



Taking a drive on the Wild Side



A friendly bison at Buena Vista Wildlife Safari in Evant is one of the first animals to greet visitors driving through the 3.5 mile path. **JEFF OSBORNE** | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Bringing soldiers, citizens together

BY JEFF OSBORNE
SENIOR WRITER & EDITOR

Bringing together members of the military and Gatesville community members, the North Fort Hood Community Council offers an opportunity for cooperation to help boost local special events and celebrations.

The organization started in 2014, has monthly meetings and is coordinated by Diana Fincher.

During the June 7 meeting, held at the Feed Mill, several members of the military and representatives from the city of Gatesville, the Gatesville Independent School District, Coryell County and the Lions and Exchange clubs participated and talked about upcoming events.

The Fourth of July will be a busy day locally, starting with a breakfast from 7:30 to 9 a.m. for veterans and deploying soldiers hosted by the Exchange Club and followed by a community celebration hosted by Grace Bible Church. The evening will be capped off by a fireworks display over McKamie Stadium.

The event at Grace Bible Church will be from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. and will include free food, bounce houses, games and opportunities to win prizes.

While the fireworks show is an expense for the community, Mayor Gary Chumley said it is an important event to continue. H-E-B has traditionally been a sponsor of the event.

"There had been some talk about discontinuing (the fireworks) to save money, but that's not something we're going to do," he said. "Even during COVID, we had it. As long as I'm mayor that will never be cancelled - period."

Cheri Shepherd, director of the Gatesville Convention and Visitors Bureau said while the fireworks display is a little smaller than the one offered at Fort Hood, it is nevertheless a popular local event.

"It lasts about 24 or 30 minutes and it's a pretty awesome show for this little town," she said.

The Gatesville Riding Club's annual rodeo is another event on the horizon and will include a military appreciation night on July 28. The rodeo is scheduled for July 28-30.

North Fort Hood Community Council meetings often rotate between the Feed Mill, Rancher's Steakhouse and Grill and Prima Pasta. The next meeting is set for 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. July 12 at Rancher's.

"It's an informal gathering and anybody is welcome to come and observe and talk about ways to increase collaboration between Gatesville and our military at North Fort Hood," Fincher said. "Groups are always looking for volunteers and this is a way to find opportunities to get involved and help our local service organizations."

"It's about putting key people together in a room to help get things done to make our community better and to include soldiers from the area," Shepherd said.

PLEASE SEE **COUNCIL** | A2

Buena Vista Safari offers chance to experience wildlife up close

BY JEFF OSBORNE
SENIOR WRITER & EDITOR

Seeing eye to eye with a bison or emu, getting a little face time (not the electronic kind) with an ostrich and being nose to nose with a camel in the beautiful countryside of Central Texas where Coryell, Hamilton and Lampasas counties meet are just a few of the things that Buena Vista Wildlife Safari in Evant have to offer.

A recent visit to the safari with my 11-year-old son, Sam, generated plenty of fun and entertaining moments and helped us make some extraordinary memories, too.

While caution and calm are needed from visitors - these are wild or at least semi-wild animals, after all - the safari gives people from the local area as well as visitors from other countries an opportunity to get up close and personal with a variety of animals. Not all the animals are sociable, however. Some of them would prefer to run and hide, so you may want to bring a pair of binoculars to get a better glimpse of some animals, such as the zebras.

Buena Vista opened in January 2019 and not only offers a chance for day visitors to see the animals and enjoy the surroundings. There

PLEASE SEE **SAFARI** | A2



Lucy is a friendly camel who is happy to meet visitors to Buena Vista Wildlife Safari. **JEFF OSBORNE** | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

A Kid's Eye view: Having a fun time with lots of animals

BY SAM OSBORNE
JUNIOR WRITER



Sam Osborne pets one of the goats at Buena Vista Wildlife Safari. **JEFF OSBORNE** | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

My visit to Buena Vista Safari was great - I loved it. It was a lot different than I expected. My dad asked me what animal I thought we'd see first. I said monkeys. There are no monkeys there, but we did see bison first.

The bison were very friendly and cute. One came up to the door of the van, and I fed it and petted it.

Another very friendly animal was a camel. Her name was Lucy. She stuck her head in the van and got some food.

One more animal that stuck its head inside our van was an ostrich. It got a lot of food.

I liked the ducks, donkeys and a longhorn that was the same color as my dad's dog - black and white.

We also saw deer and zebras.

It was fun to see, feed and pet the animals. After we drove, we saw a petting zoo with llamas, goats, sheep and more.

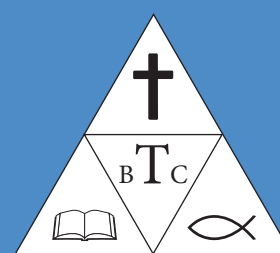
I had a very good time at the safari and I'm glad we got to go there.

Trinity Baptist Church

A Church That Cares

Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship 10:50 am

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Mission Statement:

"The family of Trinity Baptist Church exists to love God and people, teach God's Word, and to help all mankind to follow the Lord Jesus Christ in absolute obedience."



SAFARI

FROM PAGE A1

is also an RV park and a few cabins on site for overnight or longer stays.

One of the park's friendly faces is P-Cay Burkhalter, the events coordinator, who has been with Buena Vista almost from the start.

