



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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Frustration mounts over jail overcrowding

BY JEFF OSBORNE
SENIOR WRITER & EDITOR

Facing what seems to be a no-win situation with no easy solution in sight, county officials once again are scrambling to find help dealing with the chronic problem of overcrowding at the Coryell County Jail.

The issue has been aggravated by the fact that a source of relief in previous years — sending inmates to other counties when overcrowding occurs — is sometimes no longer possible.

Sheriff Scott Williams told the Coryell County Commissioners Court on Tuesday (May 10) that he had received a letter from the Texas Attorney General's Office threatening action if overcrowding problems aren't fixed. The problem is there is no apparent quick fix to resolve overcrowding.

In April 2021, local voters overwhelmingly rejected a proposal to spend \$30 million to build a new jail, with about 73% voting against the measure. That left officials with little op-

tion other than finding another jail willing to house them or simply turning inmates loose.

Sheriff Williams and County Judge Roger Miller are both scheduled to visit Austin and go before the Texas Jail Standards Commission on May 19. They indicated that in order for the visit to be fruitful, they want help and suggestions to find solutions rather than finger-pointing and criticism.

"The statutes quoted (regarding jail standards in the recent letter) were pretty broad with nothing specific," Williams said. "There are a lot of jail beds in the state of Texas, but you can't send inmates there because there aren't enough people willing to work (at those facilities)."

"Last year, Milam County took 60 of our inmates, and now they're only able to take 10 — eight males and two females. I don't see it getting better, and (the lack of ability to find places that will accept inmates from Coryell County) is causing our overcrowding. I don't see it getting better, and we can't stop enforcing the law.

"I just don't know what we're going to do."

He noted this is an issue that is a nationwide concern, not just one facing Coryell County. He said the Coryell County Jail is already short 11 jailers, and three more are expected to leave at the end of the month to take higher-paying jobs elsewhere.

The demand for jailers — coupled with a short supply — is causing something of a bidding war.

"McLennan County is hiring new jailers for their juvenile facility for \$40,000 and all that is required is a GED (general equivalency diploma) or a high school degree," County Attorney Brandon Belt said. "No certification is required (beforehand), and they'll train you on the job."

"There's also so much more regulation, it's really crippled us as far as being able to use beds."

Not having enough jailers compounds the problem, and there is a lack of quality applicants to fill positions.

"I'm embarrassed to say this, but one application we got

PLEASE SEE **JAIL** | A2

A paradise for the birds



SHAYLA SMITH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

WINGED WONDERS: Whether hummingbirds (left), painted buntings (right) or other species, Shayla Smith has created a popular spot for birds on her property in Gatesville. For more pictures, see Page 2.

In a split vote, Council approves water for RV park

BY JEFF OSBORNE
SENIOR WRITER & EDITOR

More than 30 people crowded into the Gatesville City Council chambers for a May 10 meeting, many of whom were there to either support or oppose a proposed RV Park to be located near the city ballpark and the Gatesville Civic Center.

Property owner Lynn Massingill, who owns about 500 acres in the area, initially approached city staff in February with plans to build what he described as an upscale RV park outside the city. While he was told sewer service would not be available for the property (making a septic system necessary), he asked the city to make water available to his property so he could build the RV park.

After both sides presented their views for or against the RV park, the Gatesville City Council was initially deadlocked with three Council members in support and three against the proposal. Mayor Gary Chumley cast the deciding vote in favor of allowing

the city to provide water to the facility, which will be located outside the city limits, via a 6-inch water line.

Other Council members voting for the property's request for city water were Claude Williams, Greg Casey and Billy Sinyard. Council members voting against it were Meredith Rainer, John Westbrook and Barbara Burrow.

City staff recommended that the Council request, citing four reasons: first, that the city is not compelled to provide city services outside the Gatesville city limits and there is no right to service outside the city; second, the property is located in an area served by a 100,000 gallon storage tank which only meets the minimum requirements for pressure at each connection, and concerns about the potential impact an RV park might have on the water service provided to existing customers in the area; third, the city is limited in the amount of water available to it, and providing water outside the city could reduce the amount of water available for future growth inside the city; and fourth, "city staff

has analyzed the request and identified additional impacts."

A recommendation from city staff was that if the Council did approve Massingill's request, that restrictions be part of an agreement which would limit water service to the proposed 10-acre RV park; however, no limitations were imposed based on the Council's vote, which was simply to extend a 6-inch water main and install a 6-inch water meter to Massingill's property.

Gatesville City Manager Bill Parry, voicing city staff's recommendations against approval, said the city engineer was asked if sufficient water pressure could be provided and that a response had not been received before the May 10 meeting.

He also noted that Gatesville is using 60% of its authorized water rights, and the concern that with "growth exploding" in Central Texas, "there is no more water to be had - no reservoirs are being built. He said providing water outside the city could hamper future growth opportunities by reducing the

amount of water available within the city limits.

"The issue is not so much today as it is 10, 15 or 20 years from now," Parry said.

"We want to make sure we don't reduce volume at that storage tank," he said, adding that the tank was among the city's smallest. Parry said expanding the tank to 200,000 gallons would cost the city about \$200,000.

"It was built (in the 1980s) when a smaller storage tank in that area made sense," he said.

Councilman Williams asked when the city engineer had been notified, saying the lack of a response by meeting time seemed to him to be a delaying tactic. Parry said the city engineer is attempting to retire, and is only working 30% of the time.

Asked why water pressure was so low for those living in the area, Parry said it is more of a water volume issue, which impacts what

PLEASE SEE **CITY** | A9

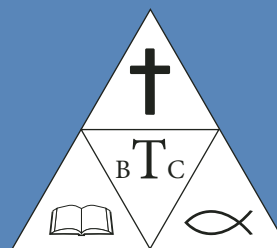


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Natural Beauty on Display



SHAYLA SMITH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Hummingbirds enjoy a visit to a feeder offering sweet liquid (left) while painted buntings (right) prefer traditional bird seed, making Gatesville resident Shayla Smith's backyard a buffet for birds.

JAIL

FROM PAGE A1

was from a stripper in Killeen, and we're getting folks applying who have a criminal history," Williams said. "We're facing another issue where not enough people want to work, and I don't know how we're going to get through that."

Belt said in previous instances, state officials made calls to different counties to get Coryell County help resolving overcrowding issues.

"We need help or they'll have to find a place for all the inmates if they close us down (for overcrowding)," he said. "We ought to be on the line every day asking who do you know who will take (inmates)."

"We already do that," Williams said. "We can't stop enforcing the law. There are surplus beds in other jails, it's just there's not enough staff working to allow us to fill them."

"We need help finding some place to take (inmates) — we need answers," Belt said.

County Auditor Ben Roberts said state officials have to be aware of the lack of available space.

"I can't believe these people don't know there's no jail in the state that can provide help," he said.

"It's a broken system."

Coryell County Sheriff Scott Williams, referring both to local and statewide jail overcrowding issues

"Travis County is in the same boat we are with shortages in the sheriff's office and their jail," Belt said.

Williams said part of the frustration is being hit with blame and criticism when no solution is readily available.

"This is all about them getting their i's dotted and their t's crossed, and unfortunately that's the system," he said.

County Judge Miller echoed Roberts' sentiments.

"Mr. Roberts hit the nail on the head," he said. "Having an adequate workforce for jail facilities whether city, county, state or federal is a problem nationwide. An increase in pay would help some, but I also think there is a lack of work ethic in our society in general."

Williams said additional money will only solve part of the problem.

"Unfortunately, the only thing more money will do is help you keep the racehorses you've got — that's not hiring others."

Belt said state facilities face the same overcrowding issues and expressed frustration

that people with mental health issues have to wait a year in jail until a spot opens in a state hospital for them.

"That makes me mad," he said.

"It's a broken system," Williams added.

"We can't find the 15 beds we need in order to be in compliance. What will they do with an extra 100 (inmates) if they shut us down?"

Miller said the issue is one that is all too common.

"This is not unique to Coryell County, there are violations across the state," he said. "In a perfect world, the state takes care of it and the county doesn't have to deal with it."

Williams said he wanted to keep the com-

missioners court aware of the situation.

"I wanted to make sure the court was aware of what's going on," he said. "They talked about tent cities (to help provide more space). Those folks that are eligible for tent cities are the ones we let out. I've got rapists, murderers and just straight killers in my jail."

Miller said the county will continue to seek state assistance on resolving the chronic concern.

"We'll work to see what kind of help we can get from the state from the state jail system other than just finger pointing," he said.

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THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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DEADLINES:

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

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

All articles and advertisements must meet our standards and

newspaper format as determined by management.

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



Adeline Carpenter



Memphis Wells

GHS Choir students earn state music award

The Texas Music Scholar Award designates students in high school music programs who exemplify attributes of meritorious performance in the areas of scholarship, musicianship and citizenship.

