wed. evening Adult, Youth and Children's Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH: Rev. Kurt Fuessel, pastor; Hwy. 84 East in South Mountain community; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m., evening worship 6 p.m. Prayer meeting 7:00 p.m. Wednesday.

OSAGE BAPTIST CHURCH: Chris Thomas, pastor; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m.
PEARL BAPTIST CHURCH: Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m.
PECAN GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH: Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m.
PIDCOKE BAPTIST CHURCH: Donald McConnaughay, pastor; 11125 FM 116, Gatesville; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., worship service 11 a.m. www.pidcokebaptist.com
PLEASANT VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH: Chris Post, Pastor; CR 301, Jonesboro, TX; Sunday school at 10 a.m. and Sunday worship at 11 a.m.
PRIMERO IGLESIA EMANUEL: One mile north of Evant on Hwy. 281; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m.
PURMELA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH: Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m.
SWEET HOME BAPTIST CHURCH: 511 North 14th; Sunday services - Sunday morning worship 10 a.m., church school 5 p.m., evening worship 6 p.m.
SPANISH BAPTIST CHURCH: Ezequiel Casas, pastor; 113 Veazy Dr.; Sunday Services; Sunday School 10:00 a.m., worship 11:00 a.m., Wednesday Prayer Meeting 6:00 p.m.
TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH: Tim Crosby, pastor; 1506 West Main; Sunday services - Sunday School 9:30 a.m., morning worship 10:50 a.m. Wednesday Services - Prayer Meeting/Youth Ministry 6:00 p.m., TBC Kids at 6 p.m. Email: trinitybctx@centurylink.net. Church: 254-865-8495 or Pre-school: 254-248-0041.
TURNERSVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH: Jon Crosby, Pastor; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m., Wednesday night Bible study, 6 p.m.
WESTVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH: Hwy. 84 West; Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m.
WHITE HALL BAPTIST CHURCH: Mike Barron, pastor; 2040 CR 238, Gatesville; Sunday school at 10 a.m.; Sunday morning worship services 11 a.m.; Prayer & Devotional meeting fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.; 254-865-2106.
WHITE MOUND BAPTIST CHURCH/MOUND COWBOY CHURCH (meet at 9:30 a.m.): Bruce Cox, pastor; Sun. services - Sun. School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m. For more info., call 254-865-5908.

Church of God
CORNERSTONE, Greg Demmitt, pastor; 338 State School Road; Sunday services - morning worship 11 a.m. www.facebook.com/pages/cornerstone/140632994733
Evangelical Methodist
REFUGE-MINISTRIES PURMELA CHURCH CAMPUS: Josh Morrison, Campus Pastor; 115 FM 183, Purmela, Texas, 10:45 a.m. Sunday worship, 512-425-2828.
Lutheran
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH: David Reedy, International Interim Pastor; 922 Lutheran Church Rd. in Copperas Cove; Sunday morning Bible Study at 9:15 a.m.; Sunday morning worship at 10:30 a.m.
ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH: Rev. Christopher Richman, PhD; FM 929 in Coryell City; Sunday services - Morning worship 9 a.m., Sunday School 10:15 a.m.
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH: Rev. John Heckmann, pastor; Hwy. 36 and FM 1114 in The Grove; Sunday services - Sunday School 9 a.m., worship 10:15 a.m.
Methodist
BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: Sunday services - 11 am. 2nd & 4th Sundays. 2 miles north of Ireland on FM 932
EVANT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: Judith Sellers, Pastor; Sunday services - Sunday School 9 a.m., morning worship 10 a.m.
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GATESVILLE: 2600 E. Main St.; Stephen Schmidt, pastor; Sunday worship - 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. WEDNESDAY WORD: Meal at 5:30 p.m. \$3; youth, Children and Adult Bible Studies at 6:00 p.m. AA meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6:30 p.m. Visit us at fumcgatesville.org for more information.
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OGLESBY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: Sunday services - morning worship 9:45 a.m., Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
PIDCOKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: Bill Jones, Pastor; Hwy. 116; Worship service Sundays at 10 a.m. 254-677-6242.
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CORYELL COMMUNITY CHURCH: Daniel Crowther, Pastor; 115 N. Levita Rd., Gatesville, 248-0849. Sunday Worship services 9am & 10:30 a.m. Wednesday services 6pm; Adult Bible Study, Children's Ministry and C3 Student