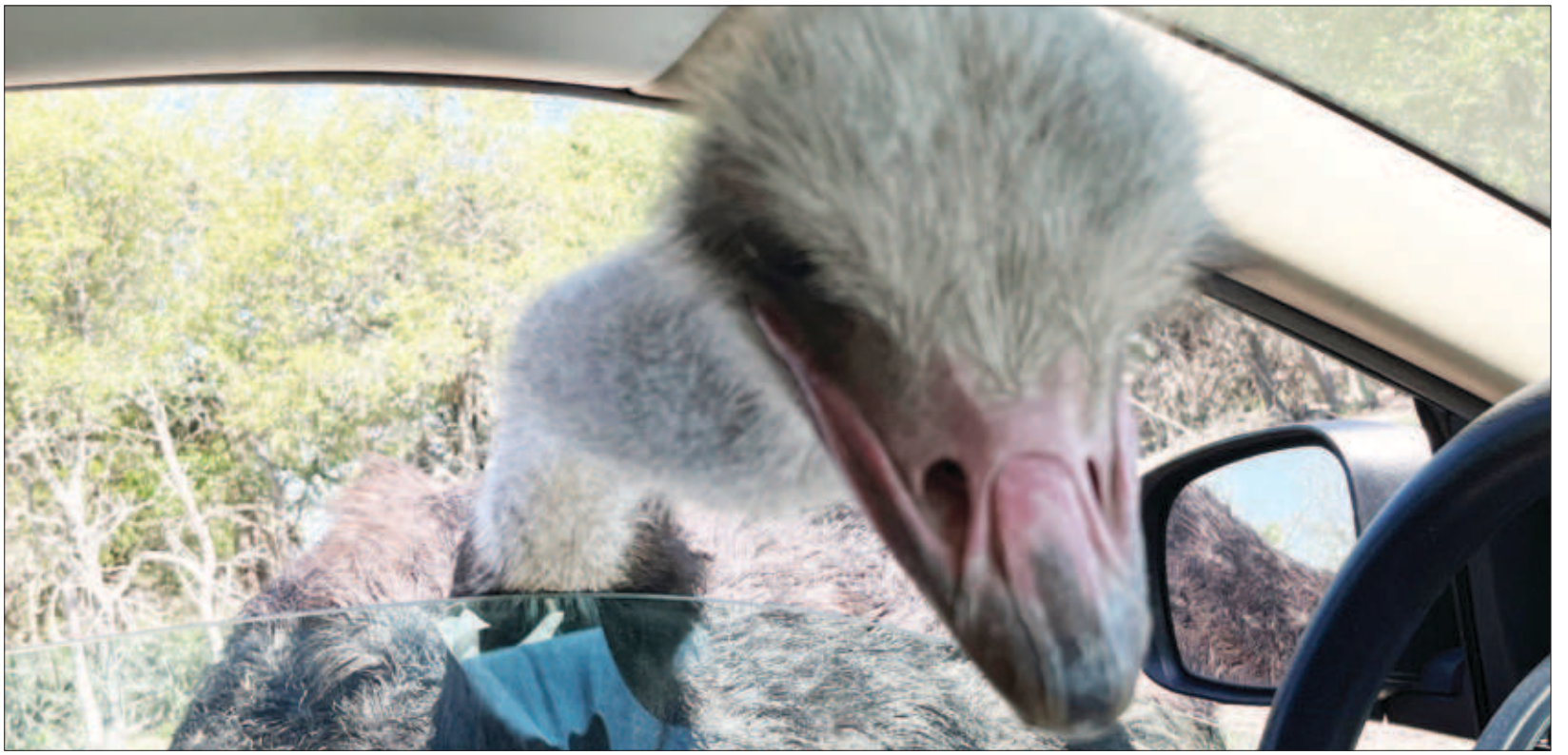
"I started here on April 1, 2019, and it opened in mid-January," she said. "I was fortunate enough to be able to retire early and start a new job here. It was supposed to be temporary but three years later, I'm still here."

"I love the animals and also meeting all the people who come through. We have people from all over the world who find out about us on the internet or just by traveling up and down Highway 281. I was having so much fun here I just couldn't leave."

P-Cay said she has met people from as far away as New Zealand and Japan who visited Buena Vista Safari.

Owned by John Drennan, whose family has connections to the area since before the Civil War, the park was a continuation of goals to help revitalize the community of Evant and also offer a chance for people to enjoy the soothing experiences of nature.

The Drennan family bought the 1,000 acre property and 325 acres were split off to form Buena Vista Wildlife Safari. It now houses 25 species, and people can drive along a scenic 3.5 mile road to view the animals and partake of some outstanding views.



SAM OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

One of the ostriches at the safari isn't afraid to get a closer look and is ready to find a treat.

Those who want to stay a little longer have the option of renting three cabins or RV sites with full amenities. There is also a bunkhouse that can sleep up to 12 people, and a clubhouse for guests that features a pool table and full kitchen.

For larger groups, there is a bus that can be reserved by making arrangements in advance. There is an extra charge for that (currently \$25).

There is also a petting zoo with goats, a llama, sheep and pot bel-

lied pigs.

Visitors are given bags of food so they can give out treats to some of the animals along the trail, but depending on their mood (or appetite) at the moment, they may or may not approach people's vehicles.

In a March 2021 article in the Texas Co-Op Power magazine, D'Ann Drennan, John's wife, said a primary goal was giving the animals the best habitat possible.

"We wanted the animals to live in the most natural, healthy environ-

ment possible," she said. "We feed daily. So when you come through with food, the animals aren't starving. They get to choose whether they want to come see you."

The safari is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day except Thanksgiving and Christmas, and depending on the season, certain times of the day may be better than others for viewing the animals or seeing them active.

Especially in the summer, mornings are often the best times for those who want to interact with the

animals, or to get the best look at them.

Visitors are given a list of animals to see which species they may see, and there are signs along the route with fun and interesting facts about the creatures.

Tickets - which are good for the entire day - cost \$15 for adults and \$12 for children ages 3-11, and \$13.50 for seniors and active military.

For more information, visit <https://www.buenavistawildlifesa-fari.com> or call 254-791-5441.

COUNCIL

FROM PAGE A1

Another local event in the planning stages is a military appreciation concert to be held in Gatesville

and tentatively scheduled for Sept. 18 - a day after the community celebrates Spur Fest, a fiddle contest and classic car show.

