



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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Hazardous waste collection makes big local impact

BY JEFF OSBORNE
SENIOR WRITER & EDITOR

The annual household hazardous waste collection in Gatesville has helped clean up the county, the community and other participating counties in the Central Texas Council of Governments area, which stretches from Milam County in the east to San Saba and Mills counties in the west.

The latest version of the event will be from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at the Gatesville Civic Center, and people can take old paints, pesticides, medications, motor oil, and other chemicals to help ensure these items can be disposed of properly. A limited number of automobile tires (four) are accepted free, and there will be a charge for each additional tire

depending on its size. Items that will not be accepted include old TVs and electronics. Here are some statistics provided by Gatesville City Manager Bill Parry which show the impact of the collection.

A summary from 2021 indicates:

- * 389 people participated in the 2021 event.
- * 51.7% of participants were from outside the Gatesville city limits.
- * The most collected item was paint, with tires coming in second.
- * An estimated 26,477 pounds of material was collected in the chemical and paint area. With an average of 110 pounds per household dropped off, it is estimated that about 240 vehicles brought household hazardous waste to the site. About 150 other partici-

pants brought old tires to be recycled.

* About 71 percent of the total weight of items delivered was paint - or about 26,477 pounds.

* Organizers of the event were able to re-blend 28 5-gallon buckets of paint to give to people free of charge.

The event was not held in 2020 because of the COVID-19 quarantine. In 2019, an estimated 20,981 pounds of household hazardous waste (HHW) was collected in Gatesville and 34 5 gallon buckets of paint were bulked and given away. About 350 cars were counted participating in the 2019 collection day.

Collection days such as the one hosted by the city of Gatesville and the Central Texas Council of Governments make a positive impact.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, "improper disposal of HHW can include pouring them down the drain, on the ground, into storm sewers, or in some cases putting them out with the regular trash.

"The dangers of such disposal methods might not be immediately obvious, but improper disposal of these wastes can pollute the environment and pose a threat to human health.

"Certain types of HHW have the potential to cause physical injury to sanitation workers, contaminate septic tanks or wastewater treatment systems if poured down drains or toilets. They can also present hazards to children and pets if left around the house."

Marble mania inspires Gatesville man

BY JEFF OSBORNE
SENIOR WRITER & EDITOR

Retired educator Gatesville Dennis Taylor enjoyed collecting marbles when he was a kid, but a TV show he watched in 2010 sparked his interest again, and it's a passion that has become something more than a hobby, but less than a full-time occupation.

Taylor's love of marbles also extends to the boards that are used to play games with them. He has a Wa Hoo game board that was produced at a manufacturing plant in Gatesville before that facility burned in the 1960s. These days, Taylor is making his own boards for all the marbles.

That marble mania also has inspired trips to visit facilities in Ohio and West Virginia where marbles are made. He said during the production process, a furnace is heated to 1,900 or 2,000 degrees and base glass is transformed into marbles in a variety of sizes and colors.

Taylor has invested in marble runs that have allowed him to obtain thousands of marbles, but he isn't content to just have them sit and collect dust.

"When I get back home, I want to do something with them other than just putting them up in my room," he said.

That inspired him to create game boards which he sells. The handmade boards range in price from \$20 to \$55 depending on the size and type of wood used. Some of the boards focus on one game, and others feature three games.

"I'm not trying to make a living doing this, I do this because I like it," Taylor said. "I taught for 31 years so what I'm doing is geared toward kids and families, and giving them something to do other than staying on their phones.

Taylor said he used to travel to between 12 and 20 shows a year to sell his marble gaming boards, but last year reduced that to three shows, which were in Ballinger and San Angelo.

Interest in the game boards is high. He said last year, despite only taking part in three shows, he sold 100 Wa Hoo marble game boards.



JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

FINDING HIS MARBLES: Retired Gatesville educator Dennis Taylor re-connected with an old hobby after watching a TV show about how marbles are made. He now makes game boards for marbles.



JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Marbles come in a variety of sizes and colors.

"It's unbelievable to be able to do this, and it's something that I truly enjoy," Taylor said. "I have even made necklaces. This is a lot of

fun, and if other people enjoy it, too, it's even better."

Editors' squabble leads to shootings

BY DAVID SCOTT
STAFF WRITER

What started with a lynching led to dueling editors fatally shooting each other in Gatesville.

On a cold day in April of 1894, Edward Cash was sitting by his young wife's bedside awaiting the birth of their first child. Dr. Rufus Smith was present with the young couple awaiting the birth at their home near The Grove in Coryell County. Amidst the delivery, the door of their home burst open and a mob of disguised men rushed in... dragging Edward Cash outside.

His wife pleaded for mercy along with Dr. Smith, but the angry mob ignored their pleas. The mob drug the young 20-year-old Cash to a tree a short distance from the house, threw a rope round his neck and hung him. The mob, not being content with just hanging him, then proceeded to fire shots into his lifeless body.

The exact reason for the lynching has taken on various scenarios over the years and created controversial theories of public opinion among the residents of Coryell County. Boundary lines were drawn, and people were much divided on the hideous act of the vigilantes... some agreeing with their actions and some questioning the reasons behind the lynching.

The young man, who was described as an upstanding citizen from a well-respected family, was first reported to have been lynched after being accused of being a "fence-cutter." Several theories about Cash's murder began to circulate in the county's rumor mill. One theory evolved from the hostility that broke out between free grazers who wanted to retain the practice of open range feeding for livestock and against those who had bought land and sectioned (fenced) it off with barbed wire to protect the perimeter for their ranches.

Another reason offered for the murder was that he had been accused of being a horse thief. The rumor mill also produced yet another bizarre theory for his lynching - he had married a "Yankee girl" from Illinois and that didn't set well with the predominately southern population of Coryell County.

PLEASE SEE **SHOOTINGS** | A2



JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

This Wa Hoo game board was made by a factory in Gatesville that burned in the 1960s.

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Helping people maintain mobility

BY JEFF OSBORNE
SENIOR WRITER & EDITOR

Helping people maintain or improve their quality of life through increased mobility is the goal of chiropractor Dr. Jason Rounds.

Rounds, who works at Hillcrest Chiropractic in Gatesville, offered insight into how a chiropractor made a difference in his life, and inspired a career change in the process.

"I did construction work for about 25 years and was injured," he said. "I broke my back and got up to 470 pounds. Finally, I had enough. Every morning when I woke up, it was hard to move."

He began seeing a chiropractor who helped give him relief, and helped to restore his mobility, which led to him losing 125 pounds.

"I was able to regain my mobility and my flexibility," Rounds said. "I was so impressed I stopped construction work and studied to become a chiropractor. It's not just about bone-cracking, as some people think, it's about focusing on your whole health."

Rounds said he sometimes sees "amazing changes in mobility" through his work with patients, and with longer lifespans he hopes people are able to live fuller lives through maintaining their physical abilities.

"If we can live to 100 years, what kind of life are we going to live?" he said. "If you are going to live longer, you want to be able to stay active. As people age, you have to be concerned about Alzheimer's, lack of mobility and hip, back and digestive issues. One of the biggest concerns with health is mobility. That's one of the things we can help with."

One of the most common problems people have is lack of motion in their spine. Rounds said studies show that one in three people suffer from back pain, and chiropractors can help alleviate that.

"It's important to make sure you are doing something to maintain mobility," he said. "One of the main goals with chiropractic care is prevention. This helps with the nervous system and we can adjust misalignments and help take the pressure off nerves. We are capitalizing on the body's natural healing process, and we want to help the body perform better."



JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

KEEPING PEOPLE MOVING: Jason Rounds became a chiropractor after discovering the difference it made in his life as a patient.

SHOOTINGS

FROM PAGE A1

The Edward Cash lynching divided Gatesville and Coryell County. In the following months after his murder, a rivalry and personal animosity began to grow between two Gatesville newspaper editors who both published weekly papers and who were in competition with each other. In an article written by Mike Cox, it was recorded that "both editors regularly blasted away at each other in their respective columns."

Bascom Young Armstrong, the 30-year-old editor of The Gatesville Messenger [other versions of the story says that he was editor of "The People's Choice" came to Gatesville from Panola, Texas. He was married to Willie Lucky and was the father of an infant daughter named Jennie.

