



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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Local residents zapped by higher electric costs

BY JEFF OSBORNE
SENIOR WRITER & EDITOR

A combination of skyrocketing electric bills, the installation of new smart meters, rate increase notifications received by email and a rate request made to the city of Gatesville have some people seeing red when it comes to their utility bills.

Gatesville resident Tommy Welch is among those who say he has been hammered by the recent rise in his electric bills.

Welch said he has seen his bill “triple and quadruple” from about \$200 per month to \$892.

“We’ve got to do something – it ain’t right,” he said. “I have a friend whose bill went up from less than \$100 a month to \$1,200.”

He said he planned to contact representatives of the Public Utility Commission and

anybody who would listen in order to help resolve concerns.

Another local resident, Paige Burkham, told media that her bill for a one bedroom, one bath home increased from \$94 to more than \$600. Included in her bill was a notification of almost \$200 for Texas New Mexico Power delivery.

Over the summer, Texas New Mexico Power (TNMP) replaced many of the old 3G meters throughout Gatesville with 5G meters, and during that same timeframe is when some Gatesville residents saw significant increases on their bills.

TNMP refers customers to its website, which said the NextGen meters were required when “AT&T decommissioned its 3G network, in which more than half of TNMP’s



JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Some are blaming new electric meters for being at least partly responsible for higher electric bills.

PLEASE SEE **ELECTRIC** | A2

Building better behavior in dogs



Madison Davis with CoDa Canine Obedience works with her German Shepherd, Gage, during a presentation to the Gatesville Exchange Club.

JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Local dog training professionals help to curb unwanted behaviors

BY JEFF OSBORNE
SENIOR WRITER & EDITOR

Dogs significantly enrich people’s lives, but sometimes undesired behavior may also cause disruptions and difficulties, which is where CoDa Canine Obedience hopes to make a difference.

Madison Davis and Brooke Coffman, who are members of the CoDa team, talked about the importance of dog training and the positive

impact it plays on people’s relationships with their pets during a presentation to the Gatesville Exchange Club.

“We want to teach dog owners to work effectively with their pets so they can have a more enjoyable relationship,” Madison said. “People sometimes struggle with getting their dog to walk beside them on a

PLEASE SEE **OBEDIENCE** | A2

Arson suspect caught

BY JEFF OSBORNE
SENIOR WRITER & EDITOR

Coryell County Sheriff’s officers arrested a 22-year-old Gatesville man, identified as Payne Stewart De Forest, in connection with fires that were reportedly set at Live Oak Baptist Church and a nearby mobile home.

Gatesville Police Chief Nathan Gohlke said police responded to a structure fire at the church, located at 113 FM 107, about 3:05 p.m. Sept. 3.

“The fire was isolated to the fellowship hall area and was quickly brought under control and extinguished when personnel from the Gatesville Fire Department arrived on the scene.”

About 40 minutes later, Gatesville police officers and deputies with the Coryell County Sheriff’s Office responded to another structure fire at a vacant mobile home in the 300 block of FM 107, just outside the Gatesville city limits.

“While on the scene, officers spoke with a male subject who claimed to have been walking past the church at the time of the fire, and calling 9-1-1 to report it,” Gohlke said. “He also claimed that while continuing to walk home, he saw smoke coming from the mobile home, saying that he entered the mobile home to make sure no one was inside.”

Security video footage from the church was reviewed, Gohlke said, and investigators found that the man who claimed to have reported the fire was captured on video pulling on church doors and attempting to pry open windows just before the fire erupted.

“Video surveillance captured him as he entered the fellowship hall area through a side window, and again as he later exited through a main door,” Gohlke said. “Moments later, smoke can be seen coming from the building.”

Officers identified De Forest, a white male with a Gatesville address, as the suspect. A warrant was issued for his arrest, charging him with arson with intent to damage a place of worship, a first degree felony.

De Forest was arrested about 12:15 p.m. Sept. 7 by Coryell County Sheriff’s deputies, Gohlke said.

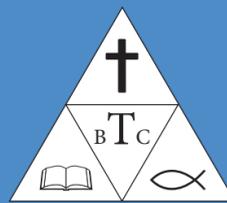


Trinity Baptist Church

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Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship 10:50 am

1506 W. Main Street, Gatesville, TX
Church 865-8495 | Pre-school 248-0041



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.”

ELECTRIC

FROM PAGE A1

meters communicate. "During the meter change-out process, TNMP may have had to estimate some meters for two to three months, during a time in Texas which was seeing unseasonably high temperatures.... "The new meters are tested before installation, and meter reads are accurate." TNMP further states: "A customer's bill may show an estimated amount, which is intended to reflect a normalized consumption based on estimation routines in place. Every effort is made to try to ensure the customer is not charged for any consumption they did not use. If a billing error did occur, TNMP will be cancelling and rebilling. Customers should work through their REPs (retail electric providers) with billing concerns. "However, the issue of higher bills is not directly correlated to the replacement of the meters."

The statement from TNMP said the influx of higher bills is not just one experienced locally: "It's important to note that this issue is happening statewide. Customers throughout the state of Texas have been impacted by higher energy bills, not just those within TNMP service territory." TNMP then provided links to several stories about electric bill increases statewide. More information is available at www.tnmp.com/customers/update-meters. On top of possible fluctuations following installation of the new meters, notices have been sent out alerting people of an increase in electric delivery charges which went into effect Sept. 1. According to one email, the delivery charge from TNMP will increase by \$0.007 per kilowatt hour. "These charges are set by Texas-New Mexico Power Company and approved by the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT)," the email states. "Two important notes about delivery charges: 1. Delivery charges historically change twice per year, typically increasing in September and

decreasing in March, so this increase is likely to be temporary. 2. Delivery charges for your home are the same without regard to which retail energy provider you choose...." In June, the Gatesville City Council suspended a rate increase request from another electric delivery company, Oncor, that would have gone into effect June 17 so that attorneys for the city could look through a 5,000 page statement of intent that Oncor had filed. According to a memorandum given to the Council, Oncor's proposed rate would increase residential rates by 11.2%, which would increase the company's revenue by about \$251 million. The Gatesville area is primarily served by TNMP and Hamilton County Electric Co-Op, but Gatesville City Manager Bill Parry told the Council in June, "When one electric company raises rates, all the others follow suit." Additional action regarding Oncor's request could occur this month following a review by Herrera Law & Associates.

Crime Stoppers seeks assistance

Centex Crime Stoppers seeks help in solving a case of burglary of a building. Sometime within the last 30 days, someone entered a detached garage in the 200 block of Carroll Drive while the homeowner was away. Items reported stolen include a beach cruiser bicycle, along with another bicycle. These bicycles were given to the homeowner by his church. The estimated value of all the stolen items is \$225 to \$400. If you have any information about any case or any local crime, call Centex Crime Stoppers 24 hours a day at 1-254-865-8477 (TIPS) or visit at www.Centexcrimestoppers.org.

OBEDIENCE

FROM PAGE A1

leash, and that's one of the things we can help them with." Madison said CoDa offers a free consultation so that dog owners can determine the type of training and services which best fit their needs. "Dogs are not one size fits all," she said. "One thing I've learned is that just as all dogs are different, you have to be able to work effectively to reach people. We help them to be able to effectively communicate with their dogs in a way the dog understands." Madison graduated from high school in 2018 and started working as a kennel tech for a dog trainer, where she quickly became involved in helping teach both group classes and private lessons. She said she saw the difference that was made,

and she was hooked. Brooke said she started working with dogs as a client. She was having difficulty with a German Shepherd that barked, and sought help. "I'd always been interested in dog training," she said. She was able to work with a trainer in North Carolina who trained police canines, and while she still enjoys doing that kind of specialized training, "my goal is to be able to help people. We get so many people who say they need help and they're in tears. They want to be able to take their dog places, but the dog is not well behaved so they want to change that." Madison said there's not another job that compares to what she is able to do. "I've got the best job in the world - I get to work with dogs all day," she said. "Gatesville has been very kind to us. People here are very sweet, and it's a nice homey place - great country living."

