



Area departments excel during recent mega fire

BY JEFF OSBORNE
SENIOR WRITER & EDITOR

When fires at Fort Hood in late March burned out of control and even resulted in the evacuation of the community of Flat, local fire departments responded in a big way in helping to contain the threat.

Nine volunteer fire departments in Coryell County, as well as the Copperas Cove Fire Department, were all involved in responding to a massive blaze on the U.S. Army base that scorched more than 38,000 acres and was named the Crittenberg Complex Fire. The volunteer fire departments involved were from Coryell City, Evant, Flat, Gatesville, Jonesboro, Levita, Oglesby and Turnersville.

Coryell County Judge Roger Miller said he appreciates all the effort and sacrifice made by local firefighters in responding to the massive fire, and he is thankful for those who served on the frontlines of the blaze to

help avert tragedy.

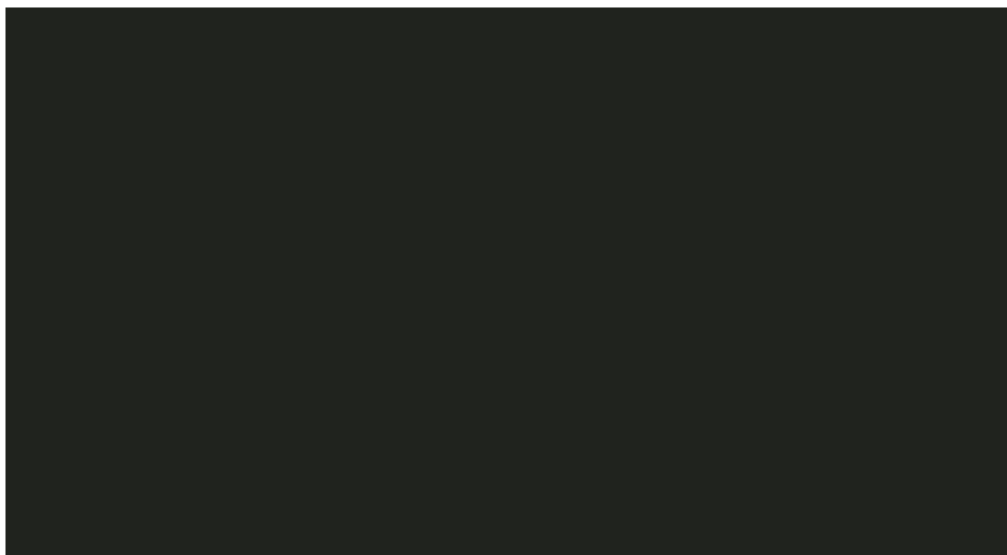
"I want to highlight what a great value our volunteer fire departments are to our county," Miller said. "It's not just in the fire protection services they provide. We have seen a significant increase in the number of medical calls the firefighters respond to, and several volunteer firefighters have worked to become EMT (emergency medical technician) certified.

"Sometimes it takes an event like this to truly appreciate and highlight all that is involved and the great efforts our fire departments make in helping to keep our communities safe."

When the Crittenberg Complex fire raged, "every fire department in Coryell County was involved," Miller said.

He plans to work with state officials and representatives of the Federal Emergency

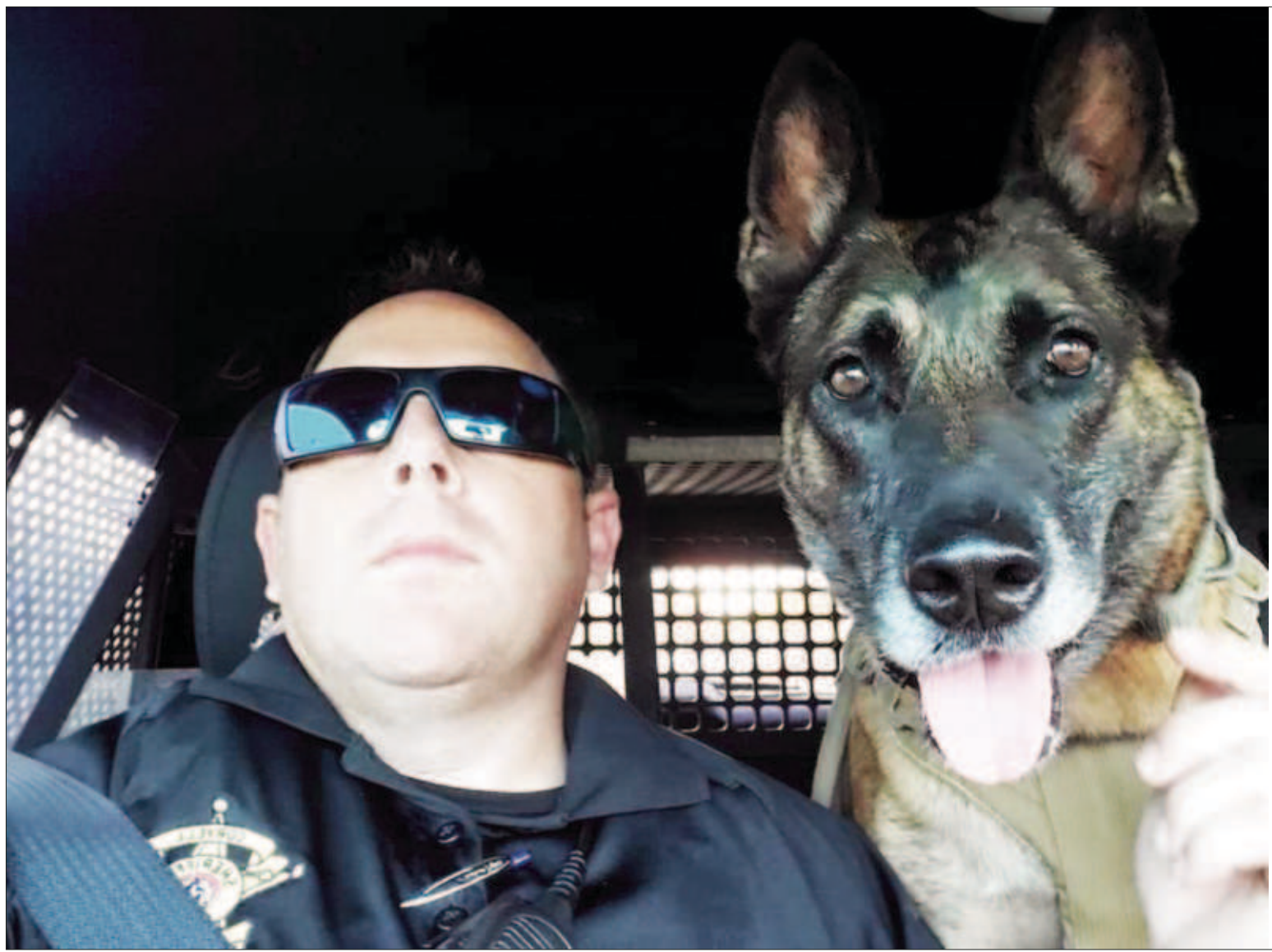
PLEASE SEE **FIREFIGHTERS** | A2



COURTESY PHOTO

Several local fire departments helped respond to the recent Crittenberg Complex fire.

A well-earned retirement



COURTESY PHOTO

Officer David Ashley sits next to Stana, a Belgian Malinois who faithfully served with the Coryell County Sheriff's Office until a leg injury prompted her retirement. Stana's surgery, which was funded via community donations, is scheduled for April 20.

Crime-fighting canine served community well

BY JEFF OSBORNE
SENIOR WRITER & EDITOR

Whether human or canine, law enforcement officers take a lot of pride in caring for one of their own, so when police dog Stana needed surgery to repair a torn ligament in her left leg, the Coryell County Sheriff's Office reached out to the community for help with her medical bills.

People responded in a big way, donating more than \$5,500 to help Stana. The surgery will only cost an estimated \$1,200 to \$1,670, so the additional funds will be devoted to the sheriff's office's canine fund.

After a post was seen on Facebook explaining Stana's need, not only did people overwhelmingly respond with donations, but local

television stations even came to Gatesville to help spread the word.

As for Stana's future, the 6-year-old Belgian Malinois will retire and will live with her partner, David Ashley.

"She's done so much for us," Coryell County Sheriff Scott Williams said. "We started the canine program here with proceeds seized from drug dealers. We will still need approval of the county commissioners to accept the donation, but we hope the surgery will allow Stana to have a better quality of life in her retirement. We hope to move the extra funds (from donations) into our canine fund."

With Stana's retirement, the sheriff's office will be down to two canine officers. Stana was the first canine officer for the county when Williams reinstated the program in 2017. It

had been canceled years earlier.

Williams and Ashley said Stana's efforts have made a big difference, along with the department's other canine officers. Not only have they helped to root out hidden drugs, their presence often has a calming effect on people, whether on the streets or in area schools.

"She's definitely been a great benefit for our crime-fighting efforts, along with our other canines," Williams said.

Ashley began working with Stana in September 2021, and the two formed a close partnership.