Two GHS students were nominated for this honor by Choir Directors Cherith Wells and Tim Klingler, but the award is given by the Texas Music Educators Association. Less than 1,800 students in grades 9-12 state wide were named as Texas Music Scholars last year, as the criteria are extremely rigorous.

Students must be a viable member of the school's parent musical organization for the entire school year, must maintain an overall "A" average, must participate in all scheduled events of the parent organization, and must attend two director-approved concert events of high school, collegiate or professional level during a school year.

The criteria also include that they must audition and participate in the TMEA All-State process, compete with a UIL Class 1 solo, and consis-

tently exhibit behavior which brings honor to the parent organization, school and community.

Gatesville High School has two students who have met these prestigious criteria.

Adeline Carpenter is a senior soprano and Memphis Wells is a freshman bass, both in the Varsity Choir. Both Carpenter and Wells competed in the TMEA All-State process, advancing through three rounds of auditions to the area level. They both ranked ninth in state, however only four chairs from Region 8 go to the All-State Choir. Both students also competed at the regional UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest and were awarded a "Superior" rating by their judge, qualifying them for Texas State Solo & Ensemble contest which will be held in Pflugerville on May 30.

These students are to be commended on their high level of achievement, as well as their consistent dedication to the Choir Program in Gatesville.

MOUND NEWS

Residents and guests celebrated Mother's Day

BARBARA HOPSON

Martha Ann Lawhorn, Ranie and Benjamin Phillips, Zoie Rhoades and Richard Carothers were Mother's Day lunch guests of Elizabeth Phillips.

Mrs. Eric (Liz) McCorkle visited during the Mother's Day weekend with Mrs. Elizabeth McCorkle and Mrs. Pat Gilmer.

Jerry and Paula Bomar had all their children and grandchildren during the Mother's Day weekend.

Miss Aubree Ann Long and Thomas Belt had their end of the year field day in Gatesville Friday morning.

Mr. Teddy Joe Wright died Wednesday, May 4, 2022. Funeral services were held Friday at Scott's funeral Home

in Gatesville. Burial was at Smith Cemetery in Purmela.

Catilyn Colon attended her end of the year eighth grade dance Saturday evening in Gatesville.

Andrew Eberlein of Allen came home Friday evening and spent the weekend.

Caleb and Annalee Terrell of Waco were Saturday dinner guest of Christopher and Jennifer Eberlein.

On Sunday, the Eberlein family hosted a big family lunch. Those attended were James and Polly West, Alison Moffatt, plus Phillip and his girlfriend Jamison Duck of Austin, Wendy and Dwight Allman, Ricky and Linda Moffatt of Waco.

Gary and Debbie Keeton

gathered with family to honor their mother, Mrs. Sue Magee, for Mother's Day.

Don and Sue Jones attended a fish fry Sunday afternoon at the home of Russ and Christi Cox.

Brodie Fisher went to the state UIL Golf tournament in Kyle, Texas. Brodie represented Oglesby High School. Neal Fisher went to support him along with Ronnie and Kay Fisher.

Valerie Ferrell and Carolyn Blakley had lunch in Gatesville Friday.

Emma Blakley of College Station was home for the Mother's Day weekend.

Neil Helms of Red Oak, Mrs. Bettie Blakley of Pearl were Mother's Day lunch



Hopson

guests with Robert, Carolyn and Emma Blakley

Gatesville Summer Music Camp

A Gatesville Summer Music Camp will be held from June 27-30 (Monday-Thursday) from noon to 4:30 p.m. The camp is open to students who have finished kindergarten through eighth grade. The cost will be \$50 per student. The music camp will be held at Gatesville High School in the auditorium and choir room.

Included in the camp will be multiple rehearsals daily, craft time (creating props), "Camp Chat" (recreation time), and a camp T-shirt. There will be a cast party on Thursday, June 30, from 4:30-5:30 p.m., and a pizza dinner will be provided. Fol-

lowing the cast party, all parents, family members and loved ones will be invited to attend the performance at 5:30 p.m. in the GHS Auditorium. The entire cast and chorus will present "A Kid's Life!" showcasing all of the skills, music, choreography and staging that the children learned throughout the week. Admission will be free.

Lead roles in the play will be for third- to eighth-grade students only. There are several main characters that have multiple speaking lines and/or solos and will require preparation prior to camp week. If your student is interested in one of those

roles, auditions will be on Wednesday, May 18, at 4 p.m. in the GHS choir room. Please email the director of choirs, Cherith Wells, at gischoir@gatesvilleisd.org to secure the student's audition spot and get the audition materials. Auditions are closed to the public.

Due to limited space, registration forms and payment need to be provided to the GHS Choir as soon as possible to ensure enrollment. The registration fee is non-refundable. Registration can be done online by visiting the following website: gatesvilleisd.org and then click on "School Store."

VBS set for Pearl Church of Christ

Pearl Church of Christ recently announced they would be hosting their Vacation Bible School on Monday, May 30, through Friday, June 3, from 9 a.m. until noon each day.

The theme for Vacation Bible School this year will be "The Chosen - Let us be Fishers of Men."

Pearl Church of Christ is located at 6790 FM 183. For more information, please call 254-865-9282.



Gatesville City Pool to open May 21

The Gatesville City Pool will be open to the public on Saturday, May 21. Their hours of operation will be Sunday 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., closed on Mondays, Tuesday and Thursday 12 p.m. to 8 p.m., Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The city's Splash Park, located at Raby Park is already open. Hours of operation are 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. daily. Admission is free.

For more information about the Gatesville City Pool or the Splash Park, please call 254-865-4012.

Ag Institute offered for teachers

Texas Farm Bureau will be sponsoring a Summer Ag Institute for K-12 teachers on June 13-16 in Waco. The program will allow teachers to incorporate what they learn about agriculture into their classrooms. Teachers will be participating in field experiences, interacting with agriculture and education experts, and taking home free lesson resources.

Teachers can get their hands dirty and at the same time gain real-life experiences and ideas about agriculture that can enrich classroom grades K-12—all through the Summer Agricultural Institute, a four-day professional development seminar.

Teachers will receive CPE hours and bring home exciting resources about agricul-

ture to their students and colleagues, as well as a better understanding of where your food and fiber come from and the people who grow it.

Registration needs to be completed by May 18. The program will be limited to 50 teachers. For more information, visit texasfarmbureau.org/AITC.

The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of May 9 - 11. 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
May 9
 9:58 a.m., harassment was reported in the 500 block of S. 6th Street.
 10:21 a.m., a missing person was reported on FM 2412.
 12:36 p.m., harassment was reported in the 1800 block of Mills Street.
 5:50 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Hwy. 36.
 7:42 p.m., a hit and run was reported in the 2000 block of Waco Street.
 10:39 p.m., an assault was reported in the 100 block of CR 385.
May 10
 5:09 p.m., a threat was reported in the 100 block of FM 116.
 6:55 p.m., a theft was reported in the 4100 block of S. State Hwy. 36.
 7:11 p.m., animal cruelty was reported in the 2500 block of Bridge Street.
 7:42 p.m., an assault was reported in the 100 block of Chicktown Road.
 9:02 p.m., an assault was reported in the 2400 block of Business Hwy. 36.
 10:03 p.m., a threat was reported in the 400 block of Apache Road.
May 11
 12:39 a.m., an accident was reported in the 100 block of CR 266.
 12:41 a.m., a brush/grass fire was reported in the 400

block of Veteran's Memorial Loop.
 10:47 a.m., an armed suspect was reported in the 200 block of S. 3rd Street.
 4:43 p.m., a robbery was reported in the 1400 block of Saunders Street.
 5:39 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 100 block of N. State Hwy. 36.
 7:26 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1200 block of Coryell City Road.
Coryell County Sheriff's Office
May 9
 1:15 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the

500 block of CR 266.
 3:21 p.m., a stolen boat was reported in the 800 block of Scenic Drive.
 3:43 p.m., a theft was reported in the 200 block of CR 307.
 4:39 p.m., identity theft was reported in the 100 block of Julia Drive.
 6:48 p.m., shots being fired was reported in the 100 block of Los Indios.
 8:30 p.m., the burglary of a vehicle was reported in the 700 block of Bluestem Drive.
May 10
 7:33 a.m., a minor accident was reported at the intersection of Hwy. 36 and Moccasin Bend Road.
 9:03 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported at the rodeo arena.
 1:16 p.m., suspicious persons were reported in the 3200 block of Greenbriar Road.
 4:18 p.m., a major accident was reported in the 14000 block of E. Hwy. 84.
 5:06 p.m., suspicious persons were reported in the 5900 block of CR 174.
 5:48 p.m., a grass fire was reported in the 12000 block of Lutheran Church Road.
May 11
 4:20 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported on Old Pidcoke Road at Hwy. 84.
 7:08 a.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 100 block of Julia.
 1:29 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 300 block of Memory Lane.
 4:07 p.m., a minor accident was reported on FM 116 one mile before Sierra Vista.
 6:07 p.m., a runaway was reported in the 600 block of Thomas Street.
 8:35 p.m., a stolen vehicle was reported in the 300 block of Barton Lane.