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CORYELL FELLOWSHIP CHURCH: Doran Belknap III, Pastor; Sunday service 11:00 a.m., 8205 FM 182 in Turnersville; (254) 218-5901.
GATESVILLE REVIVAL CENTER: Wes Covey, Pastor; Sunday school 10:00 a.m., Sunday morning 11:00 a.m., Sunday evening 6 p.m., Thursday evening 7 p.m. 2518 Bridge St., Gatesville.
GRACE ASSEMBLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH: Wray Nunn, pastor; Sunday morning worship at 10:30 a.m. & Wednesday evening worship at 6:30 p.m. at Gateway Learning Center, 2315 Osage Road.
GRACE BIBLE CHURCH: Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. and Sunday Services at 10:45 a.m. 4012 US Hwy. 84, Gatesville.
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MOTHER NEFF FAITH TABERNACLE: William Bertelsen, Pastor; 1415 Texas Hwy. 236; Sunday services - 10:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.
PEARL COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP: 6735 FM 183 in Pearl. Sunday Services- 9:00 a.m.
THE HOUSE THAT GOD BUILT: Bill Trotter, pastor; 3412 E. Main St.; Sunday service 11 a.m., Wednesday service 7 p.m.
Pentecostal
TABERNACLE OF PRAISE UPC: Rev. Jimmy Skiles, pastor; 202 E. Main, Gatesville; Worship services - Sunday mornings at 10:00 am; Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm; www.gatesvilletop.org. 254-206-1826.
MOUNT CALVARY CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST: Rev. Lee O. Ford, pastor; 128 North 12th Street; Sunday services - Sunday School 9:45 a.m., worship 11 a.m., weekly services, Wed. Bible Study 6:30p.m.-7:30 p.m., Wed. night service, 7:30p.m.
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HIGHWAY 2 HEAVEN BIKER CHURCH: Monty & Tammy VanHorn, pastors; 1608 W. Main St., Gatesville; Sunday Praise and Worship 11 am, Wednesday Bible Study Rally-6 pm, 254-865-4076.
THE POINT FELLOWSHIP: James & Laurinda Paine, Pastors; 2315 Osage Road, Gatesville; Wednesday Services at 7:00 p.m. (Adults, youth & children); Sunday services - Destiny Discoversy Class at 9:00 a.m. and Regular services at 10:30 a.m. 254-248-1265.

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060
GARAGE SALE

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Hardbargain Market, Saturday, Oct. 16th, 7:30am-2:00pm, 250 FM 116. Vintage items, kitchenware, Halloween costumes, much more! Boys & Girls Club Resale Shop, 1706 E. Main. 00028853

Estate/Yard Sale, 201 Clay (off Golf Course Road), Oct. 15-16, Fri.-Sat., 8a.m. Longtime collector/dealer, antiques, collectibles, shop displays, piano, gifts, clothes, misc. & much more!

Carport Sale: Sat., Oct. 16, electric lawn mower, dog grooming supplies, dog crates, misc. items, 512 Liberty St. 254-223-2374.

PARKING LOT SALE Sat., Oct. 16, 9am-2pm. Furniture, kitchenware, Halloween costumes, much more! Boys & Girls Club Resale Shop, 1706 E. Main. 00028853

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072
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099
PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO DISTRICT RULES

The Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District ("MTGCD") Board of Directors will hold a Public Hearing on Proposed Amendments to District Rules on Thursday, November 4, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. at 930 Wolfe Nursery Rd, Stephenville, TX 76401. All interested parties are invited to attend.