CoDa opened in Gatesville earlier this year, and in addition to general dog obedience, specialized services are also available. Madison said she does diabetic dog training, and she takes about eight dogs a year "because the process is so long." That involves talking to breeders and getting to know puppies early on, giving them an aptitude test and determining their ability, willingness to learn and to do the job. Those dogs receive scent training to detect when blood pressure is very low or very high. "It's a year and a half to two year process and it can be pretty tedious," Madison said. Asked how young a dog can be to receive training, Madison said it's important that a dog get the right socialization before training. "That's where it gets nitty gritty," she said. "People have high expectations for young puppies. We take

in dogs starting at three months but we aren't focusing on obedience at that point. We are laying the foundation. It's so important to socialize a puppy and expose them to different things. She said early training includes crates, potty training, giving the dogs confidence and desensitizing them. "You don't want to treat your dog like a kid - dogs are dogs," Madison said. "Genetics are extremely important (to a dog's behavior). The dogs were bred to do certain things, and you have to work on that behavior." Asked about the most common concerns, Madison said, "Jumping and pulling on the leash are what pays my bills. They are the two most common issues." Part of the problem is that puppies jump and the behavior is considered cute, but that's not a desirable behavior in a full grown dog. Often, the improper behavior is re-

inforced when a dog is younger. Two ways to respond to jumping is for a person to put out one's leg, which puts the dog off balance, and to simply stop giving affection when the dog jumps. Although people are told "you can't teach an old dog new tricks," Madison said older dogs are still able to learn new behaviors. "The oldest dog I ever trained was a rat terrier that was about 10 years old," she said. "I also had great success with an eight-year-old German Shepherd. It had some severe hyper fixation issues. "Do I believe you can teach an old dog new tricks? I have to say yes." The best time to train a dog is when it is about seven to eight months old, but training can be effective at other ages, Madison said. For more information on services available, visit www.codacani-neobedience.com or call 254-294-7906.

**21ST ANNUAL
SPURFEST
AT THE MUSEUM**

**Coryell
Museum
& Historical Center**

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9am-4pm**

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M.A.T.E.S. and National Guard Retirees to hold annual gathering

The sixth annual M.A.T.E.S. and National Guard Retirees Gathering will be held Saturday, Sept. 17. The gathering will commence at 10 a.m. and will continue until 4 p.m. The

location will be at the Mountain Community Center, at the end of Barton Lane. Lunch will begin at noon, and everyone attending is asked to bring at least one potluck dish. All spouses

are invited to attend. Paper goods, cups and plastic ware will be provided along with tea.

For more information, please contact Gene Martin at 254-865-7163.

Class of 1972 sets 50th reunion

The Gatesville High School Class of 1972 has finalized the plans for its 50th class reunion. The reunion event will be held on Saturday, Sept. 24, 2022, from 6-10 p.m. at the Gatesville Civic Center at 301

Veteran's Memorial Loop. A light buffet of finger foods, chips and dips, fruit, and tea and water will be provided.

A class photo will be taken at 7 p.m. Members of the 1971 and 1973 classes,

former teachers, and other friends of the class are encouraged to attend.

For further information, please contact Kathy Sievers at sievers2@aol.com or Keith Steward at keithstew53@gmail.com.

MOUND NEWS

Barbara's great-nieces get Baptized



BARBARA HOPSON

Mound News Correspondent

Truett and Jacklyn Pullen of Rockwall, Brooke Dixon of Liberty Hill and Allie McPherson were baptized Sunday morning Sept. 4, before the Sunday morning worship service at White Mound Baptist Church. There was a big celebration for the young ladies at the home of David and Pam Hopson. Brooke

Dixon, Truett and Jacklyn Pullen are the grandchildren of Kenneth and Nancy Dixon. Allie McPherson is the granddaughter of David and Pam Hopson.

Maria Aggen, Carol Herriage, and Hal and Martha Hopson of Austin visited Saturday with the Hopson family at the home of Barbara Hopson.

Alan McCorkle of Buda and Brian McCorkle visited with their mother, Elizabeth McCorkle.

Kelsey Sage and Natalie Gonzalez hosted the inaugural Skeet Shoot and picnic at their home, the old J.T. Davidson rock house. Those attending were Cotton and Carolyn Davidson; Randy and Tracy Sage; Will, Jasmine and Patrice Davidson; Brenda Martin of Clearwater Beach, Florida; Frank and Susie Hopson; and John Paul, Christina, and Rebekah of Flower Mound.

Christina, Rebekah, and John Stephens visited Sunday afternoon with Martha Lawhorn.

Carolyn and Emma Blakley went to Collinsville Saturday to the wedding of Allison and Dave Lewis.

Carolyn and Emma Blakley spent the day with Neil and Christy Helms in Red Oak and went shopping in Dallas and had lunch.

Ronny, Kay, Amanda, Cora, Caymbri Fisher, Debbie Piller, and Jennifer Miller traveled to Walnut Springs Thursday to watch Brodie play football. He scored three touchdowns and was successful on five of his six extra-point kicks.

Nathaniel and Natalie Eberlein of San Antonio, with their new puppy, spent the long weekend with Christopher and Jennifer Eberlein.

Barbara Hopson was honored on her 62nd birthday with a party given by her family and friends.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

CHURCH FIRE: The fellowship hall of Live Oak Baptist Church sustained extensive damage from a fire on Sept. 3. Although some areas of the church cannot be used, services are still being held in the sanctuary.

Spurfest coming September 17

There will be something for everyone at the 21st edition of Spurfest at the Coryell Museum and Historical Center on Saturday, Sept. 17. The event is free and runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., drawing attention to the city's designation as the "Spur Capital of Texas."

The designation commemorates the massive spur collection of the late Lloyd and Madge Mitchell, which is on display in the museum. Visitors can view about 6,000 out of a collection of 18,000 spurs that are on permanent

display on two floors of the museum. The collection includes spurs worn by Pancho Villa and Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis. The spur collection is recognized as the largest collection of spurs in the United States and perhaps in the world.

Spurfest activities will include Old Time Demonstrations, the Shriners Karem Cowboys in costume, cowboy poetry, a quilt raffle, fresh churned butter, chuck wagon biscuits and gravy, several activities for children, along with live music in

the morning and afternoon.

There is a vintage doctor's office to visit, a beauty shop, general store, post office and a blacksmith shop. Visitors to the museum can also see antique cars, the soda shop, the historic 1854 log jail and view the large collection of spurs.

Coryell Museum and Historical Center is located at 718 E. Main Street. For more information about Spurfest, contact museum president Erv Adams at 254-865-5007 or email coryellmuseumhc@yahoo.com.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

OLD TIME FIDDLERS: Fiddlers prepare for competition to be held September 17 at the Gatesville City Auditorium.

Old Time Fiddlers Contest to be held at City Auditorium Sept. 17

The Gatesville Old Time Fiddlers Contest is making a return appearance on Saturday, Sept. 17, at Gatesville's City Auditorium.

This Texas Old Time Fiddlers Association-sanctioned contest will begin at 1 p.m., drawing top fiddlers from across the state to compete for prizes.

Contestants will compete by age in categories ranging from under 10 years to 60-plus. There will also be competitions for twin fiddles and accompanists, with the day culminating in the championship round, featuring the top fiddlers from the day.

The ending time is expected to be around 6 p.m. but is dependent on the number of overall entries.

Admission is free and spectators are welcome to come and go throughout the day.

The event is presented by the City of Gatesville with funding for fiddler prizes provided by community

supporters. Those interested in sponsorship opportunities or those who would like to be a supporter with a donation, please contact Sherry Hopson at 254-223-3939 or Cheri Shepherd at 254-499-0102. They can also be contacted for details about entering the contest.