James L. Goodman, a native of Alabama, was 31 years of age, and had come to Gatesville shortly before 1894 where he became the editor of The Star Forum newspaper. He was married to Ella M. Jenkins, and they were the parents of three children - the youngest being Alleen Goodman who was born in March of 1894.

The friction between the two young editors became more noticeable and more heated in the months following the Cash lynching. On September 15, 1894, tensions reached the boiling point and culminated in the demise of both editors.

Versions of the shooting have varied over the years and have often been embellished as time passed. One version is that Armstrong was walking past the rival newspaper office and saw Goodman seated at his desk. Armstrong opened fire at Goodman. It was written that, although being mortally wounded, Goodman reached into his desk where he retrieved a small handgun and shot his attacker. This version also mentions that upon being shot, Armstrong "staggered next door where



COURTESY PHOTO

James L. Goodman

he found a chair, sat down and died."

The Waco Morning News printed an entirely different version of the shooting which was much more sensational. The Waco paper reported that "The two men opened fire on each other [on the streets of Gatesville] just as they met in front of Goodman's office. The latter was shot through the heart and Armstrong through the bowels, both dying at once."

Some newspapers would headline the article as the "Street Duel," while other headlines hailed the tragedy as "The Dueling Editors." After the Waco headlines appeared, newspapers across the United States ran the story about the "Street Duel" in Gatesville - giving it the

flavor of an old-west type of atmosphere. The same type of sensationalism had swept across the nation just a few months prior with the lynching of Ed Cash - giving Gatesville a questionable reputation.

Regardless of the details of how it happened, the fact remained that two young men were dead and left behind grieving wives and children. Armstrong's daughter, Jennie, was fifteen months old at the time of the shooting, while Goodman's youngest child, Alleen, was six months old.


The irony of this tragedy is that both Armstrong and Goodman were members of the local Odd Fellows Lodge - thus making them "lodge brothers." Upon their deaths, their widows decided to bury their husbands in the small Odd Fellows Cemetery - located today just behind Poco Automotive. Goodman's widow had the following epitaph carved into his tombstone: "Husband, dear, take thy rest, The Summer flowers will bloom, While you, the purest and best, Doth wither in the tomb." They were buried at opposite ends of the cemetery - resting in peace together.

The events marking the year of 1894 in Gatesville and Coryell County were the lynching of one young man and the shooting deaths of two others.



COURTESY PHOTO

Tombstone of Bascom Young Armstrong.




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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.

CRSP meeting Thursday

The upcoming meeting for CRSP (Coryell Retired School Personnel) will be held at Ranchers Steak House on Thursday, March 24. Social time will be at 9:30 a.m., followed by the meeting at 10 a.m. The program will be presented by Pam Evetts of Bee Blessed Farms in Gatesville. Since the February meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather, they will compensate for having to eliminate their "Bingo for Books," which was a way of raising money for the Children's Book Project. Instead, they will pass the hat and collect donations to put into the book fund and/or bring books to donate to the project. Bingo prizes that were on hand last month will become additional door prizes for the

meeting. Other items on the agenda will include: (1) election of officers for 2022-2024; (2) approval of travel funds for delegates to the State TRTA Meeting in April; (3) acceptance of dues payments for July 1, 2022, amounting to \$35 for state dues and \$10 for local dues; and (4) discussion of by-law changes covered in THE VOICE publication, which delegates will vote on at the State Convention. Members are asked to bring their volunteer hours to Debbie Grmela. Members are also encouraged to invite other school retirees who are not members of the local chapter to join and attend meetings in the coming year.

PEARL NEWS

Music festival April 2



BETSY CLARK

The next Pearl Music Festival will be April 2, 2022, at the Pearl Community Center. Acoustic Gospel, Country/Western, and Bluegrass bands are welcome to play on the stage for free! Kids' bands are always welcome as well. Please call Ronald Medart at 254-865-6013 to schedule your time on the stage. The Community Center opens at 7 a.m. til ?, and the kitchen is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Since the purpose of the kitchen is to help to raise funds to pay the expenses of the Community Center, no ice chests are allowed in the center during the Bluegrass events. However, you will enjoy the delicious foods the kitchen offers right along with the great music and fellowship! Ya'll come! The annual Pearl Flea Market will be on April 23rd from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. Vendors, personal Junk-in-Your-Trunk-

ers, booths, and vegetable/fruit markets are invited. All sellers will park outside around the Community Center on a "first come-first park" basis. A small fee of \$5 will be charged for each booth/vendor/trunk to benefit the Pearl Community Center. The kitchen will be open for something new—the first Meet and Greet in Pearl. Needed are volunteers to work the kitchen. Bring your favorite snack to donate to the kitchen to sell to benefit the Community Center. If you wish to sign up to volunteer for "kitchen duty" that day, please call Linda Ray at 254-865-9282. Bring your favorite desserts, snacks, or breakfast/lunch items. Everyone is invited. For more information or to volunteer to work in the kitchen, please call Linda Pruet at 254-865-9282. Sunday, April 3, Jake Hooker will be at Pearl Community Fellowship Church at 9 a.m. Everyone is invited to attend. Mark your calendars! The Pearl Baptist Church asks that you join them at the Evant School for prayers for the school and the teachers/staff at 7 a.m. on April 8th and May 13th. Meet at the Prayer Tree in front of the school. Everyone is invited! The next Pearl Community

Coryell Health presented annual Provider Longevity Awards

For the first time, Coryell Health recently recognized their practitioners for their years of service to Coryell Health and the communities they serve.

Notably, Stephen Norris, MD, was awarded a certificate and pin to acknowledge his 40 years of service. Dr. Norris was the only surgeon in town until 2016 when Dr. John Bawduniak joined the team. Norris and his family have contributed to the Gatesville community in many ways. Dr. Norris was on call every night for the first 15 years of his career at Coryell. He also served on the GSD school board for 33 years. The Norris family have been active members of the First Baptist Church and he has been on four medical missions - one to Ghana, West Africa, and three to Honduras.

Dr. Norris is a member of the American Medical Society, Texas Medical Society, Society of Baylor Surgeons, the Texas Surgical Society, and the American College of Surgeons. He is certified by the American Board of Surgeons, and although he retired from surgery, he stays busy treating wound care patients.



COURTESY PHOTOS

AWARD RECIPIENTS: (Pictured above) Those receiving awards pictured left to right: Adrian Dirk, MD (five year pin), Diedra Wuenschel, DO (10 year pin), Richard Hurley, MD (five year pin), Kevin Dwyer, MD (20 year pin), Jeffrey Bates, MD (10 year pin). (Pictured below) Receiving his 40-year pin was Stephen Norris, MD.

Not pictured: Sheldon Chaffer II, MD (five year pin), Crystal Dowell, FNP (five year pin), Gibby Mark, MD (five year pin), Timothy Maynard, MD (35 year pin), and John Schlachab, MD (10 year pin).



Center Board Meeting will be April 25th at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. This reflects a change in meeting times from the first Monday to the fourth Monday in January, April, July, and October (quarterly). The time and location remain the same—6:30 p.m. in the Pearl Community Center. Everyone is invited to attend. Pearl Church of Christ will have Vacation Bible School from June 6th to June 10th this year. The five-day event starts at 9 a.m. and ends at noon. The theme this year is "The Chosen—Jesus and His Disciples." The annual VBS at Pearl Church of Christ is a life-changing event, and you don't want to miss it! Invite friends, family, and strang-

ers on the street! Also, be in prayer for this year's VBS! You never know whose life might be changed through the power of this program and the grace of God! This week's Scripture: Romans 15:13—May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. NIV To keep up with the latest Pearl news online, you can go to the "Pearl Cottage Bookstore" Facebook page, the "Pearl Church of Christ" Facebook page, or the Pearl Community Center, Texas Facebook page. Or contact me at betsyclark47@yahoo.com for more information or to submit any Pearl news.

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

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Pacific Plastic Problem

Albatross are large seabirds. Scientists have discovered that albatross chicks that live in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, far away from people, are killed by little pieces of plastic, including plastic toys. How does plastic wind up in the middle of the Pacific?

The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is a massive soup of plastic waste floating in the sea. It's growing larger all the time, harming birds, fish and people, too!

Replace the missing words.