AGENDA

The following items of business will be discussed, considered, and potentially acted upon by the Board of Directors of the Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District:

1. Call hearing to order and establish a quorum.
 2. Public hearing on Proposed Amendments to District Rules. The proposed amendments to the District Rules include changes to (1) the District Rules definitions and terms, including the definition of "contiguous" and "contiguous boundary"; (2) the MTGCD's general permitting policies and procedures, including the term of operating permits and the spacing and location of new permitted wells; (3) permit application requirements; (4) the amendment of grandfathered permits; (5) the inter-relationship of county platting requirements and District rules; and (6) the repeal of language regarding Board structure and officers.
 3. Receive public comments on Proposed Amendments to District Rules. Any person who desires to appear at the hearing and present comment or other information on the proposed Amendments to District Rules may do so in person, by counsel, or both. Comments may be presented verbally or in written form. Limits may be placed on the amount of time that each person is allowed to present verbal comments. The hearing posted in this notice may be recessed from day to day or continued where appropriate.
 4. Discuss, consider, and/or action on Proposed Amendments to District Rules. Changes may be made to the proposed District Rules based upon comments received or made at the hearing, and the rules may be adopted with or without such changes without further notice or hearing.
 5. Adjourn, recess, or continue rulemaking public hearing; written record may be left open for a limited time.
- A copy of the proposed Amendments to the District Rules may be requested by email at mtgcd2@centurylink.net, and is available at the MTGCD's website at www.middletrinitygcd.org, and may be reviewed or copied at 930 Wolfe Nursery Rd, Stephenville, TX 76401. Any person who wishes to receive more detailed information on this notice or the proposed District Rules should contact the General Manager, at 254-965-6705. 00028856

102
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- ◆ 9.24 acres in just south of Pearl, TX in Coryell County in Cross Timber Subdivision. The property has had the cedar removed & is ready to build on, scattered tree cover, nice views & paved county road. \$101,640.
- ◆ 9.97 acres southwest of Gatesville in King Ranch Subdivision. The property has good tree cover with rolling terrain and nice home site. The property has a water meter and electricity running along the north boundary. \$139,500
- ◆ 10.01 acres east of Evant, Stone Creek Ranch Subdivision, great tree cover, good elevation to build a home overlooking Langford Branch. The property also has a second branch that runs along the east side of the property with rock bluffs along the branch. Electricity is at the property; you would need to drill a water well for water. \$199,900
- ◆ 14.188 Acres 3 Br 2 Ba Brick Home, Hamilton County, TX 11066 FM 932, Jonesboro ISD. The property is open with several barns & outbuilding. \$192,500
- ◆ 14.89 acres east of Evant, TX, located on CR 160. good tree cover & rolling terrain. Known as Lots 66 & 67 in the Indian Creek Ranch Subdivision, \$150,000
- ◆ 16 acres 4 miles east of Evant, Hwy 84 Frontage, electric on property, good tree cover, rolling terrain. \$184,000.
- ◆ 19 acres Pearl, TX that goes upon Pearl Mountain that has an elevation of 1320 ft. above sea level. The property has approx. 140 ft. of change in Elevation with great views looking to the west. The property has good tree cover with and FM 1690 road frontage. Multi County Water meter is available, and electric is at the road. \$295,500
- ◆ 22 acres north of Purmela, TX, CR 102 & FM 932, has good tree cover, rolling terrain, electricity at the road, & water meter is available, good views to the southwest, Jonesboro ISD. \$253,000
- ◆ 23 acres north of Purmela, TX, CR 102, good tree cover, rolling terrain, electricity at the road & a water meter is available, Jonesboro ISD \$264,500
- ◆ 24.85 +/- acres south of Evant, TX in Lampasas County, barn, 1 stock pond & scattered tree cover with good views. \$310,625
- ◆ 25.051 acres east of Evant, Tx in Indian Creek Subdivision, water well, 1 portable building with electric, roll-up door and a shower, small shed that is used for outdoor kitchen. Indian Creek running through the property with 60 ft. of change in elevation, good tree cover. \$315,000
- ◆ 29 acres south of Pearl, TX in Coryell County on Blakely Rd. rolling terrain, good tree cover. South Bee House creek runs through the property, great views. \$275,500
- ◆ 37.28 acres east of Evant, Tx in Indian Creek Subdivision, Indian Creek runs through the property, 60 ft. of change in elevation, good tree cover, \$466,000
- ◆ 43 acres 3 Br 2 Ba brick home, detached garage, barn-workshop & 1 water well, open floor plan, granite counter tops, vaulted ceilings, 8 ft. front porch across the front & back of the house, wood burning stove, well-maintained yard & a rain harvest system at the barn, rolling terrain with scattered tree cover. \$625,000
- ◆ 74.7 acres west of Purmela, FM 1241, barn, cattle pens, good fences, nice view, centrally located. \$511,695.
- ◆ 105 acres south of Pearl, TX on Self Rd. good tree cover, rolling terrain, small branch that run through the property, barn that is approx. 38 ft. x 42 ft. in size with a rain harvest system that collects rain water from the roof of the barn. Electricity is along the property line in the northwest corner of the property \$743,775
- ◆ 115.59 acres north of Purmela, TX, Coryell County. Rolling terrain, good tree cover, great views. 1 tank, small seasonal creek along the north boundary, 20 ft. storage contain. \$795,000
- ◆ 166.94 acres east of Hamilton, TX. The ranch is secluded with a nice 2 Br 1 Ba frame home with a windmill water well, small equipment barn, grain bin & 2 stock tanks. The property has rolling terrain with scattered tree cover. \$749,000
- ◆ 179.562 acres 1.6 miles south of Gatesville, TX FM 116 frontage, great views, stock tank, rolling terrain & scattered tree cover. Multi-County Water & City of Gatesville have water line running down the front of the property on FM 116. \$1,230,000
- ◆ 210 acres Cow House Creek, Langford Branch & Indian Creek. The property has approx. 150 acres of Farmland, nice home site & Fiber Optic Internet service is available. The property is just east of Evant, TX \$1,470,000.