The Old Time Fiddlers Contest is one of three free events in downtown Gatesville on Sept. 17.

Residents and visitors are encouraged to view the

custom and classic cars that will line the courthouse square during the Cruzin Cruzers Car Show, visit the Coryell Museum for Spurfest activities, and drop in to hear some good old time fiddle music at the city auditorium.

For those wishing to become a financial supporter of the Old Time Fiddlers Contest, donations starting at \$50 will be accepted or ads can be purchased for the programs starting at \$100.

Moth Night at Mother Neff Park

Texas Parks and Wildlife will be hosting "Moth Night" on Saturday, Oct. 15, from 7-9 p.m. at Mother Neff State Park. The gates will open at 6:45 p.m.

National Moth Week celebrates moths by holding events worldwide. Everyone can become a citizen scientist and contribute scientific data about moths.

Mother Neff State Park is located at 1921 Park Rd. 14 near Moody. This will be a free event and there will not be a park entrance fee.

RETIREMENT AUCTION

ONSITE & ONLINE

Thursday, Sept. 15 • Starts @ 9:03 AM | 22060 Liberty Rd., Morris, OK 74445

For more info & pictures, visit chuppsauction.com | 2-3 rings all day!!

Directions: In Morris, OK at 4-Way Stop/Jct of Hwy 62 & Hwy 52, take Hwy 52 North 5.3 mi to Liberty Road. Turn Right (E). Go 3 mi. Auction on Right (S) of Road. OR, From Hwy 16 & Hwy 52 Jct, take Hwy 52 South 4 mi to Liberty Road. Turn Left (E). Go 3 mi. Auction on Left.

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COURTESY PHOTO

FALL IS IN THE AIR: Fall is described as "the drying up season."

Welcome to autumn



TUMBLEWEED SMITH
Newspaper columnist and producer of *The Sound of Texas* radio series

strong's rendition of "Autumn In New York" are the top two songs about fall. They lighten up the season.

In autumn, the days get shorter. The nights get longer. The sky gets darker, and the sun is lower in the sky, creating shadows in new patterns. At full phase, the fall moon is a big round orange circle when it rises on the eastern horizon.

There is no doubt that trees are a colorful spectacle in the fall. It's kind of nature's final act of the year, like it's been saving it up all year so it could unleash it at the proper time. Someone said autumn has more gold than any other season.

We look forward to cooler weather and get out Grandma's quilt anticipating winter's chill. Light and colorful summer clothing is replaced with darker, heavier wear. A warm breakfast takes the place of cold cereals.

Fall is a time of pumpkins, cinnamon, candy corn, pecans and red apples. It's a time of serenity, nostalgia, reflection, harvest and planning. Birds begin their annual migration. Some go away, others come in. Some just stay.

The puffy white clouds of summer change into long, thin, wispy streaks. And under that sky, with all the activity of the season, there is a stillness, a silence, a reverence that makes us stop and look around and listen to the harmonious rhythm of the changing season.

The autumnal equinox occurs the first day of fall when the sun crosses the equator, and the day and night are of equal length as autumn moves out summer with a gentle nudge.

Happy fall, y'all.

Some people say autumn means the end of summer and all the fun, time to get serious and go back to the ordinary. Others look forward to fall, saying it's colorful and energizing and it's like starting everything all over again.

Personally, I'm with the previous group. I love spring and summer. I looked up the word autumn in the dictionary and its second meaning is "a period of maturity or insipient decline." Another suggests, "the drying up season." To me, fall is foreboding, dark and mysterious. But I try to be positive about it, knowing there's no stopping its annual appearance.

It's the active time of year when big things happen: the World Series, football, symphony concerts, county fairs, long walks, evenings around a fire pit, family gatherings, Halloween, Thanksgiving, the rush toward Christmas. School buses are everywhere taking kids to school and other events. There seems to be more traffic, more coming and going, people doing things and going places.

Nat King Cole's "Autumn Leaves" along with Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Arm-

Cruzin Cruzers car show to be held on courthouse square September 17

The Cruzin Cruiser Club will be holding its 36th annual car show on the courthouse square in Gatesville on Sept. 17.

There will be a \$100 cash drawing for pre-register-

ing. Pre-register online (cruzincruzers.com).

The Cruzin Cruiser Club, formerly known as Coryell County Pickups Unlimited, held its first show on the Coryell County Train

Depot parking lot with only 22 entries. This year the Cruzin Cruzers will have more than 65 award plaques.

For more information about the event contact

Tracy Semmel at 254-216-3319 (after 5 p.m.), Lavinia Shelton at 254-493-1371, or the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce at 254-865-2617.

Diabetes program set to start in October

Be Well with Diabetes is a program for people with Type 2 Diabetes. It is a 5-week program that explores a new topic each week. Get the facts from diabetic experts and professional educators, ask the questions you want answered, get the encouragement you need to make positive changes and meet others who have the same concerns you do.

Classes will be held on

Thursdays Oct. 6 through Nov. 3, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the McLennan County Extension Office, located at 4224 Cobbs Dr., Waco, TX 76710. These classes are offered free of charge.

For more information and/or register, please contact Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service for McLennan County at 254-757-5180 or email Colleen Foleen at colleen.foleen@ag.tamu.edu.

Slater Cemetery workday October 1

Slater Cemetery will be hosting a workday, meeting and lunch on Sat. Oct. 1, at 9 a.m. Make sure to bring your work gloves, a chair and a dish to share. If you will not be able to at-

tend, you may donate to the Slater Cemetery Association, Bancorp South, P.O. Box 779, Gatesville, TX 76528. For any further information contact Lee Campbell at 254-216-3642.

CCGS meet Sept. 13

The Coryell County Genealogical Society's guest speaker for its Sept. 13 meeting will be Coryell County Clerk Jennifer Newton.

The program will cover the records available at the county clerk's office for family historians and genealogists. Basic records

of birth, death, and marriage are the backbone of genealogical and historical research, but there are many other county records that provide valuable information.

The public is welcome to attend the 6 p.m. meeting, in the conference room at the Gatesville Public Library.

Rabbit Extravaganza September 17 at Expo

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office announced that the Texas 4-H will be presenting the 2022 State-wide Rabbit Extravaganza on Saturday, Sept. 17 at the Bell County Expo Center. Registration will be open until Sept. 13.

This statewide competition is open to enrolled Texas 4-H members of official 4-H age. The extrava-

ganza will include educational workshops, rabbit shows, rabbit photography, art contests and youth contests.

The Expo Center is located at 301 W. Loop 121 Belton, Texas 76513. For further information regarding this event, please contact Shelly.Franklin@ag.tamu.edu or visit texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/rabbits/

T-ville Cemetery Assn. meeting September 13

The third quarterly meeting of the Turnersville Community Cemetery Association will be held Tuesday, September 13th

at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Turnersville Community Center and is open to the public.

The DISPATCH

The following is a partial breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of Sept. 3 - 6. 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

Sept. 3

8:51 a.m., a brush/grass fire was reported in the 200 block of Rolling Hills Road.

3:02 p.m., a structure fire was reported in the 100 block of FM 107.

5:42 p.m., a theft was reported in the 1400 block of Mills Street.

Sept. 4

2:11 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 300 block of FM 107.

5:25 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2400 block of E. Main Street.

9:11 p.m., a noise disturbance was reported in the 100 block of Airport Road.

Sept. 5

10:39 a.m., animal cruelty was reported in the 100 block of N. 30th Street.

1:27 p.m., a brush/grass fire was reported in the 400

block of Rainer Road.

6:13 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of Old Pidcocke Road.

Sept. 6

2:28 p.m., a vehicle fire was reported in the 7000 block of N. State Hwy. 36.

4:13 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 2500 block of Powell Drive.

9:22 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 300 block of Veteran's Memorial Loop.

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CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sept. 3

10:04 a.m., a minor accident was reported on N. Hwy. 36 at Hay Valley Road. 2:47 p.m. a theft was reported in the 500 block of E. Leon Street.