_____ CAPS _____ ISLANDS _____ SICK _____ CURRENTS _____ OCEAN _____ ONCE _____

A number of _____ ago, scientists discovered _____ and dead albatrosses on a group of remote and isolated _____ called _____

Researchers found small plastic toys, toothbrushes, bottle _____ and other small pieces of plastic. These were all _____ plastic—plastic that was used just _____ and then thrown away.

Few people live on Midway Atoll. How does so much plastic get there? The answer lies in the earth's _____ watershed and ocean _____.

What's a watershed?
A watershed is not a building. It is an area of land that collects rain and snow. The water then drains into bays and from there into the ocean where it joins large ocean currents.

A Sea of Troubles
Plastic from the west coast of North America floats down creeks and rivers into the Pacific Ocean. There it joins the North Pacific Gyre which flows clockwise into a large circle.

Meet the Albatross

The wandering albatross is the world's largest flying bird.

These are big birds: An albatross wingspan can be from six to eleven feet wide! Here's how that compares to the armspan of two kids.

A Dangerous Mix
Albatross parents travel hundreds of miles to find food for their chicks. They scoop up squid, krill, fish eggs and other natural seafood from the surface of the ocean. They carry their food back to their chicks in their stomachs.

When it reaches its hungry chick, the albatross **regurgitates** the food. The chick then pulls food out of the parent's mouth to eat. (Gross to us, but perfectly normal for these birds.)

But albatross are also swallowing dangerous plastic waste when scooping up seafood. One bird researcher saw an adult albatross regurgitate a toothbrush and its chick ate it. Chicks are not able to regurgitate food or other materials out of their stomachs and the plastic food stays there, making them sick and killing them.

How YOU Can Help!

YOU can stop plastic from entering the watershed by reducing the amount of plastic you use and recycling the plastic you can't avoid using. **Below each of these items, draw what you could use instead.**

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS TO AVOID:

plastic cups
 plastic utensils
 paper plates
 plastic water bottles
 plastic bags

CREATE A MESSAGE OF PEACE

Do you want to send a message of hope and peace to people in Ukraine and other victims of war? If so, send us your drawing or your poem. Children's newspapers around the world will collect these messages and distribute them.

Kid Scoop will publish them on our websites kidscoop.com and kidscoopnews.org.

Send us your creations by email to Woodward@kidscoop.com.

Or, mail to:
Kid Scoop News
"I Draw for Peace"
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Sonoma, CA 95476

Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

ALBATROSS	FIND
RECYCLING	HOW
FLOATING	MANY
PLASTIC	OF
MIDWAY	THEM
CHICKS	ON
REMOTE	THIS
PATCH	PAGE?
AVOID	D I O V A Y C P R R
ATOLL	S I C K A H C A E L
GYRE	E C A W I C I T C L
SICK	T L D C A E T C Y O
EGGS	O I K P S E S H C T
TOYS	M S S O R T A B L A
CAPS	E T O Y S P L L I A
	R S G G E S P T N I
	G N I T A O L F G E

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Planet Point of View

Find an article that shows a way in which people harm or care for our planet. Rewrite the article from the point of view of a wild animal that would be affected by the news in this article.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Write from a particular point of view.

Write On!

Thank a Veteran

Send your story to:

What would you say to a veteran to thank them for their service?

Deadline: April 24 Published: Week of May 22
Please include your school and grade.

Weekly Writing Corner

OBITUARIES

LAVINIA WILLIS

Dec. 18, 1932 - March 16, 2022



Lavinia Willis, age 89, of the Mound community, went to be with her Lord and Savior on Wednesday, March 16, 2022.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 19, 2022, at Scott's Funeral Home Chapel, with Brother Charlie Brown officiating. Interment followed at Gatesville Masonic Cemetery.

Lavinia Elizabeth Willis was born on Dec. 18, 1932, in Rensford, West Virginia, to the late George and Lavinia O'Boyle Lyle. She grew up in Lochgelly, West Virginia, and graduated from Oak Hill High School in 1948. Throughout her life, she traveled and lived in numerous

locations, from Alaska to Germany and Oklahoma, to the Panama Canal Zone. She married the love of her life, James Mitchell Willis, in 1968. She graduated from Central Texas College, earning an associate degree in general studies in 1985. To celebrate her 87th birthday, against the advice from her family and competent medical authority, she jumped from a perfectly good aircraft in 2019.

Lavinia made a commitment of faith in Jesus Christ at an early age. She demonstrated His love by living with Christ in her heart. She was a member of Pecan Grove Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jim, in 2007; and a daughter, MaryAnn Cuneo, in 2008.

Lavinia is survived by her son, Jim Willis, Jr. and wife Lupita; daughter, Ephie Calhoun; sister, MaryAnn Martin and husband, Maurice; four grandchildren, Vanessa Carrison and husband, Jon, Rebecca Brown and husband, Charlie, James Steven Willis, Christopher Willis and wife, Kristen; and eight great-grandchildren.

CORYELL MUSEUM

Minnie Mears and Zelma Scott

JANN DWORSKY

The Gatesville Messenger for Oct. 18, 1963, was such a fun newspaper to read with so many names I either recognized or knew personally. This newspaper was in a box from Minnie Mears in our archives at the museum. This particular issue is not online through the library archives for some reason.

However, many Gatesville Messengers from 1955 to 2013 can be seen for free on the computer at the Gatesville Library, under the title of newspapers.com. It is searchable by a keyword and date. If this sounds confusing (to us senior citizens), take your 12-year-old grandchild to the library to help you. They always know. Faye or any of the library personnel can help you also. There is a charge for this service if you look it up on your own computer or phone, and it claims to have 100,000 newspapers.

Unfortunately, the Gatesville Messenger had a fire sometime in 1955 and all their archival stacks of newspapers were burned before that date. At the museum, we go through our boxes of newspapers and save and scan all we can find before 1955.

On the front page was an

article about Mrs. Minnie Mears (Mrs. Tom Mears) who had just written "Coryell County Scrapbook." It was to be available the following Tuesday October 22, 1963. She is shown smiling and sitting somewhere in the Coryell County Courthouse among stacks of deed records.

What I wouldn't give to spend an afternoon with her! I have a signed copy of her book with a note to Daddy and Mama in it (Edwin and Wilma Bruce Bradford) that has been such a delight to have. At the Coryell Museum, we have a second printing for sale for \$30 if you are not so lucky to have one already. She writes in a storyteller's style, and it is very readable. She said, "It was a labor of love."

Her grandparents were Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Belcher, and her uncle was Ben Friend who was a sheriff here. Her book came out just two years before Zelma Scott's "A History of Coryell County" in 1965.

These women knew each other and had lived on farms for some of their lives that were not far apart by country standards. What a delight for me to read their letters to each other. Neither ever threw a letter away, appar-



Coryell Museum

ently.

The infant Texas State Historical Society had been talking about publishing Zelma Scott's book since the 1940s when she completed her thesis by the same name for her master's degree, but because TSHS had nearly no funding, it could not be published until 1965. Mears was published by Texian Press in Waco in 1963.

One letter I remember was from Minnie to Zelma, and Minnie said she had been worried that sales for two books about Coryell County

would not sell briskly. Minnie read Zelma's book when it came out, and wrote Zelma that they should not have worried as Minnie's was storytelling style, and Zelma's was a scholarly thesis.

The first printing of "Coryell County Scrapbook" by Mears sold out in a short time, yet there was still a great demand for "A History of Coryell County" by Scott.

Coryell Museum is open Wed. thru Sat. from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Come see us and visit our gift shop. Our phone number is 865-5007.

The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of March 16-19. While there were many calls to the dispatcher, 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.

CITY OF GATESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

March 16

9:57 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2300 block of Business Hwy. 36.
10:57 a.m., an armed suspect was reported in the 4300 block of S. State Hwy. 36.
4:09 p.m., a brush/grass fire was reported in the 900 block of CR 232.
6:16 p.m., an accident was reported in the 800 block of E. Main Street.

7:15 p.m., a missing person was reported in the 2300 block of E. Main Street.
11:51 p.m., an assault was reported in the 2300 block of Business Hwy. 36.

March 17

9:18 a.m., a vehicle fire was reported in the 200 block of CR 320.
9:34 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2500 block of Jackson Drive.
10:34 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 8100 block of FM 2412.
12:50 p.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 5700 block of E. Hwy. 84.
6:19 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 1600 block of Sun Valley Drive.
8:16 p.m., a noise disturbance was reported in the 300 block of N. 10th Street.