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SLAB

FROM PAGE A10

slab will work. Locating fish congregated on the bottom will allow the slab to work in most any season, but with water temperatures in the 60s and 70s you will see this situation more often.

There are a variety of jigging methods used by many. Some will drop the bait, reel it up through the fish and let it fall again. The fish usually hit

it on the fall. My favorite jigging routine is to bounce the bait off the bottom. But don't be fixated with one method. Try different jigging techniques until you find what will work for that day.

The different techniques that I usually try include violent jigging and then letting the bait fall. Sometimes very small bounces off the bottom will draw the strike. Other times dead sticking the slab (no movement) while drifting through the

fish is deadly. The slight flutter of the slab may be enough to draw the strike.

Sometimes it is prudent to jig the bait several times and then hold it steady for a few seconds. The predator watching your bait may decide to take it when it pauses.

Generally, more movement is required when the water temperatures are higher. Less movement with cooler water is usually the norm, but as I mentioned don't get

over-fixated on one technique. Try different techniques until you find what works the best.

CHOOSING A SLAB

Choosing a slab is important. There are several that will work. I usually stick with around a one-ounce slab for most species in our North Texas lakes. A two-ounce slab may be in order for larger striped and hybrid striped bass. I like chartreuse, white and/or silver

with chartreuse being my favorite. I use a couple of different slabs. I typically always have chartreuse prism Slab tied on. The willow leaf or shad-shaped (oval) models will work. RSR Lures has some great choices.

Another thing I will do is have at least one pole set up with a slab and a white crappie jig tied about 18 inches above the slab. When the fish really get going, you can catch two at a time. If the fish are feeding on smaller

baits, then the crappie jig may catch more fish.

The slab or spoon can catch most every species in our waters. This time of the year, the largemouth may be feeding in the same locations as the sandies and striped bass. You will also catch catfish, drum, crappie and carp at times. If the species feeds on shad they will likely bite a slab.

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

TENNIS

FROM PAGE A10

matches, then cruised home with five wins in the last seven matches.

Early and Ty Warren opened the day on court one

defeating Caleb Carlson/Cooper Henderson, 6-0, 6-0.

Alex Scott/Carlo Martinez defeated Alex Mullins/Jackson Seagraves, 6-0, 6-0.

Jesse Strange/Tyler Hutts fell to Ethan Stoerner/Jarrett Guterer, 6-2, 6-3.

In girls doubles, Stormy

Tatum/Julee Sun cruised to an opening win, defeating Anyla Paschal/Brenda Reid-Vega, 6-0, 6-0.