While the main post at Fort Hood is closely connected with Killeen

in many ways, Gatesville is always seeking to promote positive interactions with soldiers at North Fort Hood, Fincher said.

"North Fort Hood has a very unique mission of training the (Na-

tional Guard) troops before deployment and is one of two Army posts, along with Fort Bliss (in El Paso) that does that," she said. "These are combat support units, and we want to do what we can to welcome and

support them while they are here."

For more information about the North Fort Hood Council, email Fincher at dianafincher@gmail.com.

Congratulations

to our
Volunteers of the Month

Kaci & Kenneth



This set of Unsung Heroes have recently come to us as a dynamic duo! They first called to see if CTHH needed volunteers and YES WE DID! Kaci and Kenneth jumped right in and their first initiation was the Open House Christmas Party at CTHH. These two had strong work ethics, a relentless spirit, and seem to NEVER tire or quit. In the middle of adversities, they flowed smoothly without a complaint. They have since done bathroom duty, floor care, laundry and bed service, and met guests with their love and compassion. They have been a BIG asset to CTHH. They carry a sweet love for the Lord and have a solid background of serving Him

and walking in His call for them. We are thankful for servants of this caliber and we pray God will continue to richly bless them in every way. Thanks, guys, for ALL you do!!!!!!

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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.

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

(ISSN-08944954) | 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.



COURTESY PHOTO

Three former students who once attended the Plainview School were in attendance for the 46th annual reunion. Those students were, left to right, Eva Lena Young (age 101), Eugene Kiphen, and Janice Daschofsky Pekariski.

Former Plainview School students reunite for 46th year

Former students and their families recently attended the 46th annual reunion of the Plainview School with about 20 in attendance. The reunion took place at Rancher's Steak House with three former students in attendance.

Those former students included Eva Lena Young, who is 101 years old, Eugene Kiphen, and Janice Daschofsky Pekariski.

The community of Plainview was the result of the

consolidation of the Tipton and Hemmeline Schools which formed Plainview School in 1925. Between 1925 and 1949, hundreds of children attended Plainview School. In 1928, electric lighting was added to the building, and by 1936, there was a school bus and driver. In 1948, school lunches were introduced at Plainview.

In 1949, the trustees of the school voted unanimously to consolidate with Gatesville.

Evant ISD enrolling Pre-K, K students

Evant ISD is continuing to enroll students for the 2022-2023 school year. Pre-K students must be 4 years of age by Sept. 1, 2022, and kindergarten students must be 5 years of age by Sept. 1, 2022.

Enrollment packets can

be picked up at the front office Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Please contact the school at 254-471-5536 if you have any questions.

Evant ISD is located at 339 N. Memory Lane in Evant.

Christian men to gather for discussion

A Christian men's get-together is scheduled for Saturday, June 18, at the First Baptist Church in Gatesville, starting at 8:30 a.m. with breakfast. Following the meal, the group will discuss ideas on how

to bring the men of the community together. There will also be a zoom discussion from "Men of Valor" as well.

First Baptist Church of Gatesville is located at 912 E. Main Street.

Fish fry for Flat VFD

The Flat Volunteer Fire Department will be having a "Fish Fry" on Saturday, June 11. It will take place from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. at the Flat Community Center located at 159 CR 334.

The cost will be \$12 per plate, which includes a drink and dessert. All

proceeds from the fundraiser will go toward new firefighting equipment and personal protective equipment.

Flat Volunteer Fire Department is located at 130 E. FM 931 in the Flat community and can be reached by calling 254-487-3473.

Live Oak Baptist VBS set, June 13-16

Live Oak Baptist Church will be hosting its Vacation Bible School June 13-16 from 5:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. each evening. The theme for the VBS will be "Armor of God - Suit up, Slay Sin, Serve God."

VBS will be for children who have completed pre-K

(4 years old) through students in the sixth grade. A light meal will be included.

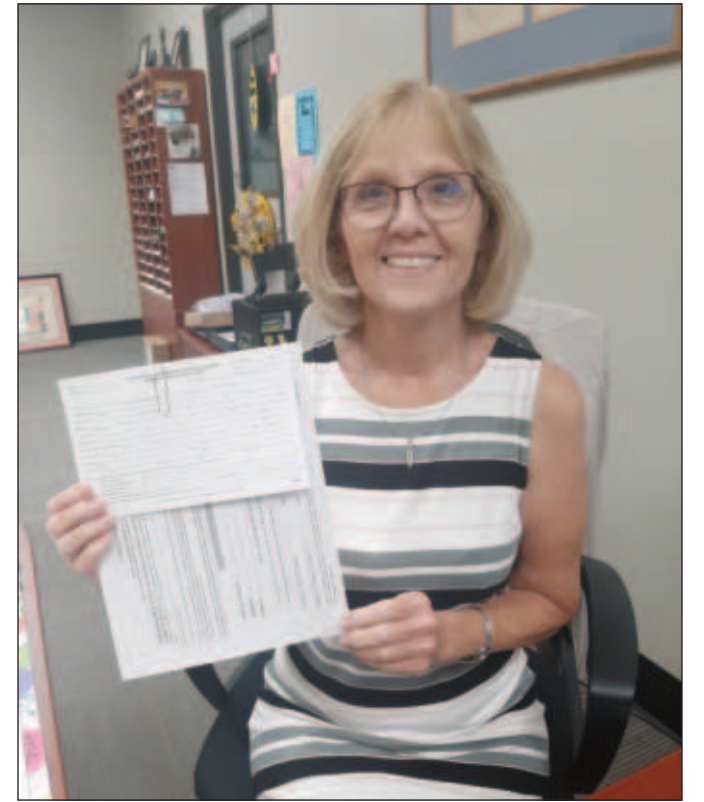
Drop off will be in the sanctuary at the church. Live Oak Baptist Church is located at 113 FM 107 in Gatesville. For more information, please call 254-865-5681.