"She's with him all the time and has been a great asset to us, especially in fighting the

PLEASE SEE **STANA** | A2

Local school leader voices concern

BY JEFF OSBORNE
SENIOR WRITER & EDITOR

Standing together against a tide of indoctrination and allowing students to thrive via strong parental, school and community support was the message shared by Jonesboro Independent School District Superintendent Matt Dossey during a presentation to the Gatesville Lions Club.

Dossey, who is also pastor of First Baptist Church of Jonesboro, is a 1992 graduate of Gatesville High School and served as principal at Hamilton High School before filling the superintendent role at Jonesboro in 2011.

"When I came to Jonesboro, we were \$750,000 in the hole, and now 11 years later, we have a \$4 million fund balance," Dossey said.

"God opened the door for me to go to Jonesboro, and through hard work, diligence, prayer and struggle, we've been able to turn things around."

Dossey said he believes different students fit in better in certain situations, and that some students thrive at Jonesboro who wouldn't do as well at larger schools, and vice versa.

"Every school district has things they do well and things they need to work on," he said.

One issue he said is crucial for parents and community members to be aware of is the cultural war that is waged, which can have a harmful impact on students.

"There are things going on that we as citizens of the U.S. and the state of Texas that we need to stand against," Dossey said. "There are some things in education that are a concern, and that is the process

PLEASE SEE **CONCERN** | A2



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FIREFIGHTERS

FROM PAGE A1

Management Agency to reimburse local fire departments for the expenses incurred in responding to the blaze on Fort Hood.

"The total cost to our local departments in responding to that fire was \$70,030.74, using a FEMA cost analysis," Miller said.

"There was a toll on tires and equipment as well as the personnel involved in fighting the fire. That normally happens, it's part of the cost associated with fighting fires. But in this case, the response was to a wildfire on federal lands. You can make an argument that our county resources were used to supplement the federal government. We're going to do everything we can to help our local fire departments recoup those costs."

Coryell County provides some funds to the eight volunteer fire departments spread throughout the county, but donations are also a big part of helping those agencies continue to operate.

"As an example, a couple of weeks ago the Coryell-Osage department raised over \$2,100 through a fundraiser, and that was a good amount," Miller said. "Their total cost to support Fort Hood during those fires was over \$9,200. So that's a \$7,000 deficit for them even with the fundraiser."

"It's important to highlight what a great value these departments are, and as a county government, it's important for us to do everything we can to seek reimbursement."

With the county's drought level rated exceptional and with dry conditions expected to persist for months - even with sporadic rainfall - Miller said it is vital to make sure local fire departments have all the resources they need to respond to whatever emergency conditions arise.

"It's critical," he said. "Every weather report I'm getting indicates there are continued conditions that are prime for wildfires. We were blessed with good rains in 2019 and 2020, but lately it seems like the faucet has been turned off."

That makes things difficult, but we'll weather the storm and we'll get through this."

The dry conditions are something people should be aware of at all times because it only takes a spark to cause a much larger fire, Miller noted.

"Moisture is so low that it causes fires to spread more rapidly and burn hotter," he said. "These fires can grow much more quickly than anyone anticipates. It's almost becoming a situation where we can experience flash fires. All it takes is a little wind for a situation to get out of control."

"Unless something drastically changes, people should anticipate that Coryell County will be under a burn ban for at least the next three months."

In addition to local fire departments being involved in the Crittenberg Complex response, agencies from Fort Hood, the Texas A&M Forest Service, Killeen, Belton, Hutto, Harker Heights, Georgetown and Round Rock all helped battle the blaze.

Miller said he has also heard re-

ports that agencies from Milam, Bosque, and Hamilton counties also responded to what the Texas Forest Service had designated as the top priority fire in Texas on March 28.

"There was an extremely coordinated effort to keep a bad situation from getting worse," Miller said. "From my standpoint, I don't know the exact source of the fire, but I'm 100% confident it was not started due to a controlled burn."

Officials from Fort Hood have said the fire began during training exercises, possibly by mortar fire.

"I believe they had an unanticipated wind shift that made what (Fort Hood personnel) believed was a controlled situation turn into an uncontrolled one," Miller said. "It put them into a situation they had not expected, so they called for assistance."

Fort Hood officials said controlled burns over the past three years have actually decreased the threat of wildfires spreading by eliminating the brush that would otherwise fuel those fires.

"I was overwhelmingly pleased by the response of our local as-

sets," Miller said.

One area in which he said county leaders will need to focus is making sure resources are available at evacuation sites whenever disaster force people to leave their homes.

"The city of Gatesville and local churches and agencies were very generous in opening their doors, but we as a county have to help make sure that food, water and other resources like cots and blankets are available to those who have evacuated," Miller said.

"As far as our local emergency responders, I was very proud of their efforts. They did a truly outstanding job."

The estimated cost for local volunteer fire departments responding to the Crittenberg Complex fire includes:

- \$9,247.86 by Coryell City VFD
- \$5,125.50 by Evant VFD
- \$11,027.42 by Flat VFD
- \$16,155.50 by Gatesville VFD
- \$3,280.60 by Jonesboro VFD
- \$4,872.39 by Levita VFD
- \$4,416.55 by Oglesby VFD
- \$14,507.04 by Turnersville VFD



GOOD FRIDAY CLOSINGS

Businesses and governmental offices across Coryell County will join the rest of the nation on Friday, April 15, in celebration of Good Friday.

Closings in the immediate area include:

GOVERNMENT

The city of Gatesville and the city of Oglesby will be closed on Friday, April 15, and will reopen for regular business hours on Monday, April 18.

SCHOOLS

The Gatesville Independent School will be closed Friday, April 15. The district will reopen for normal hours on Monday, April 18.

Oglesby, Evant and Jonesboro school districts will be closed on Friday, April 15, and will remain closed until Monday, April 18, when they will resume normal hours.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

BanCorp South will remain open on Friday, April 15 using

regular office hours. The First National Banks of Gatesville, Evant and Oglesby will be closing at 3 p.m. on Friday, April 15, to observe Good Friday. The Educators Credit Union will remain open on Friday, April 15. Extraco Bank will close at noon on Friday, April 15 in observance of Good Friday.

LIBRARY

The Gatesville Public Library will be closed on Friday, April 15 and Saturday, April 16. The library will reopen for normal hours on Monday, April 18.

POST OFFICES

Gatesville and all area post offices will remain open on Friday, April 15.

NEWSPAPER

The Gatesville Messenger will be open on Friday, April 15, but will close at 1 p.m. The office will reopen on Monday, April 18, when they will resume normal business hours.

CONCERN

FROM PAGE A1

of indoctrination and critical race theory that starts at a very early age. Thankfully, our governor (Greg Abbott) is standing up to that for the most part. Still, there's politics and things that are done in closed meetings.

"Our schools are under attack. There is indoctrination happening in many districts and with critical race theory, some are trying to convince children that how God created them is not how they should be."

He also said issues involving gender identity have in some cases created unfair situations.

For example, those who were born male may claim to identify as females and then have an unfair advantage in athletic competition because

of their body structure.

"A lot of things that were fought for to give women equality and rights are wiped out when you allow males to compete as females," Dossey said.

He also said standardized testing has had a negative impact on districts.

"That has weakened the education system," Dossey said. "If we want to produce quality citizens, we have to ramp up education and hold students and teachers accountable and make sure there is parental support."

"Success takes self-discipline, the school and the parents all pushing in the same direction."

Dossey said in some cases, parents put down teachers, coaches or principals in front of their children, and the students go to school without a respect for those who are trying to educate them and

equip them with the knowledge and skills needed to succeed.

"If people are bad mouthing the teachers, coaches or principal in front of their kids, the kids go back to school thinking those people are sorry individuals," he said. "We have all got to get on the same page in working for the best for our kids to have the kind of success in school and then to become productive citizens."

"We have too many people today that are unproductive because they haven't learned work ethics, dependability, dedication to a cause and the importance of teamwork. It takes hard work, and if we want our kids to be successful, it's important that we get on the same page and give them the opportunity and the foundation for that."

BIG CITY MEDICINE

Small Town Care



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Temple - Waco
CoryellHealth.org

STANA

FROM PAGE A1

drug problem," Williams said. "She was the pioneer when we restarted the canine program, and she's found a lot of drugs during her service."

"One of the biggest assets has been getting Stana in our local schools," Ashley said. "She checks backpacks and is a big deterrent to crime. Having our dogs visit the schools makes it safer for the kids."

Stana's surgery is scheduled for April 20. Her injury is a common one for active dogs, Ashley said.