Anna Mitchell/Callie Smith defeated Mace Parent/Ayvee Taylor, 6-0, 6-1.

Bri Alexander/Kasey Fitzer defeated Corine Roberts/

Meadow Stevens, 6-1, 6-3.

In mixed doubles, Olivia Walker/Dhayne Zacha lost, 6-5, 6-1 to Joshua Hayes/Bahiya Remch.

In boys' singles, Warren posted 6-1, 6-1 win over Cooper Henderson.

Alex Scott defeated Alex

Mullins, 6-2, 6-2.

Carlo Martinez defeated Joshua Hayes, 6-4, 6-2.

Tyler Hutts lost to Caan Stoerner, 6-3, 1-6 (7-10).

Zacha defeated Jackson Seagraves, 8-5.

In girls singles, No.1 seed Tatum beat Paschal, 6-1, 6-0.

Others with singles wins were Anna Mitchell, Julee Sun, Callie Smith Oliva Walker and Kasey Fitzer.

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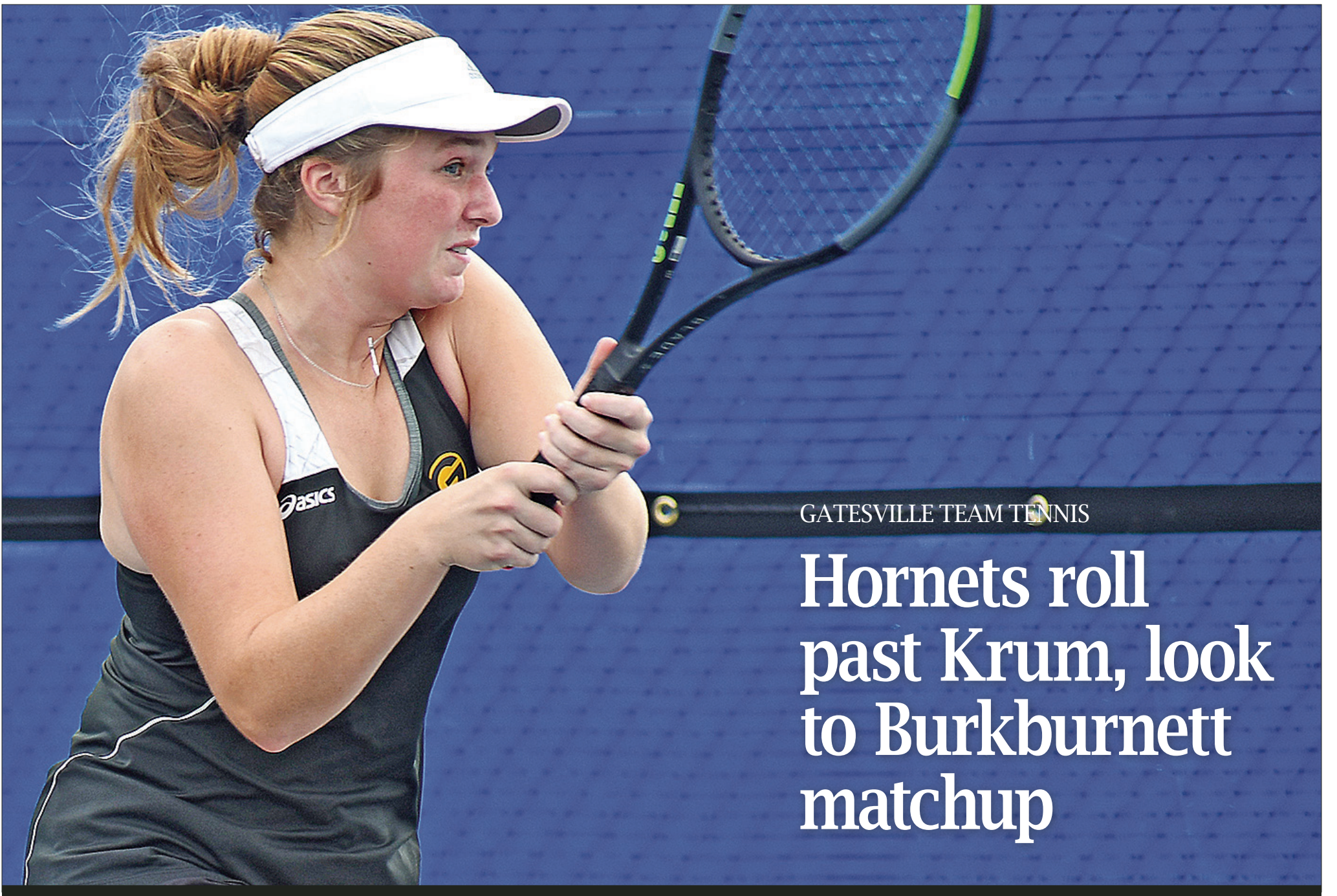
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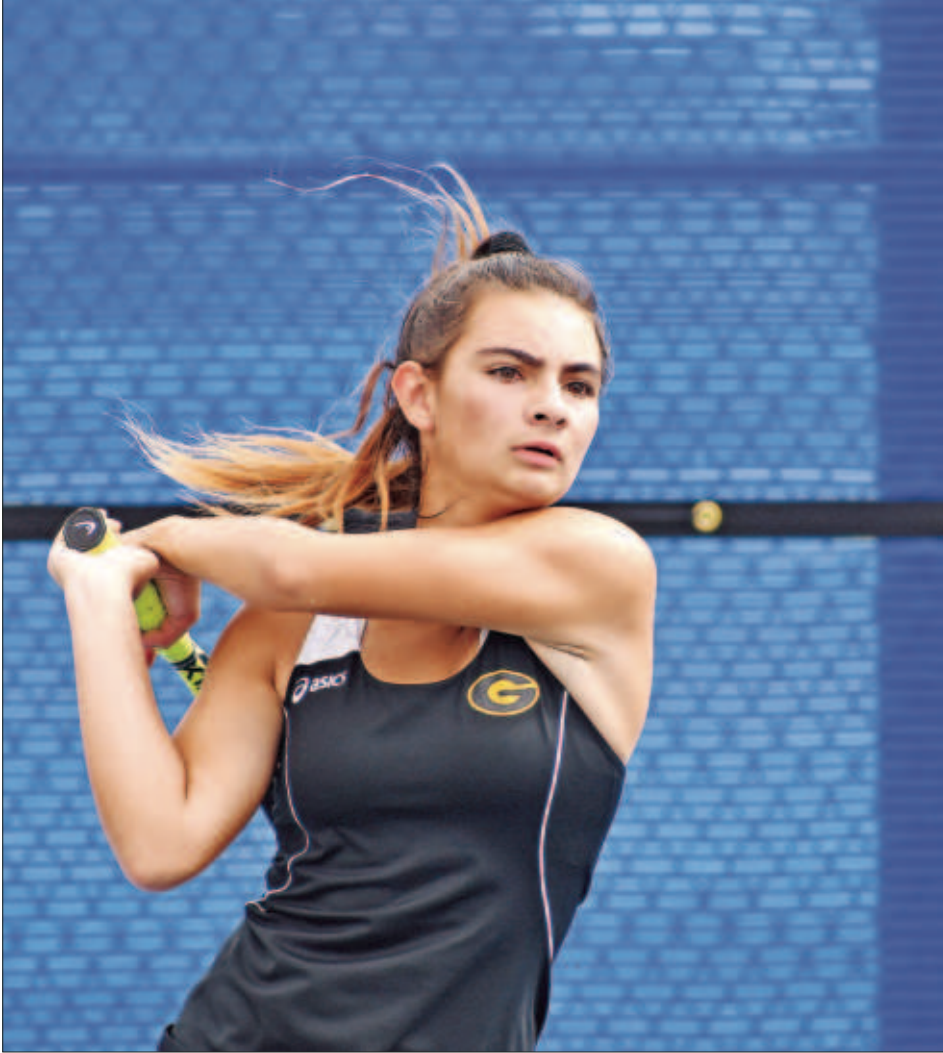
GATESVILLE TEAM TENNIS

Hornets roll past Krum, look to Burkburnett matchup

STORMING THE COURTS: Stormy Tatum, above and Julee Sun cruised to an opening win, defeating Anyla Paschal and Brenda Reid-Vega, 6-0, 6-0.