6:30 p.m., a burglary of a habitation was reported in the 8700 block of E. Hwy. 84.

10:23 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 600 block of CR 281.

Sept. 4

2:08 a.m., a domestic disturbance was reported in the 300 block of FM 107.

3:31 a.m., a threat was reported in the 300 block of FM 107.

4:18 a.m., suspicious activity was reported on CR 106 and CR 102.

8:12 p.m., shots being fired was reported in the 100 block of Old Pidcocke Road.

Sept. 5

9:33 a.m., a structure fire was reported in the 5800 block of Mother Neff Parkway.

12:54 p.m., an out-of-control burn was reported in the 100 block of Cedar Mountain Road.

3:08 p.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 400 block of Thomas Street.

4:16 p.m., a grass fire was reported in the 2100 block of CR 128.

Sept. 6

9:05 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 4300 block of FM 1113.

1:32 p.m., illegal burning was reported on FM 929.

2:07 p.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported in the 14000 block of S. Hwy. 36.

4:14 p.m., harassment was reported in the 600 block of King Country Road.

Recent marriage licenses filed at Coryell County Courthouse

Marriage licenses filed during August 2022 in the Coryell County Clerk's Office included:

Brian Eugene Akerstrom and Lara Elizabeth Brown, Joshua Taylor Amburgey and Joleen Brenda Young, Ian José Colon Maldonado and Samantha Katherine Guentzel, Thomas MacGregor Denson and Christine Grace Saari, Albert Jo AJ Rosario Dizon and Ashley Olvera, Thurman

Carroll Estes and Annette Ray, Kalub James Flores and Kimberly Marie Crimmino, Peyton Lynn Hanshaw and Amy Marie Walters, Sheldon Scott Howard and Jessica Nicole Milsap, Craig Anthony Laughrin and Joanna Ocbena Bantillo, Johnathan Moreno and Alexis Shanice Capetillo, Raul Francisco Nin Gravely and Fanny Michelly Lozano Quezada, Billy Joe Pafford and Brooke Nicole

Herring, Austin James Reeves and Karen Daniela Benitez Cely, Scott James Sterba, Jr. and Kacie Lauren Curtis, Andrew Albert Suratt and Angela Lynn Anderson, Allan Dewayne Thrasher and Hannah Marie McRaney, Rashaud Antonio White and Katherine Ann Myers, Joshua Adrian Wyrick and Tanya Nicole McAnulty.

CenTex Beef Symposium to be held September 23 in Morgan

The CenTex Beef Cattle Program is an annual nine-county educational program that rotates each year to a site within one of the host counties. The Beef and Forage Committees within these counties are dedicated in identifying issues and needs that will economically benefit cattle and forage production in Central Texas.

The 14th Annual CenTex Beef Cattle Program will be held on Friday, Sept. 23, at the W4 Ranch, located at 1809 FM 927 in Morgan,

Texas. Registration is at 8 a.m. and the program starts at 8:30 p.m. A variety of Ag Commercial Vendor booths will be set up to visit before, during and after the program. Door prizes will be drawn throughout the day.

The 2022 program includes the following topics: Chute side Etiquette, Feeding with Limited Forages, Pasture Management & Restoration, Bull Selection Using EPDs, Wildlife & Hunting and Beef Cattle Market Updates. This program will offer 1 Pesticide

CEU. Registration fee of \$20 is payable at the door. Registration includes breakfast and steak lunch.

Those interested in attending must contact their county extension office to RSVP no later than Sept. 21. Hosted by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Beef & Forage Committees in Bell, Bosque, Coryell, Falls, Hamilton, Hill, Johnson, Limestone and McLennan Counties. To RSVP in Bosque County, please call 254-435-2331 or online at bosque.agrilife.org.

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Gatesville Hornet varsity football



COURTESY PHOTO

The Gatesville Hornet football team is hoping for a return trip to the playoffs in 2022 under the direction of new head coach Aaron Hunter.

Hornets have high hopes despite challenging schedule

While the defending state champion China Spring Cougars and Lorena Leopards are not on the Gatesville football schedule for 2022, plenty of others teams with talent and winning traditions are on the slate, presenting a strong challenge for the Hornets.

One of the most talented non-district foes on the Hornets schedule was Glen Rose, which is ranked in the top 10 state-wide and has experienced significant success over the last several years.

After a 1-1 start that included a thrilling come-from-behind road win over the Taylor Ducks, the Hornets fell to the Glen Rose Tigers in week two before facing McGregor, Godley and Mineral Wells to close out non-district play.

However, it's the district slate, which starts Oct. 7, that will determine whether Gatesville can extend its season into the playoffs.

Dave Campbell's Texas Football magazine, the annual sum-

mer season preview football publication, predicted that the Hornets would earn a playoff berth, but listed Gatesville as the fourth place team in a five-team district.

If that forecast held true, it could mean another brutal test in the first round, something that has been all too familiar for Gatesville, which fell to state powerhouse Carthage in the opening round of the 2021 playoffs.

Texas Football predicted that Salado would earn the top spot in District 11-4A, Division II, and while the Eagles might very well do that, the Connally Cadets are also off to a strong start, as well.

District 11-4A teams were a combined 8-2 through the first two games of the year, with Salado, Connally and Robinson all sporting 2-0 records and Gatesville and Madisonville both 1-1.

Salado hammered Fredricksburg 53-17 to start the season and then outscored Rudder, 38-28.

Connally, meanwhile, mauled Mexia 65-20 and then edged powerhouse La Vega, 35-34, in a thriller.

Robinson edged University High School in the opener, 17-15, and then manhandled Caldwell, 35-7.

Madisonville trampled Diboll 42-0 in the first game of the year before falling 27-21 to a stout Navasota team.

Any of the teams in the district are capable of a strong showing every week, so it should be a constant battle.

That's fitting for a Gatesville team that has adopted "On the Anvil" as its slogan, because it will be a tough weekly test.

"Our players will strive through difficult situations on the field just like people face adversity in life," Gatesville head coach Aaron Hunter said. "Life is hard. Being a husband, wife or parent is hard. You're going to face hardship and adversity. There are important life lessons these kids can get through football, to keep going when things are tough in life. You have to rally through on the anvil."

Good luck on a great season!

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Good Luck!

Gatesville Hornet varsity volleyball



SE'VETTE EARLY | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

The Gatesville Hornet volleyball team returns plenty of talent and experience and is poised to make another playoff run under the guidance of coach Janey Weber.

Hornets seeking another return to playoffs this season

Success is a tradition for the Gatesville Hornet volleyball program, which is looking to extend its streak of qualifying for the playoffs to 20 straight seasons.

The Hornets are off to a good start, but will face a stout district this season with China Spring, La Vega, Connally, Robinson and Salado.

District competition is scheduled to begin on Friday, Sept. 23 against Robinson and end

on Oct. 25 with Senior/Parents Night against La Vega.

Members of the varsity team include seniors Khloe Mathews, Lola Barron, Charlee Barron, Rachel Garrett, juniors Barrett Boyd and Laura Trejo, sophomores Vania Martinez and Ally Penrod and freshman Emma Pollard.

Gatesville was 29-10 last season and lost to the Graham Lady Blues in the opening round of the playoffs.

GHS coach Janey Weber said the Hornets have a strong group that will fight hard each game.

"I feel like this team is very motivated and enthusiastic, and we are really close - like a family," she said. "They feed off each other."

Although the team lost some outstanding athletes from the 2021 season, Weber said

this group is one that can step up to the challenge.

After a Sept. 9 game against Jarrell, the Hornets were scheduled to travel to Lampasas on Sept. 13, host Burnet on Sept. 16 and then travel to Marble Falls on Sept. 20 to close out non-district competition.

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Oglesby football



The 2022 Oglesby Tigers football team.

COURTESY PHOTO BY HEATHER HITT

Oglesby volleyball



The 2022 Oglesby Tigers volleyball team.

COURTESY PHOTO BY HEATHER HITT

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Tigers start year with two wins

Following a season-opening 46-38 win against Penelope on Aug. 26, the Oglesby Tigers notched another victory, dominating the Walnut Springs' Hornets 46-0 on Sept. 1.

Oglesby was next scheduled to play the Covington Owls in a Sept. 9 home game.

According to MaxPreps, Hunter Walter is leading the Tigers with 284 total yards, followed by Brodie Fisher with 218.

Fisher is also leading the team with seven touchdowns for the year and has a team-leading 53 receiving yards per game, along with one interception on defense.

J. Gonzales is listed as the Tigers' leading tackler, with an average of 10.5 tackles per game.

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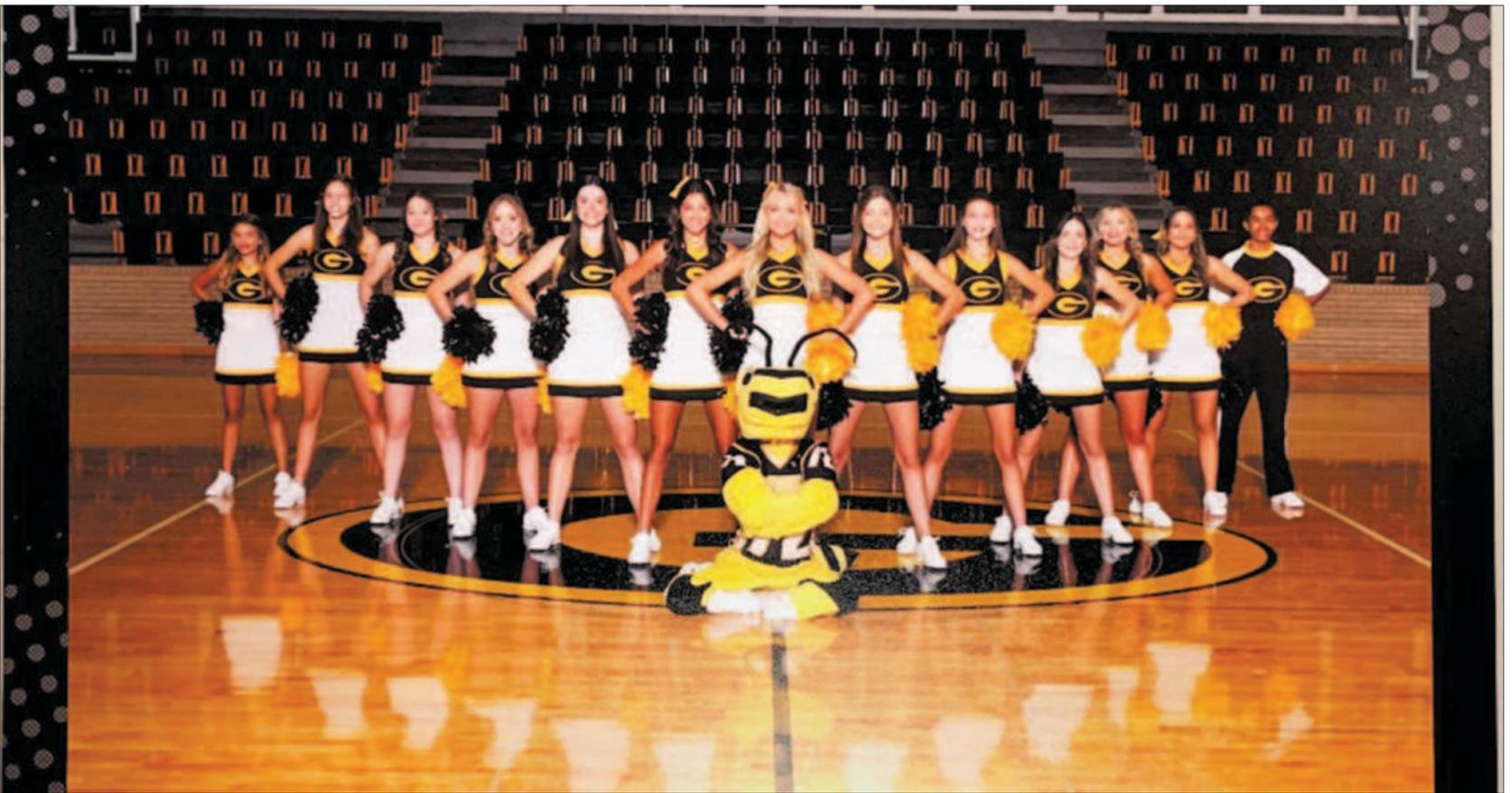
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Gatesville High School cheerleaders



The Gatesville High School 2022 varsity cheerleaders.

COURTESY PHOTO

Gatesville High School Dazzlers



The Gatesville High School 2022 Dazzlers dance team.

COURTESY PHOTO

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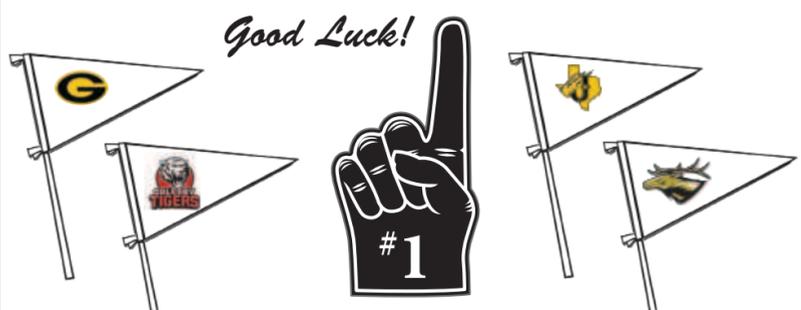
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Good Luck!



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Jonesboro football



COURTESY PHOTO

The 2022 Jonesboro Eagles football team is hoping to build on a strong tradition.

DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

CHECK PRESENTATION: This marks the seventeenth year The Gatesville Messenger has partnered with the GHS football program and local advertisers to create the Gatesville Hornets football poster. Within that time, the football program has received over \$57,000 in contributions from their joint efforts. Marketing Consultant for The Gatesville Messenger, Bailey Dickie, pictured right, is shown presenting GHS head football coach, Aaron Hunter, with a check from the proceeds.



PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

<p>GATESVILLE HORNETS #17 Trevor Smith 9 receptions 110 receiving yards 1 touchdown</p>	<p>JONESBORO EAGLES #11 Jacob Cisneros 46 rushing yards; 11 carries 3 solo tackles 1 passing touchdown</p>
<p>EVANT ELKS Unavailable as of press time</p>	<p>OGLESBY TIGERS #7 Brodie Fisher 75 receiving yards 41 rushing yards; 3 tackles 3 touchdowns</p>

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Best wishes for a super season, Eagles!!

Jonesboro Independent School District

Evant football



The 2022 Evant Elks are looking to turn the tables in district play this season.

COURTESY PHOTO

Evant volleyball



Returning talent and experience has the 2022 Evant volleyball team primed for a big season.

COURTESY PHOTO

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BAPTIST

BETHEL HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH: 3835 CR 127, Gatesville; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m.

BETHLEHEM PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH: Elder, Hugh Montgomery, pastor; Peabody community 5 miles south of Pearl, 4555 FM 1690, Gatesville; Sunday services - Morning worship 4th Sunday each month at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH: Steven L. Bogan, pastor; Hwy. 84 and FM 116; Sunday services - Bible study 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m., evening worship 6:30 p.m.

CANAAN BAPTIST CHURCH: Jim Keever, senior pastor; 177 Coryell City Road, Crawford; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m., Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

COLD SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH: Bob Phillips, pastor; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m., evening worship 5:30 p.m.

EASTWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH: Lynn Parks, pastor; 2518 East Main, Gatesville; Sunday services - Sunday School 9:45 a.m., morning worship 10:50 a.m.; Wednesday evening services, 6 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF EVANT: Dane Barron, pastor; 200 Live Oak Street, Evant; Sunday services - Sunday School 9:45 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m., adult Bible study 6 p.m.; Wednesday services - kids' and youth Bible study 6 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF FLAT: 9775 TX-36, Gatesville; Sunday School 9 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.; Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 7 p.m.; Wednesday Youth Group & Kid Knights 7 p.m.; Wednesday Supper first Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m.; Men's Breakfast second Saturday of each month at 7:30 a.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF GATESVILLE: 912 E. Main Street, Gatesville; Sunday services - Sunday School 9:30 a.m., morning worship 10:45 a.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF OGLESBY: 120 College Ave., Oglesby, Tx 76561; Sunday morning services - Sunday School 10:00 am, Worship 11:00 am; Wednesday evenings - supper at 5:40 pm, Kids & Youth Group 6:00 pm, Prayer meeting 6:00 pm; Jeremy Sanders, Pastor.

GATEWAY BAPTIST CHURCH: Michael Bragdon, Pastor; 2819 South Hwy. 36, Gatesville; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m., evening worship 1:30 p.m.; Wednesday Service 7:00 p.m.

HARMONY BAPTIST CHURCH: A.C. Painter, pastor; 1750 FM 215, Gatesville; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m., evening worship 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday evening worship 6:30 p.m.

HAY VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH: 3110 Hay Valley Road, off Hwy 36 North. Sunday morning services - Sunday School 10:00 am, Worship 11:00 am. AWANA children's ministry Sunday evening 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Bible Study for men and women on Wednesday at 6:30 pm.

JONESBORO BAPTIST CHURCH: Matt Dossey, pastor; 11420 North State Hwy. S, Jonesboro; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 10:50 a.m.

KING BAPTIST CHURCH: Charles W. McKamie, pastor; 6730 FM 1783, Gatesville; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m., evening worship 6 p.m.

LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH: Royse T. Cockrell, DMin., Pastor; Corner of FM 107 & HWY 36, Gatesville; Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Morning Service 11:00 a.m., Second Service 1:00 p.m., Family Bible Study Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.

LIVE OAK BAPTIST CHURCH: Bro. Ken Laney, pastor; 113 FM 107, Gatesville; Sunday services - Sunday School 9:15 a.m., morning worship 10:30 a.m., Wed. evening Adult, Youth and Children's Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH: Rev. Kurt Fuessel, pastor; 6319 US-84, Gatesville; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m., evening worship 6 p.m. Prayer meeting 7:00 p.m. Wednesday.

OSAGE BAPTIST CHURCH: Chris Thomas, pastor; 7505 FM 185, Gatesville; Sunday services - Sunday

Three Words to Live By



If you want to live and be well, then you should be generous, calm, and virtuous. Being generous can be difficult for those of us who have the virtues of the squirrel, storing up food for the winter by burying our acorns. It's good to save some of what we earn, but it's also important to be generous with what we have. It can be difficult to be calm in the noisy, jangling disarray of modern life. We live in a technological pandemonium of buzzers and bells that seem designed to sabotage our equanimity. There are many ways to cultivate calmness, from prayer and meditation, to time management and a firm resolve to practice patience. And while we have to cultivate and practice that inner quietude of spirit in order to be truly calm, it really does help to quiet the outer bells and whistles. Turn off the television and silence the cell phone, and you will begin to understand why "silence is golden." Finally, the surest and most direct route to living well and truly being well is by living virtuously. Only those who are kind, and generous, and genuinely trying to be the best that they can be are truly living well.

— Christopher Simon

"One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous person will prosper; whoever refutes others will be refuted."
— Proverbs 11: 24-25 NIV

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PEARL COUNTRY CHURCH: 2082 FM 1690, Gatesville; Sunday morning worship 10 a.m.

PECAN GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH: 6545 FM 107, Gatesville; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m.

PIDCOKE BAPTIST CHURCH: Donald McConaughay, pastor; 11125 FM 116, Gatesville; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., worship service 11 a.m. www.pidcokebaptist.com

PLEASANT VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH: Chris Post, Pastor; CR 301, Jonesboro, TX; Sunday school at 10 a.m. and Sunday worship at 11 a.m.

PRIMERO IGLESIA EMANUEL: One mile north of Evant, Hwy. 281; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m.

PURMELA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH: 875 FM-932, Purlmela; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m.

SWEET HOME BAPTIST CHURCH: 511 North 14th, Gatesville; Sunday services - Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Sunday morning worship 11 a.m.; Wednesday services - Wednesday evening worship 7 p.m.

SPANISH BAPTIST CHURCH: Ezequiel Casas, pastor; 113 Veazy Drive, Gatesville; Sunday Services; Sunday School 10:00 a.m., worship 11:00 a.m., Wednesday Prayer Meeting 6:00 p.m.

TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH: 1506 West Main, Gatesville; Sunday services - Sunday School 9:30 a.m., morning worship 10:50 a.m. Wednesday night services - activities for adults, youth, and children 6:30 p.m. Email: trinitybaptist@centurylink.net. Church: 254-865-8495 or Pre-school: 254-248-0041.

TURNERSVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH: Jon Crosby, Pastor; 8120 FM 182, Gatesville; Sunday services - Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m., Wednesday night Bible study, 6 p.m.

WESTVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH: Interim Pastor: Eddie Taylor; 1102 West Main Street, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m.

WHITE HALL BAPTIST CHURCH: Mike Barron, pastor; 2040 CR 238, Gatesville; Sunday school at 10 a.m.; Sunday morning worship services 11 a.m.; 254-679-3200.

WHITE MOUND BAPTIST CHURCH: Bruce Cox, pastor; 2417 East Main, Gatesville; Sun. services - Sun. School 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m. **MOUND COWBOY CHURCH** Bruce Cox, pastor; 2417 East Main, Gatesville; Sunday services - morning worship 9 a.m., Sunday school 9:30 a.m. Men's breakfast every third Saturday of the month at 8 a.m. For more info. and location, call 254-865-5908.

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CHURCH OF CHRIST

CEDAR RIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST: Deral McWhorter, minister; 104 Cedar Ridge, Gatesville; Sunday services - Morning worship 10 a.m., evening worship 6 p.m.

EVANT CHURCH OF CHRIST: Will Vann, Preacher; 310 West Brooks Drive, Evant; Sunday services-Bible Study 9:30 a.m., morning worship 10:20 a.m., evening worship 12:30 p.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

FORT GATES CHURCH OF CHRIST: 4605 St. Hwy. 36 South, Gatesville; Sunday services - Morning worship 10:30 a.m.

GATESVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST: Justin Hall, minister; 2417 East Main, Gatesville; Sunday Bible class 9:30 a.m., morning service 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Bible classes 6:30 p.m.

LA IGLESIA DE CRISTO: 2413 East Main, Gatesville; clases y servicios en Español, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Solamente en domingos.

MIDWAY CHURCH OF CHRIST: 1955 CR 3640, Copperas Cove, TX 76522; Sunday 9:30 a.m. Bible Study, 10:30 a.m. Worship; Wednesdays 5:30 p.m. Bible Study; Royce 512-734-5390 or Steve 254-865-3559.

PEARL CHURCH OF CHRIST: 6790 FM 183, Pearl; Sunday services - morning worship 10:30 a.m.

CHURCH OF GOD

CORNERSTONE, Greg Demmitt, pastor; 338 State School Road, Gatesville; Sunday services - morning worship 11 a.m. www.facebook.com/pages/cornerstone/140632994733

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LUTHERAN

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH: David Reedy, International Interim Pastor; 922 Lutheran Church Rd. in Copperas Cove; Sunday morning Bible Study at 9:15 a.m.; Sunday morning worship at 10:30 a.m.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH: Rev. Christopher Richman, PhD; 10801 FM 929, Gatesville, Coryell City; Sunday services - Morning worship 9 a.m., Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH: Rev. John Heckmann, pastor; Hwy. 36 and FM 1114, The Grove; Sunday services - Sunday School 9 a.m., worship 10:15 a.m.

METHODIST

BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: Sunday services - 11 am. 2nd & 4th Sundays. 2 miles north of Ireland on FM 932.

EVANT METHODIST CHURCH: 235 US-281, Evant, Dennis Dutton, Pastor; Sunday morning worship 10 a.m.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GATESVILLE: 2600 E. Main Street, Gatesville; Stephen Schmidt, pastor; Sunday worship - 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. WEDNESDAY WORD: Meal at 5:30 p.m. \$3; youth, Children and Adult Bible Studies at 6:00 p.m. AA meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6:30 p.m. Visit us at fumcgatesville.org for more information.

JONESBORO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: 101 CR 193; Rita Holz, Pastor; Sunday services - 11 a.m., each 1st and 3rd Sunday.

OGLESBY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: Robin Ford, pastor; 109 College Street, Oglesby; Sunday services - morning worship 9:45 a.m., Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

PIDCOKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: Bill Jones, Pastor; Hwy. 116 North, Pidcoke; Worship service Sundays at 10 a.m. 254-677-6242.

MORMON

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LATTER-DAY SAINTS: 206 South 26th Street, Gatesville; Sunday services - Sacrament services 10 a.m., Sun. School 10 a.m.

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CHRISTIAN LIFE CHURCH: Frank Rosenstern, pastor; Hwy. 84 West; Sunday services, 10:30 a.m.; Thursday services, 7:00 p.m.

CORYELL COMMUNITY CHURCH: Daniel

Crowther, Pastor; 115 N. Levita Rd., Gatesville, 248-0849. Sunday Worship services 9am & 10:30 a.m. Wednesday services 6pm; Adult Bible Study, Children's Ministry and C3 Student Ministry.

CORYELL FELLOWSHIP CHURCH: Doran Belknap III, Pastor; Sunday service 11:00 a.m., 8205 FM 182, Turnersville; (254) 218-5901.

COVER2COVER MINISTRIES: Pastor: Rev. Brandy Spiker, Sunday morning service 10 a.m., Sunday evening service 6 p.m., Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m. 1409 West Main, Gatesville.

GATESVILLE REVIVAL CENTER: Wes Covey, Pastor; Sunday school 10:00 a.m., Sunday morning 11:00 a.m., Sunday evening 6 p.m., Thursday evening 7 p.m. 2518 Bridge St., Gatesville.

GRACE ASSEMBLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH: Wray Nunn, pastor; Sunday morning worship at 10:30 a.m. & Wednesday evening worship at 6:30 p.m. at Gateway Learning Center, 2315 Osage Road, Gatesville.

GRACE BIBLE CHURCH: Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. and Sunday Services at 10:45 a.m. 4012 US Hwy. 84, Gatesville.

HARVESTING SOULS INTERNATIONAL CHURCH: Mike & Martha Johnson pastors, 503 N. 11th Street, Gatesville, 865-6222. Sunday morning worship 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study Ministries (Men, Women, children) 6:00 p.m. "Overcomers" a TDC and state approved 12-step recovery program meets Tuesday 6:00 p.m.

JOHNNY WATKIN'S MEN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS: Sundays, 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. aqui se reunen La Iglesia de Cristo, in the 2400 Block of East Main Street, Gatesville.

LEVITA BIBLE FELLOWSHIP: Peter M. Mafwal, Pastor; 4460 FM 930, Levita; Sunday Bible Study at 9:45 a.m.; morning worship at 10:45 a.m.

MOTHER NEFF FAITH TABERNACLE: William Bertelsen, Pastor; 1415 Texas Hwy. 236; Sunday services - 10:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.

PEARL COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP: 6735 FM 183, Pearl. Sunday Services- 9:00 a.m.

THE HOUSE THAT GOD BUILT: Bill Trotter, pastor; 3412 E. Main Street, Gatesville; Sunday service 11 a.m., Wednesday service 7 p.m.

PENTECOSTAL

TABERNACLE OF PRAISE UPC: Rev. Jimmy Skiles, pastor; 202 E. Main, Gatesville; Worship services - Sunday mornings at 10:00 am; Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm; www.gatesvilletop.org. 254-206-1826.

MOUNT CALVARY CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST: Rev. Lee O. Ford, pastor; 128 North 12th Street, Gatesville; Sunday services - Sunday School 9:45 a.m., worship 11 a.m., weekly services, Wed. Bible Study 6:30p.m.-7:30 p.m., Wed. night service, 7:30p.m.

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THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: Rev. Dr. Buddy Wheat, pastor; 1110 E. Main, Gatesville; Sunday services - Sunday School 9:45 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m.

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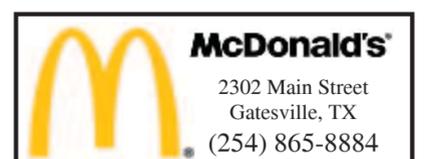
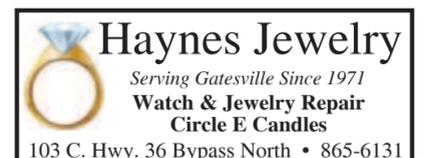
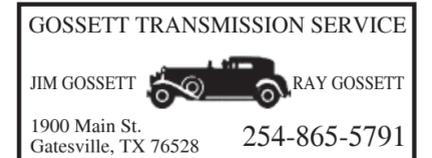
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099
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070
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- ▶ 10.01 acres west of Hamilton, TX, CR 607. The property has electricity, great views, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, Lot no. 1 in the Bluff View Subdivision. \$139,500
- ▶ 10.01 Acres, Lot 20 Phase 4 Rio Escondido north of Evant, TX. Good tree cover, great views. \$150,000
- ▶ 10.01 Acres, Lot 28 Phase 4 Rio Escondido north of Evant, TX. Good tree cover, great views. \$200,000
- ▶ 17 acres, FM 929 Frontage & CR 255 frontage. Good views, approx. 8 acres of Coastal Bermuda, Coryell City Water & electric are along CR 255. \$175,000
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In third year, Smith leading Hornets receiving corps

BY CHRIS ALLMAN
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

Trevor Smith is no stranger to the lights of Friday night. For two seasons, he has shined in his role in big games from Gatesville to San Angelo to Hillsboro and back.

In the 2020 season finale, he caught a 65-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Luke Mullins en route to a 46-37 win over Pecos in San Angelo. The game was a late add to the schedule after the Hornets' playoff game against Carthage was cancelled due to COVID-19.

In 2021, en route to an All-District selection, Smith was a major factor in two particular Hornet battles.

First, he teamed up with quarterback Wesley Brown for six catches, 69 yards and a touchdown in a 40-6

route of Hillsboro.

Then, in the Hornets' stirring, near-miss comeback against Connally last season, Smith had six catches for 28 yards and a score. But it was his score that didn't count that Hornet fans have committed to memory.

Down 47-45, Smith was on the receiving end of a clear game-tying two-point conversion that was ruled short of the goal line by the officials. Following the game, Smith was adamant that he was in end zone. That was later confirmed by numerous photos and video.

"That was tough," said Smith after the game. "I was in, the zebras got it wrong."

It's no coincidence that when the Hornets put up big offensive numbers, Smith is a big part.

With those experiences on his resume, it's also no coincidence

that through two games of the 2022 season, he's emerged as Jacob Newkirk's most trusted - and explosive - target.

In the season opening 22-21 win against Taylor, he had five catches for 37 yards and the Hornets' first score of the season. It was also the first touchdown pass of Newkirk's varsity career and seemed to ease the nerves of the junior signal-caller.

In Friday's 48-14 loss to Glen Rose, Smith had the best night of his three seasons with nine catches, 110 yards and a touchdown. It was the first 100-yard receiving game of his career.

It was also a potential sign of things to come for the Hornets' offense.

"Newkirk has settled in very well with our team and especially with me. The guy can throw on a dime

and our relationship on the field grew during 7-on-7," Smith said.

Through two games, Smith has caught nearly half (14) of Newkirk's 36 pass completions. He's averaging 10.5 yards per catch.

But when asked about how the game has changed since he was a sophomore in 2020, he points more to his role as teammate than he does his development as a play-maker.

"I've realized that the game of football isn't just about myself," he said "My sophomore year I was always worried about my own stats and health. Now I just want to go play for my teammates and lay all my effort out on the field."

Those efforts - and stats - have helped lead the Hornets to one win so far this season. Should they continue, Hornet fans can expect quite a few more.



Trevor Smith



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

SHOWING SUPPORT: Gatesville Primary School, pictured above, and other campuses showed their support to the Uvalde community by wearing maroon on Tuesday. This marked their school's return to their classrooms after the May 24 massacre that left 19 children and two teachers dead at Robb Elementary School. Maroon and white are their school district's colors.

FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Food lockers — another reason to appreciate modern world



SAM HOUSTON
Sam Houston is a publisher, actor, author, playwright, performer and entertainment producer/promoter.

Recently, I wrote a column about the use of bank "counter checks," and I got quite a few responses from older readers who remembered using them to make transactions. I also received comments from young readers who could not imagine business being conducted in such a way. It got me to thinking about another business process that has long gone by the wayside. Do any of you remember "the food locker?"

Folks nowadays are either are too young to remember or may have simply forgotten, modern conveniences we now take for granted were not common 60 or 80 years ago. In the 1940s, not everyone in Texas had running water, nor indoor toilets. Few people would have had a phone, and there were many who did not yet have electricity.

While electricity was common in big cities, the expense of running power lines to remote parts of rural Texas was prohibitive. Even if electricity was available in a small rural town, poles and wire had not yet been set to run power to all areas. Folks went about their business and lived happy lives, but they had to handle everyday chores quite a bit differently than how we do things nowadays. Life back then was more difficult

and time-consuming.

Out of necessity, rural folks would build a well house where they would keep food items that needed to be kept in surroundings to prevent spoiling. The well house would be dug below ground level, where the temperature would be cooler. This was no replacement for refrigeration, but it was the best alternative available.

Lack of refrigeration is why fresh meat was frequently cured or smoked. Meat was also canned so it would be available for use many months later. No one had household refrigerators to keep meat fresh and certainly no way to freeze a large quantity of meat for later use.

When electricity and refrigeration came to rural America, it changed how people went about keeping meat. In many small towns, the local butcher would install a big walk-in freezer. The butcher would hang his meat in the freezer to keep it from going bad but would also rent space inside the refrigerated room to the locals. Folks either bought meat from the butcher or butchered their own meat and would pay a rental fee to store their meat in a "locker" in the freezer.

I can remember my grandmother going to Farrell's Meat Market and Locker Storage. She would be permitted to walk behind the counter, step into the freezer, and using her key to open her locker space, she would retrieve a package of meat to take home and cook. The grandparents could not afford a freezer and so there was no other alternative to keep fresh meat for an extended period. I do not recall hearing how much the storage cost, but it could not have been much. I know Grandma had to plan her meals and food needs in advance because "blue laws" were in effect at the time, so the meat locker would not be open on Sunday.

I was maybe 5 or 6 when the grandparents finally saved enough money to purchase a freezer. The day it was delivered was a big deal, with a lot of smiles and joy. I remember getting in the pickup and going with Granddad to the food locker to get all the stored meat and bring it home. I think I was most impressed with playing in the big cardboard box the freezer was delivered in, but I could certainly see the joy in Grandma's eyes that she no longer had to make a trip to town several times a week to retrieve meat.

Over the next few years, more and more home freezers were manufactured, and the purchase price declined, making them affordable to most people. Eventually, the food locker was no longer necessary. As electricity was made available to an increasing number of rural Americans, electric washing machines followed the freezer, and even television!

I wonder what invention will arrive in the next 20 years that will change our current lifestyle?

Thought for the day: Never look back unless you are planning to go that way. Until next time. sam@hcnnews.com | 817-573-7066, ext. 260

LOCKERS FOR RENT



Decades ago, before home freezers were common, the use of food lockers was just a part of life.

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Hornets fall to top 10 Glen Rose Tigers

BY CHRIS ALLMAN
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

Trevor Smith caught nine passes for 110 yards and a score and Kason Herbelin hauled in his first touchdown pass of the year but it wasn't enough as the Gatesville Hornets dropped their home opener 48-14 to Glen Rose on Friday.

The Tigers (2-0) came into the game ranked No. 8 in the most recent 4A Division II poll and quickly showed why their ranking was more than justified. They jumped out to a 21-0 first quarter lead and never looked back thanks to the arm and feet of quarterback Hudson White.

"They're a good team. Give Glen Rose a lot of credit. They do what they do really well," said head coach Aaron Hunter.

Hunter noted that every game allows his staff to identify and correct mistakes and that the Glen Rose game was a good one for his team to measure progress as well as set a course for the rest of the season and for the program.

"We got to see a top 10 team in the state. Now we can go sit back down and say 'this is where we want to get to'. They are like a district opponent or a playoff opponent. This is who we need to get used to playing and beating," he said.

For the second week in a row, the Hornets (1-1) were scoreless in the first quarter but, for the second week in a row, found an offensive rhythm after halftime. Hunter noted that he and his staff recognize a need to start quicker offensively and avoid deficits.

If the Hornets are going to advance to the playoffs and win their first playoff game since 2015, they will need their offense to click like it did in the second half. That will likely entail a lot of balls thrown in the direction of Trevor Smith, the Hornets' most productive receiver through the first two games.

"He's becoming a playmaker," Hunter said. It was clear that Glen Rose's top defensive



Coach Aaron Hunter talks to the Hornets kickoff return team during the game against Glen Rose on Sept. 2.

CHRIS ALLMAN | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

priority was to stop sophomore running back Rayshon Smith, who ran through Taylor for 159 yards in the season-opening win. Though they were moderately successful - Smith still averaged 4.7 yards per carry - they had little success stopping the combo of Trevor Smith and quarterback Jacob Newkirk.

"Newkirk has stepped up in a big way, and the team needs him to be a key factor in our offense," Smith said.

Smith caused fits for the Glen Rose secondary with a variety of out, comeback, and vertical routes. He averaged almost 13 yards per catch including a 26-yard catch in the second quarter and a 20-yard fourth quarter touchdown catch.

"I think coach (Jacob) Hunter's play calling was a key factor in me being effective," Smith

said. "I told him from the start of the game that me and Newkirk felt good and he was able to trust us to throw and catch all night long," Smith said.

Newkirk finished the game 21 for 37 for 248 yards and two touchdowns. His first touchdown pass of the game was a 26-yard dot to Kason Herbelin that put Gatesville on the scoreboard in the third quarter.

On the night, the junior quarterback hit six different receivers. He found Kyle Shafer five times for 38 yards and hit Adrian Smith four times for 59 yards. Theron Stone and Lawson Mooney had one catch apiece.

The Hornets finished the night with 321 yards of total offense. Smith had 52 yards rushing on the night despite missing most of the first half and junior LJ Hall ran for 35

yards on 11 carries.

Defensively, the Hornets were led by Ashtyn Culley and Mason Mooney, who had 14 and 12 tackles, respectively. Sean Aguilar and Aydan Necessary each had 11 tackles.

After racking up four tackles for a loss and a sack in week one, Lucas Garcia had six tackles and forced a fumble against Glen Rose - one of two the Hornets forced in the game. One was recovered by Canyon Smith and the other by Herbelin, who also had two pass break-ups.

The Hornets junior varsity was defeated 30-12 by Glen Rose to drop to 1-1 on the season. The Hornets freshman squad throttled the Tigers 34-14 to stay undefeated at 2-0.



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