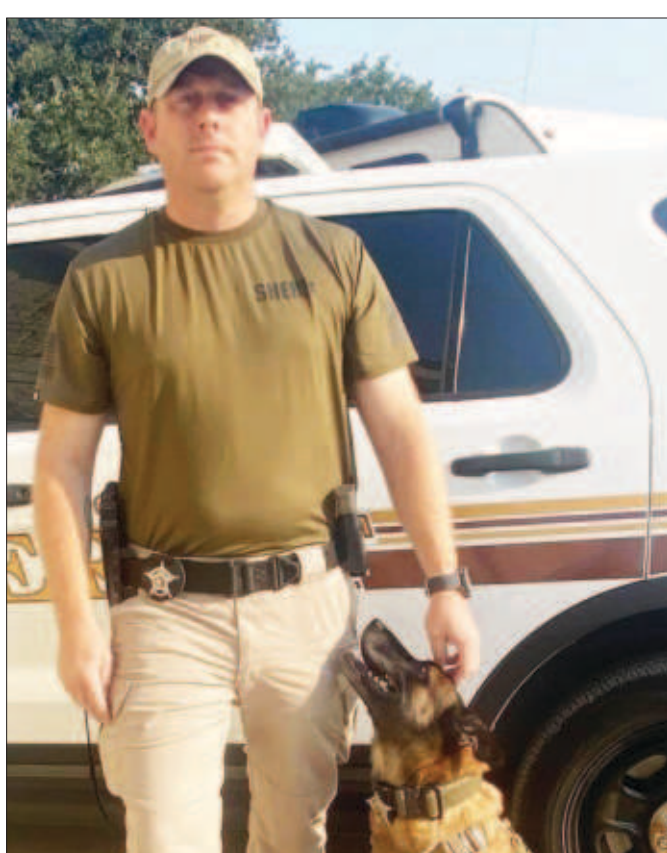
"It was caused by running and jumping and is the same type of injury elite athletes sometimes get," he said.

Williams said he hopes Stana enjoys a long, happy retirement.

"She's family," he said. "In the early days when we first got her, she stayed at my house, and my grandkids grew up around her. She's paid her dues so hopefully she'll be able to enjoy the best quality of life possible."

Ashley said he is thankful for those who donated to help Stana.

"I really want to thank the



A JOB WELL DONE: Officer David Ashley stands next to Stana, the first dog in the sheriff's office's re-established canine program.

community for the generous outpouring of support," he said. "This will benefit Stana and it will also go a long way in helping our canine program. It's not just

us who benefit from having the canines. Smaller cities and nearby counties have contacted us when they need help, and we're happy to do it."

COURTESY PHOTO



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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

newspaper format as determined by management.

The Gatesville Messenger is not responsible for copy omission, typographical error or any unintentional error other than to publish a correction.

(ISSN-0894954) | P.O. Box 799, Gatesville, TX 76528 | 116 South 6th St., Gatesville, Texas 76528 | 254-865-5212
The Gatesville Messenger is published every Wednesday and Saturday by Messenger Publishing Co. Inc., Periodical class postage paid at Gatesville, TX 76528.

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.

GHS greenhouse to hold plant sale

Buzz's Floral Shop will present its annual plant, vegetable and flower sale at the Gatesville High School Greenhouse. The plant sale will be on Thursday, April

14, Tuesday, April 19, and Thursday, April 28 from 8 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Morgan Smart at msmart@gatesvilleisd.org.

PEARL NEWS

Pearl Church of Christ VBS changed dates



BETSY CLARK

The Pearl Church of Christ reports that there has been a change in the dates of their annual VBS from June 6-10 to May 30-June 3, due to unforeseen circumstances. The times will remain the same—9 a.m. to noon each day. As always, everyone is invited to attend.

The annual Pearl Flea Market will be on April 23 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. Everyone is invited. For more information or to volunteer to work in the kitchen, please call Linda Ray at 254-865-9282.

Michelle Pruett will have Kay's succulents for sale at the Pearl Flea Market along with five cold cages and some larger plants. However, if you would like to purchase any of these beforehand, you can call Michelle at 254-865-5864 to make an appointment to see them.

Kay sends her love to everyone and thanks us for our prayers. She also asks for continued prayers as she recovers from hip surgery. Get well soon, Kay! We love you.

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 May 13. Meet at the Prayer Tree in front of the school. Everyone is invited.

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life. John 3:16

Contact me at betsy-clark47@yahoo.com for more information or to submit any Pearl news.

Exchange Club names Students of the Month

The Exchange Club of Gatesville recently named their Students of the Month chosen for January and February 2022.

Students of the Month are seniors and are nominated by a teacher for their outstanding qualities as a young person. This recognition is not based solely on academics, but also on character, school and community involvement and leadership abilities that make a well-rounded individual. Exchange Club members receive the nominations and score each one on merit.

Two students are selected each month from September to February. The 12 students that are selected during the year will be recognized again at the Golden Deeds Banquet in April. After another round of scoring by club members, the two students with the highest scores will each receive \$1,000 scholarships from the Exchange Club.

The Students of the Month chosen for January and February are Jessi Salas, Lexi Poston, Cooper Sutton and Baylee Snoddy.

Jessi Salas was nominated by teacher Mary Bruton. Bruton described her as being extremely intelligent, polite and respectful. Bruton also said that Salas was hard-working, dedicated and has what it takes to do anything mathematically inclined that she chooses. The activities that Salas has been involved with include being a football manager during ninth grade and serving on the student council during her sophomore, junior and senior years at GHS. She has also served as the social officer for the Dazzlers during her junior year. In addition to being on the A Honor Roll, she is a certified nursing assistant and has performed volunteer work at Food for Families. She is the daughter of Lisa Reyes and Rey Reyes.

Lexi Poston was nominated by teacher Mary Bruton. Bruton described her as being a young lady who acts respon-



PHOTO BY MARY BRUTON

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH: GHS students recently recognized as Students of the Month by the Exchange Club of Gatesville are, pictured left to right, Jessi Salas, Lexi Poston, Cooper Sutton and Baylee Snoddy.

sibly and is respectful of her surroundings. She also stated that Poston does amazing academic work and is diligent about what she does. Bruton also mentioned that Poston always has a smile on her face and carries a positive attitude - being beautiful on the inside as well as the outside. Poston has served on the student council during her sophomore, junior and senior years at GHS. She has been a part of the cheerleaders/Dazzlers by serving as first lieutenant her junior year and captain her senior year. She is a certified nursing assistant and has been a part of the PALs program at GHS. Poston has been accepted to attend Texas A&M in College Station. She is the daughter of David and Araceli Poston.

Cooper Sutton was nominated by teacher Mary Bruton. Bruton described him as being intelligent, athletic, kind and driven. She said that he is very consistent with his work and will have a bright future. Bruton also

mentioned that he is a simply overall outstanding student and worthy of this honor. Sutton has served on the student council during his senior year. He is a third-year letterman in football and was first team academic all-district; first team academic all-state; first team all-district, Helmet award. In addition to football, he was a third-year letterman in wrestling which he participated in his freshman, sophomore and junior years at GHS. His involvement in FFA has earned him the Discovery Degree, Green Hand Degree and the Lone Star Degree. He has been involved in 4-H for 10 years and has held positions as club reporter, club safety officer, club secretary, recreation officer, club vice president and club president. Sutton has volunteered at a local veterinary clinic and at his church. He is the son of Shanon and Jalean Sutton.

Baylee Snoddy was nominated by her teachers Bonnie Latham and Cassie Graham. Latham described Snoddy as

a bright young student who was eager to do well but will not settle for anything short of perfection in her work. She also said that she has a glowing spirit about her that radiates care and compassion. Graham described her as being organized, hard-working and committed to a rigorous course load. She also mentioned that Snoddy has a strong work ethic. Snoddy has served on the student council during her sophomore, junior and senior years at GHS. Her involvement with the cheerleaders/Dazzlers has included being the social officer, second lieutenant, and first lieutenant. After volunteering for 40 hours and passing a written and physical test, she became a certified CNA. In addition to being a lifeguard, babysitter, and working at H-E-B, Snoddy also has volunteered at the Care Center. She is the daughter of Ronnie and Susan Snoddy.

Gatesville Primary PRE-KINDERGARTEN AND KINDERGARTEN ROUND UP

Pre-K
Wednesday, April 13
4:30 - 6:00 PM

The student must be 4
September 1, 2022

Only one parent is needed to complete the paperwork. The student does not need to be present at registration.

Kindergarten

Tuesday, April 12
4:30 - 6:00 PM

The student must be 5
September 1, 2022

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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Location
Gatesville Primary main entrance
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Joey

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Advertising deadline is April 25, 2022.

2 col. x 4" ad (3.458" x 4")..... \$45.00

RIBBON CUTTING



COURTESY PHOTO

STREET OGRE FORGE RIBBON CUTTING EVENT: The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce recently held a ribbon cutting ceremony for business owner Jess Streetman of Street Ogre Forge. Streetman is a blacksmith in Gatesville and creates tools and goods whether it be a steak turner, knife, piece of art, or other forged goods with the utmost attention to quality and functionality. Streetman can be reached by calling 254-223-3577 or you can visit his website at www.streetogreforge.com. Picture above is Streetman cutting the ribbon joined by representatives of the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce.

CINDY'S TRIBE



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSANGER

COURTHOUSE EMPLOYEES SHOW THEIR SUPPORT: Coryell County Courthouse employees recently displayed their support for their former co-worker, Cindy Young, who has been battling serious health issues. The courthouse employees created the special T-shirts honoring Young with the phrase "Cindy's Tribe" printed on the shirts to show their support and concern.

AgriLife Extension in Coryell County to offer Private Applicator Training

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Coryell County will present a Private Applicator Training session from 8:30 a.m.-noon April 20 at its office in Gatesville. The class will be limited to the first 15 paid participants.