C.A.F.E. traveling to Llano on July 9

On Saturday, July 9, the Christian Adult Fellowship Events group (C.A.F.E.) at the First United Methodist Church will travel to Llano to see the Malpass Brothers perform at the Lantex Theater. The group will leave the church parking lot at 10 a.m. and will eat lunch at In-

man's Kitchen before the performance begins at 2:30 p.m. The cost will be \$40 per person with the meal cost not included.

C.A.F.E. group welcomes the involvement of other area churches in trips to see good and clean shows with fellow Christians.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Gatesville Primary School secretary, Sandra Brown, is shown holding the school's registration packet which parents and guardians can pick up in the school's office.

Pre-K, K enrollment continues at GISD

Gatesville Primary School is continuing to enroll students for the 2022-2023 school year. Pre-K students must be 4 years of age by September 1, 2022, and Kindergarten students must be 5 years of age by September 1, 2022.

The Primary office is open

Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. for anyone wanting to pick up enrollment packets. Please contact the school at 254-865-7264 if you have any questions.

Gatesville Primary School is located at 308 Hornet Way.

GISD Summer Feeding continues

Gatesville Independent School District is striving to make sure no kid goes hungry this summer in their no-cost summer meals program. Kids are offered a free meal from May 24 through July 29.

Locations and times the meals are available are as follows:

Gatesville Elementary, 2537 E. Main Street
Monday through Friday
Breakfast 8 to 8:30 a.m.
Lunch 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Sit-down meals in the caf-

eteria

Adults \$2.50 for breakfast and \$4.25 for lunch

Trinity Day Care Center, 1506 W. Main Street

Tuesday through Thursday
Breakfast 8 to 8:30 a.m.
Lunch 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Gatesville Care Center, 105 N. 7th Street

Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Lunch 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Gatesville WIC Office, 501 E. Main Street

Monday, second, third and fourth Tuesday, Thursday

Breakfast 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.
Lunch 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Gatesville City Pool, 300 S. 8th Street

Monday through Friday
Breakfast 9 to 9:30 a.m.
Lunch 12:30 to 1 p.m.

Gatesville High School, corner of S. Lovers Lane and Marshall Street

Monday through Thursday
Breakfast 8 to 8:30 a.m.

Lunch 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

To find a meal location near you, text "FOOD" to 304-304 or visit SummerFood.org.

Gatesville Junior High honor rolls recently announced

A HONOR ROLL

7th GRADE

Isabella Algood, Wyatt Baker, Graham Barron, Trinity Barrow, Brooklyn Blanchard, Braxton Boyd, Garrett Cameron, Katelyn Campbell, Chloe Corp, Thomas Dean, Jacob Desormeaux, Charlee Ferris, Isis Germain, Maygen Glennon, Riley Higginbotham, Aiden Holden, Samuel Howard, Bo Kelley, Madelyn Kiphen, Carlee Klutts, Justin Lowe, Kayla Mabry, Hunter Martin, Anna McPherson, Jadan Moore, Braylen Nichols, Lily Nielsen, Cody Norwood, Kaylee Prince, Brooke Reavis, Braxton Ruiz, Alyssa Saxon, Fielder Shirley, Joshua Stephens, Chloe Thompson, Kylie Williams, Makaylie Williams, Bailey Wolff

8th GRADE

Mackenzie Allison, Joshua Appelman, Macee Ayres, James Bolton, Abigail Boose, Colton Byler, Juan Cortez, Edu Damian-Jacobo, Kensley Eary, Greyson Eggeling, Madeline Fast, Seth Finley, Savannah Glenn, Amaya Gomez, Madisan Heimbeck, Amanda Jones, Gehrig Keeton, London Kizer, Bree Anna Lovelady, Kayden Mayes, Tristian Modisett, Kameryn Mooney, Amos Phillips, Emma Pollard, Mia Portillo, Baylyn Roberts, Finn

Rogers, Taylor Sanderson, Liam Schaal, Madison Shalchi, Miles Tull, Dylan Watts, Levi Webb, Paisley Wells, Hailey Wilson, Charles Winkler, Benjamin Woodson, Kinsley Wrisk

A/B HONOR ROLL

7th GRADE

Colby Aaron, Ellen Abrahamson, Seth Baize, Andrew Ballantine, Douglas Blanck, Caleb Bruschi, Olivia Bryant, Aidan Cain, Gorge Carmona, Zianna Cole, Emily Courson, Kizer Delord, Parker Diserens, Ian Gillmore, Bradyn Gist, Carson Griffith, Gabriel Hall, Emily Harrington, Parker Herring, Jesse Herry, Noah Hill, Leah Holden, Aiden Holt, Brent Hudson, Brooke Hunt, Robin Johns, Brooklyn King, Avery Koen, Amelia Langenstrass, Daniela Lee, Kayleen Lira, Matthew Lynn, Madilyn Manear, Meghan Mehaffey, Tommy O'Neill, Elihu Ortiz, Gerardo Rodriguez, Isaac Sanchez, Brylie Spencer, Kaiden Spilman, Payton Steel, Austin Tennison, Kaylen Thomas, Brendon Tippit, Aiden Toombs, Lana Nicole Tyson, Daniel Uriarte, Levi Villagrana, Gavin Walls, Nathan Watson, Haeven Whitenburg

8th GRADE

Maci Allison, Clark Allman, Viviana Armour, Zoey

Arnold, Izaya Zane Ayala, Kori Aycock, Carson Bailey, Brooke Bernquist, Hayden Blanchard, Phoenix Blassingame, Javier Bonilla, Nathaniel Brown, Savannah Brunson, Breeze Buckner, Cy Burns, Pedro Cardenas Martinez, Mason Cate, Mia Chacon, Collyn Coleman, Jamie Comstock, Eli Cooper, Reigan Davidson, Faith Davis, Daniel De La Torre, Lari Dunlap, Lakota Easter, Miguel Encarnacion Almeida, Jackson Everts, Breele Ford, Diego Gamez