March 18

2:04 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 3100

block of S. State Hwy. 36.
5:29 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.
8:01 a.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 100 block of Baird Street.
12:21 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1100 block of Bridge Street.
2:29 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 100 block of N. 27th Street.
7:52 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 1100 block of E. Leon Street.

March 19

4:01 p.m., an accident was reported in the 400 block of E. Main Street.
4:07 p.m., a brush/grass fire was reported in the 400 block of CR 327.
6:48 p.m., a theft was reported in the 1400 block of E. Main Street.
10:11 p.m., an assault was reported in the 1900 block of E. Main Street.
10:30 a.m., a threat was reported in the 1000 block of

W. Leon Street.
11:20 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 100 block of Sandy Lane.

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CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

March 16

2:02 a.m., shots being fired was reported in the 600 block of River Oaks.
7:15 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported on E. Hwy. 84 near Cedar Lane.
10:38 a.m., animal neglect was reported in the 600 block

of Liberty Street.
12:45 p.m., a domestic disturbance was reported in the 900 block of FM 932.
2:11 p.m., a scam was reported in the 2800 block of N. FM 116,
6:00 p.m., property damage was reported in the 2900 block of Grimes Crossing.

March 17

10:38 a.m., a domestic disturbance was reported in the 8100 block of FM 2412.
12:08 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 100 block of Herb Road.
5:20 p.m., drug paraphernalia was reported in the 100 block of Lakewood Drive.
11:32 p.m., a possible fire was reported in the 200 block of S. CR 419.

March 18

2:38 a.m., a possible fire was reported in the 5600 block of Oglesby Park Road.
8:44 a.m., a theft was reported in the 1700 block of Chicktown Road.

11:10 a.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 8000 block of FM 185.
12:46 p.m., illegal dumping was reported in the 2600 block of TX Hwy. 236.
3:29 p.m., a threat was reported in the 1200 block of Straws Mill Road.
9:04 p.m., a dog bite was reported in the 100 block of Harvey's Valley Road.

March 19

12:49 p.m., a reckless driver was reported on Hwy. 84 at Hwy. 281.
1:31 p.m., illegal burning was reported in the 800 block of CR 216.
2:43 p.m., a civil matter was reported in the 3400 block of FM 1113.
4:09 p.m., a grass fire was reported in the 400 block of CR 327.
4:45 p.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 500 block of Tom Sawyer.
7:52 p.m., a domestic disturbance was reported on E. Leon Street.

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San Angelo Stock Show Results for Coryell County 4-H Members



COURTESY PHOTO

CHAMPION HONORS: Matti Mann (holding banners) is shown with her top Pure-Bred Gilt at the San Angelo Stock Show. Matti's gilt was named 3rd overall at the show.



COURTESY PHOTO

SECOND PLACE WINNERS: Junior Consumer Decision Making Team at the San Angelo Stock Show included members, pictured left to right, Mary Mitchell, Bobbi Tubbs, Chelsea Johnson, Zoie Wolff, Eve Fulton and Coach Lori Wolff (in back).

Matti Mann of the Hay Valley 4-H Club, recently drove her Chester White gilt to Champion honors in San Angelo. After winning the Chester White breed and the purebred show, Matti's gilt was named 3rd overall gilt at the San Angelo Stars Gilt Show. The Coryell County 4-H wine project exhibitors overall did extremely well at San Angelo. The following are results from the livestock show:

Matti Mann - Grand Champion purebred gilt (Chester White); 3rd Overall Stars Gilt Show

2nd place York, Stars Gilt Show, 3rd place Duroc Stars Gilt Show, 5th place Cross Stars Gilt Show; 5th place Duroc Junior Gilt Show

Lillie Mann - 2nd place Cross Stars Gilt Show

Canyon Smith - Reserve Champion Berkshire Gilt

Memphis Wells - 4th place Spot Junior Gilt Show and 4th place Spot Stars Gilt Show

Paisley Wells - 4th place Cross Stars Gilt Show, 4th place Cross Stars Gilt Show

Samuel Belt - 6th place Brangus Heifer, Herdsman Award

Also competing in San Angelo were the Consumer Decision Making Team and the Livestock Judging Team. Results are as follows:

2nd place Junior Consumer Decision Making Team - Eve Fulton (4th high individual), Bobbi Tubbs (5th high individual), Zoie Wolff, Chelsea Johnson, Mary Mitchell (9th high individual)

8th place Intermediate Consumer Decision Making Team - Jaelee Thornton, Lilly Kinsey, Bailey Wolff, Makaylie Williams

6th Place Senior Livestock Judging Team - Samuel Belt, Trey Harbour, Garrett Young

1st Place Junior High Point Individual - Thomas Belt

Junk & Disorderly Market April 9

The City of Gatesville Convention and Visitors Bureau has announced that the Junk & Disorderly Market and Citywide Garage Sale event will be held on April 9.

Registration is now open for vendors who are interested in reserving a space at the Gatesville Civic Center and for individuals and groups holding garage sales in and around Gatesville.

Vendor spaces at the Civic

Center range from \$50 for an indoor booth to \$25 for barn and parking lot spaces. There is no fee to register a garage sale. Those will be listed on the VisitGatesvilleTX.com website and Facebook page and will be posted at the Civic Center.

Online registration is available at VisitGatesvilleTX.com/junk-disorderly. For questions, contact Cheri Shepherd at (254) 499-0102.

Mountain Baptist Church to celebrate 90th anniversary

Mountain Baptist Church will be celebrating their 90th anniversary with a special praise and worship service on Sunday, March 27, at 11 a.m.

Following the service, a fellowship meal will be served at 2 p.m. Those planning to attend the meal should RSVP by calling 254-383-2634.

Mountain Baptist Church was organized on March 20, 1932, with the first pastor being Rev. G.H. Lee. In 1936, a church finance committee was appointed to secure funds for a new church building. Tom Barton gave the plot of land for the church, and it was reported that the new building would cost \$302.55.

In a meeting in November 1939, the church voted to pay their pastor the sum of \$10 per month. A month later, the first mention of money for missions was made - one dollar per month was set aside for missions.

The church voted in 1946 to move the building to the highway to its present location. John I. Blanchard gave the land for the new church site. In the years following, the church added new educational space, a kitchen,

nursery and six classrooms. In the mid 1960s, the front of the building was bricked, and sidewalks were built. In 1978, four Sunday school rooms were enlarged, the auditorium was remodeled, and new pew cushions and new furniture was purchased using money from a large donation that was received.

A building study committee was formed in 1984 to inspect the building and to determine if it could be repaired or if it would be more feasible to build a new auditorium. The church voted in 1985 to tear down the old original part of the building, leaving the newer back section and to add a new fellowship hall with a kitchen, new bathroom, nursery, offices, and a new auditorium. The church was built almost entirely with volunteer labor headed by the building committee. The new church was dedicated on June 15, 1986.

The current pastor of Mountain Baptist Church is Rev. Kurt Fuessel who has been at the church since 2003. Mountain Baptist Church is located at 6319 E. U.S. Highway 84 in Gatesville.

C.A.F.E. releases travel schedule

The Christian Adult Fellowship Events group (C.A.F.E.) at the First United Methodist Church will be attending several different events over the next few months.

They will be going to Mary Hardin-Baylor College in Belton to see the Easter Pageant on Wednesday, April 13. They will be leaving the church parking lot at 11:30 a.m. and travel to Belton where they will eat at the college, which will cost \$10 each or less. The meal is self-pay. Afterward, they will attend the pageant at 3 p.m. The pageant has been described as a very moving performance of the life of Christ. The cost of the trip will be \$20.

The following month, C.A.F.E. will be travelling to Granbury on Saturday, May 14, to see Derek Spence perform as George Strait - Spence greatly resembles and sings like Strait. They will

leave the church parking lot at 10:30 a.m., and eat at a local restaurant, which will be self-pay. The performance will take place at 3 p.m. For tickets and transportation, the total cost will be \$60 per person. At this time, C.A.F.E. has 20 tickets reserved, so reservations will need to be made in advance since this performance is predicted to be a sell-out.

On Thursday, June 9, the group will be attending Stars over Texas in Waco and on Saturday, July 9, they will be travelling to Llano to see the Malpas brothers at the Llano theater. More information about the June and July trips will be furnished closer to the scheduled time.