"This training is for people who do not have a Texas Department of Agriculture license to apply restricted-use pesticides on their property or those who had a license that expired at least a year ago," said Robert Ferguson, County Extension Agent, Agriculture and Natural Resources, Coryell County.

Cost is \$80 per person, which includes training and

two study manuals. Make checks or money orders payable to Ag Industries Committee. Credit cards will not be accepted. There will be additional fees associated with applying for a license and online testing. Registration must be done in person in the Coryell County Extension Office by April 14.

Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m., with training from 9 a.m.-noon. Lunch is not included.

The license cannot be used for commercial, government or for-hire applicators.

"When you pass the examination, you can submit for a Private Applicator License

to be used on agricultural lands," Ferguson said. "To maintain your license and keep it current, you will need to earn 15 Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units within a five-year period. If you are not able to earn these within that five-year period, your license will not be renewed."

Participants should bring a calculator and photo identification.

For more information, contact the Coryell County Extension Office by e-mail (Robert.Ferguson@ag.tamu.edu) or call 254-865-2414.

Upcoming Events

EASTER

Cross Walk to take place on Good Friday

First Baptist Church of Flat is planning its annual Cross Walk on Good Friday. Community members are welcome to join in the walk as they carry a wooden cross down Main Street in Gatesville.

Those attending are asked to meet at First United Methodist Church in Gatesville at 8 a.m. on April 15. At 9 a.m., they will start walking down Main Street toward the west side of town and will carry the cross to the Prayer Garden at the three crosses at CCC.

After a public devotional, they will dismiss.

FUMC wraps up Easter schedule

The First United Methodist Church of Gatesville is celebrating Holy Week which kicked off Palm Sunday, April 10.

A Maundy Thursday worship service will be held on Thursday, April 14, at 6:30 p.m. On Friday, April 15, there will be a Good Friday worship service at 6:30 p.m.

On Saturday, April 16, there will be a community Easter egg hunt at 10 a.m.

On Easter Sunday, April 17, there will be a community sunrise service held at the three crosses at 7 a.m. Sanctuary services will be held at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Between the two services, at 9:30 a.m., there will be an Easter egg hunt and celebration for the children.

On Sunday evening, April 24, the First United Methodist Church Chancel Choir, Morning Song, and other community choir members will present "Once Upon a Morning: From Resurrection to Pentecost" at 6 p.m. in the church sanctuary.

The Cantata focuses on the Biblical accounts of the post resurrection appearances of Jesus from that First Easter evening through Pentecost.

A donation will be taken for mission work in the Ukraine.

The choir will be directed by Charles Ament and accompanied by Rosemary Whittle. First United Methodist Church is located at 2600 E. Main. For more information, call 254-865-2520.

FUNDRAISERS

Bake Sale to benefit Special Needs Sports

A bake sale will be held on Saturday, April 23, at 10 a.m. as a fundraising event for the Central Texas Special Needs Sports Field Day and other future events. The bake sale will be held outside at J&M Hill Country Bar-B-Q located at 2601 E. Main St.

Baked goods for the sale can be donated by contacting Heather Gribble at J&M's. Central Texas Special Needs Sports can be found on Facebook. For more information, please call 254-206-0064 or 254-223-0916.

Bake sale to benefit Nancy Warren

A bake sale to benefit Nancy Warren will be held on Saturday, April 16 from 9 a.m. or until sold out. The bake sale will take place at Vintage Royalty which is located at 2401 S. Highway 36, Suite 100.

All proceeds from the sale will go to benefit Warren in her fight with leukemia. She is currently at M.D. Anderson Hospital in Houston where she is undergoing medical treatments. Warren will probably be treated at the hospital for the next six months or longer.

Any donations or baked goods will be appreciated. For more information about the bake sale, please contact Kay Branham at 254-223-3888.

Donations sought for GHS Project Graduation

Project Graduation is an event spearheaded each year by a group of Gatesville High School parents who organize a lock-in for seniors on the night of graduation. The event has been a tradition for decades and is a good way to keep the seniors off the streets.

If anyone would like to help sponsor the Project Graduation lock-in, checks can be made payable to: "Class of 2022 Project Graduation." Please contact Lisa Baker if you would like to sponsor the event or donate. She can be reached by phone at 254-206-0782, or contact her by email (lisar_25@yahoo.com). Deadline is May 4.

Revival at Mountain Baptist

Mountain Baptist Church invites the public to join them for a time of good preaching, singing and fellowship at their revival services which will be held from April 24-27.

The Cherry family will present the love of Christ through music and through the

preaching of God's word.

Services will begin Sunday morning, April 24, at 11 a.m. followed by a barbecue meal at noon and services again on Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m.

Revival services will continue Monday through

Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. with a light fellowship meal before each service at 5:30 p.m.

Mountain Baptist Church is located at 6319 E. US Highway 84. For more information, please call 254-383-2634.

Live Oak Baptist to host car show

The first annual Live Oak Baptist Church Car Show will be held on Saturday, April 30, from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Live Oak Baptist Church. All proceeds will benefit LOBC youth so that they can attend church camp.

This will be a family fun

event including food, drinks and a bounce house. The entry fee will be \$25, and trophies will be awarded.

For more information, contact Star Hamilton at 254-493-7526 or Greg Casey at 254-206-0056.

Those interested in par-

ticipating in the car show can register using the following link: <https://sites.google.com/view/lobccarshow/home>

Live Oak Baptist Church is located at 113 FM 107.

Music Hall of Fame April 15

The Gatesville Country Music Hall of Fame is proud to welcome "Jay and Tammy" for a return visit to the Gatesville City Auditorium stage Friday, April 15, for a free concert.

The Gatesville Country Music Hall of Fame seeks to provide good, wholesome music with a family-oriented flavor at our free concerts held at The Gatesville City Auditorium Stage located at 110 N.

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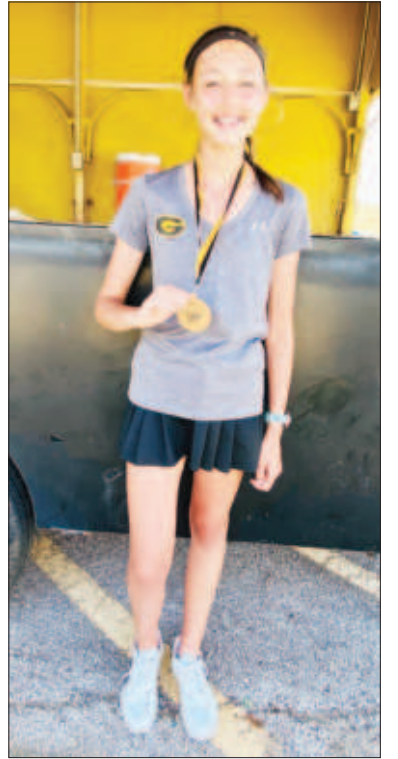
Building a new generation of champions



Breeze Buckner and Ben Woodson, 2nd place junior high singles.



Kate Campbell and Isis Germain, 2nd place in junior high doubles.



London Kizer, 3rd place junior high girls singles.



Gabriel Hall and Matthew Lynn, 2nd place in junior high doubles.



Madeline Fast and Finn Rogers won 1st place in junior high doubles.



Zayden Charles, 3rd place junior high boys singles.

Gatesville Junior High tennis players recently competed in a tennis tournament, and had several athletes who earned medals.

Photos submitted by Sunshine Buckner

Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

Find Kid Scoop on Facebook

© 2022 by Vicki Whiting, Editor Jeff Schinkel, Graphics Vol. 38, No. 19

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Egg Patterns Buzz Bunny has decorated his eggs with number patterns. Help Beeper figure out where to put each of the numbers left in the basket. Draw a line to where each egg belongs.

3	6	9	15
48	12	6	3
5	10	40	80
25	20	10	5

Standards Link: Math/Probability: Recognize patterns.

Say What?

Some phrases people use don't mean exactly what they say. For example the saying, "It's raining cats and dogs," doesn't mean that cats and dogs are falling from the sky. It is a phrase people use to say it is raining hard.

These kinds of phrases are called **idioms**.

The Egg-quirer page has several idioms. Find the idiom that goes with each meaning below:

- Meaning: I was really surprised!
Idiom: _____
- Meaning: To be afraid.
Idiom: _____
- Meaning: Not to depend on one thing.
Idiom: _____
- Meaning: Things are getting busy.
Idiom: _____

ANSWERS: 1. I nearly flew the coop! 2. she is a bit chicken! 3. don't put your eggs in one basket 4. things really started hopping!

Standards Link: Vocabulary: Apply knowledge of idioms to determine the meaning of phrases.

The Bunny Buddies are Back!

Buzz and Beeper Bunny are back with all kinds of Easter fun!

If the activities on this page seem hard, find some bunny to help you. If it looks easy, help some bunny younger than you!

NATIONAL EGG-QUIRER

NEWS FROM THE HENHOUSE TO YOUR HOUSE!

HEN HATCHES HUGE SURPRISE

COOPERVILLE – Last night, things really started hopping for Henrietta Hen. The young mother of 152 is with excitement over the unusual in her nest last night.