DETERMINED PAIR: Kasey Fitzer, right, and Bri Alexander defeated Corine Roberts and Meadow Stevens, 6-1, 6-3.

PHOTOS BY MARK GOODSON | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER



BY MARK GOODSON
Staff Writer

S lone Early had one of his toughest matches of the fall team tennis season Tuesday in Gatesville High School's bi-district playoff trip to Whitney High School. Early squared off with Krum junior Caleb Carlson in a display on hard-hitting tennis. Early won 7-5, 7-5 as both players matched accurate shots.

Carlson had plenty of topspin on his shots.

It was a battle throughout. "It's been a while since I've been tested and that threw me off a little," Early said.

Early said he's all about competing and Monday's singles match will only help him and the team as they make their way through the playoffs.

The team won 15 of 19 matches against Krum and carried momentum into the area round against highly-regarded Burkburnett. They faced Burkburnett at Mineral Wells Friday.

MONDAY SCORES
On Monday the Hornets breezed to 10 wins among the first 12



QUICK START: Ty Warren, above, and Slone Early opened the day defeating Caleb Carlson and Cooper Henderson.

PLEASE SEE **TENNIS** | A9

Gatesville Hornets hosting own cross country meet

BY MARK GOODSON
Staff Writer

Carlo Martinez and the Gatesville Hornets hope to do well in the District 6-4A cross country meet at

Gatesville Thursday, Oct. 14. Martinez has been flawless this season, setting the pace in all of his races this fall for the GHS boys team. He won at Stephenville with a

16:21 79 time in his last race. Gatesville's Luis Macias has been consistent, too. He clocked a time of 17:23.62 for third place overall at Stephenville. Stephenville should be the team

favorite in the boys division. Other Hornet racers are Jack Armstrong, Angel Armendariz, Abraham Armendariz and Morgan Clary. For Gatesville's girls team, fresh-

man Vania Martinez has been leading the squad. Gatesville's Bethany Penrod, Lacy Campos, Valeria Jimenez, Grace Penrod and Payton Armstrong also help lead the Lady Hornets.

GATESVILLE VOLLEYBALL

Hornets find serving touch to capture win

BY MARK GOODSON
Staff Writer

The Gatesville varsity volleyball team opened the second round of District 6-4A with a road victory over the Lampasas Badgers Tuesday.

The Hornets won, 25-19, 25-19, 25-14.

In the second game, the Hornets trailed 11-17 before turning the tide for the sweep.

"We served aggressively all night," Gatesville coach Janey Weber said.

Gatesville improved to 27-7 with the win over Lampasas. The team is

3-2 in district. The Hornets played at Brownwood on Friday. The JV and freshmen lost at Lampasas in two-game sweeps.

EVANT CLOSES SEASON
The Evant Elks close the regular season with two home volleyball matches.

Evant faces Three Way of Stephenville at 10 a.m. Saturday at Evant.

Next week, the Elks close the regular season with a Tuesday road game at Hico and an Oct. 23 match with Tolar.

ON FISHING

Water temperatures are getting right for using jigging slabs



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.

I use slabs year-around and I discuss their use in many seasons, but in the fall when water temperatures are right it is hard to miss when using a slab. Most folks use a slab for sand bass and striped bass but don't be surprised to catch most every species with a slab — especially right now.

A slab is a solid piece of painted lead or heavy metal, shaped typically in an oval or willow leaf form to mimic the look of a baitfish. These slabs are similar to a spoon, but they are not "cupped" like a spoon — although a spoon will work as well.

During the summer when the

water is hot and stratified, the fish tend to suspend more. This is when vertical jigging is not as successful. However, when the water temperature falls into the 60s and 70s and the fish congregate on the bottom on feeding flats and humps, the slab is deadly.

Look for bait and fish positioned on or near the bottom on your sonar graph. It may appear as a "ball" of bait with fish arches around and above the bait. It takes some getting used to, but if you are familiar with the picture I am trying to describe, you too will know that the

PLEASE SEE **SLAB** | A9