Reservations and/or payments for the trips in April and May can be made by contacting the First United Methodist Church at 254-865-2520 or by contacting Ruth Jones at 254-865-2112.

T-ville Community Center to hold fundraiser Saturday

The Turnersville Community Center will be hosting a fundraiser on Saturday, March 26. There will be a Mexican food meal starting at 5 p.m. The price will be \$10 per plate, kids six and under \$5 per plate.

In addition to the meal, there will also be a 42 tournament. Registration begins at 5 p.m. and the games will start at 6 p.m. Entry fee is \$10 per person and players eat free. Registration forms

will be available at the time of registration, or players may go to www.Tvillecc.com (click on the More tab and then on the Events Calendar) to download the registration form.

A bake sale and silent auction will also be held. For more information, please call 254-494-0010 and leave a message. The Turnersville Community Center is located at 8115 FM 182.

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Thursday, March 24 at Robinson High School



Gatesville Girls vs. Lorena at 4 p.m.



Gatesville Boys vs. Mexia at 6 p.m.

Pidcoke Baptist to host revival

Pidcoke Baptist Church, located at 11125 FM 116, will conduct revival services starting Sunday, March 27 at 11 a.m. through Wednesday Evening at 6:30 p.m.

The theme of the services will be "Growing in Christ," with Rev. Chris Ortego serving as the guest evangelist and various members of the church presenting worshipful music during the services.

Pidcoke Baptist Church has been in the process of building a new sanctuary since Fall 2021 and is close to being finished with the building process with a goal to conduct its first worship service in the new sanctuary on Easter Sunday.

The revival services will help the church to get revitalized on doing the work God has given them to do by growing deeper in their love for God and their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Pastor Don McConaughay, 254-371-4934, extends an invitation to all to attend these services and experience the love of Christ in worship and word.

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Alta Towers is proposing to construct 150ft monopole telecommunications tower at 2915 Tanglewood Dr., Kempner, Coryell Co., TX 76539 (31 04 58.8 N / 97 53 14.9 W). The tower is anticipated to have no lights. Interested persons may review the application for this project at www.fcc.gov/asr/ applications and entering Antenna Structure Registration (ASR) Form 854 File Number "A1209728" and may raise environmental concerns about the project by filing a Request for Environmental Review with the Federal Communications Commission. Requests for Environmental Review must be filed within 30 days of the date that notice of the project is published on the FCC's website. The FCC strongly encourages interested parties to file Requests for Environmental Review online at www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest. Parties wishing to submit the request by mail may do so by addressing the request to: FCC Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554. Public comments regarding potential effects on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: EBI Consulting, ? Project #6122002176 MLW, 6876 Susquehanna Trail S, York PA 17403, or via telephone at 678-481-6555.
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EVENT

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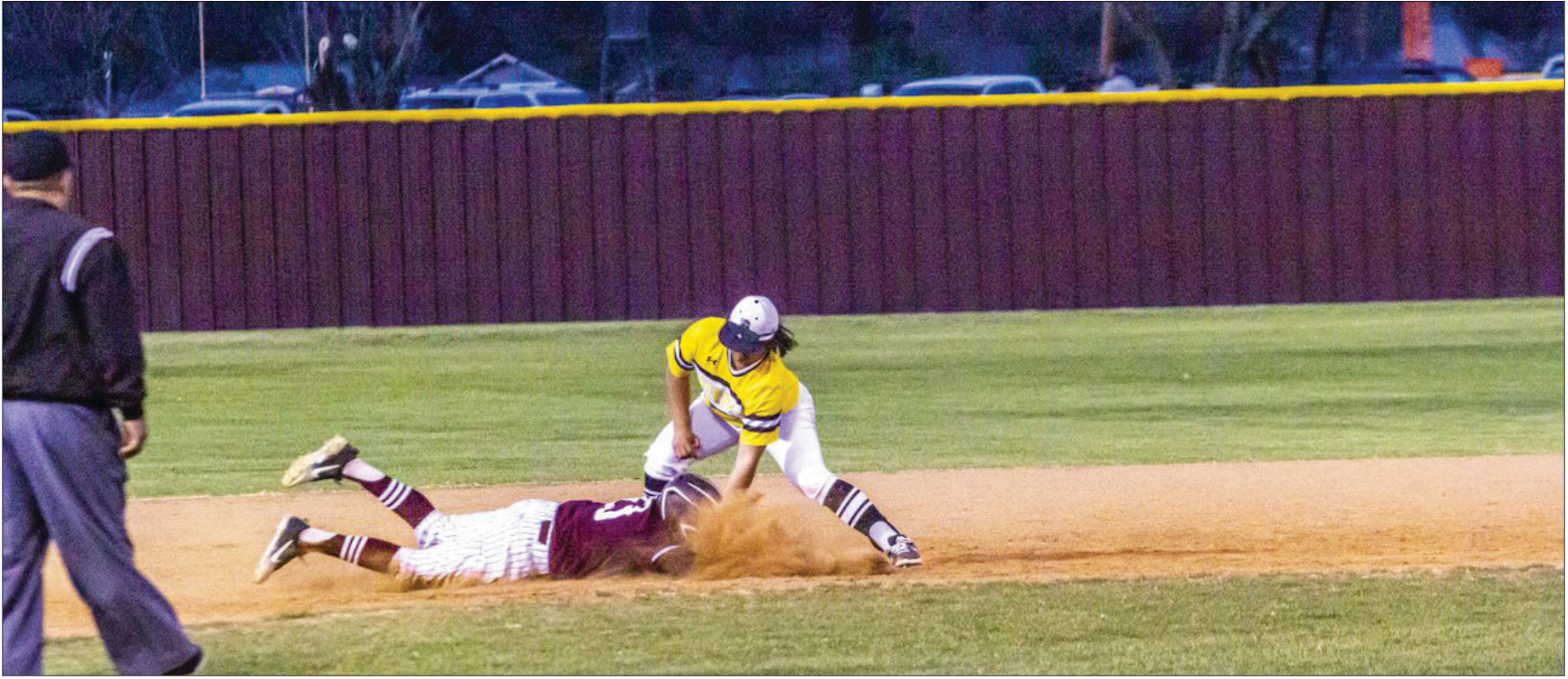


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MAKING THE TAG



A CLOSE CALL: Gatesville's Kody Hernandez tags a runner during the game against the Brownwood Lions on March 18.

TRISTON MCGEHEE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

CELEBRATING THE HOMETOWN TEAM



Students in Charles Conley's welding classes at Gatesville High School created letters supporting the Hornets which are placed in front of Sidney L. Pruitt Gymnasium. The Gatesville ISD maintenance department installed the signs, and sports teams helped to pay for the materials.

COURTESY PHOTO

Go fishing and make some lasting memories

Reading a brief item in The Gatesville Messenger a few weeks ago brought back good memories to Laura Honea.

In the "Whatever happened to" column in the newspaper, there was a mention of her late husband, Bob Honea, who had caught a giant 11-pound, 1-ounce black bass on the power company lake at Fairfield. The news of his big catch reached the newspaper and his picture appeared in the paper holding the giant bass on Feb. 18, 1982.

Laura Honea wrote about that day: "We got up early and left for Fairfield Lake. People were lined up a mile or so to put their boats in the water. A Texas blue norther blew in, but we finally got our boat in. The wind kept blowing the boat to the bank. My husband got out and pulled it back and tied up the boat. He was cold and wet. He went back to the van where he changed clothes. We finally got the boat out and went a little way and then started fishing by some stumps. He caught it (the



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Above, Bob Honea holds a fish he caught in 1982. At right, Laura Honea displays the fish her husband caught, which is mounted and preserved.

11-pound bass) and I netted it for him. I thought he sure earned that fish!"

Seeing the recent mention of her husband and the

fish in The Gatesville Messenger, Honea said "The story brought back lots of memories. My husband and I shared fishing. That fish he

caught is still hanging on my wall." Honea's advice to everyone is to "go fishing and make memories!"



Jonesboro baseball team notches 4-4 record

BY TRISTON MCGEHEE
STAFF WRITER

Tyler Wilson's first home run of the season was not enough for the Jonesboro Eagles in their 8-6 loss to Bruceville-Eddy on Tuesday, March 15 in Jonesboro.