Juarez, Journey Garrett, Kadon Gaston, Hadley Glass, Matthew Harney, Clifton Heath, Jessa Herry, Shyanna Hoisington, Gracee Isaacks, Nicole Jackson, Bradey James, Mylee Jones, Ralie Key, Lillian Kinder, Payton Kirby, Lillian Kring, Austin Lewis, Jayden McNutt, Antonio Montalvan, Justin Muegge, Ally Nichols, Griffin Register, Cody Robinson, Ivan Schiferl, Larry Schwertner, Marin Segraves, Presley Shelton, Braxton Shuemaker, Jonathan Soriano, Dustin Stanton, Summer Stovall, Sierra Taylor, Shaylie Teague, Logan Tippit, Kimber

Token, Garrett Weatherly, Noa Wheeler, Ashur Whyte, Avonté Zachary

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We would also like to thank Gatesville Police Department, Gatesville Volunteer Fire Department, Coryell E.M.S., SWARM Baseball, and all volunteers who helped with the event.

FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Though some may consider me senseless at least I am not scentless

SAM HOUSTON

Sam Houston is a syndicated columnist and newspaper executive. He is also an actor, author, playwright and entertainment producer/promoter.

This past weekend, in a moment of calm reflection, I determined my sense of smell is tremendously undervalued. Words cannot define the loss I would experience if I was not able to see or hear. COVID educated thousands on the unpleasantness of losing one's sense of taste. To not be able to reach out and feel my family and absorb their humanness would be painful and isolating. But it is hard for me to imagine the magnitude of the loss if I no longer

had a sense of smell. What are my favorite "smells"? I love the smell of my old baseball mitt, a freshly mowed hayfield, and the unique scent of the early morning after it has rained and is still cool.

I love the smell of the midway at the State Fair, the odor of gunpower when shooting quail or ducks, and a wet bird dog when they have made a good retrieval. I love the smell of colognes which remind me of old friends, the fragrance of a new car, and the breeze of the ocean. I would be amiss if I left out the scent of bacon frying, or a morning cup of coffee.

I have not addressed the "unpleasant smells" which

are also part of my life. The dirty baby diapers, the spoiled milk, the skunk which I ran over with my truck, and the freezer at the cabin which broke down and it was weeks before I knew it had defrosted. No, they are not necessarily pleasant memories, but they are also part of the fabric which makes up my life.

Seems like most of the



Houston

"smells" remind me of other places, or times, or locations. Our life is made up of many roads. As we travel, we add a lot of data to our memory bank. There is no more powerful memory trigger than inhaling an

odor for which you are familiar. I am convinced my wife, a devotee of buttered popcorn, could be dead and buried yet if someone were to visit her gravesite and just so hap-

pened to be carrying a bag of hot buttered popcorn, she would somehow know.

I imagine almost all of us remember the smell of our grandparent's house and the odor of something special Grandma baked or cooked. When our nostrils get a "whiff" of that smell, it transforms our heart and spirit to a time in our youth back to Grandma's house. We can "feel" the house, "taste" the food, "hear" the voices and "see" smiling faces. We remember the good times spent with others, the antics of our youth, the reverence for things old.

As I review this column, it is apparent "smells" take me to a different place. It is the

quick "Google search" of my life, and I enjoy going back to those experiences. Just now I can smell the leather of my chaps and saddle, the odor of cattle, the stench of a hot iron being laid on a steer's hip, and the smell of my own sweat. For just a minute, I was back in the saddle doing something I loved with men I admired. I was younger, stronger, and more vibrant. It was like a mini vacation.

No man likes to be called "high smelling and low down", but I sure enjoy inhaling life.

Thought for the day: The most intoxicating smell is of the person you love.

Until next time.
sam@hcnews.com

Happy FATHER'S DAY

The history of Father's Day

Each year, the third Sunday in June is a time to pay homage to fathers and the millions of other men who have stepped into the role of father. While it may seem as though Father's Day has been around forever, it didn't become a nationally recognized holiday in the United States until 1972, when President Richard Nixon signed Joint Resolution 187 into law.

Many thank Sonora Smart Dodd for making Father's Day happen. In 1909, while attending a Mother's Day sermon in church, Dodd felt fathers were equally deserving of praise. To honor her own father, a Civil War vet-

eran and widower who raised six children alone, Dodd petitioned for a Father's Day on June 5th (the anniversary of her father's death) in her native Spokane, Wash. The celebration was deferred to the third Sunday in June. Another account says Grace Golden Clayton came up with the idea for a Father's Day in 1908 in Fairmont, West Virginia. Clayton was inspired to celebrate fathers after 361 local men perished in a deadly mine explosion. Clayton brought the idea up to the minister of her local church.

Historians say that Father's Day may even be a much older idea. St. Joseph's Day,

which was celebrated each year on March 19 in Catholic nations of Europe since the medieval era, and later elsewhere around the world, commemorates Joseph, the husband of Mary and father figure to Jesus. It was said that Joseph should be held up as the ideal example of fatherhood. The Coptic Orthodox Church celebrates St. Joseph's Day on July 20. In the Orthodox Christian Church, the second Sunday before the Nativity is celebrated as the Sunday of the Forefathers - celebrating all of Jesus' male ancestors, with an emphasis on Abraham, the patriarch of the Jewish faith.

Ways to make dad feel special

Those looking for ways to let Dad know how much he's loved and appreciated can consider these ideas to make Father's Day special.

GAME DAY

It's a tradition in many families to take dad to a ballgame on Father's Day. If you can't attend a live game, set up a television in the back yard and stream a classic game (many sports channels have compensated for no live action by broadcasting classic games from years past). For apartment dwellers, charge up a tablet, take Dad to a local park and let him relax as he streams a ballgame.