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OBITUARIES

RONNIE C. VISS

July 25, 1976 - May 7, 2022



Ronnie C. Viss, age 45, of Copperas Cove, went home to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on Saturday, May 7, 2022.

Ronnie was a man that placed God first, Emily and his family second and then his work, which he considered his ministry.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 14, 2022, at First Baptist Church of Gatesville, with a reception following in the fellowship hall. Dr. Levi Price assisted by Dr. Mark Kemp and Pastor Preston Atkinson will be officiating. Graveside services, with Rev. Mike Fritscher will be held in Bentley, Oklahoma at Bentley Cemetery at 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 15, 2022.

Ronald Cornelius Viss was born on July 25, 1976, in Phoenix, Arizona, to Guy Viss and Doris Rosson Viss. Ronnie's early years were spent tending the family's dairy in Muleshoe, Texas before mov-

ing to central Texas. Ronnie graduated from Dublin High School in 1995 and continued to work on the family dairy before going to college.

Ronnie had a heart for the Lord at an early age. He first started in the ministry at Cottonwood Baptist Church in Dublin, while he was in high school. He later became the youth minister in Ranger and considered being in the ministry full time. His God-given gifts were compassion and service. His ministry for God was fulfilled by his work with families in the funeral service industry. He pursued that passion and devoted his professional life to helping others in their time of need. He attended Ranger Jr. College and worked for Edwards Funeral Home in Ranger. Ronnie moved to Irving, Texas, and worked at Donnelly's Colonial Funeral Home while attending the Dallas Institute of Funeral Service, where he graduated in 1999. He worked in the funeral business in the Dallas area for a few years.

Ronnie married Stephanie Collard in 1999. They were blessed with the birth of Emily Jean Viss on December 10, 2000. Ronnie and Stephanie divorced in 2002. From that point on, Ronnie devoted himself to being a single father. Ronnie moved to Gatesville in 2003 and joined the staff at Scott's Funeral Home. He became a very active member of the community and developed many deep friendships over the years, but his daughter was his person. He made it a priority to spend every other weekend

with Emily. Ronnie showed Emily the world with trips to see family in Oklahoma, Arizona, California and Indiana. They enjoyed cruises, road trips, and blueberry pancakes on Saturday morning. They served together on many mission trips with First Baptist Church of Gatesville. Ronnie taught Emily the importance of faith and family.

He was involved in the First Baptist Church of Gatesville for many years: as a deacon, president of the choir, royal ambassador director, hosting Disciple Now at his home for the youth, chairman of the finance committee, and in whatever capacity that he was asked to serve. Ronnie was also a member of the Exchange Club of Gatesville where he served as secretary and served two terms as president. He had also served on the Boys and Girls Club Advisory Board in Gatesville, for six years. Ronnie served on the City Council in Gatesville for eight years and was mayor pro-tem most of his term. He was a past president and current president of the morning Exchange Club in Copperas Cove. He was very actively involved in the Coryell County Child Welfare Board. Ronnie made serving those around him a priority in his life. Ronnie was a current member of the First Baptist Church of Copperas Cove and had a deeply rooted faith, passion, and commitment to Jesus Christ. He could often be found mowing his lawn and flowerbeds to perfection. He loved life and he lived it to the fullest whether it was being on

the lake, traveling, or eating good food. He was happiest with being surrounded by the people that he loved, and he loved deeply. Friends became family in Ronnie's world.

Ronnie fulfilled his life-long dream of owning his own funeral home when he became the sole owner of Viss Family Funeral Home in 2020. He finally found his soulmate in Heather in August 2019; they had planned to be married on July 16, 2022.

He was preceded in death by his sister, Becky Viss, and a brother, Bobby Viss.

Ronnie is survived by his daughter, Emily Viss; fiancé, Heather Henderson; father, Guy Viss and wife, Cindy; mother, Doris Brown and her husband Dave; 14 siblings: Debbie Stewart and husband, Dan; Jonnie Quass; Tawnya Roodzant and husband, James; Richard Viss and wife, Stacy; Mike Viss and wife, Krista; Jeff Viss; Roger Viss; Ginger McCall and husband, Clay; Diane Howard and husband, Tye; Linda Gorst and husband, Quinn; Shyanne Barnes and husband, Kyon; Casey Sims; Stacy Bradshaw; Brent Sims and wife, Mindy; and numerous nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be directed to the Exchange Clubs of Gatesville or Copperas Cove, Coryell County Child Welfare Board or the Gatesville Boys and Girls Club.

Condolences may be left at www.VissFamilyFuneralHome.com

TERRELL DON KING

Sept. 14, 1952 - May 8, 2022



Terrell Don King, age 69, passed away Sunday, May 8, 2022. A small service for family and friends will be announced on the Scott's Funeral Home website at a later date.

Terry was born Sept. 14, 1952. He spent his entire childhood on the family farm in the small community of Plainview, just outside Gatesville. He graduated from Gatesville High School in 1971 where he played

football and was active in 4-H showing shorthorn steers.

Terry had a love for farming that never left him. He was a huge Texas A&M fan and read TexAgs daily; if you ever needed to know what was happening with Aggie football, he could tell you! In his recent years he could always be found at the breakfast table at Pruitt's.

Terry was preceded in death by his parents, Clovis King and Frances Koch King. He is survived by his daughters, Kandi Luensmann, Kari McKown and husband, Mark; grandchildren, Braden Luensmann, Hailey Luensmann, Maci McKown, Luke McKown, Zack McKown; and sister, Rosemary King.

Memorials may be made to Coryell County Youth Fair, PO Box 133, Gatesville, Texas, 76528.

LONNIE NOTTINGHAM

Dec. 27, 1936 - May 7, 2022



Lonnie Nottingham, age 85, of Evant, passed away on Saturday, May 7, 2022, in Temple.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m., Monday, May 16, 2022, at the First United Methodist Church in Evant with Rev. Denny Dutton officiating. Interment will follow at Smith Cemetery in Purmela. The family will receive visitors from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 15, at Scott's Funeral Home in Gatesville.

Lonnie Roy Nottingham was born on Dec. 27, 1936, in Falls County, to the late Edward and Hilda Steinke Nottingham. He grew up and went to school in Riesel. He married Dian Smith on May 31, 1969, and they resided in Hallsburg, moving to Evant

in 1978. He was a farmer and rancher and in road construction all his working life, operating a maintainer. He enjoyed league bowling in his younger years, hunting and fishing and restoring his 1957 Chevrolet truck. His wife preceded him in death on April 4, 1996. After her death, he became a member of the Singles in Agriculture group and enjoyed traveling all over the United States with them. He was a longtime member of the First United Methodist Church of Evant.

He was preceded in death by his father, Ed Nottingham; mother, Hilda Nottingham; stepmother, Alvis Nottingham; son, Randy Martin; and a brother, Andy Nottingham.

Lonnie is survived by his daughter, Lee Ann Briley and husband, Kevin; son, Jody Nottingham and wife, Galina Pesheva; brothers, John Nottingham, Earl Nottingham; eight grandchildren, Marlee Briscoe, Lane Whitford, Lexi Briley, Kolton Briley, Alexander Nottingham, Christian Nottingham, Brynn Martin, Melina Martin; and two great-grandchildren.

The family has designated that memorials be directed to the Smith Cemetery Association, c/o Glenda Dennison, 11135 FM 116, Gatesville, TX 76528, or First United Methodist Church, 235 Hwy. 281 N., Evant, TX 76525.

Registration for Gatesville Shivarree Color Run May 15

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce recently announced plans for the Gatesville Shivarree Color Run which will be held on Saturday, June 4, at 8 a.m.

Participants can run/walk through Gatesville getting covered in color as they go. The race will begin by Vintage Royalty Boutique near the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce. All entrants that register on or before May 15 will get an official "Color the Shivarree" shirt to show

off all the color. This event is fun for the whole family- children of all ages are welcome.

**Deadline to be guaranteed a t-shirt is May 15.

**PRICING: Age 4-10 \$10 | Age 11-17 \$15 | Age 18+ \$25

Note: Age-Based Pricing will be applied at checkout. This pricing will not be reflected on the sign-up page.

To register for the Gatesville Shivarree Color run, visit <https://runsignup.com/Register/?racelid=110684>

United Women in Faith hold meeting

The regular meeting of the United Women in Faith (formerly known as the United Methodist Women) was held on May 10, in the Banquet Room at the First United Methodist Church in Gatesville, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Eleven members were in attendance. The hostesses were Marilyn Decker and Shirleen Chandler.

President Patsy Smart called the meeting to order by leading in the Blessing. Following refreshments, Smart thanked the hostesses and read The Purpose. Mary Beth Rivers read from the Daily Prayer Guide and the Response Magazine. Chandler led the group in singing "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me."