Wilson not only hit his first home run of the season but was the first on the team to hit a home run. The game was a nailbiter, with both teams tied at the end of the seventh inning. Which ultimately led to an extra-inning. In the eighth inning, Bruceville-Eddy rounded the diamond four times, while Jonesboro only was able to add two runs to the final run total.

Jacob Cisneros led the team with two runs, while Jaden Domel, Garrett Young, and Caleb Christel had one run each.

The Eagles won their game against Hico 14-13 on March 8 but fell to Meridian 12-11 on March 14.

In both games, Jonesboro struggled to throw strikes resulting in putting opposing batters on base.

JHS baseball coach Brandon Pierce credited the fight of his boy's integrity on the field, saying that "the boys battled hard."

"These were tough losses because we put ourselves in a position to win, but it just didn't go our way," Pierce said.

Pierce noted that the Eagles are going to work on fixing mistakes and are going to improve game to game.

In the top of the seventh inning against Hico, Young hit a single into centerfield to put him on base. Young progressed to second base on a wild pitch, and then a double by Wilson guided Young to cross home plate, tying the game 13-13. Wilson stole third and then stole home plate, winning the game for Jonesboro.

Due to a lack of staff during spring break, stats were not recorded. But the Jonesboro Eagles overcame a 10-0 deficit against Meridian but were defeated by a single point.

The Eagles now hold an overall record of 4-4.

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GHS' Zacha finishes 3rd in Texas

BY TRISTON MCGEHEE
STAFF WRITER

Making it to the women's state powerlifting meet is an impressive feat, but one Gatesville High School senior reached the competition two years in a row.

Emmaleah Zacha competed in the 259+ weight class, placing third overall over three categories, squat, bench press, and deadlift, at the THSWPA State Championships in Corpus Christi on Friday, March 18. She was the only GHS athlete that qualified to compete at the state

meet. Zacha had her eyes set on finishing higher than she did last year, placing second, but struggled in the squat category that started the day.

"I am so proud of the way she fought and battled after the rough start. She never gave up, even

though many in her position very well could have." Powerlifting coach Jason Moffett stated in an email. "She deserves a ton of credit for the way she has competed throughout her career and for the hard work, effort, and time she has invested."

Zacha squatted 425 pounds, benched 265 pounds, and deadlifted 365 pounds, totaling 1,055 pounds on the day.

Zacha was crowned the regional champion in her 259+ weight class on March 4 at THSWPA Region II meet at Dublin High School.



COURTESY PHOTOS

AMONG THE BEST IN TEXAS: Gatesville High School's Emmaleah Zacha finished third in the state powerlifting meet in her classification. Top left, Zacha poses with coach Jason Moffett at the state meet in Corpus Christi. Top right, Zacha is all smiles after her powerlifting performance.

Hornets fall to Lions in Brownwood baseball game

BY TRISTON MCGEHEE
STAFF WRITER

Two tough innings for Gatesville were deciding factors in the Hornet's 12-5 loss to Brownwood on Friday, March 18, at Morris Southhall Field in Brownwood.

The Hornets jumped out ahead early in the District 6-4A game, but a devastating third and sixth inning expanded the Lion's run total substantially. Parker Allman and Kasen

Herbelin rounded the bases twice each, while Cayden Mata scored one run to keep the Hornets in the game. Critical mistakes fielding the ball caused errors guiding the Lions around the bases.

"We made too many mistakes to overcome," GHS baseball coach Chase Smith said. "We have to get back to practice and work on things defensively."

Despite the struggles on defense, Smith thought the ath-

letes were getting better at the plate.

"Our approach at the plate was a bit better with two strikes, which is something that we have been working on," Smith said.

The Hornets are looking to bounce back in their next district game against the Stephenville Yellow Jacket's scheduled for Tuesday, March 22 at Danny Loerwald Field at Ryan Powell Memorial Ballpark in Gatesville.



A RACE TO THE BASE: Gatesville's Cayden Mata dives for home plate in the Hornets game against the Brownwood Lions on March 18.

TRISTON MCGEHEE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

UPCOMING GISD GAMES (Varsity)

- Thursday, March 24
GHS boys and girls soccer playoff games starting at 4 p.m. at Robinson High School. The girls play Lorena and the boys play Mexia.
* Golf travels to Glen Rose.
- * Track travels to Lorena
- Friday, March 25
* Tennis travels to Killeen
* Track qualifiers at Texas Relays in Austin
* Softball team hosts Hillsboro at 6 p.m.
- * Baseball team travels to Glen Rose for 4:30 p.m. start
- * State boys powerlifting meet in Abilene
- Saturday, March 26
* State boys powerlifting meet in Abilene
- Monday, March 28
* Golf travels to Lampasas
- Tuesday, March 29
* Golf travels to Lampasas
* Tennis travels to Brownwood
- * Baseball plays at Lampasas at 4:30 p.m.
- * Softball plays at Brownwood at 5 p.m.

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HOME & GARDEN

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- *Landscaping tips for instant curb appeal*
- *Hacks to prep your home for warm weather*
- *Spring cleaning: Is your 'junk' worth a fortune?*
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- *Is it time for a new dishwasher? 5 questions to ask yourself*
- *3 affordable kitchen upgrades to consider*
- *Teaching children how to protect birds in your backyard*

2022

Landscaping tips for instant curb appeal



PHOTO COURTESY OF STATEPOINT

DON'T FORGET THE WOW FACTOR: Choose plants that showcase your home and lawn at their best.

(STATEPOINT)

One of the best ways to achieve instant curb appeal, according to the experts, is to effectively layer shrubs, plants and flowers in your front yard. Doing so can create a cohesive visual experience that naturally guides visitors to the front door.

Landscape designer Doug Scott describes plant layering in art terms: “Just like in a painting, you need to have a background, a middle ground and a foreground. Each layer serves a purpose, and there’s no more important place for them to be on full display than your home’s entrance.”

To help homeowners understand the purpose of plant layering and identify the best types of plants for each layer, Scott has joined forces with Exmark, a leading manufacturer of commercial mowers and equipment for landscape professionals and serious DIY-ers. Here they break it down for you:

1. Background: The background layer should consist of taller evergreen shrubs to ensure that no matter what’s in front of them, you and your visitors will always have something green to look at. This layer provides a cohesive backdrop and a bit of living color in every season.

2. Middle Ground: Here’s where to step it down a notch in height and add interesting shapes, colors or stripes that provide contrast against the darker green of the background layer. Herbaceous perennials, like lavender, are a good choice for this purpose.

3. Foreground: Finally, the foreground layer should help transition the planting beds to your lawn space or sidewalk and should therefore be lower than the back two layers. It’s also where you can keep things fresh and get your hands dirty throughout the year by changing out annuals with the seasons. Or, if you want a lower-maintenance entrance, you can choose smaller perennials, evergreens or creeping ground covers. Use the foreground layer as an opportunity to add pops of color at ground level and draw attention to your home’s entrance.

Scott lays out a few other important tips to keep in mind:

- Choose plants consistent with your home’s style. For instance, if you have a craftsman home, you should probably skip tropical plants. Or, if your home is more minimalist, avoid an overabundance of different plants.

- Don’t obstruct views of your front door from the street with plants. Likewise, visitors shouldn’t have to maneuver around plants as they make their way down the sidewalk. Neither is convenient or welcoming, so you’ll either need to keep pruning plants to size or choose plants that won’t overgrow their space without a ton of pruning.

- To make your entrance “the star” it should be, the plant material in the rest of your front yard shouldn’t be distracting. Rather let it frame the intended view.

Scott offers more plant layering tips in “Making an Entrance,” a recent episode of “Done-In-A-Weekend Projects,” an original series from Exmark. To watch the video, visit Backyard Life, which is part of a unique multimedia destination with a focus on helping homeowners make the most of outdoor spaces. There you can also download additional tips and view other Exmark Original Series videos, including “Dream Yards,” “Living Rural,” “Prime Cuts” and “Done In a Weekend – Extreme Projects.”

Through effective plant layering, you can boost curb appeal and give your home the grand entrance it deserves.

“Just like in a painting, you need to have a background, a middle ground and a foreground. Each layer serves a purpose, and there’s no more important place for them to be on full display than your home’s entrance.”