"GO" GOLFING

If Dad's an avid golfer, finding a tee time on a local

course may be difficult come Father's Day. But that doesn't mean Dad can't still play a round on Father's Day. Moms and kids can turn their yards into a mini golf course for Dad. Use beach buckets to create sand traps and create makeshift flags to mark each "green." Then take turns serving as Dad's caddies as he traverses his very own course.

DINE "OUT"

Let Dad relax as Mom and the kids whip up a favorite meal for Dad, serving it up al fresco on the patio or the deck for dinner. Kids may take pleasure in "waiting" on dad and decorating an area of their home or patio like a restaurant.

There's many ways for fam-

ilies to make this Father's Day one Dad will remember for all the right reasons.

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HAPPY
Father's Day

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STORY TIME AT THE LIBRARY



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Wednesdays are Story Time at Gatesville Public Library for both elementary and pre-school students from 11 a.m. until noon. Shown above is the library director, Faye Nichols, reading "Mister Seahorse" by Eric Carle to the youngsters gathered for some reading time together.

CHAMBER MEMBER OF THE MONTH



COURTESY PHOTO

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce recently selected Spur Nutrition as their Chamber Member of the Month for June. The business is owned by Jessie Jonasson and is located at 103 S. 7th Street on the courthouse square. Spur Nutrition is a smoothie and juice bar serving up healthy shakes and energizing drinks. The business can be reached by calling 254-368-9609. Jonasson is pictured above holding the plaque presented to her by the chamber along with her employees and chamber representatives. The Chamber Member of the Month award is sponsored by Extraco Banks and by The Gatesville Messenger. Each month, the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce recognizes an outstanding business, and those winners are later placed in the running for Business of the Year which is awarded at the yearly Chamber Banquet. Nominees must be a member of the Chamber in order to qualify for the award.

Business Directory

 <p>WHITT Building Supplies</p> <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</p> <p>brianriddlerunningmroofing@gmail.com</p> <p>Running M Roofing & Construction, LLC</p> <p>FREE INSPECTIONS - 254-223-1971</p> <p>Commercial • Residential • Claims Specialists</p>	 <p>GOSSETT TRANSMISSION SERVICE</p> <p>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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3 Months: \$26/week

OBITUARIES

ROBERT FULSOM SELF

Jan. 22, 1939 - May 27, 2022



Robert Fulsom Self, age 83, passed away Friday, May 27, 2022.

Robert was born in Fort Smith, Arkansas, and spent

many years of his youth in both Arkansas and Oklahoma. He graduated from high school in Heavener, Oklahoma in 1956, and eventually found his career in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. As he moved up in the finance business, he briefly lived in Hernando, Mississippi for a few years. He then returned to the North Texas area where he finished out his career in the suburbs of Fort Worth. He spent the majority of his time working for Ford Motor Credit and TranSouth Financial. After retiring, he moved to the Central Texas town of Gatesville where he lived the rest of his days.

Robert was heavily involved with the Methodist Church and volunteered with the Methodist Men on multiple

projects in Gatesville.

Robert was an avid golfer and poker player. He was a longtime fan of both baseball and football and was a big fan of both the Texas Rangers and Dallas Cowboys. He enjoyed traveling throughout the South and Southwest seeking out ghost towns and historic sites.

Survivors include his wife, Catherine Thurmond Self; sons, Matthew Jeffery Self and Mark Rader and wife, Pam; grandchildren, Evan Rader and Leyna Little; and great-granddaughters, Stella and Isla.

There will be a memorial service for Robert on Wednesday, June 22, at the First United Methodist Church in Gatesville at 2 p.m.

DON S. MARSHALL

Jan. 16, 1944 - June 6, 2022



Funeral services for Don S. Marshall, age 78, of Belton, formerly of Holland, Texas, were held at 1 p.m., Friday, June 10, 2022, at Dossman Funeral Home Chapel with Tony Mahan and Rev. Denise Mikeska officiating. Burial followed at Mound Cemetery, in Mound.

After a lengthy battle with COPD and heart failure, Mr. Marshall passed peacefully at his home, surrounded by his family on Monday, June 6, 2022.

Mr. Marshall was born Jan. 16, 1944, in Gatesville, the son of Jesse Boyd Marshall

and Daisy Belle (Evans) Marshall. He married his loving and devoted wife of 58 years, Georgia Belt, on Oct. 16, 1964, in Gatesville. He spent a short time in the National Guard. His lifelong career was as a union carpenter and later in commercial construction working for Drywall Systems, Ace, Inc and Adams Drywall.

Don and Georgia made their home in Holland in November 1977, where they owned and operated Don's Pit Bar B Que. There they raised both of their daughters and made a lifetime of good friends and cherished memories. In his retirement years, he enjoyed selling fresh produce in Holland, until his health declined. Four years ago, they had the opportunity to purchase a home in Belton, next door to their daughter. This was a true blessing for them. He enjoyed riding his scooter next door or sitting on the front porch and watching his grandkids play. He especially enjoyed watching Fisher ride his dirt bike. Fisher often stayed with his Papa and would help him, from taking apart the lawn mower to helping fix anything that needed done. As he became weaker and in his final weeks, he always wanted to go home to Holland. Don was blessed, adored and loved by all six of his grandkids, Justin Marshall and wife Michelle, Meredith Mikeska,

Dylan Mikeska, Jessalynn Neeley and husband Tyler, Fisher Vannatta and Georgia Kay Vannatta; and one great-grandchild, Kason Marshall, who is his triplet. Kason always brightened his Papa's Day when he visited. He once shared that Kason was all the medicine he needed.

He was preceded in death by his parents and infant brother, William Boyd Marshall.