President Smart called the business meeting to order.

She read a thank-you note from Inez Arnold for the Easter goodies that were given out. Included in the reports was one about honoring high school graduates, on Sunday, May 15, at the 10:30 service. This year, there will be seven graduates to honor.

Marilyn Decker led a special service for Memorial Day. She played "Taps" on her horn as the group sang along.

Debbie Martin asked that everyone remember the United Methodist Church worldwide in their prayers as we begin a time of moving forward. All church members will be invited to attend informational meetings soon. Meeting adjourned with the Benediction.

Gun raffle to benefit Gatesville's Teri Kizer

Make a Wish Cancer Fundraiser is holding a raffle for Teri Kizer in her fight against cancer. Two hundred raffle tickets are available at \$20 each and can be purchased at Gatesville Sporting Adventures at 2514 S.

Hwy. 36.

The winner of the raffle will receive a T-6 AR15 5.56 NATO 8:1 Twist Operator Series firearm. It has a modified triggering system and muzzle brake and is valued at \$1,199.

Concert fundraiser to help Hershhal Mooney with medical expenses

A fundraiser benefit to help defray the medical expenses of Hershhal Mooney will be held on Sunday, May 29, at 4 p.m. at Texas Station Event Center. Tickets will be \$50 per person and will include a crawfish plate. The tickets are pre-sale and can be purchased at Vintage Royalty.

Entertainment will be provided by Waylon

Thibodeaux, "Louisiana's Rockin Fiddler." Those planning to attend are asked to bring lawn chairs and coolers. It will be a BYOB fundraiser event.

Doors will open at 3 p.m. and food will be served at 4 p.m.

Texas Station Event Center is located at 305 Old Fort Gates Road.

Hillside Cemetery Assn to meet May 21

The annual meeting of the Hillside Cemetery Association will be held on the third Saturday, May 21, at 9:30 a.m., at the cemetery on Slaters Road northeast of Izoro. The physical address for the cemetery is 278 Hillside Road in Coryell County.

Anyone with relatives bur-

ied in the cemetery or those interested are welcome to attend the meeting. Donations can be sent to Hillside Cemetery Association, c/o Laresa Fowler-Yick, 7701 FM 1690, Copperas Cove, TX 76522.

For more information, call 512-768-3864.

Purmela Homecoming, cemetery meetings

The Purmela Homecoming will be held on Saturday, May 28, at 10 a.m. at the Purmela Baptist Church.

Those attending are asked to bring a covered dish. Lunch will be served at noon. Paper products and drinks

will be furnished.

The Evergreen-Bundrant and Smith Cemetery Association meetings will follow lunch.

Purmela Baptist Church is located at 875 FM 932 in Purmela.

Central Texas Travel Club to meet May 17

The Central Texas Travel Club will be meeting on Tuesday, May 17, at Johnny's Steaks and Barbecue in Salado, beginning at 11 a.m. Future trips will be discussed including day trips and trips to South Dakota, Scotland,

Ireland and Switzerland. The meeting is open to anyone interested in travel with no dues or membership requirements.

For more information, please email centraltexas-travelclub@outlook.com.

Turnersville Homecoming set for May 29 at the tabernacle

On Sunday, May 29, join friends and renew memories at the Tabernacle for the 65th Turnersville Homecoming. Registration will begin at 9 a.m. and those interested are invited to visit, have coffee before the memorial service at 11 a.m. Dinner on the grounds will follow the program at the Community Center. Dinnerware, drinks and bread will be provided. Those attending are encouraged to bring favorite dishes and stay after the meal, renew friendships, and catch up on all that has passed during the two Homecomings missed since the COVID-19 pandemic.

One of the most treasured traditions is to honor veter-

ans who have proudly served our community and our nation. A faithful group at Turnersville will again place flags on the graves of those we honor.

George W. (G.W.) Smith will be the speaker at the homecoming. G.W. grew up on Creek Road and was a graduate of the class of 1956.

Those unable to attend who would like to make a donation to either to the Cemetery Memorial or Maintenance Fund may do so to Memorial Fund Treasurer, James Marvin Baize, 2320 CR 108, Gatesville, TX 76528 or to the Maintenance Fund Treasurer, Nancy McKnown Gilmore, 8070 FM 182, Gatesville, TX 76528.

Donut Dash May 21

Centex Crime Stoppers will be presenting the 5K/10K Donut Dash on Saturday, May 21, from 8 a.m. until 10 a.m.

This chip-timed race will start and finish at the Gatesville City Pool located at 300 S. 8th Street. Runners will have the option of running a 5K or 10K race, both offering unique challenges for runners of all ages. All proceeds will benefit Centex Crime Stoppers.

For both the 5K and the 10K, they will be awarding

the top three finishers in the following age groups: 19&U, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, and 70-plus.

Race-day registration and packet pick-up will be race morning 7 to 7:45 a.m. at the race site. Packet pick-up will also be available Friday, May 20, at the Gatesville Fitness Center. Race-day registration is \$30 (cash or check).

For more information visit their website at runsignup.com/Race/TX/Gatesville/CrimeStoppersDonutDash

Grandma Crosby celebrates her 90th birthday

In August 2020, The Gatesville Messenger published a story about Donna Crosby meeting her 100th great-grandchild. Recently, Donna Crosby, affectionately known as "Grandma Crosby," celebrated her 90th birthday and reported that the number of her great-grandchildren had increased from 100 to 120.

Her first great-grandchild was born in 1999, and when asked in 2020 about the arrival of her 100th great-grandchild, Crosby said, "Who would ever dreamed it?" With the birth of the 100th, Crosby's hopes for the child were "That she'll just love the Lord with all her heart and be a Christian - that's what I pray for all of my children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren." Crosby is the mother of 13 children, the grandmother of 75 grandchildren, and now, the great-grandmother of 120 great-grandchildren.

Speaking of her grandmother, Rebekah Crosby said "She is a beautiful human with a healing smile. She taught me the importance of joy and family and music. She's the matriarch of an incredible family."

When asked on her 90th birthday what it meant to be surrounded by her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, she said "It is just wonderful and I don't feel old, I feel blessed, very blessed. God has done so much for me and has been so good to me."



DONNA CROSBY AND HER GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN: At her 90th birthday celebration, Donna Crosby (pictured standing in the front row) is seen with "a few" of her 120 great-grandchildren.

DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Business Directory

| | | |
|--|--|---|
|  <p>Billy Latham Sales</p> <p>Office (254) 865-2190 Cell: (254) 223-2272 billy@wbsupplies.com</p> <p>1411 N. Hwy. 36 Bypass Gatesville, Texas 76528</p> |  <p>Brian Riddle Sales Representative brianriddlerunningmroofing@gmail.com</p> <p>Running M Roofing & Construction, LLC</p> <p>FREE INSPECTIONS - 254-223-1971 Commercial • Residential • Claims Specialists</p> |  <p>GOSSETT TRANSMISSION SERVICE P.O. Box 291 • 1900 Main St. Gatesville, TX 76528</p> <p>JIM GOSSETT RAY GOSSETT</p> <p>254-865-5791</p> |
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 Saturday Issue: 10 A.M. Wednesday

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032 MISCELLANEOUS

Travel trailer, 2013 Outback 298E 35'. Two AC units. Stock chairs replaced w/swivel La-Z-Boy rocker recliners. \$22,500. Only used a few times. Serious inquiries only to email: public@centex.net
 00029310

037 HELP WANTED

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 • *\$4,000 SIGN ON BONUS
 • CNA-PRN all Shifts

Coryell Health Business Office:
 • RehabLiving Billing Specialist - FT

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 • LVN – FT
 • Certified Medical Assistant – CMA-FT
 • Patient Registration Clerk - FT

Coryell Health Medical Clinic - Waco:
 • Registration Clerk-FT

Coryell Health Home Health:
 • PCA PRN – Gatesville, Evant and Copperas Cove

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EMS:
 • Paramedic or Licensed Paramedic – FT
 • *\$8000 SIGN ON BONUS
 • EMT B – FT
 • *\$4000 SIGN ON BONUS
 • EMT B – PRN

Emergency Department:
 • RN – FT Night Shift
 • *\$20,000 SIGN ON BONUS
 • RN - PRN all shifts

ICU:
 • RN FT Day & Night Shifts
 • *\$20,000 SIGN ON BONUS

Material Management:
 • Maintenance – FT
 • Housekeeper – FT

Med Surg:
 • RN - FT 7pm-7am
 • LVN – FT 7pm-7am
 • RN or LVN PRN All Shifts
 • CNA-FT Days and nights
 • *\$4,000 SIGN ON BONUS

Mills County Medical Clinic - Goldthwaite:
 • X-Ray Technologist-FT

Patient Experience: RN Care Coordinator – FT, BSN Preferred

Radiology:
 • CT/X-Ray Staff Radiological Technologist – PRN
 • Cath Lab Tech – FT experience req.
 • *\$10,000 SIGN ON BONUS

Surgery:
 • PACU/Cath Lab RN – FT Cardiac Cath Lab experience required
 • *\$20,000 SIGN ON BONUS

***SIGN ON BONUSES W/1-YEAR COMMITMENT**
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BENEFITS OFFERED:
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 humanresources@coryellhealth.org

Job summaries at www.CoryellHealth.org

037 HELP WANTED

037 HELP WANTED

The Gatesville Police Department has the following openings:



Police Officer - TCOLE Certification preferred, but not required. Non-certified applicants, if hired, are paid while attending the Basic Peace Officer Course.

- Applicants must be at least 21 years of age, have a High School Diploma or GED, possess a valid driver's license, be in good physical and mental health, possess good communication and problem solving skills, and be able to work rotating shifts.

- Starting salary for non-certified officers while attending the Academy is \$36,400. Salary will increase to \$46,592 once licensed. Benefits include certification/incentive pay, health insurance, life insurance, TMRS retirement, paid holiday time, vacation time, sick time, duty weapons, uniforms, and more.

Communications Officer

- Applicants must be at least 18 years of age, have a High School Diploma or GED, possess a valid driver's license, be in good physical and mental health, possess good communication and problem solving skills, and be able to work rotating shifts.

- Starting salary is \$32,302. Benefits include certification/incentive pay, health insurance, life insurance, TMRS retirement, paid holiday time, vacation time, sick time, etc.

Full job description/requirements and application download:

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Look under Departments tab > Employment Opportunities

045 SERVICES

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 Locally owned company serving all Central Texas area.
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 00029296

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 00029298

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Housekeeper (Full Time & PRN)
*****\$2,000 Sign On Bonus with 1 year contract*****

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- Nurse Aide (\$500 sign on bonus) - FT
- Admissions Clerk (Sat & Sun) - FT
- Admissions Clerk - PRN
- Customer Service Representative - FT
- Referral Clerk - FT
- Physical Therapist - FT
- Respiratory Therapist - PRN

HICO CLINIC

- LVN (\$7,500 sign on bonus) - FT

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT
 \$10,000 Sign On Bonus for both

- Registered Nurse (Nights) - FT
- Registered Nurse (10:30am-11:00pm) - FT

GOLDTHWAITE CLINIC

- CMA - FT

HAMILTON RURAL HEALTH CLINIC

- LVN (\$7,500 sign on bonus) or CMA - FT
- Medical Records Clerk

SOLUTIONS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- Licensed Professional Counselor (\$5,000 sign on bonus) - FT
- PMHNP - FT
- LVN - FT

SURGERY

- Registered Nurse - PRN

CENTRAL TX EYE CARE

- Optometry Assistant - PRN

Come Enjoy:
 Competitive salaries, paid time off, health, dental, vision and supplemental insurance, fitness center membership, education reimbursement, holidays, matching 457B retirement program, and employee discounts.
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 EOE

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037 HELP WANTED

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 00029291

037 HELP WANTED

Gatesville Senior Center **NOW HIRING NUTRITION COOK.** Position cooks all meals for the seniors and Meals On Wheels in our community. Please apply at HCAA.COM 00029317

045 SERVICES

Kenneth Russell Shredding Service, small or large acreage. Call 254-223-3119. 00029301

HAMILTON HEALTHCARE SYSTEM **Care Runs Deep in Hamilton, TX**
 400 North Brown • Hamilton, TX 76531
www.hamiltonhospital.org

CLASSIFIEDS

032
MISCELLANEOUS

HEAD START
TAKING APPLICATIONS!!! (No Transportation Provided)
 Gatesville Head Start is now accepting applications for the 2022-2023 school year. Head Start is a pre-school offering excellent educational opportunities along with medical, dental, developmental, and nutritional benefits at no cost. The Head Start approach of individualized care and guidance is well suited to helping children with disabilities. Children between the ages of 3 and 5 may be eligible. There is no charge for participation in Head Start. Pick up your application now at the Head Start Center at 1105 Saunders Street or 1111 W. Main St. For more information, call your local center at 254-865-5423, 254-404-2198 or 254-865-5555 or Hill Country Community Action Association at 325-372-5167.

HEAD START
ESTA ACEPTANDO APLICACIONES !!! (Ningun Transporte Proporcionado)
 Gatesville Head Start esta aceptando aplicaciones para el año 2022-2023. Head Start es una escuela para niños de edad 3-5 años que califican. Head Start ofrece oportunidades excelentes para educacion y tambien beneficios de medicina, dental, desarrollo, y de alimento. Head Start ofrece mucha ayuda para niños y familias. No cuesta nada para que su niño atienda el programa de Head Start. Puede usted recoger ahora una aplicacion para solicitar un puesto en Head Start. Para mas informacion llame a la Head Start, 1105 Saunders Street, or 1111 W. Main St # del telefono: 254-865-5423, 254-404-2198, 254-865-5555 or Hill Country Community Action at 325-372-5167.

045
SERVICES

YOSEF TREE SERVICE:
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 lot clearing,
 stump and brush
 removal.
 254-563-3535
 www.yoseftreeservice.com
 00029300

060
GARAGE SALE

DOLLAR SALE Tues, 05/19 - Sat, 05/23! The Boys & Girls Club Resale Shop, 1706 E. Main. Tuesday-Friday, 8a.m.-5p.m. & Saturday, 9a.m.-3p.m.
 00029279


Saturday, May 14, 8am, 115 Vista Circle. TV, vases, clothes, lots of misc.
 00029316

Saturday, May 14, 8am-2pm, 121 Gates Drive. Household items, lots of shirts, lots of comic books, cornhole boards, miscellaneous yard art and other stuff.
 00029318

Saturday, 8am-? 204 Mesa Dr. Lots of everything, oak dining room table & chairs, dishes, men's & women's clothes, shoes & much more.
 00029327

070
LAND & LOTS

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:
 All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.
 This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.
 To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



032
MISCELLANEOUS

HEAD START
TAKING APPLICATIONS!!! (No Transportation Provided)
 Gatesville Head Start is now accepting applications for the 2022-2023 school year. Head Start is a pre-school offering excellent educational opportunities along with medical, dental, developmental, and nutritional benefits at no cost. The Head Start approach of individualized care and guidance is well suited to helping children with disabilities. Children between the ages of 3 and 5 may be eligible. There is no charge for participation in Head Start. Pick up your application now at the Head Start Center at 1105 Saunders Street or 1111 W. Main St. For more information, call your local center at 254-865-5423, 254-404-2198 or 254-865-5555 or Hill Country Community Action Association at 325-372-5167.

HEAD START
ESTA ACEPTANDO APLICACIONES !!! (Ningun Transporte Proporcionado)
 Gatesville Head Start esta aceptando aplicaciones para el año 2022-2023. Head Start es una escuela para niños de edad 3-5 años que califican. Head Start ofrece oportunidades excelentes para educacion y tambien beneficios de medicina, dental, desarrollo, y de alimento. Head Start ofrece mucha ayuda para niños y familias. No cuesta nada para que su niño atienda el programa de Head Start. Puede usted recoger ahora una aplicacion para solicitar un puesto en Head Start. Para mas informacion llame a la Head Start, 1105 Saunders Street, or 1111 W. Main St # del telefono: 254-865-5423, 254-404-2198, 254-865-5555 or Hill Country Community Action at 325-372-5167.

099
PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Jack Eugene Fielding, Deceased, were issued on 5-4-22, in Cause No. 22-10632, pending in the County Court at Law of Coryell County, Texas, to: Carolyn A. Fielding.
 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
 c/o: Carolyn A. Fielding
 1202 Bluff Dr.
 Copperas Cove, Texas 76522
 DATED the 4th day of May, 2022.
 Dori Ray Mistic
 Attorney for Carolyn A. Fielding
 State Bar No.: 04091800
 P.O. Box 246
 Copperas Cove, Texas 76522
 Telephone: (254) 547-6000 or 6800
 Facsimile: (254) 547-4157
 E-mail: doriraymistic@hotmail.com
 00029319

070
LAND & LOTS

099
PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Susan Marie Hager, Deceased, were issued on 5-4-22, in Cause No. 22-10634, pending in the County Court at Law of Coryell County, Texas, to: Erica Harwell.
 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
 c/o: Erica Harwell
 1650 Slater Road
 Gatesville, Texas 76528
 DATED the 4th day of May, 2022.
 Dori Ray Mistic
 Attorney for Erica Harwell
 State Bar No.: 04091800
 P.O. Box 246
 Copperas Cove, Texas 76522
 Telephone: (254) 547-6000 or 6800
 Facsimile: (254) 547-4157
 E-mail: doriraymistic@hotmail.com
 00029320

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR CEMETERY GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES

The City of Gatesville is seeking proposals from qualified and experienced contractors interested in providing grounds maintenance services for City of Gatesville Cemeteries (Restland, City Cemetery, and Oak Grove Cemetery) and/or Right-Of-Way mowing.
 The City of Gatesville is seeking proposals from qualified and experienced contractors interested in providing grounds maintenance services for City of Gatesville Cemeteries (Restland, City Cemetery, and Oak Grove Cemetery) and/or Right-Of-Way mowing.