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Hacks to prep your home for warm weather

(STATEPOINT)

With warmer weather on the way, it's time to deal with the associated household hassles of the season. Here are three hacks that will help you create a healthy, comfortable home during the months ahead:

BEAT THE HEAT

Beyond having your HVAC unit serviced and changing your air filter regularly, you can beat the heat at home with a few smart strategies. One change you can make today that will also reduce your carbon footprint is to

swap out your heat-emitting incandescent light bulbs for cool LEDs. Likewise, appliances that are not in use but plugged in could be generating unnecessary warmth, so unplug when you can. Finally, use shades and blinds strategically to block out the

sun and prevent a greenhouse effect indoors.

BANISH FLYING BUGS

Fruit flies, gnats and flies tend to proliferate indoors in the warmer months. Not only do these creatures come with a serious ick factor, they can harm your houseplants and even put your family's health at risk by carrying germs from dirty surfaces to clean ones.

A safe and easy way to defend against buzzing invaders is to plug Zevo Bug Traps into outlets around your home, especially in areas where these bugs enter

your home and gather, like garages, entryways, covered porches, trash cans, drain pipes and kitchens. Rather than relying on chemical insecticides, they use multi-spectrum light technology that bugs find irresistible. Once attracted, flying insects are trapped in a super-sticky adhesive backing. Each trap cartridge offers continuous defense for up to 45 days or until it's full. When you're done with a cartridge, simply throw it in the trash and slide a new one in, without ever having to touch the dead bugs. Pair these traps with Zevo home bug sprays,

which are powered by essential oils, for whole home protection. To learn more about defending your home against insects, and for trapping tips, visit zevoinsect.com.

MASTER MOLD

Thriving in warm, wet environments, mold is something to watch out for at home, especially during spring and summer. Much more than an eyesore, mold is bad for your home's infrastructure and bad for you. Mold can cause a number of allergic reactions and can sometimes even be toxic.

However, you can reduce the risk of mold forming by managing your home's humidity. Use fans and other ventilation in bathrooms and the kitchen when showering, running the dishwasher and doing other tasks that invite humidity. Test the humidity of various rooms in your home with a hygrometer and use a dehumidifier where needed. According to the EPA, the ideal indoor humidity is between 30 and 50%.

Employing warm weather hacks at home can help you maintain clean, comfortable spaces, all season long.

Spring cleaning: Is your 'junk' worth a fortune?

(STATEPOINT)

If your family is like most, you have "junk" in your basement, garage or attic, such as sports cards, memorabilia and toys. Before you toss them out during spring cleaning, consider that the prices of sports cards, games and other ephemera are skyrocketing.

How can you determine if your stuff is valuable and, if it is, how can you sell it?

How can you determine if your stuff is valuable and, if it is, how can you sell it?

A widely accepted rule for sports cards, memorabilia and toys is that older items are worth more. However, these days even more recent items are also commanding high prices.

"Vintage sports cards from the early periods of a sport are almost always highly collectible, especially of Hall of Famers," said Al Crisafulli, auction director at Love of the Game Auctions, an internet sports and memorabilia auction that helps families sell collectibles. "But don't assume sports cards or other memorabilia have to be old to be valuable. Modern cards of such stars as Tom Brady, Mike Trout, LeBron James, Michael Jordan, Derek Jeter and others can sell for lots of money."

He is offering tips to help determine if your belongings are valuable:

OLDER SPORTS CARDS

Cards from the 1960s and earlier are collectible, and those from before the 1940s can be extremely valuable. Big-name Hall of Famers like Babe Ruth, Ty Cobb, Lou Gehrig, Honus Wagner, Mickey Mantle and others bring high prices.

With old cards from the 1880s and early 1900s, look for tobacco and candy brands, such as Old Judge, Piedmont, Sweet Caporal or American Caramel. Really old sports memorabilia from the 19th and early 20th century, such as photographs, postcards, bats, gloves and balls are also collectible.

When opting to sell sports items, consider a specialty auction, such as Love of



PHOTO COURTESY (C) DELPIXART / ISTOCK VIA GETTY IMAGES PLUS

ONE MAN'S TRASH: Don't throw away old collectibles. They can be valuable if you know what to look for.

the Game, which has the expertise to professionally research sports items and maintains lists of bidders specializing in this area, to

get top dollar. More information is available at loveofthegameauctions.com.

MODERN CARDS

Prices on recent baseball, basketball and football cards have risen rapidly. The three keys are condition, star power and cards from early in player careers.

Do you have major current stars, like Mike Trout, Patrick Mahomes, Tom Brady and LeBron James? Or do you have greats from the recent past, like Michael Jordan, Kobe Bryant, Magic Johnson, Derek Jeter or Joe Montana?

Check if your cards are denoted as rookie, prospect, draft pick or other indicators they're from a player's first season. And condition is king, as cards that look pack fresh with sharp corners and a well-centered image command the highest prices. Additionally, unopened packs and boxes from almost any year can be valuable.

MEMORABILIA

Do you have old advertis-

"Vintage sports cards from the early periods of a sport are almost always highly collectible, especially of Hall of Famers, but don't assume sports cards or other memorabilia have to be old to be valuable. Modern cards of such stars as Tom Brady, Mike Trout, LeBron James, Michael Jordan, Derek Jeter and others can sell for lots of money."

AL CRISAFULLI

Auction Director at Love of the Game Auctions

ing posters depicting sports stars or famous entertainment personalities together with food, tobacco or sporting goods brands? Many original signs, store displays and promotional items are collectible, especially those dating from the early 1900s into the 1960s. But low-quality reproductions aren't. Look for memorabilia spotlighting sports heroes, superheroes, early Walt Disney characters and Star Wars subjects.

So, while you're spring cleaning that attic, basement or garage, don't rush to the garbage. Before throwing out old "junk," determine if it's valuable!

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Easy ways to make your home more earth-friendly

(STATEPOINT)

Is it time to green up your act at home? Here are just a few tweaks you can make to substantially reduce your environmental footprint.

MAKE APPLIANCE UPGRADES

Home appliances are improving all the time, with many newer models designed specifically with efficiency in mind. If your home appliances, such as your washer, dryer, dishwasher, refrigerator and HVAC system, are on the older side, it may be time to replace one or more of these items. Over time, you'll offset the upfront cost with reduced energy bills. Plus, you'll be helping protect the climate. Look for ENERGY STAR-rated products, which have met strict EPA standards.

OPTIMIZE HEATING AND COOLING

North American Technician Excellence (NATE) offers the following energy-saving

tips to help you keep your home comfort system running at peak performance:

- Change your air filters monthly, or as directed by the manufacturer.

- Add weatherstripping and caulk around windows and doors to improve your home's insulation. Improperly insulated walls, floors, attics, basements and crawlspaces waste energy and can also lead to moisture imbalance.

- Install a programmable thermostat to help regulate temperatures.

- Don't keep clutter near your HVAC units, and don't store anything next to them that could impede ventilation. Likewise, keep vents and returns free of obstructions. Don't lay carpet over vents, place furniture over or

in front of them, or obstruct airflow.

- Dry air feels cooler than moist air. A simple humidifier may make your home feel five degrees warmer.

- Even the most efficient system can suffer if it's not properly maintained. For optimum comfort and sustainability, make sure all your HVACR installation, maintenance and other work is performed by a NATE-certified technician. NATE-certified technicians have demonstrated their knowledge of today's increasingly sophisticated heating and cooling systems by passing a nationally recognized test developed and supported by all segments of the heating, ventilation and air-conditioning industry. Better installation and service means your equipment will run at peak efficiency.

Visit nate.org for additional HVACR energy-savings tips and resources, and to find a NATE-certified technician in your area.

REDUCE FOOD WASTE

American food production uses 10% of the nation's total energy budget, 50% of its land, and 80% of its fresh water, according to FoodRescue.net. Unfortunately, up to 40% of all food ends up in landfills. Label food items in your pantry and fridge and organize them by date to help ensure you consume food before it spoils. If you see that you've prepared too much of a certain item, freeze it. Of course, many foods produce unavoidable scraps. Use them to create stock or compost them. Composting will reduce your home's contribution to landfills while enriching your garden. Bonus: composting is also a great way to reduce yard-work waste.