"I was just dozing off, around when one of my eggs began to shake," Henrietta recalls. "Now I know why I didn't hear the tapping and sounds the sweet beaks of my chicks usually make as they crack out of their shells."

When Henrietta's egg finally opened, a smiling

BUNNY MIDNIGHT

JUMPING ATTENTION

CHIPPING EGGS

HATCHING

Bunny Loses Basket

Mr. E.B. Rabbit has an Easter Basket all ready to deliver. But he can't remember where he put it. Take your pencil and show him the way through the maze to the basket. Don't retrace your route or cross any lines.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written instructions.

Bonnet Bizarre

Only two of these bonnets are exactly alike. Can you find them?

Extra! Extra!

Facts vs. Opinions

Look through the newspaper for advertisements with an Easter theme. Circle the facts in yellow. Circle the opinions in green.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Distinguish between fact and opinion in expository text.

How many chocolate bunnies can you find on this page in one minute? How many can a friend find? Who found more?

Silly Scramble

The secret code to crack Beeper's riddle is hidden in the egg rows.

is the letter A. The egg to the right of it is B. The next is C, and so on.

The alphabet follows in order from left to right, top to bottom. Each egg stands for one letter of the alphabet.

What kind of Stories do bunnies Like best?

Reporter Game

With a partner, read a newspaper article. One of you must choose to be a person in the article and the other should be the reporter. Decide what questions were asked to get the relevant information and then role-play the interview.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Ask clarifying questions about essential textual elements, restate facts and details, clarify and organize ideas.

Write On!

Easter Bunny Spotted

The Easter Bunny has been spotted, and you are the reporter covering the story.

What a Character!

Humor is ...

... laughing with people, not at them.

Lady Hornets falls to Badgers, 5-2

BY TRISTON MCGEHEE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Gatesville Lady Hornets fell 5-2 in their District 6-4A contest against Lampasas on Friday, April 8, in a softball game at Lampasas High School.

The Lady Hornets hoped to rebound in this game, but the game got away from them - most notably in the sixth inning

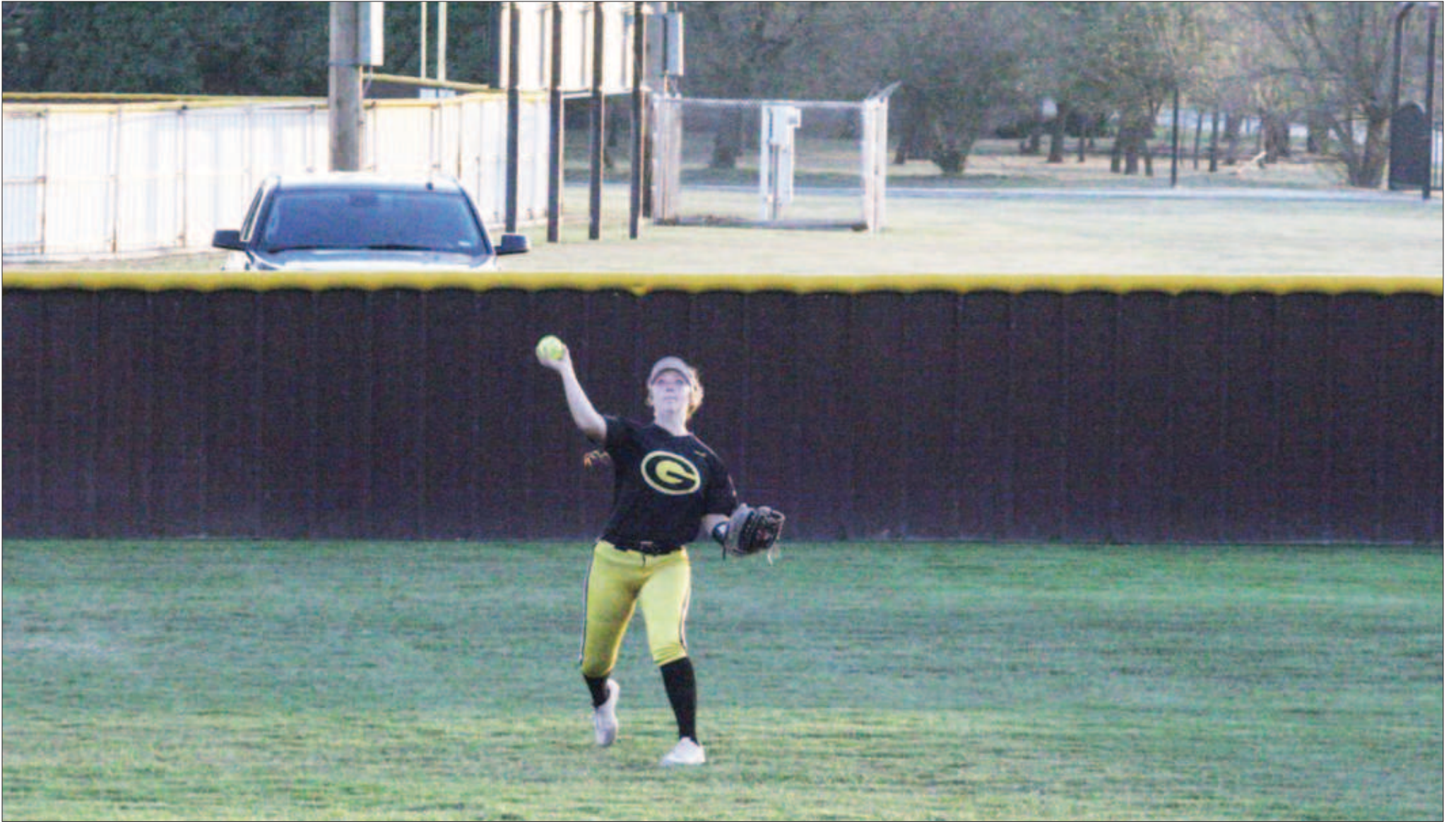
because the Badgers hit a three-run home run. In the same inning, the Lady Hornets had a single run.

Gatesville struggled at-bat, only reaching base on a hit twice, but stayed in the game defensively.

"We played a really good game last night; things just didn't fall our way," GHS coach Andrea Holdbrook said. "The girls never gave up and played hard, making Lampasas earn the

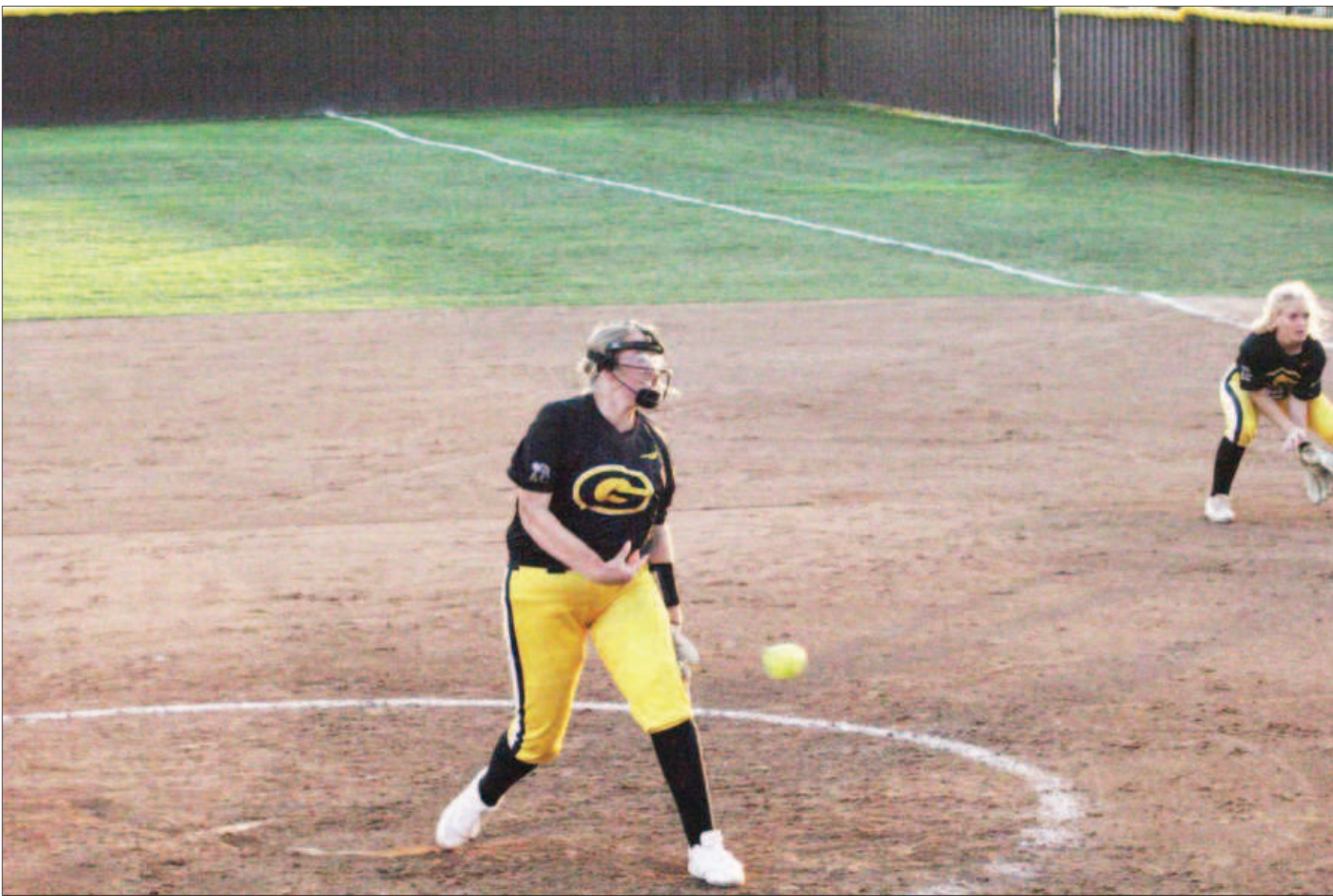
win."