Survivors include his beautiful wife, Georgia Marshall; two daughters, Mary Melissa Mikeska and husband, Steven, and Myca Dawn Vannatta and husband, Brent; brothers Kenneth Marshall and wife, Carol, of Brenham, and Gary Marshall of Mound. He is also survived by nieces JoEllen Fritz, Paula Noak, Christi Starkey, Nicole Marshall, Whitney Bruton; nephews, Eddie Marshall, Chad Bruton, Clay Bruton and Brandon Belt.

Serving as pallbearers were Eddie Marshall, David Walker, Billy Walker, Jerry (Bonz) Ayers, Mike Knox, Wayne Smith, James (Roho) LaRocque, and Darren Crawford. Honorary pallbearers were Justin Marshall, Dylan Mikeska and Fisher Vannatta. Memorials may be made to the Veterans Outdoors Program, 213 Sebastian Lane, Georgetown, TX 78633.

MOUND NEWS

Little Mr. Max Ryan McClellan was honored on his sixth birthday

BARBARA HOPSON

Mound News Correspondent

Little Mr. Max Ryan McClellan was honored on his sixth birthday with a party Sunday at his home in Fort Worth, given by his parents and sister, Kyle, Summer and Lillian McClellan. Those attending were family members and friends.

Sue Jones, along with Kelby and Sterlin Shults, went shopping and had lunch in Temple on Tuesday.

Russ Cox and Case Jones had lunch Saturday with Don and Sue Jones.

Valerie Ferrell and Carolyn Blakley had lunch in Gatesville on Friday.

Carolyn and Emma Blakley went to the Shivarree Saturday.

Several people from Mound attended the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce's Annual Shivarree



Hopson

Carnival over the weekend. Barbara's Notes: Happy Birthday to Cherie Tatum, Joseph Piller, Rex Hopson, Hal Hopson and Anna Baldock.

'06 trailer stolen

Centex Crime Stoppers can use your help in solving a case of theft over \$2,500 and under \$30,000, which occurred in the 100 block of North 31st Street sometime between May 25, at 11:45 a.m. and May 25, at 3:40 p.m. Unknown person(s) came onto the property of another person without the effective consent of the property owner and stole a 2006 Rout trailer.

According to the trailer owner, the trailer is described as a 14- by 5-foot trailer with white wheels, two new floorboards on the right side, and having a large rear ramp. The property owner estimated the cost to replace the trailer to be more than \$5,000.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

OCEANS OF LEGOS: Standing front row center is LEGO winner, Thomas Wallace II. Behind Wallace, from left is Becky Jones, LEGO activities director at Gatesville Public Library, and LEGO competition judges, Rene Ochoa and Cheri Shepherd.

Summer LEGO competition begins at Gatesville Library

The Gatesville Public Library recently kicked off its annual Summer Reading Program. This year's theme is Oceans of Possibilities. On Tuesdays, until July 12, "Oceans of LEGOS" takes place at the library from 1 p.m. until 2:30 p.m. for children ages 5 and up. The children will learn about the ocean with LEGO challenges.

The first Oceans of LEGOS

workshop taught the children about structures that can be constructed under the sea, and they learned words dealing with these structures such as autonomous, semi-autonomous, moon pool and decompression. After learning about underwater buildings, the children were then asked to use LEGOS to build their own structures which were

later judged by City of Gatesville employees, Cheri Shepherd and Rene Ochoa.

Thomas Wallace II, age 13, won the competition with his construction of an underwater structure built in the shape of a submarine. As the winner, Wallace received a \$10 gift card from Walmart.

The Dispatch

The following is a partial breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of June 5-8. 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

June 5

10:21 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 1600 block of W. Main Street.

12:26 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 800 block of S. 7th Street.

1:13 p.m., a missing person was reported in the 600 block of Andrews Street.

5:49 p.m., harassment was reported in the 2400 block of Business Hwy. 36.

June 6

1:29 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 3400 block of Churchill Drive.

5:26 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2400 block of Osage Road.

7:16 p.m., an accident was reported in the 1100 block of E. Main Street.

10:53 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 100 block of CR 317 at Mound.

June 7

7:58 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 900 block of E. Main Street.

10:31 a.m., an accident was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Hwy. 36.

4:45 p.m., an accident was reported in the 2400 block of E. Main Street.

June 8

1:39 a.m., a prowler was reported in the 1000 block of Scenic Drive.

2:02 p.m., a fight was reported in the 2300 block of Business Hwy. 36.

3:56 p.m., a brush/grass fire was reported in the 2400 block of CR 127.

7:33 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of E. Leon Street.

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CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

June 5

3:11 a.m., a domestic disturbance was reported in the 600 block of Thomas Street.

12:36 p.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 1000 block of CR 269.

1:13 p.m., an animal complaint was reported on Lutheran Church Road.

2:47 p.m., a domestic disturbance was reported in the

300 block of Indian Creek.

June 6

6:52 a.m., missing livestock was reported in the 6400 block of CR 137.

8:40 a.m., the burglary of a vehicle was reported in the 3100 block of FM 929.

10:33 a.m., an explosion was reported in the 2000 block of FM 217.

1:33 p.m., a scam was reported at Educators Credit Union.

June 7

9:06 a.m., a fatality was reported on Hwy. 36 North past Jonesboro High School.

9:50 a.m., an explosion was reported at Levita.

4:40 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 8400 block of FM 116.

6:14 p.m., an assault was reported in the 800 block of Twin Mountain Road.

June 8

7:43 a.m., an assault was reported in the 7700 block of FM 929.

3:49 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 500 block of CR 339.

4:02 p.m., a grass fire was reported on CR 136.

7:48 p.m., a theft was reported in the 9900 block of Hwy. 84.

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Got a fishing photo to share with us?



COURTESY PHOTO FROM WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

If you have a fishing photo you'd like to share with the world, send it our way. Email to editor@gatesvillemessenger.com or jeff@gatesvillemessenger.com.