Proposals will be received at the Finance Director's Office, 110 N. 8th St. in Gatesville, Texas, until 2:00 P.M., local time, on Friday, May 27th 2022.

Services to be provided consist of furnishing all materials, equipment and labor necessary to perform grounds maintenance services, including but not limited to mowing, edging, and trimming, at three city-owned cemeteries, and/or 1 ALT- city rights-of-way (ROW) described herein. The work will be awarded in one Annual Contract with two (2) one-year renewal options.

Contract documents will be on file at City Hall, 110 N. 8th St, Gatesville, Texas or downloaded from the City of Gatesville website www.gatesvilletx.com. Proposers downloading contract documents assume responsibility for downloading all addenda published on City of Gatesville website prior to submittal of Proposals.

Owner's Right: City of Gatesville reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive informalities, and to make an award deemed in its best interest. City of Gatesville reserves the option to negotiate terms, conditions and pricing with the selected proposer at its discretion.

For further information or clarification, contact office of the Finance Director.
 Mike Halsema
 Finance Director
 (254) 865-8951
 00029321

099
PUBLIC NOTICES

CITATION BY PUBLICATION — TRC 109 & 114

THE STATE OF TEXAS: IN THE MATTER OF MARRIAGE OF PERVEEN JAWAID JAWAID IQBAL MIAN

CAUSE NO: DC-21-52857 IN THE 52ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

TO: Defendant — GREETING

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after the date you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you."

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Petition at or before 10:00 o'clock AM on the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days after the date of issuance of this citation before the Honorable TRENT D FARRELL, 52ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT of Coryell County, at the Courthouse in said County in Gatesville, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said court on the 05/02/2022 in the above entitled cause.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to wit: as is more shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Gatesville, Texas, this 4th day of May, 2022.

Attorney for Plaintiff or Petitioner
 E.Z. ILIONSKY
 1311 CHISHOLM TRAIL, SUITE 310
 ROUND ROCK, TX 78681


Clerk of the Court:
 Becky Moore, District Clerk
 P.O. Box 4
 Gatesville, Coryell County, Texas
 By: Linda Franks, Deputy
 00029325

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102
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- ▶ 8.01 acres east of Evant, TX, Buffalo Creek Ranch Subdivision. Live Oak Trees on the upper end of the property, nice home site and nice view looking south toward Langford Branch, native pasture going down to the branch, approx. 400 ft. of Langford Branch, \$250,000
- ▶ 10.01 acres east of Evant, TX, Buffalo Creek Ranch Subdivision, nice home site and nice view looking south toward Langford Branch with native pasture going down to the branch, approx. 394 ft. of Langford Branch, \$210,000
- ▶ 12.1 acres, FM 929 Frontage & CR 255 frontage, property is level with good views to the north, approx. 4.5 acres of Coastal Bermuda & the remaining is native grasses. Coryell City Water & electric are available along CR 255. \$150,000
- ▶ 14.89 acres east of Evant, TX, located on CR 160. Good tree cover & rolling terrain. Known as Lots 66 & 67 in the Indian Creek Ranch Subdivision, \$150,000
- ▶ 17 acres, FM 929 frontage & CR 255 frontage. The property is level with good views to the north, approx. 8 acres of Coastal Bermuda & the remaining is native grasses. Coryell City Water & electric are available along CR 255. \$195,000
- ▶ 20.02 acres, Evant, TX in Hamilton County, rolling terrain, good tree cover & a seasonal creek on the south boundary of the property. The property will have electric serviced by Hamilton County Electric Co. & Fiber Optic Internet service from Central Texas Telephone Company. \$265,000
- ▶ 4/2 Doublewide Home, 850 Blakely Rd., Gatesville, TX, laminate wood floors throughout the home, front porch & deck at the back of the home, 6 ft. x 6 ft. safe house, 40 ft. x 30 ft. metal building 2 roll up doors & 2 walk-through doors, water well that is 493 deep and estimated yield of 30 GPM, good exterior fencing, 1 stock pond, rolling terrain with good tree cover. \$498,777
- ▶ 36 +/- acres west of Evant, TX, Hamilton County. The property is completely fenced with electric along the front of the property, scattered tree cover & rolling terrain & pond that is on the neighbor's property that back up water onto the property. Fiber Optic Internet Service, you will need to drill a water well for water. \$387,000
- ▶ 47.332 ac. south of Ireland, TX, good tree cover, rolling terrain, good fencing on 3 sides, southside will need to be fenced. \$463,853
- ▶ 74.7 acres west of Purlmela, FM 1241, barn, cattle pens, good fences, nice view, centrally located. \$511,695.
- ▶ 105 acres south of Pearl, TX on Self Rd. Good tree cover, rolling terrain, small branch that run through the property, barn that is approx. 38 ft. x 42 ft. in size with a rain harvest system that collects rainwater from the roof of the barn. Electricity is along the property line in the northwest corner of the property, \$743,775
- ▶ 179.582 acres 1.6 miles south of Gatesville, TX, FM 116 frontage, great views, stock tank, rolling terrain & scattered tree cover. Multi-County Water & City of Gatesville have water line running down the front of the property. \$1,230,000
- ▶ 242.01 ac. east of Evant, TX on Hwy 84. good tree cover, rolling terrain, 2 stock tanks, water meter at road from Multi County Water Supply and electricity is on the property, Fiber Optic Internet Service is also available, good exterior fencing and approx. 20 acres of farmland. The property is in Coryell & Hamilton County and also has road frontage off of Perkins Rd. \$1,899,778
- ▶ 252.87 Acres, 3 Br 2 Ba home 1865 CR 140 Gatesville, open floor plan, fireplace, breakfast bar, inground pool, 3 car attached carport with 12 ft. x 13 ft. storage building, a 60 ft. x 66 ft. metal building, 24 ft. x 60 ft. lean-to, approx. 900 sq. ft. that has been framed out for living quarters inside the main part of the building, good exterior & interior fencing, cattle pens, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover & great views. \$2,150,000

099
PUBLIC NOTICES

MIDDLE TRINITY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED RE-ADOPTION OF DISTRICT MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District (MT-GCD) will hold a public hearing on the proposed re-adoption of the MTGCD's Groundwater Management Plan on Thursday, June 2, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. at the District office located at 930 N. Wolfe Nursery Road, Stephenville, Texas 76401. All interested parties are invited to attend.

PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA:

1. Call to Order.
2. Summary presentation of the proposed revisions to the MT-GCD Management Plan as required by Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code and Chapter 356 of the Texas Water Development Board's (TWDB) rules contained in Title 30 of the Texas Administrative Code.
3. Public Comment on the Groundwater Management Plan proposed for re-adoption.
4. Adjourn

At the conclusion of the hearing or any time or date thereafter, the proposed management plan may be adopted in the form presented or as amended based upon comments received from the public, the Texas Water Development Board, District staff, attorneys, geoscientists, or members of the Board of Directors without any additional notice.

Copies of the proposed MTGCD Management Plan will be available as of May 13, 2022, at the MTGCD office located at 930 N. Wolfe Nursery Road, Stephenville, Texas or on the MTGCD's website at www.middletrinitygcd.org.

The MTGCD is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Reasonable accommodations and equal opportunity for effective communications will be provided upon request. Please call 254-965-6705 at least 24 hours in advance if accommodation is needed.

For more information about the public hearing or the MTGCD Contact: Patrick Wagner, General Manager at 254-965-6705
 00029322

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THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

CITY

FROM PAGE A1

of a water volume issue, which impacts what is available at the meter.

Councilman Casey asked if the concern is a 6-inch line, whether a smaller line could be installed that would meet the facility's needs.

"They're going to want to build more apartments and duplexes (in the area)," Casey said. "If we can't expand or build, why even do this? Shut the town down."

Parry said those concerns could be addressed "in the future, but that's not what the agenda item is."

Chase Massingill, son of the property owner, provided handouts to Council members with specific information about the proposed RV park.

He said the plan is to build a maximum of 120 RV slots, possibly less in order to keep more trees on site, but likely a minimum of 100. The facility would include such amenities as a swimming pool, locations for barbecue grilling, internet service and golf cart rentals for easier mobility throughout the park. Other potential amenities could include a dog park, picnic tables and a playground, along with a laundry facility.

He cited statistics which showed how important outdoor recreation is to the economy, bringing in billions of financial benefits, talked about the popularity of RVs and said the park that he and his family are proposing would have a positive impact on the area's tax base.

"The whole reason to put it next to the civic center is that it would be a great complimentary business," Chase said. "It would give people another place to stay, including when there are special events, and it will create jobs."

He said having such a facility next to the civic center and rodeo arena could help boost the Gatesville rodeo, baseball tournaments held in Gatesville and other special events.

"Sometimes people coming here have to stay out of town because the hotels are full, Chase said, adding that the RV park will provide extra space for visitors. He pointed to specific examples throughout the country in places such as Brady, Texas; Jackson, Mississippi; and Hoover, Alabama where RV parks had a positive impact.

He said in some places, cities are giving RV parks grants because of the positive economic impact.

"We're not asking for money, we're just asking for a 6-inch water line," Chase said.

Lynn Massingill said he is also considering building corrals north of the RV park on land he owns to give a place for people to keep their horses during riding club or rodeo events.

"I also own the land east and north of it," Massingill said. "I know there are concerns, but this will not drive down property values. It will be a nice facility. If we can get water, then we know where we're going with this thing and we can get started."

Mayor Pro Tem Meredith Rainer asked who would pay for the installation of the 6-inch water line.

"I imagine we'll pay for the line to our property," Massingill said.

Councilwoman Barbara Burrow asked about the status of the project, noting that land had already been cleared and staked before Council approval of the water line.

"We've been clearing land for three years and have done preliminary staking ourselves," Massingill said. "We still have to lay out each one. I'm trying to leave trees so it's not just a bare field."

He said the initial plan was for 130 RV sites, "but we're down to 120 and it will probably be less than that. There's a lot of undeveloped property there - potential development for the future," Burrow said.

"Sure, but we'll need 60% (occupancy) to break even," Massingill said.

"We have the right to use



JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Several local residents attended the May 10 Gatesville City Council meeting, many of whom were there to hear about water plans for a proposed RV park outside the city limits.

the property and intend to use it. It won't be a nuisance. We won't be doing anything to drive values down - we hope. All we need is water, then we can proceed."

Burrow said she understood Massingill's eagerness to develop the property, but said it can take time to ensure all concerns are addressed.

"I hear the urgency but there are processes and they take time," she said. "That might incur some delays on this really well-worked complex."

Massingill said he needed water to move forward, and has been ready to do so since February.

Councilman Casey asked if the city was able to provide sewer service to that area in the future, if Massingill would be open to the possibility of annexation.

"We'll already have (incurred) the cost of the septic system," Massingill said.

Burrow asked about the potential impact of RVs on the roads to the RV park.

"I know that road (to the future RV site) has a lot of base, I watched the county

put it in," Massingill said.

Richard Shook and his wife Tammy, who reside on Churchill Drive, which is near the proposed RV park, spoke in opposition to Massingill's request.

"I'm here to oppose selling water to Mr. Massingill," he said. "Typically I am a pro growth, pro development and pro business kind of guy, but there are two pillars to why I don't think this is a good idea.

"An RV park would certainly be within eyesight of several of us in the neighborhood. We don't want an RV park in our backyard for various reasons. They deteriorate over time, and he could sell the property down the line.

"A legitimate fear is water pressure (and the impact to nearby properties of adding the 6-inch line). We should at least wait until we hear the (city) engineer's recommendation on how it will affect our water system. I think we're trying to circumvent the normal or conventional process of getting city services."

Shook said he was also concerned about the development using city water "which is a very valuable and limited commodity.

Another issue for Shook is that the property will not generate any property tax revenue for the city, only for the county, despite accessing city water.

"You'll have no control over what goes into the park once you give him water. ... I also didn't hear of any set agreement on the use of water, how much and what will the water be used for. He added that giving Massingill the water would set a precedent for other developers wanting access to city water for properties outside the city limits.

Shook said the proposed RV park violates the city's comprehensive plan for future development.

"I talked to the city planner," he said. "That property is earmarked for residential growth. If you put in an RV park, that's not residential.

"There are also water issues within the city, and selling it to someone outside the city is not right. It just doesn't make sense to me. I don't want to see us sell our commodity outside the city."

Tammy Shook said she considers the issue "very personal, adding that she is familiar with RV and boating and is concerned that a city

of Gatesville's size wouldn't support such a park.

"When he cannot have an upscale RV park, we'll have people live there year round and will bring in riffraff," she said. "He also asked some of the neighbors if he could tap into their septic line and was denied.

"He will need to have access off Osage (Road) and we have children playing there playing ball. I am also concerned about water pressure. ... You add an RV park and whatever else he's going to do in the future and that's going to affect our water pressure - no ifs, ands or buts about it."

Jerry Segraves of Pidcoke said he lives well outside the city limits but he is in favor of granting water to serve Massingill's RV park.

"I am very involved in the Gatesville Riding Club and city regulations affect what we can do at the rodeo," he said.

"The RV park would be a benefit for the city of Gatesville. Contestants travel from rodeo to rodeo and park in the parking lot. The city complains about the horse manure. If there was an RV park nearby, they could put the horses there and keep the parking lot clean. That lot is stretched for parking.

"I think an RV park would benefit this town and would be similar to one at Lake Belton where you have to make reservations a year in advance."

Segraves said he is familiar with Massingill and believes the RV park would be a nice development.

"I know the people proposing to put it in and I know it's not going to have riffraff - I don't think Mr. Massingill would put up with it. This town was established by ranches, and we're trying to keep the legacy alive."

Mayor Pro Tem Rainer gave a detailed explanation of why she is opposed to providing water for the RV park.

She said based on a map from the Coryell County Central Appraisal District, "Mr. Massingill has 178, 131 and 194 acre properties in the area - over 500 adjoining acres and expressed concerns about some of that property being developed for similar purposes later.

Rainer also shared concerns over the "possible loss of water pressure."

She added that she believes city water services should be available for developments inside the city

limits.

"As the state grows and the area grows, water is a very limited resource," Rainer said.

She also said that while the city would not receive property tax revenue from the RV park, any financial benefit to the city would be limited because "most RVers travel with food and supplies instead of spending money at local restaurants and stores.

"Other possible issues are loud noises, damage to the roads, access on a very narrow road, the potential for traffic issues. Also, in the future we have no control over whatever happens on the property once he gets water. It also goes against our future land use.

"A huge concern - I can't believe he'd have enough (customers) to make 60% without having some permanent residents."

Rainer said her focus was to do what was best for the city of Gatesville, "not my dad, friends or people I've known my whole life. Once he gets water, he can do whatever he wants with the property and that possibly extends to 500 acres.

"We have to do what's in the best interest of the city. It might be fantastic and it might be a dump. We also need to think about the next developer's request."

Mayor Chumley said he had a note from Ronnie Dixon who was unable to attend the meeting but wrote that he and neighbors in the Stone Ridge addition were opposed to Massingill's request, saying water availability is already low. He added that the addition of apartments and duplexes nearby hasn't improved the water concerns.

Councilman Westbrook asked if the city required some limits, how that would be enforced once the water line was operational.

"In theory the city could cut the water off (if the agreement was violated)," City Manager Parry said. "It's a thorny issue."

However, no restrictions were approved by the Council, only the 6-inch water line extension to Massingill's property.

Answering someone's concern about Gatesville not being able to support an upscale RV park, "I stayed at a high end RV park about 10 days ago in a town smaller than Gatesville," Chumley said.

"I think it would definitely be an asset to the city," he said.

Burrow said she was opposed based on the loss of property tax revenue since the development was outside the city.

Williams said he did not want to delay Massingill's development plans.

"The city engineer had ample time, we need to get this taken care of," he said. "It seems to me that's just a stall or delay."

Rainer voiced her disagreement.

"I think this takes time," she said. "It's better to make the right decision for the city than to just rush into something."

Based on the 4-3 vote, Massingill will have the water line he requested in order to proceed with the development.

Chumley said later that it was the first time in eight years that he had to cast the deciding vote at a Council meeting.

Congratulations

to our

Volunteer of the Month

Jerry Bell



Central Texas Hospitality House has added a new volunteer this year, Jerry Bell. Jerry has served 30 years in the prison units and retired as a warden. He is now serving as one of our unsung heroes on Monday mornings at CTHH. Jerry came in very humble and has done a variety of jobs. We feel blessed to have such a wonderful man with his great sense of humor and heart to serve. We all know Jerry's strong testimony of his love for the Lord and his service to his local church. One word to define Jerry is constant.. He is never changing and always stable. His strong stature is mellowed by his gentle and humble spirit. He brings not only humor each Monday, but a welcoming smile. Thank you, Jerry, for serving so faithfully and with such humility.

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Gym dedication to honor Mary Bishop

A special dedication ceremony will take place on the Gatesville Junior High campus on Monday, May 16, at 5 p.m. The junior high main gym will become known as the GJHS Mary Bishop Gymnasium in honor of the long-time Gatesville ISD educator, coach,

and Hornet fan. Bishop was a fixture at GISD for more than three decades. She was known to inspire students and encouraged them to believe that they could do anything they wanted.