Gatesville was scheduled to play Cameron Yoe in a non-district game on Tuesday and will re-enter district play against Brownwood on Thursday. Both games will be in Gatesville. The Lady Hornets' record is now 8-16-2 overall, and their district record is 2-3.



LADY HORNET FIGHT: Madison Hester makes the throw from the outfield for the Gatesville softball team, which will host Brownwood at 5 p.m. Thursday.

TRISTON MCGEHEE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER



DETERMINATION IN ACTION: Kallie Featherston delivers the pitch for the Lady Hornets, who will look to get back in the win column Thursday with a district battle against the Brownwood Lady Lions.

TRISTON MCGEHEE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Sports editor sought for The Messenger

The Gatesville Messenger, your local twice-weekly newspaper, seeks a sports reporter who can file accurate, timely and interesting stories on a deadline.

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MAINTAINING CONCENTRATION: Riann Tippit looks to make the throw for the Lady Hornets, who are looking forward to an upcoming home district clash with Brownwood.

TRISTON MCGEHEE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER



Happy Easter

INSIDE

Your guide to the Easter liturgical celebration

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7 movies to watch this Easter season

Easter traditions around the world

Ham takes center stage for holiday entertaining

Cheerful dessert brings smiles to Easter celebrations





COURTESY PHOTOS

Your guide to the Easter liturgical celebration

(MetroCreativeConnection)

Easter is the holiest day of the year for Christians. According to biblical scripture, Jesus Christ is the promised Messiah and Savior to the World. Easter Sunday marks His Resurrection from death on the cross, upon which He paid the full penalty for humanity's sins by offering a spotless sacrifice in Himself, established the Christian religion and belief in everlasting life after death.

THE ROAD TO EASTER

In the weeks leading up to Easter, some participate in a 40-day period of fasting, repentance and spiritual discipline known as Lent. In western Christianity, Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. Easter is preceded by Holy Week, which starts with Palm Sunday, the celebration of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, and encompasses Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday.

Services during Lent and Holy Week are special and differ from others in the liturgical year. On Palm Sunday, for example, Roman Catholics and other Christians will take part in the reading of the Passion, which details Judas' betrayal of Jesus Christ, and His crucifixion.

EASTER VIGIL

The Easter Vigil is an ancient liturgy celebrated on the night before Easter Sunday. It began as an all-night vigil, but has since been

shortened. The Vigil begins with the church shrouded in darkness before a candle is lit from a fire outside the church. The candle represents Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Eventually all the candles in the sanctuary are lit from the Easter candle. Readings focus on God's marvelous plan and span from Genesis to the New Testament.

THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

Easter Sunday Mass is a celebratory time for Christians. Most attend services in their formal clothing and give thanks to Jesus and to bask in the light of His eternal life.

According to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Easter Sunday features key readings and responses. The First Reading is from Acts 10:34a, 37-43, and speaks of Jesus of Nazareth being anointed with the Holy Spirit. The Second Reading is from Colossians 3:1-4 or

Corinthians 5:6B-8, which details following Christ and turning away from sin and into His Glory. The Gospel that will be read can be one of these four: John 20:1-9, Matthew 28:1-10, Luke 24:13-35, or Mark 16:1-7. These readings each speak to the discovery of Jesus' empty burial tomb and reassure disciples they should not be afraid because He has been raised from the dead in glory.

Depending on the parish, refreshments may follow the Easter mass and there is a fellowship of the community joined together on this holy day. Families then go home to their individual Easter celebrations, often sharing a lamb or ham dinner with family and friends.

Easter Sunday Mass is the penultimate Holy Week celebration in the Christian Church. It is a time of great joy and tradition.

Mass readings from scripture

(MetroCreativeConnection)

Whether one attends mass in Australia, the U.S. or Canada on any given Sunday, one is apt to hear the same Bible verses being read that day. The reason for that dates back to the Second Vatican Council and its desire for the public to draw more deeply on scripture in the liturgical life of the church.

Scripture is proclaimed according to a schedule of passages called a lectionary. Roman Catholics follow the Lectionary for Mass, while other western churches abide by the Revised Common Lectionary. The earliest Christians simply read the scriptures that were available in their communities.

Through the years, scripture was collaborated in books and missals. The current Lectionary for Mass was created in 1970 and has been revised twice. The Revised Common Lectionary was

created by a panel of experts and then reviewed, adapted and approved by various Protestant church authorities in 1983. Both lectionaries are organized on a three-year cycle, according to U.S. Catholic magazine. Year A is the year of Matthew, Year B is Mark, and Year C is Luke. The Gospel of John is used each year during Christmas, Lent and Easter, as well as in Year B, to round out the year since Mark's gospels are short.

The first readings usually come from one of the books of the Old Testament or from the Acts of the Apostles during Eastertime. The second reading comes from a New Testament letter or the Book of Revelation during Easter. The first and second readings typically connect thematically to the gospel reading. Sundays and feast day scripture is arranged so that the more important biblical passages are highlighted.

The cycle for readings for Advent, Christmas and Easter is yearly and the readings remain the same each year.

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“He is not here; He has risen!”
Luke 24:6

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Bible classes begin at 9:30 am | Worship service begins at 10:30 am

Gatesville Church of Christ 2417 E. Main

Answering questions about Lent



COURTESY PHOTOS

(MetroCreativeConnection)

Before the joyous Easter celebration comes the solemn and prayerful Lenten season. Even the devoutly religious may not know all there is to know about this penitential season. The following are some questions and answers about Lent.

WHEN DOES LENT OCCUR?

Lent is a period of 40 days preceding Easter Sunday. Since 1969, Lent has begun on Ash Wednesday and has ended on the evening of the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. Since Sundays are not calculated in that time frame, Lent actually lasts 46 days.

WHEN DID LENT BEGIN?

The first Christians approached each Sunday as a celebration of Easter, and each day of the week was considered a time to prepare for the Sunday celebration. Beginning in the fourth century in Europe, dates began to be established for Christmas and other religious dates of significance.

THE PATTERN OF 40 DAYS OF PREPARATION AND PENANCE

started to emerge around this time. According to the Catholic Encyclopedia, the first mention of the term 'tessarakoste,' meaning '40' in Greek, could be found in the early years of the fourth century. As Greek gave way to Latin in liturgies, tessarakoste was replaced with 'quadagesima,' meaning 40 days. Christians started the tradition of Lent around the year 325 during the Council of Nicea.

WHY 40 DAYS?

The Compass News says the 40 days of Lent refer to Christ's 40 days spent in the desert after His baptism. Just as Jesus prayed

and fasted, so, too, did the church and its faithful.

WHY IS IT CALLED LENT?

Scholars suggest the word 'Lent' is derived from 'lengten,' an Anglo-Saxon word for spring, which also is related to the German word 'lenz,' meaning spring. By the 11th century, the Oxford English Dictionary notes that 'Lent' had taken on the Christian usage it has today, and the generic term for springtime disappeared.

SOURCE OF ASH WEDNESDAY'S ASHES

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, when ashes are spread on the foreheads of followers in the sign of the cross to signal their repentance to God. The ashes are derived from burning the palm fronds from the previous year's Palm Sunday.

WHY ARE PRIESTS' GARMENTS PURPLE

Purple long has been considered a royal color, and purple garb, along with a crown made from thorns,

was placed on Jesus to mock him as the 'King of the Jews.' Purple/violet became a symbol of the sovereignty of Christ and also was associated with repentance from sin. That is why violet is worn by clergy during Lent, as well as during Advent, the season that precedes Christmas.

HOW IS LENT CONNECTED TO PASSOVER?

Religious scholars contend that the Last Supper took place on what is now known as Holy Thursday. The meal was a seder - a ritual meal held in celebration of the Jewish holiday of Passover. According to the Gospels of Mark, Matthew and Luke, Jesus prepared for the Last Supper on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb.

Lent is a powerful time on the Christian calendar during which the faithful prepare for the glory of Jesus Christ's life after death.

The origins of Easter Sunday

(MetroCreativeConnection)

Easter takes place on a different Sunday each year. In western Christianity, Easter follows the Gregorian calendar and is thus considered a 'movable feast' that is always celebrated between March 22 and April 25. Eastern Orthodox Christianity adheres to the Julian calendar, so Easter will fall on a Sunday between April 4 and May 8 each year. In 2022, the western Christian Easter celebration occurs on April 17 and the Eastern Orthodox Easter is observed on April 24.