MAKE AN IMPACT TODAY

Want a quick project you can complete in an afternoon? Swap out incandescent lightbulbs for energy efficient LEDs. According to the EPA, residential LEDs



PHOTO COURTESY (C) MARUCO / ISTOCK VIA GETTY IMAGES PLUS

MAINTENANCE IS KEY: Keep your HVAC system in top shape and it will last for many years.

— especially ENERGY STAR-rated products — use at least 75% less energy, and last up to 25 times longer. Consider making earth-

friendly changes at home. A few tweaks can reduce your household's impact on the planet.

Is it time for a new dishwasher? Five questions to ask yourself

(STATEPOINT)

There's no reason to be working harder in the kitchen than you need to be, especially when it comes to clean-up.

"When considering a new dishwasher, it's important to understand that many dishwashers are created equal but are not priced equal. Most major brands offer similar features at varying prices. Sharp dishwashers are designed to offer high-end features at an excellent value," said Peter Weedfald, senior vice president of sales and marketing, Sharp Home Electronics Company of America.

So, how do you know when it's time for an upgrade in your kitchen? Weedfald shares five questions to ask yourself:

1. What's my dishwasher's cleaning and drying power? While earlier dishwashers often required you to do quite a bit of soaking and rinsing before loading the machine, some of today's models

feature soil sensors that automatically optimize your washing cycles. Plus, the option to place your most challenging and soiled cookware near special sprayers that deliver extra scrubbing

power can also be a huge time- and labor-saver. Some new models have also made hand-drying a thing of the past, thanks to heated drying, which is faster and more dependable than condensation drying.

2. Does my dishwasher offer premium features and design at a reasonable price point? Sharp is a good example of a manufacturer offering classic, elegant luxuries both inside and outside its dishwashers at an affordable price point compared to other brands offering similar features. Inside its dishwashers are smooth glide rails that make loading and unloading a breeze, as well as premium, white LED lights offering good visibility. Outside is an easy-to-clean stainless-steel finish that nicely complements other kitchen appliances and fixtures. Plus, a hidden control panel makes for a sleek design that minimizes distractions.

3. Does my dishwasher

offer flexibility? For an efficiently run kitchen, flexibility is key. To that end, you shouldn't have to wait until you have a full load's worth of dishes to run your machine. Look for a dishwasher with a half-load option, as well as adjustable racks to accommodate large casserole dishes, tall stemware, and oddly sized items.

4. Is my dishwasher energy efficient? If either sustainability or saving money on utilities are priorities for you, be sure to look for ENERGY STAR rated dishwashers with features such as a half-load option that reduces water and energy consumption when washing smaller loads.

5. Is my dishwasher quiet? To put things in perspective, any dishwasher is going to produce some level of noise. Anything below 52dBA is considered very quiet. The difference between a 40dBA and 45dBA model will be minimal, so be careful you

Thanks to new innovations, dishwashing isn't what it used to be. For less mess, stress, and hassle, consider upgrading your dishwasher for a better experience.

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Three affordable kitchen upgrades to consider



PHOTO COURTESY (C) IRIANA SHIYAN / SHUTTERSTOCK

AFFORDABLE AND FAST: Luxury “granite” countertops can be a DIY project completed in just one weekend.

It's the heart of the home, but that doesn't mean you need to break the bank to create your dream kitchen. With ingenuity, you can improve its look and functionality at an affordable price point and in just a weekend.

(STATEPOINT)

Is remodeling your kitchen on your wish list? Afraid of how much it'll set you back? HomeAdvisor puts the average kitchen remodel price in the \$12,567 to \$34,962 range. However, you can buck the trend of costly, complicated updates. Consider these three renovations, all of which will improve the look and functionality of your kitchen, without costing you thousands of dollars:

REFRESH FABRICS

Reupholstering just one chair means shelling out \$150 to \$600, according to HomeGuide. If that's beyond what you're willing to pay, but you're not ready to replace a beloved set of kitchen chairs, you can update their look on a budget and in just a few minutes with stretchable seat covers. A good choice for families with kids or pets, these covers are typically machine-washable and can be swapped out as often as you like to suit your mood. From geometric designs to citrus vibes to florals, they're offered in a range of patterns that will look great with any style.

NEW GRANITE SURFACES

Countertops are the most common feature upgraded during kitchen renovations, according to a 2022 Houzz study, which found that nine in 10 remodelers performed this update. The same survey found that 35% of homeowners are splurging to make it happen. If you've looked into granite countertops, you probably learned that it can cost thousands of dollars and take months to have them custom-made and installed.

Adding this touch of lux-

ury to your kitchen doesn't have to bust your budget, involve contractors or mean supply chain hassles. It can actually be an easy, one-weekend DIY project. Using a LuxROCK Solid Surface Granite Countertop Kit from Daich Coatings, you can transform your countertops and island surfaces at just a fraction of the price of a professional granite countertop installation. For about \$300, a kit covers 40 square feet of space.

This functional and decorative blend of real stone with stunning mineral highlights can be used to give a smooth appearance to countertops, tables or any other surface. And because the authentic stone surface resists stains, heat and impact and is food safe, it's a great solution for the kitchen.

Each kit includes a prime coat, stone coats, clear epoxy and a clear coat finish, as well as all the tools needed. This revolutionary and exceptionally easy resurfacing project doesn't require any artistic skills to be a success. Nor does it require technical skills, as sinks, plumbing fixtures and existing countertops don't need to be removed before application.

If you're someone who

likes the flexibility of changing things up every few years, it's simple to update granite surface colors using another LuxROCK kit when you're ready. Both this U.S. patent-pending kit and the brand's textured countertop kits are available online at The Home Depot and Lowe's.

OPTIMIZE YOUR PANTRY

Pantries are often tucked away, but you can still give them an eye-catching makeover. For fresh pops of color, paint the pantry door and wallpaper the interior. Group items by height, then use customizable shelving to stretch storage real estate.

You may also wish to transfer kitchen staples to uniform containers. This will offer a tidier, more visually appealing look, while helping you make better use of limited space. Whether you opt for mason jars, ceramic canisters, or BPA-free plastic cubes, label containers carefully.

It's the heart of the home, but that doesn't mean you need to break the bank to create your dream kitchen. With ingenuity, you can improve its look and functionality at an affordable price point and in just a weekend.

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Teaching children how to protect birds in your backyard



PHOTO COURTESY (C) HALPOINT / ISTOCK VIA GETTY IMAGES PLUS

BUILD A BIRD FEEDER: Using natural or recycled materials will make this rest stop for birds a fun project to do with kids.

(STATEPOINT)

Part of being a good environmental steward is passing on this wisdom to the next generation. Here are three hands-on ways parents and grandparents can teach children to protect the birds in their very own backyard.

BUILD A BIRD FEEDER

Build bird feeders using natural or recycled materials to teach two earth-friendly lessons in one: the importance of reducing waste and the need to take care of

local wildlife. Bird feeders can be crafted from milk cartons, tin cans, mason jars or even natural materials like pinecones. As you decorate your bird feeders, talk to your kids about how

birds are not just beautiful, but also a vital part of the ecosystem and how you are offering these creatures a chance to rest and refuel. Fill your finished products with birdseed and choose a safe spot to hang them. Experts recommend bird feeders be positioned either closer than three feet or farther than 30 feet from windows.

PROTECT FLIGHT

Birds in flight are prone to strike windows. Fortunately, there's an easy home project you and your children can complete together that will

help prevent this from happening.

Applying decals that reflect ultraviolet sunlight to your home's windows, particularly windows that are highly reflective of open sky, has been proven to substantially reduce the likelihood of bird strikes. Those from WindowAlert feature patterns that give the appearance of slightly frosted translucent glass, but glow like a stoplight for birds. Kids can help select from fun decal designs like snowflakes, butterflies and maple leaves.

The brand also makes a high-tech UV liquid that offers even greater protection when applied between decals. To learn more, visit WindowAlert.com.

KEEP A LOG

Now that you've invited birds to your yard and have taken steps to protect them, inspire young naturalists to keep a log of flying visitors. Kids can draw pictures of the birds they see and note their observations. Visit Audubon for Kids at audubon.org for a birding guide, activities, games and addi-

tional projects that can help kids learn to identify various bird species by sight and sound.

"Environmental stewardship starts in your own backyard and people of all ages can get involved, including kids," said Spencer Schock, founder of WindowAlert. "The good news is that turning your home into a refuge for birds is fun, easy, and something parents, grandparents and kids can work on together."

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