The public is welcome to attend the event.

Area Fishing Report

Lake Belton

GOOD. Water lightly stained; 73 degrees; 3.86 feet low. Threadfin shad continue to spawn every morning providing easy shallow topwater action from 6:15-7:00 a.m.

Look for blue herons and white herons feeding on the shore to find these fish. Mature white bass are beginning to show up in good numbers

in the lower ends of the tributaries and main lake.

Fishing vertically with MAL Dense Lures is accounting for 200-300 fish morning trips.

Afternoon results are still solid, but mornings are better. With the recent warmup, sunfish are now in the shallows to stay, and bass are becoming reliable on small,

dark soft plastics fished on jigheads in the timbered coves. Report by Bob Maindelle, Holding the Line Guide Service. Crappie are awesome fishing between 10-20 feet of water on standing timber. Brush piles are starting to hold some good numbers.

Report by Zach Minnix, Jig N Jerk Guide Service.

Eagles land gold in state golf

BY JEFF OSBORNE
SENIOR WRITER & EDITOR

Combining a formidable blend of experience and skill, the Jonesboro High School golf team earned the Class 1A state golf championship on Tuesday at Plum Creek Golf Course in Kyle. The Eagle golfing quintet was led by Jeffrey Morse who shot a 153 in the two-day, 36-hole event. That score was an im-

pressive 11 strokes better than par. Morse's efforts were the best in the state at the Class 1A level, two strokes ahead of the second place golfer.

Costin Allison shot 168 (86 and 82) for 15th statewide, followed by Logan Necessary with 173 (87 and 86), Lefty Kaibas at 177 (89 and 88) and Hunter Thompson at 188 (99 and 89). The JHS team improved on its 2021 showing when they captured the bronze, finishing third in Texas that year.

On day one of the event, Jonesboro's golfers shot a combined 338, which was 19 strokes ahead of the second place contender. The Eagles shaved five strokes off their first day total on day two, shooting 333 on the day.

Jonesboro's golf team has been a dominant force on the greens the past two years, routinely winning tournaments, district, regional and now state competition.

The team is coached by Billy Massingill.



COURTESY PHOTO

THEY ARE THE CHAMPIONS! Members of the Jonesboro Class 1A state championship golf team are (from left) Jeffrey Morse, Hunter Thompson, Costin Allison, Coach Billy Massingill, Michael "Lefty" Kaibas and Logan Necessary. After a third place finish at state in 2021, the Eagles earned first place in 2022. At right, Morse lines up for another spectacular swing.

Year-end Shout-out recognizes GHS student-athletes

BY DAVID SCOTT
STAFF WRITER

Gatesville High School Athletics recently presented the 2021-2022 Year-end Shout-out where the athletic students were recognized.

"This is the first time we have done an all-inclusive program and it's something we will

definitely continue," GHS Athletic Director Rickey Phillips said. "The Year-end Shout-out is an opportunity for us to bring together all of our high school teams, players, and coaches. It allows us to help celebrate their successes as teams and recognize the accomplishments earned by individual student-athletes athletically and academically."

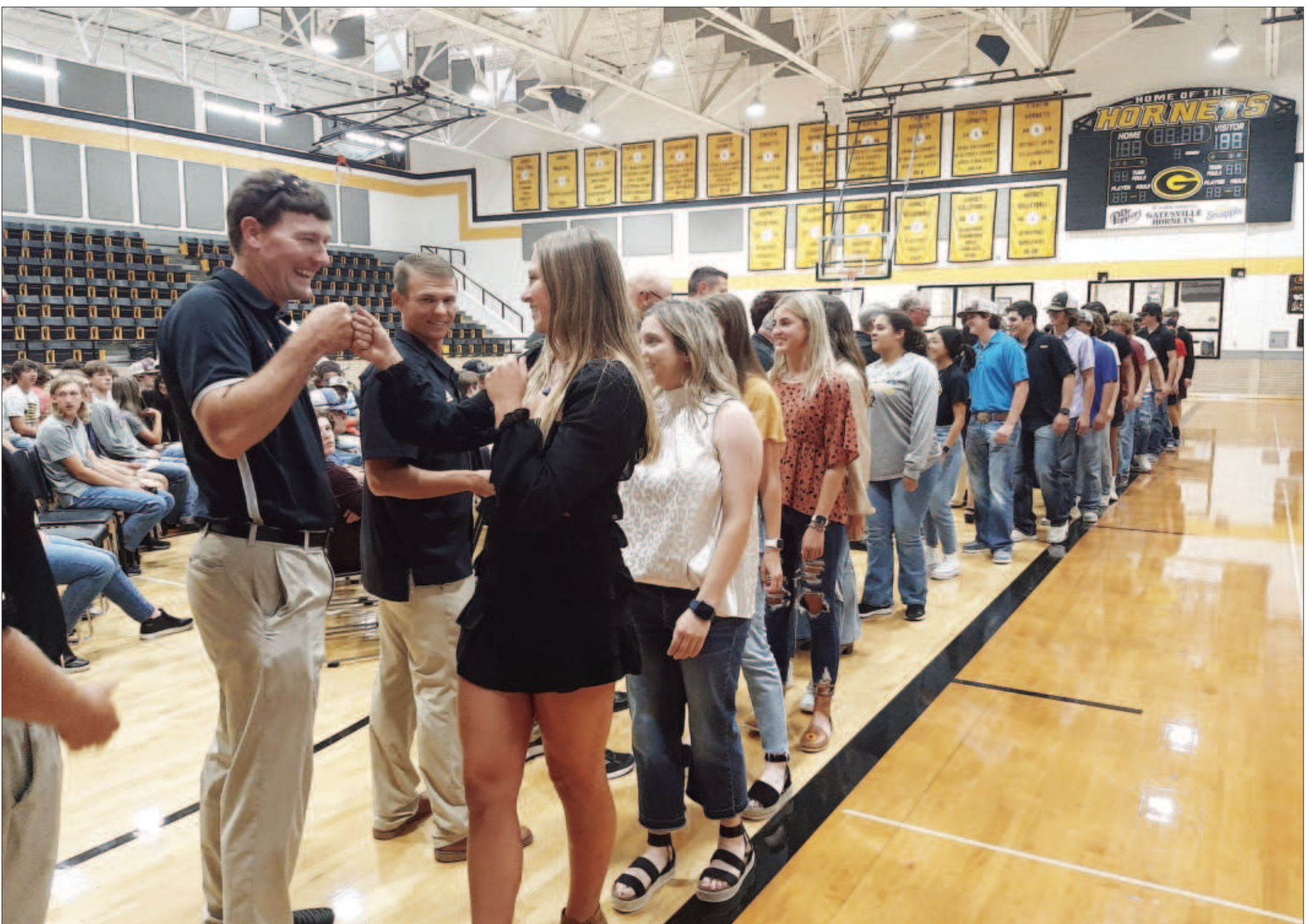
Phillips also said it was a chance for them

to recognize and to thank all the graduating seniors for their many years of commitment and dedication to the GHS athletic program.

Team recognitions were in three categories including fall sports, winter sports and spring sports. The teams recognized for fall sports were cross country, football, team tennis and volleyball. The winter sports included basketball, powerlifting, soccer and wres-

ting. The spring sports recognized baseball, golf, softball, tennis, and track.

"The turnout of student-athletes was tremendous, far more than we expected this first time, and there was a large audience of parents and spectators that helped make the evening really special," Phillips said.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Graduating GHS student-athlete seniors went through a receiving line to thank individual coaches they have been guided by throughout their high school career.

AREA SPORTS ROUNDUP

Donut Dash set for May 21

Centex Crime Stoppers will be presenting the 5K/10K Donut Dash on Saturday, May 21, from 8 a.m. until 10 a.m.

This chip-timed race will start and finish at the Gatesville City Pool located at 300 S. 8th Street. Runners will have the option of running a 5K or 10K race, both offering

unique challenges for runners of all ages. All proceeds will benefit Centex Crime Stoppers.

For both the 5K and the 10K, they will be awarding the top three finishers in the following age groups: 19&U, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, and 70-plus.

Race-day registration and packet pick-up will be race morning 7 to 7:45 a.m. at the race

site. Packet pick-up will also be available Friday, May 20, at the Gatesville Fitness Center. Race-day registration is \$30 (cash or check).

For more information visit their website at: runsignup.com/Race/TX/Gatesville/CrimeStoppersDonutDash

Fire Ant bike tour slated for June 11
The 26th Annual Gatesville Exchange Club

Fier Ant Tour 100k bicycle tour is scheduled to start at 8 a.m. Saturday, June 11.

Cost is \$35 per rider for early registration until May 27, and \$45 after May 27.

Routes are about 10, 32, 50 and 62.5 miles.

For registration, visit the Exchange Club website at <https://gates.clubexpress.com/>