Easter is the most important celebration on the Christian liturgical calendar. While commemorations of Jesus Christ's resurrection likely occurred earlier, the earliest recorded observance of an Easter celebration was in the second century, according to Britannica.

Initial Easter celebrations weren't known as "Easter," which is a word that was borrowed from Pagan spring celebrations of Eostre, the goddess of spring and fertility. It only became associated with Christian usage later on - long after biblical scripture was written.

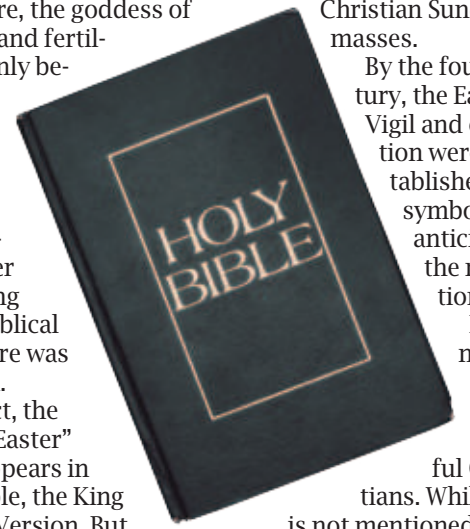
In fact, the word "Easter" only appears in one Bible, the King James Version. But it is likely the word was used as a translation of pascha, or Passover, and not what has come to be known as Christian Easter.

The earliest Easter celebrations were a version

of Passover. According to leading sabbath scholar Professor Samuele Bacchiocchi, Christians universally kept Passover on the biblical date of Nisan until 135 A.D. Early commemorations focused on the crucifixion, and the pain and suffering of Jesus. Bacchiocchi says that eventually the resurrection emerged as the dominant reason for the celebration that would be known as Easter, and also as the main message of weekly Christian Sunday masses.

By the fourth century, the Easter Vigil and celebration were well-established and a symbol of joyful anticipation of the resurrection.

Easter is now celebrated annually by faithful Christians. While Easter is not mentioned in the Bible, scripture depictions helped shape the holiday that would become an integral component of the Christian faith.



Easter Service

April 17, 2022 • 10:30 AM

Live Oak Baptist Church


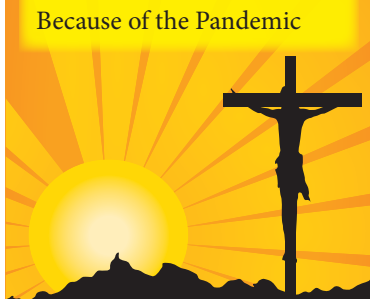
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- Maundy Thursday ("The Last Supper")**
6:30 PM, April 14
- Good Friday ("The Nailing at the Cross")**
6:30 PM, April 15
- Easter Sunday ("He Is Risen")**
11:00 AM, April 17

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Crucifixion

Good Friday Service

April 15, 2022
6:00 P.M.
Sermon by Matt McBrayer

912 E. Main St.




Resurrection

Easter Sunday

April 17, 2022
Sunday School 9:30 A.M.
Worship 10:45 A.M.
Sermon by Pastor Mark Rich

912 E. Main St.





COURTESY PHOTO

Easter egg hunts and other eggceptional traditions

(MetroCreativeConnection)

Easter is celebrated in various ways. Traditional religious commemorations include Saturday evening Easter vigils and Sunday morning Resurrection masses. Parents may spend Easter weekend putting the finishing touches on Easter Bunny baskets, and many families favor a combination of traditions.

Since religious as well as secular imagery and traditions have melded to form the Easter most individuals recognize today, a mix of customs may be part of your Easter festivities. Among them will be colored eggs, egg hunts and possibly even egg rolls. Just how was the Easter egg tradition hatched?

PRE-CHRISTIAN SOCIETIES
Before Christianity was as widespread as it is in modern times, many societies associated eggs with spring and new life. Many birds and animals lay eggs early in spring, and these eggs tend to hatch upon the arrival of the warm weather, budding

flowers and buzzing insects. Ancient Persians are believed to have painted eggs for Nowruz, their new year celebration that would fall on the spring equinox each year. Eggs also have been part of Passover celebrations. A hard-boiled egg dipped in salt water is served at a Passover seder, symbolizing both new life away from oppression and the Passover sacrifice at the Temple in Jerusalem, according to Chabad.org.

LENT, CHRISTIANITY AND EGGS
In medieval times, eating eggs was forbidden dur-

ing Lent, when both dairy and meat were avoided. To reduce waste, eggs laid during Lent were boiled or preserved in some way. The fast ended on Easter Sunday, and eggs became, once again, important and nutritious staples - especially for poor families that couldn't afford much meat. Eggs also were given to the church by medieval English villagers and also to the lords of the manor. Royals eventually got in on the act, and decorated eggs were distributed to the household in a tradition that was one of the earliest to include eggs.

EGG HUNTS AND MORE
Some historians suggest that egg hunts can be traced back to German Protestant reformer Martin Luther, who organized egg hunts for his congregation. The men would hide the eggs for the women and children to find. This symbolized the story of Christ's resurrection, when the tomb was discovered by women. The eggs also

represented Jesus' new life and his emergence from the tomb. Egg hunts are not the only egg-related games that were hatched for Easter celebrations. According to the website Learn Religions, some European children go from house to house begging for Easter eggs, like children may ask for treats on Halloween. The custom is called "pace-egging," a term derived from the old word for Easter, "Pasch." Egg rolls also are symbolic of rolling away the stone from Christ's tomb. Various countries have their own rules on egg rolls. In Germany, for example, children roll their eggs down a track made from sticks. Easter eggs are an integral symbol of the holiday that hold both secular and religious meaning.

DID YOU KNOW?

Easter eggs are decorated in many hues before they're ultimately hidden for youngsters to find. While pastel-colored eggs are the norm, one color has particular religious significance for those who want to go a bit bolder with their egg displays. It is tradition among Orthodox Christians to exchange red eggs.

According to History.com, red eggs are associated with Mary Magdalene and her role in Christianity. After the Ascension of Christ, Mary Magdalene went to the Roman emperor and greeted him with "Christ is Risen." He then stated, "Christ has not risen no more than that egg is red (pointing to an egg on his table)."

After making the statement, the egg turned blood red. Mary Magdalene then began preaching Christianity to him, and the red egg has come to symbolize the blood of Christ redeeming the world.



Happy Easter

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EASTER SCHEDULE

Easter Sunday – April 17

- 7:30 am SON RISE service
- 8:00 am Fellowship Breakfast
- 10:00 am Bible Study
- 11:00 am Resurrection Celebration
- No evening service

Join us for Revival Services April 24-27
Sunday 11:00 am and each evening at 6:30 pm

HE IS † RISEN
CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION



COURTESY PHOTO

Explaining the meaning of Easter to children

(MetroCreativeConnection)

Explaining Easter to children can be a delicate matter, especially for very young children who may not fully understand the tenets of the Christian faith. Although Easter ends with Jesus Christ emerging from his tomb, prior to this glorious miracle, there are subjects of betrayal, suffering and death. These religious messages can confound when commingled with the imagery of bunnies delivering chocolates, chicks and pastel-hued eggs. How do well-meaning parents relay the message of Easter without scaring or confusing children?

TEMPER THE MESSAGE TO THE AUDIENCE

A child's age bears consideration when gauging just how much to share about Easter. Between Palm Sunday, when Jesus triumphantly entered Jerusalem, to Easter Sunday's Resurrection, the story of Easter features torture and death - which are topics not easily digested by anyone, especially children. Even the core symbol of the Christian faith - the crucifix - is shocking.

For the youngest children, the extent of the torture and betrayal can be muted. For example, parents may say that Jesus was bullied and made fun of and that people didn't believe him when he spoke. Parents can note that even some of the closest friends to Jesus had their doubts. This may be easier for kids to digest because it's something they may relate to.

Children may not understand the death on the cross; it's even challenging for adults to wrap their minds around that visual. It briefly can be mentioned that he was placed on a cross, as was customary during that era, but forgo the finer details.

FOCUS ON THE RESURRECTION

Parents will not want to talk about death without ending on the high note of Jesus'

Resurrection. Remind children that Christ's death was temporary and that He now always will be with adults and children. Read passages from scripture that exemplify the Good News and the happy components of the Easter celebration.

EXPLAIN SECULAR IMAGES

Young children may be more focused on the commercial images of Easter rather than the religious ones. Parents may want to gear symbolism toward the religious explanations and focus their traditions thusly. Baking hot cross buns can be fun and showcase the crucifix. Explain how eggs are representative of Jesus Christ's new life when coloring them is another way to cut through mixed messages.

READ BOOKS

Some authors already have taken the challenge out of explaining Easter to children. Visit a religious bookseller, the church or a bookstore to find Easter stories geared to children.

Parents can decide how to explain Easter to their children. Many moms and dads have found that focusing on the joyful aspects of Christ's resurrection story is a simple, enjoyable way to explain Easter.

7 movies to watch this Easter season

(MetroCreativeConnection)

Movie-goers may not associate Easter with Hollywood blockbusters. However, there's an entire cache of films that align well with Easter. When spending time with family and friends for the Easter holiday, consider these movies.

1. "It's the Easter Beagle, Charlie Brown!": This 1974 classic puts The Peanuts' heartwarming spin on another holiday theme. The gang gets ready for Easter in the only ways they can - with lots of love and laughs.

2. "The Prince of Egypt": This 1998 animated film tells the tale of Moses and Pharaoh, and features the voices of Val Kilmer, Michelle Pfeiffer, Sandra Bullock, and Ralph Fiennes, among others.

3. "Hop": This combination of live action and animation

tells the story of the Easter Bunny's teenage son "E.B.," who wants to move to L.A. to pursue his passion for music, rather than be next in line for the family business.

4. "The Greatest Story Ever Told": This 1965 epic tells the story of Jesus of Nazareth and follows His life from the nativity through to the crucifixion. At a whopping four hours and 20 minutes, it may be best to watch this in sessions, especially when watching with youngsters.

5. "The Dog Who Saved Easter": A cuddly canine makes it his business to save Easter when three criminals try to sabotage it in this 2014 film. Mario Lopez voices the pup "Zeus" in this family-friendly flick.

6. "The Ten Commandments": Audiences continue to enjoy this beloved 1956 film starring Charlton Heston as Moses every Easter. With stunning special effects of the Burning Bush and parting of the Red Sea in the era before CGI, this story of faith wows audiences every time.

7. "The Passion of the Christ": Released in 2004 and directed by Mel Gibson, this movie chronicles the final 12 hours of Jesus' agony. The movie doesn't shy away from violence as it attempts to bring audiences closer to the suffering of Christ, which earned it an R rating. This is likely a film for adults only.

Easter presents a time when families can enjoy religious-themed movies that share stories of faith or fun flicks with positive messages.

Easter Worship

Trinity Baptist Church

A Church That Cares

EASTER SERVICES:
 SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:30 A.M.
 WORSHIP - 10:50 A.M.

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Easter traditions around the world

(MetroCreativeConnection)

Easter is a special day for Christians across the globe. While the highlight of Easter celebrations are the religious events, particularly the vigils and church services, Easter fanfare sometimes stretches beyond church walls.

The following are some Easter traditions across the globe. Travelers should confirm the festivities are still on as COVID-19 restrictions continue to be put in place in various locales.

BERMUDA
Celebrants create and fly homemade kites on Good Friday Kitefest, which features bold, geometric designs. It's also traditional to eat codfish and hot cross buns during Holy Week. On Easter Sunday, the faithful participate in sunrise services on various Bermuda beaches.

COSTA RICA
Costa Ricans take Holy Week and Easter quite seriously. Each town hosts parades and processions during Holy Week, providing dramatic re-enactments of Jesus' journey through Jerusalem to his crucifixion and Resurrection.

ENGLAND
Good Friday visitors to Trafalgar Square can see a classic dramatization of Jesus' Resurrection. "The Passion of Jesus" is a 90-minute performance that attracts thousands of visitors.

FRANCE
Many people visit the famed Notre-Dame Cathedral to hear its bells toll throughout Easter Sunday. A fire destroyed a portion of the cathedral roof in 2019 and repairs are still underway. There also are Paris Easter egg hunts. Parisians and tourists also can visit La Sainte Chapelle, which offers Easter concerts consist-

ing of classical music and choral singers.

ISRAEL
Israel is a melting pot of both Jewish and Christian faithful. Easter is a solemn celebration here. In Old Jerusalem, faithful pilgrims and priests walk the Via Dolorosa, which is the same path that Jesus took on the day he was crucified. The Way of the Cross, which is what the procession is called, is among the most amazing sights in the world.

ITALY
Easter is special in Italy and particularly in Vatican City, the home of the Pope. The Pope holds a special mass on Easter in Saint Peter's Square, which traditionally draws huge crowds. Elsewhere in Italy, masses take place at area churches and many towns host parades and other celebrations.

MEXICO
Holy Week reenactments take place in devout areas of Mexico. Residents in other areas may take part in silent processions through town, or by visiting 12 churches in 12 days.

Easter is a time of celebration and reflection in various parts of the world.



COURTESY PHOTO

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE:

PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP April 10 at 8:30 and 10:30 A.M.
We invite all families with children and grandchildren to meet Karen Schmidt in the entrance to the sanctuary at 10:10 A.M. for the procession of palms.

MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP April 14 6:30 P.M.

GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP April 15 6:30 P.M.

COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT April 16 10:00 A.M.

EASTER WORSHIP:

COMMUNITY SUNRISE SERVICE (AT THE THREE CROSSES) 7:00 A.M.

SANCTUARY WORSHIP SERVICES at 8:30 and 10:30 A.M.

EASTER EGG HUNT AND CELEBRATION FOR CHILDREN at 9:30 A.M.

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at the CCC Prayer Garden
Easter Sunday, 7:00 am

Celebrate Easter at Coryell Community Church

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at 9:00 am and 10:30 am
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COURTESY PHOTO

Ham takes center stage for Easter holiday entertaining

(MetroCreativeConnection)

Many people prefer to serve ham instead of lamb for Easter dinner. Ham can be perfectly smoky and salty but also sweet when it is cooked with a delicious glaze.

This recipe for Brandied Baked Ham with Mustard Butter from Denise Gee's "Southern Appetizers: 60 Delectables for Gracious Get-Togethers" (Chronicle Books) pairs the fruity overtones of brandy with the tang of mustard to form an ideal blend of flavors. Serve the ham on its own, or nestle slices between buttermilk biscuits for a brunch or lunchtime treat.

BRANDIED BAKED HAM WITH MUSTARD BUTTER
Serves 16 to 20

BRANDIED BAKED HAM
1 1/2 cups packed dark brown sugar
2 tablespoons grainy mustard
1 5-pound bone-in half ham, fully cooked
1 1/2 teaspoons whole cloves

MUSTARD BUTTER
2 cups butter, softened
1/4 cup grated sweet onion
1/4 cup Dijon or Creole mustard

To make the ham: In a small saucepan, stir to combine the brown sugar, brandy, and mustard. Bring the mixture to a boil over medium-high heat and, stirring constantly, cook until

the glaze is thick and syrupy, about 3 minutes. (Watch carefully, holding a tight-fitting lid; if the brandy ignites, quickly cover the saucepan to tamp out the flame before removing the lid. Store in

an airtight container in the refrigerator for up to 2 days. Reheat just before serving.)

Preheat the oven to 325 degrees F. Line a shallow roasting pan with heavy-duty aluminum foil and place a wire rack on top.

Score the fat on top of the ham by making diagonal cuts in a diamond pattern. Insert the cloves into the intersections of each diamond. Place the ham on the rack in the prepared pan. Insert a meat thermometer, making sure it doesn't touch the bone.

Bake the ham for about 1 hour, or until the meat thermometer registers 125 degrees F.

Remove the ham and brush on the brandy glaze. Return the ham to the oven and cook for 20 to 30 minutes more, or until the meat thermometer registers 135 degrees F. Let it stand for 15 minutes. (The meat temperature will rise to 140 degrees F.)

To make the mustard butter: In a medium bowl, stir to combine the butter, sweet onion and mustard. Scrape it into a serving bowl.

Cut the ham into thin slices and arrange them on a platter. Serve accompanied with the bowl of mustard butter.

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Have Faith

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COURTESY PHOTO

Cheerful dessert brings smiles to Easter celebrations

(MetroCreativeConnection)

The fresh, bright flavor of lemon can bring a cheery ambiance to any occasion when it makes an appearance in delicious recipes. Lemon essence seems ripe for spring and summer entertaining and can feature prominently in Easter desserts. Such is the case with this recipe for Lemon Poppy Seed Pound Cake from “The Pampered Chef Stoneware Inspirations” by The Pampered Chef Test Kitchens.

LEMON POPPY SEED POUND CAKE

Yield: 16 servings

- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 cups granulated sugar
- 2 tablespoons lemon zest
- 2 tablespoons poppy seeds
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 cup (1 1/2 sticks) butter, softened (do not substitute margarine)
- 4 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 4 eggs
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- Powdered sugar (optional)

1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees F. Spray Stoneware Fluted Pan (or any Bundt cake pan) with nonstick cooking spray. Combine flour, granulated sugar, lemon zest, poppy seeds, baking powder, and salt in a 2-quart mixing bowl; mix well. In a 4-quart mixing bowl, beat butter and cream cheese on high speed of hand-held electric mixer 1 minute. Add flour mixture; beat on low speed 1 minute or until blended (mixture will form a stiff paste).
2. In a small bowl, whisk eggs, milk and vanilla just until blended. Add egg mixture to cream cheese mixture in four additions, beating 2 minutes after each addition. (Do not undermix.)
3. Pour batter into pan. Bake 55 to 60 minutes or until a cake tester inserted near the center comes out clean. Cool cake in pan 10 minutes. Loosen cake from sides of pan; carefully invert onto a cooling rack, keeping pan over cake. Cool completely.
4. Place cake on serving platter. Sprinkle with powdered sugar or prepare a glaze, if desired.

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