GISD summer events continuing

Gatesville Independent School District is hosting summer strength and conditioning workouts on weekdays in the weight room. Students in ninth through 12th grade will have their workouts from 7-8 p.m. and stu-

dents in seventh and eighth grade will work out from 8:15 to 9:15 a.m. Cross country workouts take place at McKamie Stadium for grades 7-12 starting at 9 a.m.

Bowhunter by Fall program aims to prepare new archers

AUSTIN - Texans desiring to harvest their own meals, improve on or learn a new skill and take part in outdoor adventures can do just that through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's (TPWD) Community Archery Program. "Bowhunter by Fall" is a series of monthly and bi-monthly e-newsletters filled with videos and clips, giving archers the skills to travel from behind the keyboard to behind the bow just in time for the fall hunting season.

"Bowhunter by Fall" e-newsletters contain information on how to take and pass Hunter Education and help aspiring bowhunters understand the gear they'll need before hitting the field. Recipients can also expect tips on archery training, finding a mentor, locating public hunting lands, understanding license requirements and knowing what to look for in a good hunting spot.

"Bowhunting may seem like a tough sport to get started with but really, it's easiest with a mentor or someone to help guide you in the beginning stages," said Rob Owen, TPWD's Outreach and Recruitment Manager. "Bowhunter By Fall" is meant to help you, or a friend, be field ready via a timeline of steps, resources and tips. Hopefully it helps you shoot

some arrows this fall and for many hunting seasons to come."

Anyone interested in receiving "Bowhunter by Fall" e-newsletters can sign up on the Community Archery Program page of the TPWD website. Those signed up can anticipate seven e-newsletter editions over a period of five months.

The TPWD Community Archery Program works on a "train the trainer" model, training teachers and leaders through a USA Archery curriculum in range set-up, safety, program design and coaching. The curriculum is built for community groups like military bases, veterans' groups, scouts, camps, parks and recreation departments and more. It also provides resources and certification to host a mobile archery range with an audience.

Community Archery Specialists also provide Explore Bowhunting and Explore Bowfishing programming that introduces the skills of bowhunting and bowfishing to new audiences through activities and discussion.

Learn more about how to contact a community archery specialist in your region and express your interest in sharing archery with your audience via the Community Archery Program website.

Area Fishing Report

Belton
GOOD. Water lightly stained; 77 degrees; 4.64 feet low. At Lake Belton, the summer heat is beginning to make a difference in the fishing. Average white bass catch numbers for half-day morning trips have dropped off from around 200 fish per trip to the 150 to 160 level. White bass are beginning to suspend more frequently and make use of the bottom. MAL Heavy and a MAL Dense Lures used vertically in conjunction with Garmin LiveScope has been the most productive approach. Report by Bob Maindelle, Holding the Line Guide Service. Crappie are good on timber and brush piles anywhere from 10-20 feet of water using minnows and jigs. The 12 foot Outlaw crappie rods were the key enabling us to

keep off the brush pile. Report by Zach Minnix, Jig N Jerk Guide Service.

Stillhouse
GOOD. Water lightly stained; 79 degrees; 4.86 feet low. At Stillhouse Hollow, weekly tournament results have seen average weights dropping as the lake warms up. As the lake drops, hydrilla mats continue to form and grow. Consistently successful largemouth bass anglers are presenting naturally colored, dark, soft plastics on the outer fringes of deep growing hydrilla using both Texas rigs and Carolina rigs. Report by Bob Maindelle, Holding the Line Guide Service.

Waco
GOOD. Water stained; 77 degrees; 5.89 feet low. Crappie are good on timber and brush piles anywhere from

10-20 feet of water using minnows and jigs. The 12 foot Outlaw crappie rods were the key enabling us to keep off the brush pile. Report by Zach Minnix, Jig N Jerk Guide Service. Black and white bass are good on topwaters early morning, then schooling throughout the day chasing shad. Catfish are good on live bait.

GISD summer sports camps are scheduled

The Gatesville Independent School District will have summer sports camps to help teach fundamentals and techniques, learn Hornet schemes and terminology and have fun with friends and future teammates.

The camps are coached by Gatesville High School and Gatesville Junior High coaches, assisted by GHS varsity athletes and cost \$40.

Camp forms are available at all GISD campuses and on the GISD Athletics website, www.gatesvilleathletics.com. Participants may register up to the first day of each camp.

Questions may be emailed to rgphilli@gatesvilleisd.org.

Upcoming camps include:
* Tennis, June 27-29 from 8-10 a.m. for grades 1-9.
* Volleyball, July 11-13 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. for grades 1-9.

* Wrestling, July 11-15. Times are determined by age groups and will be from 8:30-9:30 a.m. for grades 1-6 and from 10-11 a.m. for grades 7-12.

* Football, July 25-27, from 7:30-10:30 a.m. for grades 7-9.

Soccer will have a camp on Sunday afternoons in September and October for grades 4-6. The time and cost will be determined later.

Employee Spotlight

Congratulations to our May Employee of the Month, Patty Kent!
She recently accepted the Medical Records position and is still working as a CNA too! She has worked very hard balancing both jobs while keeping a positive attitude! Thank you Patty for all you do!

ARMOR OF GOD

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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Who: Kids who have completed PK (4years)-6th grade

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When: June 13-16
5:30-8 pm (light meal included)

Where: Live Oak Baptist Church
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Register online at <https://forms.gle/fzM57wKUnjbswG618>

JUNE 1, 2022

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Lady Hornets hone their skills



Gatesville High School softball players and coaches worked with young athletes to help improve their skills during the Gatesville ISD softball camp June 6-8.

SE'VETTE EARLY | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER



Participants in the Gatesville ISD softball camp took part in a variety of drills, including one which helps players secure the softball.

SE'VETTE EARLY | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER



Gatesville High School softball coach Andrea Holdbrook led the Gatesville ISD softball camp for grades 1-9. The event took place June 6-8.

SE'VETTE EARLY | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER