



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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Therapy dog lifts spirits in Gatesville school district

BY JEFF OSBORNE

Senior Writer & Editor

When life's pressures mount and cause stress and frustration, the unconditional love of a canine may make a big positive impact on people's sense of wellbeing.

For the Gatesville Independent School District, that is frequently seen firsthand when Bishop, a therapy dog whose home campus is Gatesville Junior High, brings joy and emotional healing to students and staff.

Joyce Cole, a social worker with the district and Bishop's partner, gave an update about Bishop's influence during the Jan. 17 meeting of the GISD school board.

"He is loving his job," Cole said, adding that Bishop is often disappointed on holidays when he doesn't get to come to school and see people. He is making kids happy every time he walks into the building. The teachers love him. He has two or three dif-

ferent beds in the junior high and treats in different rooms. He does not disrupt the classrooms and is so well-mannered.

"The joy in students' eyes after they see Bishop is worth his weight in kibble."

Cole said Bishop has a noticeable positive impact on the mental health of students and staff.

"He not only brightens every day but provides a much-needed nonjudgmental sense of wellbeing and love," Cole said.

One teacher wrote that she sees students who seldom react to anything get excited about petting Bishop or giving him a treat.

Another teacher said Bishop loves every type of student and does not discriminate, showing unconditional love.

A third teacher noted Bishop "has helped several of my students when they were having a rough day."

Cole said she has seen instances when stu-

"He's been a blessing to the students and the teachers."

SUZY PENROD

Gatesville Junior High principal

dents were upset and Bishop "makes sure he loves on them. I've seen him literally lick the tears off kids' faces. He brings a lot of joy to our students and staff."

Gatesville Junior High Principal Suzy Penrod said Bishop is always welcome.

"The junior high would love to adopt him as our own," she said. "He is not a disruption. He's been a blessing to the students and teachers. I've seen teachers who were having rough days spend a little time with Bishop, and then they're ready to go."



Bishop

Bringing soldiers, citizens together

BY JEFF OSBORNE

Senior Writer & Editor

For more than a decade, a program that has benefitted soldiers from throughout the United States as well as local residents is the North Fort Hood Ministry, which seeks to strengthen relations between the community and military personnel in the area.

During the Jan. 19 meeting of the Gatesville Exchange Club, Diana Fincher, director of the ministry, talked about how the organization started and the impact it has made.

The ministry began in 2012, when the choir director at First Baptist Church of Gatesville asked choir members if there was anyone who would like to contact the chaplain at North Fort Hood about an invitation to attend Christmas Eve services that year at the church.

"I looked to the left and to the right, and no one else volunteered, so I decided that I could do that," Fincher said. "I made the contact and from there God has connected our two communities in a miraculous way."

Five members of the FBC Gatesville choir braved cold, dreary weather conditions that evening and were transported by a military van to the chapel.

One of those choir members wore a headlamp that allowed her fellow singers to see the lyrics in that darkened room, and Fincher noticed that the chapel had gone from nearly empty when they arrived to being filled with military personnel.

"The sanctuary was full of soldiers in uniform fully geared up and we were just incredulous about that," Fincher said. "The spirit of the Lord began to overwhelm us — his soldiers were showing up to worship. It was a prophetic event — quite a significant union coming together."

When she was a teenager, Fincher recalled, there was quite a bit of interaction between personnel at North Fort Hood and the Gatesville community. However, years later when a fence was built to separate the military post from the outside world, the interaction between soldiers and the community dwindled.

"The fence went up and the curtain was drawn," Fincher said. When the North Fort Hood Ministry formed, "the curtain was ripped open by the Lord, and we got to see what was going on. That lit the proverbial candle. We told our church how impactful that experience had been for us to be among the soldiers. We began the North Fort Hood Ministry. We came together as a congregation, and we began to serve those who serve us."

The ministry hosted a community barbecue for the soldiers, and Fincher



JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Diana Fincher talks about the impact of the North Fort Hood Ministry.

said after that she thought the ministry would consist of things like an occasional potluck supper. However, many other events followed, including the Heart of Texas Salute to Warrior Citizens, and a strong interaction between the community and the soldiers continued.

Fincher credited the Exchange Club as being one of the groups that has played a significant role in welcoming and honoring military personnel.

"Our community stepped up to bring Gatesville and Texas to the hearts of our troops," she said. "We thought there would be one big event but God had much more than that in mind — He meant ministry, a sacrifice of time, resources and energy. He wants us to work together as a community to serve His soldiers."

Fincher said she never envisioned

that her skills as a retired music teacher would be used to draw people from different parts of the community, such as the Exchange Club, local churches and local government "all different aspects of the community to share love."

Fincher said she was told that the soldiers themselves were amazed by the response.

"I was told that they had never seen a crusty command sergeant with 35 years experience tearing up — they'd never seen anything like this response from our community," she said. "I am so blessed to see the community coming together the way Gatesville does."

The North Fort Hood Ministry is administered by FBC Gatesville, and "God

PLEASE SEE **MINISTRY** | A2

Doctor aims to reduce foot pain

BY JEFF OSBORNE

Senior Writer & Editor

Feet are a crucial foundation of the body's ability to move and stand, and addressing people's foot aches, pains and concerns is the primary emphasis of Dr. James Townson, a podiatrist with Coryell Health in Gatesville.

During a Jan. 12 meeting of the Gatesville Exchange Club, Townson talked about common foot ailments, how to prevent them, and ways to address those problems.

One of the most common issues people experience when encountering foot pain is plantar fasciitis, an inflammation of a foot ligament that stretches from the heel to the toes.

Townson said pain from this ailment is most common in the morning, after the foot has been at rest overnight and then stress is placed on the foot when people first arise.

"The number one thing you can do is to stretch the calf muscle," Townson said. "That will treat and actually prevent plantar fasciitis."

He said orthotics can provide relief, as well as anti-inflammatory medicine such as ibuprofen, or in more painful cases, injections from a physician.

In some instances, surgery is an option to correct the condition.

Achilles tendonitis is another common issue for people experiencing foot pain. The Achilles tendon is the biggest tendon in the body, Townson said.

Hiking up hills and repetitive jumping are two things that can lead to Achilles tendonitis.

"Hands down, the number one way to prevent Achilles tendonitis and plantar fasciitis is stretching exercises," Townson said.

Videos showing different exercises are available online, including ones endorsed by the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons.

Another condition that commonly causes pain is flat feet. In some cases, having flat feet is a congenital condition that people inherit and are born with. In other cases, a person's arches may fall later in life, causing pain.

"Many people have flat feet and aren't in any pain," Townson said. "If it's not painful you don't have to do anything for it. Just wear comfortable shoes that offer good support."

However, for those who do have arches, a tendon can give out causing arches to collapse, resulting in varying degrees of pain.

Treatment can be through orthotics, but many of the cheaper, over-the-counter

PLEASE SEE **FEET** | A2



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Spotlight shines on faculty directing award-winning performances



JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

The Gatesville ISD Fightin' Hornet Band earned a trip to the state contest in San Antonio last fall, finishing 18th - the best showing in school history. Among those helping to lead the way were several faculty members who direct the band, the drill team and the Dazzlers dance team. Pictured from left are: Michael Hamilton, GISD Superintendent Barrett Pollard, Corbin Myers, Jeannie Collins, Helen Gonzales, Victor Garza and Jose Sanchez.

Farm Bureau provides a voice for Texas farmers, ranchers

BY JEFF OSBORNE
Senior Writer & Editor

While many people may associate the Texas Farm Bureau with insurance, the organization is first and foremost involved in protecting and promoting agricultural endeavors across the state.

That was the message that Cody Archie, a local rancher and the president of the Coryell County branch of the Farm Bureau, shared during a presentation to the Gatesville Lions Club on Jan. 18.

Archie, a lifelong county resident and 1998 graduate of Gatesville High School, has strong ties to local agriculture, and is also an outspoken supporter of the Farm Bureau.

"Our mission is to be the voice of Texas agriculture, and each county has its own board of directors," he said. "Here in Coryell County, we have about 3,700 to 3,800 members who pay dues every year. One of the member benefits is that they are able to purchase (Farm Bureau) insurance."

There is also an extensive list of discounts available to members on a wide range of products, many of which are not directly related to agriculture.

Archie said the Farm Bureau started in 1933, and it has grown to more than 540,000 members across the state. The Texas Farm Bureau is one of several state farm bureaus across the nation, and one of the biggest.

"It was started to protect the rights of farmers and ranchers," he said. "Somebody needed to stand up for people who worked in agriculture. They are advocates, and they also teach children about the importance of agriculture and where food and products come from through mobile learning barns. The Farm Bureau shows kids different types of animals and it also does a lot of agricultural education for the general public.

"It's important to let people know where their food, fiber and fuel come from and to let them know it is grown efficiently and effectively," he said.

"People see the sky-high prices in grocery stores and some think that farmers must be getting rich because everything costs more. We let people know that farmers only get about 10% of the cost they pay when they buy things at the store."

One of the big legislative wins for the Farm Bureau was helping protect the property rights of landowners so that those putting pipelines on their property "couldn't give them low-ball pricing," Archie said.

"We protect water rights, property rights - anything that protects you and farmers and ranchers. We don't just look out for you in Austin, but also in Washington, D.C."

The Farm Bureau also has a program that allows teachers who are not involved in agriculture to learn and to later share those experiences with their students.



JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Codie Archie talked about the importance and benefits of Texas Farm Bureau to the Gatesville Lions.

"We also provide a lot of scholarships," Archie said. "We are there to take care of the next generation and make sure they are going the right direction."

Fort Hood leadership hosts Texas legislators on post

FORT HOOD - Texas state legislators and their staff attended the Texas State Legislative Day on Jan. 20. Hosted by Fort Hood and the Killeen Chamber of Commerce, the event was held to familiarize attendees with Fort Hood and the Army.

Staffers and legislators were exposed to the many resources on Fort Hood that contribute toward the preparation of soldiers for the demanding and complex requirements of combat.

This day-long event started out with a Fort Hood overview briefing, an aerial tour of the installation from a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter and then watching a People First

Center interactive skit about peer pressure between soldiers and how to intervene.

"I represent Texas House District 145, and Vanessa Guillen was one of my constituents. Her family still lives in my district. So, it was really important for me to come here today because I wanted to see firsthand what Fort Hood is all about," shared Rep. Christina Morales, Texas State House District 145. "As a person who represents that district, I'm very concerned about the safety of our servicemen and women. So, I'm happy to see that there have been improvements and I'm happy that we agree that there's still so much more that needs to be done. And I'm optimistic that we will

get there."

Attendees were then given the opportunity to see military equipment and vehicles featuring an M1A2 Abrams tank, AH-64 Apache helicopter, MQ-1C Gray Eagle unmanned aircraft system and a M2A3 Bradley. Soldiers were on hand at the static displays to explain what each piece of equipment is used for, how they maintain the equipment and the significance of it in combat.

For most of the attendees, this was their first time on the installation, which fostered an environment filled with questions and exclamations of people's excitement at what they were seeing.

MINISTRY

FROM PAGE A1

has blessed the ministry — the endeavors — with thousands of dollars over the last 10 years. We have to look for ways to spend it."

The COVID-19 pandemic temporarily slammed the door shut on the ministry in some areas, Fincher said, but only for a season.

"The COVID situation really brought things

to a screeching halt, but we still found ways to meet soldiers' needs," she said.

Plans for a concert to honor soldiers did not receive approval until Fincher was able to communicate with high-ranking military staff who saw the value of what Fincher sought to provide.

"God provides the commanders who serve — he puts the leadership in position," she said. "I've been able to see how God puts people in place to continue the ministry in full force."

To help keep interaction between the community and soldiers going, Fincher leads a monthly North Fort Hood Community Council meeting that takes place at different restaurants in Gatesville.

At the meeting, a group of soldiers and community members talk about ways to work together, upcoming community events, and ways the two different groups can serve each other.

"We have community members attend some of their events, and we have members

of the military participate in community events," Fincher said. "This has been such a great blessing for all of us."

When soldiers see the amount of items donated to them, including snacks to help make them feel at home, they have told Fincher they are surprised that Gatesville has a much bigger population than they had thought.

"They are always amazed to find out that Gatesville has less than 10,000 people, and how big our hearts are."

FEET

FROM PAGE A1

orthotics are ineffective. Custom orthotics can cost about \$450 and are much more effective. A podiatrist can measure a person's feet using electronic 3D imaging and send

the measurements to the company manufacturing the orthotics.

Physical therapy can also help, and in some cases, surgery might be an option.

Bunions, bumps on the side of the feet at the base of the toes, are another concern, but if they are not causing a

person pain, surgery is not required. The condition can be treated with padding, wider shoes or orthotics.

In addition to stretching exercises, healthcare providers often recommend giving feet plenty of rest, and if pain continues or worsens, to make an appointment to determine the best way to reduce the problem.



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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DEADLINES:

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

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

All articles and advertisements must meet our standards and

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

Brown Bag Ministry will feed the homeless weekly

Brown Bag Ministry will be helping the homeless and those in need by passing out brown paper bags full of non-perishable food items every Thursday morning at 9 a.m. at Raby Park beginning January 26. The brown bags will be distributed in the half circle entry of the

park. All bagged items will be non-perishable such as pop-open canned goods, packets, crackers, etc. There will be no forms to be filled out or questions asked to receive the bags. There will be a max of two sacks per person. First come, first served.

The bags will be bigger than a typical brown lunch bag, but smaller than a grocery bag in size. The Brown Bag Ministry appreciates the outpouring of support of those helping this ministry to feed the homeless.

Pickleball open play Jan. 28

The Gatesville Pickleball Club and Gatesville Parks and Recreation will host an indoor pickleball open play on Saturday, Jan. 28, at the Gatesville Civic Center.

Pickleball will begin at 12 p.m. and will continue through 5 p.m. A concession stand will be provided by the Home Plate Café.

This event is free and is meant to welcome the sport to newcomers as well as provide seasoned players with an opportunity to spread their knowledge and skills

to those who are willing to learn. There will be four temporary nets and courts set up inside the main room of the Civic Center. The playing surface is carpet.

Gatesville Parks and Recreation will provide indoor pickleballs and extra paddles that will be available for free use. Please be mindful of any players waiting to play.

Pickleball was invented in 1965 by three dads whose children were bored with their usual summertime activities. Since then, pickleball

has evolved from original handmade equipment and simple rules into a popular sport throughout the United States and Canada. The game is growing internationally as well, with many European and Asian countries adding courts.

The Gatesville Civic Center is located at 301 Veteran's Memorial Loop in Gatesville. For any further information contact the Gatesville Parks and Recreation at 254-499-1015.



COURTESY OF FINDAGRAVE

Immanuel Lutheran Church.

CORYELL COUNTY HISTORICAL MARKER "SPOTLIGHT"

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Marker Text: This congregation traces its origin to the emigration of Wends from the Saxony Region of Germany to nearby Lee, Robertson, and Fayette counties. They resettled in this area, then known as the Twin Mountain Community, in 1891. Led by the Rev. A. W. Kramer, the Wends began Lutheran worship in 1892 at the home of Christian Jacob, located approximately one mile southwest of this site. The congregation was officially organized under the direction of the Rev. John Paul Ridel in 1894. A church building, constructed in 1895, became the site of parochial school classes the following year. In 1899 the church properties and cemetery grounds were deeded to the congregation by A. E. Falke.

A new church structure was completed at this site in 1914. A youth society, organized in 1915 and later affiliated with the International Walther League, was instrumental in the completion, in 1939, of the 60-foot native stone cross located near the church structure. The congregation's membership increased as military personnel from Fort Hood began to attend services soon after it was established as Camp

Hood in 1942. Regional missionary work by this congregation was successful in spreading the Lutheran faith and was responsible for the establishment of four Lutheran churches in Central Texas

by 1965. (1992) Location: From Copperas Cove, follow FM 116 north about 1 1/4 miles then go west on Lutheran Church Road, Cr 168, about 1.7 miles to church.

Gatesville Lions Club presents The 46th Annual Homer Davis Memorial Chili Supper



Friday, January 27
4-7 p.m.

Gatesville High School Cafeteria

Tickets may be purchased from
Lions Club members or at the door
Adults \$7 | Children \$4

Chili or Soup
Beans, Drinks, and Dessert



FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Expectations as Compared to Harsh Reality

SAM HOUSTON

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



HOUSTON

Young people seem to have unrealistic expectations about life. I know when I was young, I had grandiose expectations about my future work career, my married life, and life in general. Boy, did "harsh reality" have a few lessons to teach me!

My knowledge of the role of a "wife" came from observing my sainted mother. I watched her iron every piece of clothing my father wore, including his undershorts. She made him breakfast every morning, and for the most part, acquiesced to Dad being the "man of the house," going so far as to sign checks as "Mrs. Donald Houston." I understand in the light of today's world this all sounds terribly chauvinistic and out of touch, but such a relationship was common in the 50s and 60s. It worked for my folks. Both of my parents had a happy, loving partner and were satisfied with the relationship, which lasted 54 years.

When I married my children's mother, I held expectations for my wife, but they were different than the expectations my father would have held when he married. I was progressive enough to communicate with my wife knowing the world had evolved and the expectations of the prior generation were no longer reasonable or even appropriate. My wife worked a full-time job, just as I did, and I did not expect her to cook every meal, clean the house single handedly, or iron my clothes. Our relationship would not last, but it was not because either of us held unreasonable expectations of the other.

When I entered the workforce, I foolishly imagined I was destined to accomplish my career goals in the first six months. I worked hard and expected instant results. I was young and unaware of how things worked. It took a while for me to appreciate a year in the business world was a mere drop in the bucket in the broad scheme of an entire business career. I learned to be patient and came to understand leaps forward were made up of a thousand small steps. Success was possible, but it was a long road and demanded a lot of hard work.

This past week I interviewed a young person seeking employment at the newspaper. They had very little experience, but

they did give the impression of being a hard worker and goal-oriented. They made it clear their objective was to win individual statewide newspaper awards, as well as national awards. They told me it was important they be allowed to go to all the statewide press convention events so they could be "seen" and make statewide connections. All of these are fine expectations, but I noticed little concern from the applicant on how they would make the paper better for our readers, or a more profitable entity overall. It was much more about how the paper could be a tool for the applicant's future success.

The final straw was when I asked the candidate about their salary expectations and was told a number which was 30% higher than the top end salary in the industry for a similar job. I told this young person his money expectations were out of touch with the reality of the economics of the industry. His response was clear: His expectation was he was going to get his demand from someone because he was going to bring so much value to their operation. Never mind that his "value" had yet to be proven. I wished him luck.

Sometimes I hear people make the blanket statement, "Young people do not want to work". I must respectfully disagree. I have hired a significant number of people under the age

of 30 over the past twenty years, and for the most part, they have been ambitious, hard-working committed employees. It has been my pleasure to work with them, see them grow, and occasionally, watch them move on to bigger and better pastures.

Sadly, I am seeing more and more young applicants who have unrealistic expectations of what employment will be like, and to understand that, while it is important for them to have their objectives met, they must bring something to the table which gives value to the employer. There seems to be a disconnect between what applicants want, and business reality. Sure, it would be nice to work from home three days-a-week, to have six weeks of vacation, and lots of other perks, but in today's competitive world no one has explained how a business budget can withstand such concessions.

I am afraid harsh reality is going to hit my young applicant in the near future. Expectations without experience and knowledge seldom garner a positive result.

Thought for the day: Expectations are like fine pottery, the harder you hold them, the more likely they are to crack.

Until next time I will keep "ridin' the storm out"

sam@hcnews.com

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Join us for pizza, discussion
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Eastwood Baptist Church

2518 E. Main Street
Gatesville, Texas 76528



Miss Spring Fest Pageant to be held March 25

The first "Miss Spring Fest Pageant" will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 25, at the Texas Station Event Center.

The ages for contestant entries include Baby Miss, infant to 2 years of age; Tiny Miss, ages 3-5; Little Miss, ages 6-9; Junior Miss, ages 10-13; and Queen, ages 14-18. There will also be other categories including Most

Photogenic and People's Choice.

The early deadline to enter will be March 1 with an entry cost of \$30. The late deadline will be March 15 at a cost of \$50.

For more information about the pageant, please contact Susie at 254-383-2307. Texas Station Event Center is located at 4604 Hwy. 36.



COURTESY PHOTO

First Miss Spring Fest pageant coming in March.

Photography contest set for District 8 4-H group

District 8 of 4-H will be holding a photography contest during the month of March.

The Coryell County entry deadline will be March 2. This is a great opportunity for the 4-H youth to showcase their photography skills.

No entry fee will be required. Winners at the County contest will advance to District.

The 4-H youth are encouraged to dig out those cameras and go find the beauty

in their surroundings. This year's contest will open online March 6 and run through March 24. Please note that all photos entered in the District Contest must have first qualified from their county contest. So, students need make sure they check with their CEA for their contest dates and deadlines.

All rules, guidelines and categories can be found by visiting <https://agrilife.org/.../events-and.../photography-contest/>

ATTENTION PROPERTY OWNERS

Property owners have certain rights that may reduce their property tax burden

HOMEOWNERS

One of the easiest ways a homeowner can lower his or her property tax bill is to file a homestead exemption. A homestead is generally the house and land used as the owner's principal residence on Jan. 1 of the tax year. A person who acquires property after Jan. 1 may receive the residence homestead exemption for the applicable portion of that tax year immediately on qualification for the exemption if the preceding owner did not receive the same exemption for that tax year. A homestead exemption reduces the appraised value of the home by \$40,000 and, as a result, lowers school property taxes. Applications are submitted to the Coryell Central Appraisal District (Coryell CAD).

PERSONS WHO ARE OVER 65 YEARS OF AGE/DISABLED PERSONS

Individuals 65 or older or disabled, as defined by law, may qualify for a \$10,000 homestead exemption for school taxes, in addition to the \$40,000 exemption available to all homeowners. Older or disabled homeowners do not need to own their homes on Jan. 1 to qualify for the \$10,000 homestead exemption. They qualify as soon as they turn age 65 or become disabled. Persons over 65 or disabled should apply for this exemption at the Coryell CAD office. A ceiling on school, county, and certain city and special district homestead taxes will be established in the first year of qualification.

DISABLED VETERANS

The law provides partial exemptions for any property owned by veterans who are disabled, surviving spouses and surviving children of deceased disabled veterans. Another partial exemption is for homesteads donated to disabled veterans by charitable organizations at no cost or not more than 50% of the good faith estimate of the homestead's market value to the disabled veterans and their surviving spouse. The taxes continue to accrue during the deferral along with interest at a rate of 5% per annum, but no attempt will be made to force payment during the deferral period. Details and applications may be obtained from the Coryell CAD.

PROPERTY TAX DEFERRAL FOR PERSONS

AGE 65 OR OLDER, DISABLED OR DISABLED VETERAN HOMEOWNERS

Over 65 persons, disabled persons or disabled veterans are also eligible to postpone (defer) paying the tax on their residential homestead by signing a tax deferral affidavit. Once the affidavit is on file, taxes are deferred, but not cancelled, as long as the owner continues to own and live in the home. The taxes continue to accrue during the deferral along with interest at a rate of 5% per annum, but no attempt will be made to force payment during the deferral period. Details and applications may be obtained from the Coryell CAD.

RESIDENCE HOMESTEAD TAX DEFERRAL

Texas homeowners may postpone paying the currently delinquent property taxes due on the appreciating value of their homes by filing a tax deferral affidavit at their local county appraisal district. This tax relief allows homeowners to pay the property taxes on 105 percent of the preceding year's appraised value of their homestead, plus the taxes on any new improvements to the homestead. The deferral postpones the remaining taxes, with interest accruing at 8 percent per year but does not cancel them.

SURVIVING SPOUSE OF FIRST RESPONDER

The eligible surviving spouse of a first responder killed in the line of duty is allowed a total (100%) tax exemption on his or her residence homestead if the surviving spouse has not remarried since the death of the first responder.

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS

Non-profit organizations that meet statutory requirements may seek property tax exemptions and must apply to their local appraisal district by a specific date. Businesses that receive tax abatements granted by taxing units; ship inventory out of Texas that may be eligible for the freeport exemption; store certain goods in transit in warehouses that are moved within 175 days; construct, install or acquire pollution control property; own and operate energy storage systems; convert landfill-generated gas; or store offshore drilling equipment while not in use may also be eligible for statutory exemptions.

FARM AND RANCH OWNERS

Property owners who use land for agricultural purposes, wildlife management or timber land production can be granted property tax relief on their land. They may apply to the Coryell CAD for an agricultural appraisal which may result in a lower appraisal of the land based on how much the property owner produces, versus what the land would sell for in the open market. Applications are due April 30th.

BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY OWNERS

If a business owns tangible personal property that is used to produce income, the business must file a rendition with the Coryell CAD by April 15th. Personal property includes inventory and equipment used by a business. Owners do not have to render exempt property such as church property or an agriculture producer's equipment used for farming. State law **requires** the filing of a rendition declaring the type(s) of business personal property that a person or company owns. Failure to file the rendition will result in a 10% penalty. If a fraudulent rendition is filed, a 50% penalty is mandated. A rendition form can be obtained from the Coryell CAD office. **The filing deadline is April 15th.** A 30-day filing extension is available if a written request is received prior to the deadline.

PROPERTY TAXPAYER REMEDIES

This Comptroller publication explains in detail how to protest a property appraisal, what issues the county appraisal review board (ARB) can consider and what to expect during a protest hearing. The publication also discusses the option to request limited binding arbitration to compel the ARB or chief appraiser to comply with a procedural requirement and the options of taking a taxpayer's case to district court, the State Office of Administrative Hearings or binding arbitration if the taxpayer is dissatisfied with the outcome of the ARB hearing.

APPRAISAL NOTICES

Coryell CAD property owners will receive a notice of appraised value from the appraisal district. The city, county, school districts and other local taxing units will use the appraisal district's value to set property taxes for the coming year.

PROTESTING PROPERTY APPRAISAL VALUE

Property owners who disagree with the appraisal district's appraisal of their property for local taxes or for any other action that adversely affects them may protest their property value to the appraisal district's ARB. Protests are due by **May 15th** or 30-days after the appraisal notice is mailed, whichever is later.

INFORMAL MEETINGS

Property owners can request an informal meeting with appraisal district staff to try and resolve their disputes prior to attending ARB hearings.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

In appraisal districts located in counties with more than 200,000 populations or that have authorized electronic communications, and that have implemented a system that allows such communications, chief appraisers and ARBs may communicate electronically through email or other media with property owners or their designated representatives. Written agreements are required for notices and other documents to be delivered electronically in place of mailing.

FORM AVAILABILITY

All property tax forms including those for exemptions, special use valuation, renditions, etc. may be obtained from the Coryell CAD or from the State Comptroller's Office at 1-800-252-9121. Applications are available as downloads from the appraisal district website <http://www.coryellcad.org/commonly-used-forms/> or the comptroller's website <https://comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax/forms/>. Homesteads, disabled veterans, agricultural appraisal (1-d-1) and business personal property forms may be filed online at <https://forms.coryellcad.org/>.

This is a public service announcement by:

Coryell Central Appraisal District
705 E. Main St., Gatesville TX 76528
202 E. Robertson Ave, Copperas Cove, TX 76522
Phone: 254-865-6593



COURTESY PHOTO

4-H photography contest set for March.

Back to Nature 5K Trail Run at Mother Neff State Park

A "Back to Nature 5K Trail Run" will take place on Saturday, February 25 at Mother Neff State Park.

The public is invited to participate in the annual trail run. There will be a 5K competitive run, 2-mile fun run, and a 1-mile kids run. These runs will wind through nature trails and the park road allowing participants to take in the beautiful scenery of the park. Awards will be offered. If you don't like to run, that's okay, walking is just as much fun at this event.

The 5K competitive run will begin at 8:30 a.m. sharp. The trails in this race will give participants a challenge. Awards will be offered for overall male and female as well as the top three male and female in each age group. Age groups include: 14 & under, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-69, 70 & up.

The 2 Mile Fun Run and 1 mile Kids Race will start at 2 p.m. These trails will not be as challenging but just as beautiful. The Kids 1 mile will be timed, and runners will receive medals for top 12 finishers in each category boys and girls. Kids 12 & under can sign up for the 1-mile race.

Each race will be capped at 150 participants due to parking restrictions. Register early to ensure a spot.

The first 200 Signups will receive a commemorative medallion and all participants in the 5K and 2 mile will receive t-shirt as long as registration is completed by February 6. Registration is required for this event and those wishing to participate can register online at:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/TX/Moody/BacktoNatureTrailRun>

Proceeds will go the Mother Neff State Park Association to make needed upgrades to the park.

Packet pickup will be offered the week of the race at the park starting Monday, Feb. 20, thru Friday, Feb 24, at the park headquarters from 9 a.m. - noon and 1-4 p.m. For those who sign up by Saturday Feb. 18, your packet will be available for packet pickup. Otherwise, participants may pick it up on race day as you enter the park.

There will be no race day sign ups.

For more information, please contact the park at 254-853-2389. Mother Neff State Park is located at 1921 Park Road 14 near Moody.

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PEARL NEWS

Pearl welcomes the Lewiston family to their community

BETSY CLARK
Pearl News Correspondent

Thanks so much to Kay Pruett for the following news items: "It was a busy day in Pearl on Sunday, Jan. 15. The Pearl Community Fellowship welcomed the Lewiston family to the community. This family moved to Pearl in September 2022 to the Glenn Herrman/Kay Pruett place on County Road 153. Peter and Hannah Lewiston and their five children are a wonderful addition to the Pearl Community. Peter Lewiston was the speaker for the Pearl Community Fellowship. He is a teacher for the Copperas Cove Schools.



CLARK

The churches in Pearl came together and served a meal at the Pearl Community Center for the family and friends of Betty Gomez. Mrs. Gomez passed away at her home in Pearl on Jan. 2, 2023. More than 75 people attended. Thanks to everyone who brought food and helped serve and clean up. Special thanks to the Evant Methodist Exercise Class who brought all the desserts.

A memorial service for Betty Gomez was held Sunday afternoon at the Pearl Community Fellowship with Rev. David Booth as the speaker and music leader. The little

church was full, and it was a great service, full of lots of memories and stories about Betty's life."

Speaking of Kay, now that she has moved to town (Gatesville), she spends most of her time with Pearl (her faithful doggy friend) in the park. I hear that she and Michelle often see other Pearl people in Raby Park while walking, and she enjoys her visits with dear friends there. So, if you go to the park to walk as well, be sure and visit with our famous Pearlites if you should happen to run into them!

We have just learned that

Turtle Powell and his grandmother, Jan Ward, will soon be going to Hawaii to run! Turtle and Jan have run marathons in every state of the union but Hawaii. Soon their goal of all 50 states will be complete. We wish them happy, safe travels, and we want to hear all about it when they return!

I learned that there is a very interesting article all about Pearl Bluegrass and The Pearl Cottage Bookstore from Pearl Community Center, Texas Facebook page. Just go to this link: <https://postcardslive.com/pearl-bluegrass-jam>.

I also learned that Bobby Giles and Texas Gales will be playing at The Pearl Community Center Bluegrass event on Feb. 4 at 1:30 p.m. That's the date of the next Bluegrass and Bookstore day, so be sure and plan to be in Pearl for a fun day of music, picking, grinning, eating, and shopping! Things get going at the Community Center around 5 p.m. on the Feb. 3 with picking on the grounds and in the building. So plan to bring your RV and stay the night for the Saturday events. The cost will be \$25 for 30 amps, and \$30 for 50 amps.

The Pearl Cottage Bookstore opens again on Feb. 4 at 10 a.m. and closes at 5 p.m. Remember, you can participate in the Junk-in-Your-Trunk event by paying \$5 to set up your booth or trunk around the bookstore. All fees go toward the upkeep of the Pearl Community Center. I just read a quote by Gabrielle Zevin that says, "A place is not really a place without a bookstore." Well, we already knew that there's no place like Pearl — and we have the best used bookstore there is that's also a nonprofit charity house! Now that's a Place with a capital "P!"

This week's Bible verse comes from Matthew 7:12: "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets." (NIV)

Be sure and like the Pearl Community Center, Texas Facebook page and the Pearl Cottage Bookstore and Resale Shop Facebook page! Please send any Pearl news to betsyclark47@yahoo.com.

CORYELL MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL CENTER

Coryell County News Valentine's Day Feb. 14, 1939 and 1941



STAFF PHOTO | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Coryell Museum and Historical Center

JANN DWORSKY
Coryell Museum volunteer

Below are excerpts from newspapers on Valentine's Day in 1939 and 1941 in Gatesville. The first advertisement I noticed was an ad of Murray's Grocery and Market. It was simply their regular ad for 21 pounds of sugar for \$1, and Admiration Coffee (happiness in every cup), 19 cents a pound. At the top of the ad it said, "Here's How to Please Your Valentine."

There was a notice for the Big Fiddlers Contest at the Regal Theatre, perhaps to take your sweetheart and listen to music.

On Friday morning February 14, Mrs. Dick Payne entertained her kindergarten class and guests with a Valentine's Party. Games, stories and opening of the Valentine box furnished the entertainment.

At the Palace Theatre, Joan Blondell and Dick Powell were starring in the movie titled: "I Want a Divorce." Coming Saturday would be Claudette Colbert and Ray Milland in "Arise My Love." "Murder Over New York" would also be showing with Charlie Chan battling death-dealing spies high in the skies. Quite a variety for Valentine's Day.

Chamlee's Garage had a fancy Valentine's Day advertisement. It said "Goodyear is a Valentine to any car or truck. You'll love them for

their service."

An advertisement for Sunbeam Ironmaster, double automatic iron, heats quicker, stays hotter and irons faster, \$7.95 and it should have come with a warning to husbands that this is NOT a gift for Valentine's Day.

The front page of the 1939 paper showed pictures of Coryell County's oldest living twins. They are Mrs. J.C. Nance and Mrs. Mattie Bradley, who were born in Weatherford, Parker County, Texas, January 13, 1863. Both ladies are 76 years old. Their grandson is Cloyce Brazil-Key's, and he is an employee of the News. They visited Dallas when there were only three stores, a log courthouse, and a log jail. They live together at 403 South 6th Street, and both are in very good health and do all their work. They attend church services Sundays, usually walking to and from the services, a distance of about a half mile.

Foster Drug had a nice advertisement for Valentine Candy, an Elgin Watch for \$24.75 and up (a lot of money back then) and for perfume, cologne, and body powder for \$1. A new coat at Alvis-Garner Company cost from \$7.95 to \$14.95.

The Ethma Beauty Shop had a special on their \$3.50 permanents for only \$2. You could be beautiful for Valentine's Day, or as beautiful as a permanent back then could make you.

At the Palace Theatre, Jeanette McDonald and Nelson Eddy were starring in the Movie "Sweethearts." This was advertised for Technicolor. They did 8 movies together and I remember one of their beautiful songs, "Indian Love Call." I asked my phone to play it and it was a very screechy version.

Coryell Museum and Historical Center is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday thru Saturday. They have 24,000 square feet of space or as much as 12 regular houses. There is a Doctor's Office Exhibit, Military Exhibit, Spur Exhibit Rooms, School Room Exhibit as well as many others.

There are two rooms to rent for your special occasions. The Gilbreath Room, with table seating for about 100, has a beautiful antique ceiling of pressed tin. This room can be used for weddings, parties, receptions, showers, bridal or baby, class reunions and political meetings. Out the window is the dome of our beautiful Coryell County Courthouse and directly below our Country Garden.

For smaller groups we have the Coryell Room which seats about 25 in chairs. The Morris Federation meets here as well as other clubs. Call Nancy Ashcraft at 254-865-9495 to choose your date for either room.

LFP Program offers financial assistance

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency is now accepting applications for the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) to provide financial assistance to eligible livestock producers for 2022 grazing losses due to a qualifying drought or wildfire. The deadline to apply for 2022 LFP assistance is Jan. 30, 2023.

The Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) provides payments to eligible livestock owners and contract growers who have covered livestock and who are also producers of grazed forage crop acreage (native and improved pastureland with permanent

vegetative cover, including rangeland managed by a federal agency, or certain crops planted specifically for grazing) that have suffered a loss of grazed forage due to a qualifying drought during the normal grazing period for the county. LFP also provides payments to eligible livestock owners or contract growers that have covered livestock and who are also producers of grazed forage crop acreage on rangeland managed by a federal agency if the eligible livestock producer is prohibited by the federal agency from grazing the normal permitted livestock on the managed rangeland due to a

qualifying fire. The qualifying drought and qualifying grazing losses, and/or notification of prohibition to graze Federal land due to fire, must have occurred in the grazing period and crop year. For grazing losses on rangeland managed by a federal agency, an eligible livestock producer may elect to receive assistance for losses due to drought conditions or fire conditions, if applicable, but not both. LFP is administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Get Off the Fence and Back on Your Feet



Meet Coryell Health's New Podiatrist

Dr. James Townson, DPM

Coryell Health is excited to introduce our new podiatrist, Dr. James Townson, DPM.

Dr. Townson is a foot and ankle surgeon specialist with over 10 years of experience in the medical field. He is board certified by the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery and strives to ensure all his patients receive the most complete and efficient care possible.



Podiatric Medicine & Surgery

COMMON CONDITIONS TREATED - INFANTS TO ADULTS

- Arthritis of foot & ankle
- Bunions & toe deformities
- Custom orthotics
- Diabetic-related foot problems
- Flat feet
- Foot & ankle ulcers
- Fractures of foot & ankle
- Heel pain
- Limb salvage
- Pediatrics
- Sports-related injuries
- Sprain of foot & ankle
- Tendon injuries
- Toenail issues
- And more!



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GJH production of "Nerdy" hit the stage

"Nerdy" The Musical was recently performed by the Gatesville Junior High Theater Department at the Gatesville High School auditorium.

The production was written, directed, and choreographed by C.T. Williams along with Gatesville High School drama teacher, Amanda Cummings.

The Junior High Theater Department put on two performances of Nerdy - one being a musical and the other being solely a stage production.

The cast members included Jadan Moore, Leylani Ortiz, Alyssa McMasters, Cristian Portillo, Emily Boose, Rowdy Stifflemire, Seth Morris, and Evelyn Berquist.



NERDY CAST: The actors and crew of "Nerdy" pose for a group photo prior to the Saturday afternoon performance. Back Row, left to right, Cristian Portillo, Rowdy Stifflemire, Jax Mullings, Brenna Sharp, Abbi Hogan, Alyssa McMasters, and Seth Morris. Front Row, left to right, Dakota Bryant, Evelyn Bernquist, Yazlin Meija, Jadan Moore, Genesis Ortiz, and Emily Boose.

DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Raffle set for Dayne Zacha's medical bills

A medical raffle is underway for 2022 GHS graduate Dayne Zacha, who was recently diagnosed with leukemia.

Zacha is in his first year of college, majoring in nursing. He plans on being an oncology nurse to help others battling cancer. Zacha has a huge love for his family and for tennis.

Those wishing to contribute to the raffle can purchase a \$50 raffle ticket for a chance to win a half of beef donated by Barnard Beef Cattle Company.

Those purchasing the raffle tickets, if their ticket is not selected, they can use their \$50 donation on any half or whole purchased in the next six months. One hundred percent of the proceeds go to the family.

Four interest-free payments of \$12.50 can be made on PayPal.

To purchase a ticket or

for more information, visit <https://www.barnardbeef.com/product-page/dayne-cole-affle-ticket> or call 254-22-3297.



Three GHS band students auditioned at the area level contest on January 7 at Robinson High School for a chance to earn a position at the ATSSB All-State Band, hosted in San Antonio on February 8 - 11. The students from left to right are Hayden Heck (Bass Clarinet - State Alternate), Carvin Coppersmith (Percussion - 9th Chair), and Jonathan Chavez (Euphonium - State Alternate).

COURTESY PHOTO

GHS band students recently compete at area auditions

Gatesville ISD and Gatesville High School recently recognized students who competed in the ATSSB All Region Audition held on December 3. The contest consisted of some of the very best musicians in the area. On Flute: MaryJane Stevens, Oboe: Easton Keeney, Bb Clarinet: Hayden Heck, Mackenzie Stacher, and Rachel Holden, Tenor Sax: Nathan Elliot, Baritone Sax: Josh Appelmann, Trumpet: Leo Villagrana, Elaina Knobloch, French Horn: Noah Smith,

Kain Malone, Euphonium: Jonathan Chavez, Percussion: Carvin Coppersmith, Wyatt Dunbar, Orion Williams.

Students who earned positions in a band included on Oboe: Easton Keeney 4th Chair, Bass Clarinet: Hayden Heck 1st Chair, Trumpet: Leo Villagrana 16th Chair, French Horn: Noah Smith 12th Chair, Riley Malone 15th, Jonathan Chavez 6th Chair, Percussion: Carvin Coppersmith 8th Chair, Wyatt Dunbar 13th chair.

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

Find Kid Scoop on Facebook

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Kid Scoop Puzzler

Spell a message to Punxsutawney Phil by solving these math problems. Use the number code to see what letter belongs under each answer.

1,190	169	2,222	521
+ 530	+ 362	+ 1,211	+ 213
○	○	○	○
1,697	2,763	Number Code	
+ 234	+ 1,226	531 = A 3,989 = P	
○	○	734 = E 1,931 = U	
		3,433 = K 1,720 = W	

Standards Link: Math/Number Sense: Find the sum of whole numbers to 10,000.

WAKE UP, PUNXSUTAWNEY PHIL!

Groundhogs hibernate all winter long in burrows they dig.

On February 2, weather forecasters all over the United States look to the town of Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania for a little advice. Legend says that the groundhog named Punxsutawney Phil can foretell the weather!

On February 2, the town of Punxsutawney begins the big Groundhog Day celebration before sunrise.

As the sun rises, I get ready to emerge from my stump. All eyes are on me!

Once my prediction has been made, the crowd cheers for me. Then I go back to sleep until spring!

...but if the sun isn't shining, then there are no shadows to be seen. I stay out looking for food, and spring will arrive very soon!

The legend says that if the sun is out, I see my shadow, get scared, and hide back in my burrow, and spring will not arrive for another six weeks...

Oh oh! Phil's snoring shook this story out of order. Number the panels from 1-5 in the correct order.

Shadow Search

Find the shadow that matches Phil exactly.

Why do shadows change size?

Robert Louis Stevenson said a shadow is like a rubber ball because it grows and shrinks throughout a day. Try this experiment to find out why shadows change size.

Stuff you'll need: cup, pencil, flashlight, paper

Hold the flashlight almost directly above the cup. Draw the shadow you see.

Hold the flashlight near the bottom of the cup. Draw the shadow you see.

Think About It: What time of day would Punxsutawney Phil have his long shadow?

Early Morning Noon

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow multiple-step directions.

Double Double Word Search

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

WEATHER

SHADOWS

BURROW

BROWN

LOUIS

CHAMBER

SPRING

SOURCE

FOOD

WEEKS

PHIL

FEBRUARY

SIX

WAKE

L I H P F X S K G G
E K A W O W P N R C
C S I U O L I O N H
R X I D D R U M W A
U C A X P N R G O M
O H B S D Y X U R B
S R E H T A E W B E
Y S O W E E K S X R
F G Y R A U R B E F

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

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Weather Adjectives

Look through the newspaper and choose five adjectives that describe weather. Then look through the newspaper for a picture or cartoon to illustrate each of these adjectives.

Standards Link: Grammar: Identify and use adjectives in writing.

Write On!

When is it spring?

How do you know when winter is over and spring has begun? Write a paragraph explaining how you know.

Standards Link: Physical Science: Objects can be described in terms of their physical properties (shape).

SMART FUN AT HOME

One important thing to understand when you read is cause and effect.

TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

For example, in the legend of Groundhog Day, when the groundhog sees his shadow, he goes back in his burrow. In this case, the **effect** is that the groundhog goes back in his burrow. That is what happens. What **causes** him to get back in his burrow? Getting frightened by his shadow.

Try It!

1. With a parent or learning buddy at home, select an article from today's newspaper. Read the headline. Discuss what you think caused the news reported in the headline.

2. The headline usually tells what happened. This is called an **effect**. Read aloud to your learning buddy the first paragraph of the article. Does this tell you the **cause**? Read the rest of the article aloud. After each paragraph, stop and discuss what you have learned about what caused the news reported in the headline.

Complete the following:

HEADLINE (effect): _____

CAUSE(s): _____

NAME: _____

NAME OF LEARNING BUDDY: _____

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Distinguish between cause and effect in text.

Gatesville Chamber of Commerce to host Murder and Mystery Banquet Saturday

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce members and members of the community are invited to the annual Chamber Banquet, to be held on Saturday, Jan. 28, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. The banquet will be held

at Windmill Hill located at 1808 Bridge Street in Gatesville.

Tickets for the event can be purchased by visiting the Chamber's Facebook website and can also be purchased at the door. In-

dividual tickets will cost \$33.81 and for those preferring to reserve a table (which seats eight), the cost will be \$219.79.

This year's banquet theme will be a "Murder and Mystery" and will be based with a vintage New Orleans setting. To go along with the theme, Cajun food will be served.

There will also be a raffle with proceeds going to the Chamber Scholarship fund. Door prizes will also be presented throughout the evening.

For more information about the 2023 Chamber Banquet, please stop by the Chamber at 2307 S. Hwy 36, or call the office at 254-865-2617.



COURTESY PHOTO

Gatesville Chamber of Commerce visitors depot.

DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of January 19 - 22. While there were many calls to the dispatcher, this is a partial list of more significant activity. Persons are reminded that only emergency calls should be made to 9-1-1, while all other calls to the police department should be made to 865-2226 or to the Sheriff's office at 865-7201.

City of Gatesville Police Department Jan. 19

5:11 a.m., a structure fire was reported in the 200 block of Benoit Road.
11:04 a.m., an accident was reported in the 1600 block of W. Main Street.
12:54 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2500 block of Business Hwy. 36.
3:09 p.m., a brush/grass fire was reported in the 700 block of Bluestem Drive.
10:37 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.
10:39 p.m., harassment was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Hwy. 36.

Jan. 20
1:27 a.m., harassment was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Hwy. 36.
1:31 a.m., a theft was reported in the 3400 block of Jewell Drive.
10:20 a.m., animal cruelty was reported in the 2500 block of Jackson Drive.
3:25 p.m., harassment was reported in the 500 block of Stoneridge Drive.
4:00 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1400 block of E. Main Street.
9:24 p.m., a threat was reported in the 200 block of N. 8th Street.

Jan. 21
10:05 a.m., a threat was reported in the 200 block of Old Osage Road.
1:29 p.m., a fight was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Hwy. 36.
1:45 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 1700 block of Waco Street.
2:48 p.m., a theft was reported in the 1400 block of E. Main Street.

7:27 p.m., an assault was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Hwy. 36.
9:32 p.m., an accident was reported in the 1200 block of N. State Hwy. 36.

Jan. 22
8:34 a.m., a threat was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Hwy. 36.
10:47 a.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 2400 block of S. Business Hwy. 36.
1:32 p.m., a hit and run accident was reported in the 2800 block of State Hwy. 36.
3:28 p.m., a burglary was reported in the 800 block of S. 7th Street.
4:13 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 2300 block of Bridge Street.
4:43 p.m., a reckless

driver was reported in the 10000 block of FM 116.

Coryell County Sheriff's Office Jan. 19

7:25 a.m., animal neglect was reported in the 800 block of CR 269.
11:46 a.m., the theft of a firearm was reported in the 500 block of Nathan Drive.
12:21 p.m., an explosion was reported on FM 116.
3:38 p.m., the burglary of a habitation was reported in the 300 block of Cedar Ridge Road.
4:41 p.m., a dog bite was reported in the 300 block of FM 107.
7:17 p.m., a stolen vehicle was reported on N. Hwy. 36 at Jonesboro.

Jan. 20
4:11 a.m., the burglary of a habitation was reported in the 500 block of Winter Road.
8:18 a.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 200 block of CR 307.
8:20 a.m., a runaway was reported in the 300 block of Memory Lane.
12:18 p.m., fence damage was reported in the 5600 block of FM 1783.
12:44 p.m., shots being fired was reported in the 4000 block of FM 930.
2:11 p.m., a scam was reported in the 100 block of Barton Lane.

Jan. 21
9:23 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 500 block of Perryman Creek Road.
11:55 a.m., a structure

Jan. 22
8:34 a.m., a threat was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Hwy. 36.

10:47 a.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 2400 block of S. Business Hwy. 36.

1:32 p.m., a hit and run accident was reported in the 2800 block of State Hwy. 36.

3:28 p.m., a burglary was reported in the 800 block of S. 7th Street.

4:13 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 2300 block of Bridge Street.

4:43 p.m., a reckless

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No. 1 Steers	
Under 300 lb.	190-235
300-400 lb.	190-235
400-500 lb.	180-215
500-600 lb.	170-195
600-700 lb.	155-185
700-800 lb.	140-165
No. 1 Heifers	
under 300 lb.	170-210
300-400 lb.	160-210
400-500 lb.	160-205
500-600 lb.	160-185
600-700 lb.	140-165
700-800 lb.	120-155
Slaughter Cows	
High Yielding	75-89
Low Yielding	55-65
Fats	67-82
Thin & Shelly	30-45
Packer Bulls (1250-2075 lb.)	
Yield Grade 1&2	70-111
Cow & Calf Pairs	
Young Choice	1300-1600
Young Fair	1100-1300
Aged Pairs	Split & Weighed
Young Pregnancy Test Stocker	
Replacement Cow	500-1350
Number of Head 1061	
Hwy. 36, Gatesville • (254) 865-9121 www.coryellcommission.com	

fire was reported in the 200 block of Woodglen.

3:06 p.m., a welfare concern was reported at Mother Neff State Park.

4:17 p.m., an out-of-control burn was reported in the 4500 block of E. Hwy. 84.

4:37 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 1200 block of Straws Mill Road.

5:12 p.m., a civil matter was reported in the 1200 block of W. Avenue D.

Jan. 22
11:49 a.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 1000 block of CR 299.

2:03 p.m., a reckless driver was reported on FM 1783.

4:15 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 200 block of Wood Glen.

4:45 p.m., a reckless driver was reported on FM 116 near Pidcoke.

6:42 p.m., a threat was reported in the 100 block of FM 1996.

6:48 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 100 block of Liberty.

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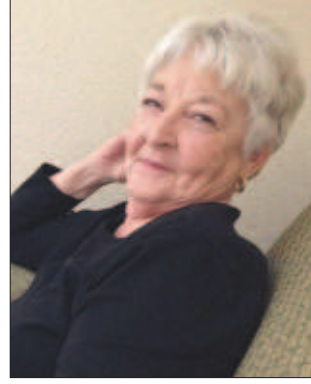
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OBITUARIES

MARY ANNE WILLIAMS

July 1, 1944 - Jan. 18, 2023



Mary Anne Williams, age 78, of Gatesville, passed away on Wednesday, January 18, 2023, in Waco.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, January 21, at St. John Lutheran Church in Coryell City, with Pastor Christopher Richmann officiating. Interment followed at St.

John Lutheran Church Cemetery.

Mary Anne was born on July 1, 1944, in Oswego, New York to the late Clarence Smith and Hertha Weiss Smith. She grew up in McGregor and graduated from McGregor High School in 1962. She married John Macdonald in 1964 and later married Roy Wayne Williams in 1972. She worked at the Gatesville State School for Boys and then for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, retiring after over 30 years of service. She was a dedicated member of St. John Lutheran Church, serving as treasurer and bereavement coordinator for many years. Mary Anne was known as being feisty, mischievous, and sassy and loved life. Mary Anne had a true heart and was fiercely devoted to her family and friends. She loved being "Mimi" to

her four grandchildren. Her spare time was spent reading, gardening, and being a faithful fan of the Dallas Cowboys.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Roy Wayne Williams in 2005.

Mary Anne is survived by her children, Kaycie LeJune and husband Greg, John Macdonald and wife Lana, Barron Williams, and wife Emily; brother David Smith and wife Barby; and her four loving grandchildren, Kelsy Macdonald, Kris Macdonald, Jack Williams, and Michael LeJune. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be made to St. John Lutheran Church, 10801 FM 929, Gatesville, TX 76528, or the Gatesville Care Center, 105 N. 7th Street, Gatesville, TX 76528.

LAVILLAS VERNON CLAWSON

Nov. 25, 1938 - Dec. 11, 2022



Lavillas Vernon Clawson, age 84, passed away on December 11, 2022, in League City. She was born November 25, 1938, to the late Grady and Pauline Vernon.

Lavillas grew up in Coryell County, and in 1957 she married the love of her life, Jim Clawson, from Flat. Jim joined the military hoping they would travel the world, but he got stationed 10 minutes down the road in Ft. Hood, then

later in Ft. Polk, Louisiana. Starting in the 60s, they would take annual trips to Acapulco, Mexico, where she loved the beach. They traveled extensively with their family internationally and in the States. Even in her 80s, Lavillas would take road trips by herself to the Southwest and loved every minute of it. One place that held a special place in Lavillas' heart was the family ranch in Flat where the family has hosted Christmas celebrations for over 55 years.

Lavillas resided for over 30 years on Galveston Bay in the community of Bayview, Texas, and worked for the family business, Kemah Hardware, for many years. She was known for her daily walks and lengthy discussion with all her neighbors, whom she considered close friends and extended family. One of her greatest pleasures was having interesting conversations with people from different cultures and backgrounds, and she was very well-read. She had a hilarious and somewhat inappropriate sense of

humor and would frequently laugh until she cried. She will be greatly missed by all who know her.

Lavillas was preceded in death by her husband, Jim Clawson; parents, Grady and Pauline Vernon; and sisters, Joan Copeland Voss and Jane Copeland Peterson. She is survived by her son, Jim Clawson Jr. and wife, Susan; daughter, Toni Clawson Randall and husband, Randy; grandsons, Tres Clawson and Chandler Randall; great-granddaughter, Addison Randall; and a large extended family of nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life will be held this spring for Lavillas in the community she loved so much. Please follow Toni Randall on Facebook for updates.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Clawson Endowed Chair at Shriners Burn Institute in Galveston, Texas, or the Clawson Endowment at Blocker Burn Unit at UTMB Galveston, Texas.

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KiAndre Gaddy (15), a 6-6 junior forward with Tarleton State University, looks for an opening as he dribbles, flanked by teammates Rod Brown (0), a forward from Memphis, Tennessee, and Shamir Bogues (3), a guard from Killeen, during the Texans' 73-63 men's basketball victory over Chicago State University on Jan. 11.

Four score in double figures to lead Texans past Chicago State

Tarleton Sports Information

STEPHENVILLE – Tarleton State University's Texans remain undefeated at Wisdom Gym this season, capping off their non-conference schedule with a 73-63 win over Chicago State on Jan. 11.

With the win, the Texans finished non-conference play with a winning record for the first time since becoming an NCAA Division I program. "Great win for us," head coach Billy Gillispie said. "Chicago State is a good team, has played against very good teams and had real chances

against them." Tarleton (9-8, 2-2 WAC) got off to a hot start against Chicago State (4-15), picking up the first 10 points of the game. The Texans held the Cougars scoreless over the first three minutes of play and quickly built a 15-3 lead. The Texans' defensive pres-

sure to start the game put a drain on the Cougars' ability to score. Chicago State didn't pick up its 10th point until 10 minutes had passed. The Cougars shot 8-of-26 (.308) from the field in the first half, including 3-of-12 (.250) from beyond the arc.

The Texans built their lead to as high as 17 points before a minor run by the Cougars finished the half with Tarleton leading 37-24.

"Our swarming defense created by our ever-present effort made them not look great in the first half," Gillispie added.

Tarleton returned to the

court with the same intensity it began the game with, starting with an 11-4 run over the first five minutes which grew the lead to 20 points.

"We played extremely hard and were very efficient on both ends – that was the real story of the game," Gillispie said.

The teams traded buckets for a large portion of the second half as Tarleton maintained a 20-point lead. As the Texans earned their largest lead of the game at 58-36, the Cougars responded with a 14-2 run comprised of four consecutive three-pointers.

With the shift in momen-

tum, the Cougars were nine points behind with only one minute remaining in the game. The Texans' physicality in the paint earned four trips to the charity stripe, wiping any sort of momentum the Cougars had.

"It makes you proud as a coach that no matter what challenges you face, these guys always give their all," Gillispie said.

Tarleton was led in scoring by KiAndre Gaddy with 15 points (5-7 FG), tying his season-high performance against Huston-Tillotson in December. He also grabbed seven boards and blocked

three shots, including the last shot of the game by the Cougars, to put a stamp on the commanding Texan victory.

The Fireside District Player of the Game, Shamir Bogues, picked up 13 points (6-9 FG), a team-high eight rebounds and three assists. Texans Lue Williams and Shakur Daniel also picked up 13 points for the game with Daniel securing seven rebounds, all on the defensive side.

Noah McDavid picked up six points and Javontae Hopkins earned five points with two rebounds.

TSU women top UTRGV to snap skid, earn first conference win

Tarleton Sports Information

STEPHENVILLE – Tarleton State University's women's basketball squad had been in a winter freeze offensively during a six-game losing streak, but their Jan. 12 showing was much more familiar, and much needed to get the Texans' season back on track.

The Texans (7-9, 1-4 WAC) took down the University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley (7-8, 1-3) 70-60 at Wisdom Gym in a complete team effort, clicking offensively and shutting down the Vaqueros late for their first conference victory of the year. Tarleton improved to 6-1 in Stephenville this year, and has now split the all-time series against UTRGV, 3-3.

The Texans had their best

shooting performance since Dec. 19 and their most lethal threat from outside since Dec. 6, making 22-of-51 (.431) from the field and 9-of-22 (.409) from distance. They shot at a 17-of-19 (.895) clip from the free throw line, their second-most efficient night from the stripe on the year.

Teresa Da Silva scored her fifth 20-plus point scoring game of the season and her first since Dec. 6, racking up

21 points on 5-of-10 shooting from deep, six rebounds, three assists and a blocked shot. Her five 20-plus point games are tied for the second most such games in the WAC this year, and she's back in the top-five in scoring in the conference at 15.0 points per game.

Mayra Caicedo tied her season-high in assists with six, adding 14 points (7-8 FT) and three rebounds. Elise Turrubiates had a game-high nine rebounds off the bench, also recording 12 points on 6-of-8 shooting, plus three steals in 22 minutes. Jenna Dick scored 10 points with two three-point makes.

The start of games had been troublesome for the Texans recently, so head coach Misty Wilson changed

up the starting group, inserting Mason Jones and Starr Omozee. It paid dividends, presenting a better flow to the offense that kept Tarleton step-for-step with an early good-shooting UTRGV squad. The main culprit for the Vaqueros was Tarleton's former guard Iyana Dorsey had played 50 career games in the purple and white over the past two years. She nailed her first two three-point shots over the first 90 seconds and had seven points in the opening quarter. Six different Texans scored in the first quarter, which ended with UTRGV up by one, 15-14.

In the second quarter, Tarleton hit a brief cold spell that helped UTRGV take their largest lead of the game, up five at 26-21 midway through.

Da Silva buried a three to snap Tarleton out of it, and Dick closed the half with a deep shot with just two ticks remaining to put the Texans in front at the break 28-27.

With 22 points in the third, Tarleton had its highest scoring quarter since Dec. 31. The Texans maintained a healthy lead nearly the entire 10 minutes, but sent the Vaqueros to the free throw line 11 times, so the result was a nail biter with Tarleton leading 50-46 headed to the fourth.

Dick opened the final frame with a three-pointer, but UTRGV answered with six straight to get within one. Then Da Silva, Turrubiates and Caicedo led Tarleton on a 11-0 run to a 12-point lead, not allowing a point for four minutes. That was essentially

the game, thanks to a strong night at the line by Tarleton to ice it.

Dorsey finished with 15 points (3-7 3PT) and two rebounds in 26 minutes. Mele Kailahi had 12 points on 6-of-11 shooting, two rebounds, two assists and two steals. Deborah Ogayemi finished with eight points, eight rebounds, and three steals, but also had eight turnovers.

Tarleton avoided trouble despite being outrebounded 41-30 by scoring 21 points off of 16 forced turnovers, while allowing just three points off of their 13 giveaways. They also forced the Vaqueros to shoot just 23-of-60 (.383) from the field, including 5-of-21 (.238) from beyond the three-point line.

TSU's Hurley co-chair for new WAC-ASUN football conference planning

Tarleton Sports Information

ARLINGTON — The ASUN Conference and the Western Athletic Conference (WAC) announced on Jan. 5 that its football partnership has adopted a basic governance structure and engaged Oliver Luck as Executive Director. Luck begins his consulting role with the group effective immediately. The Council of Presidents will feature co-chairs David McFaddin, Eastern Kentucky University President, and James Hurley, Tarleton State University President, when the new



Hurley

conference officially begins play in 2023.

"Oliver Luck is one of the most respected leaders in NCAA athletics," Hurley said. "He brings an incredible amount of knowledge, passion, and expertise to our common and unified goal. He will work collaboratively with our commissioners, presidents and athletic directors to ensure that our football conference is among the best in the nation."

Luck was a three-year starter at quarterback for West Virginia, finishing his career by leading the Mountaineers to a 26-6 win over Florida in the Peach Bowl. While becoming WVU's all-time leader in touchdown passes and completions, he graduated magna cum laude as a 4.0 honor student in history and was a Rhodes Scholar finalist. Luck was selected by the Houston Oilers in the second round of the NFL draft and played with them from 1982 through 1986. He then earned his law degree from the University of Texas.

In his professional career he has worked with the NFL, served as General Manager of the Rhein Galaxy of the World League of American Football, and was president and CEO of NFL Europe. He adds experience as CEO of the Harris County-Houston Sports Authority and President of Major League Soccer's Houston Dynamos. In 2010 Luck became Director of Athletics at his alma mater, leading the West Virginia program until 2015 when he became NCAA Executive Vice President of Regulatory Affairs. He later served as

Commissioner of the XFL and is now chairman of Altius Sports Partners.

"We have 10 presidents with the same goal — to elevate our institutions through outstanding academic programs, world-class faculty and staff and all of our Division I sports, including our historic football programs competing and winning at the highest possible level of competition and recognition," Eastern Kentucky University President David McFaddin said. "With Oliver Luck's leadership, we have added an important piece of

that equation. This is an exciting time for our schools, our conferences and for the overall growth and strength of both the ASUN and the WAC."

"I'm excited to work with 10 outstanding presidents who have a united vision to build their football programs," Luck said. "Together, with WAC Commissioner Brian Thornton and ASUN Commissioner Ted Gumbart, we are going to build and execute a game plan for success. The NCAA is in a transformational stage and now is a great time to build a new football conference."

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Donald Wayne White, Deceased, were issued on January 18, 2023, in Cause No. 22-10765, pending in the County Court-at-Law of Coryell County, Texas, to: Lonnie White.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: Allen D. Place, Jr.
Attorney at Law
109 S. 7th Street
Gatesville, Texas 76528
DATED the 19th day of January, 2023.
Allen D Place, Jr.
Attorney for Lonnie White
State Bar No.: 16058500
109 S. 7th Street
Gatesville, Texas 76528
Telephone: (254) 865-8475
Facsimile: (254) 865-5274
E-mail: allenplacejr@aol.com
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Attorney for Lonnie White
State Bar No.: 16058500
109 S. 7th Street
Gatesville, Texas 76528
Telephone: (254) 865-8475
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THE STATE OF TEXAS: FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION V. ANDREA LEE ALLEN; DANA MARIE REED; AND THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF ROBERT LARRY MURRAY, DECEASED

Cause No: DC-22-54191
IN THE
52ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

TO: AND THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW ROBERT LARRY MURRAY, DECEASED

Defendant - GREETING
NOTICE TO RESPONDENT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with a clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days after the date you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. In addition to filing a written answer with the clerk, you may be required to make initial disclosures to the other parties of this suit. These disclosures generally must be made no later than 30 days after you file your answer with the clerk. Find out more at TexasLawHelp.org."

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Petition at or before 10:00 o'clock AM on the Monday next after the expiration of 42 days after the date of issuance of this citation before the Honorable 52ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT of Coryell County at the Courthouse in said County in Gatesville, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said court on the 11/10/2022 in the above entitled cause.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to wit: THIS PROCEEDING CONCERNS THE FORECLOSURE OF A LIEN ON THE FOLLOWING REAL PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS COMMONLY KNOWN AS 914 LAURIE LN, COPPERAS COVE, TX 76522, AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS, LOT SEVEN(7). BLOCK NINE (9), MEADOW BROOK ESTATES SECTION THREE, COPPERAS COVE, CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS, AS PER PLAT RECORDING VOLUME 3, PAGE 20 AND/OR CABINET A, SLIDE 141, PLAT RECORDS OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS. REFERENCE TO WHICH IS HEREBY MADE FOR ALL PURPOSES as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Gatesville, Texas, this 29th day of December, 2022.

Attorney for Plaintiff or Petitioner
BRADLEY CONWAY
5601 DEMOCRACY DRIVE, SUITE 265
PLANO, TX 75024

Clerk of the Court:
Becky Moore, District Clerk
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PUBLIC NOTICES

JOINT NOTICE OF SALE

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF CORYELL

BY VIRTUE OF ORDERS OF SALE issued pursuant to judgment decrees of the District Court of Coryell County, Texas, by the Clerk of said Court on said date in the hereinafter numbered and styled causes, and to me directed and delivered as Sheriff of said Court, I have on the 11th day of January, 2023, seized, levied upon, and will on the 7th day of February, 2023, at the Courthouse Steps, at 10:00 A.M. on said day, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all of the right, title, and interest of the defendants in such suit in and to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said defendants, as provided for by the TEXAS PROPERTY TAX CODE.

All of the following properties being located in Coryell County, Texas and each property being more particularly described on an instrument recorded in the Volume and Page reference (V___/P___) or document number of the Deed Records, Coryell County, Texas. The approximate property addresses reflected herein are the addresses on the tax records and may or may not be completely accurate.

PROP #	CAUSE #	STYLE	PROP DESCRIPTION, ADDRESS, ACCT #	MIN BID
1	CTX-14-03135	Coryell County v Tim Sullivan	Lot 5, Block 6, Town of Leon Junction (V468/P37), CR 347, #00000116464	\$15,946.83
2	CTX-19-03559	Coryell County v William Hamey, et al	A Manufactured Home only, L#RAD1069837, S#OVU0028, located on Cedar Grove Estates Mobile Home Park, #53, 53 Locust Drive, #147243	\$2,774.88
3	CTX-21-03711	Coryell County v Prime Choice Properties, LLC	Lot 11, Block 8, Northern Hills Addition, 1st Extension (Instrument #273355), 507 Traei Dr, #123326	\$5,940.69
4	CTX-22-03752	Coryell County v Lidia Chacon, et al	Part of Lot 14 & 15, Block 13, Lutterloh Addition (Instrument #322737), 409 N 14th St, Gatesville, #113140	\$6,666.67
5	CTX-22-03760	Coryell County v Christie Romero, et al	Lot 16, Block 1, Anlo Addition (Instrument #331976), 2108 Saunders St, #111132	\$4,325.60

This sale will be conducted to satisfy the judgment(s) for delinquent property taxes and accrued penalties and interests due on the properties described herein, and for all costs of court and sale.

I do hereby verify that true and correct copies of the foregoing Joint Notice of Sale have been delivered by United States Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, and by regular mail, to each of the Defendants named in each of the numbered and styled causes.

DATED the 11th day of January 2023, at Gatesville, Texas


MIKE GONZALES
Chief Deputy, Coryell County, Texas

You may contact the attorney for the taxing units at (254) 756-7755.

JENNIFER NEWTON
CLERK OF THE COUNTY COURT
P.O. BOX 237
GATESVILLE, TEXAS 76528

ATTORNEY OR PERSON FILING CAUSE
ALLEN D. PLACE JR.
109 S. 7TH STREET
GATESVILLE, TEXAS 76528

TO: DECEDENT'S UNKNOWN HEIRS
UNKNOWN ADDRESS
UNKNOWN STATE

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF CORYELL

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ELAINE WILKEY, DECEASED. CAUSE NO 22-10763, COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS. MARCIA THOMAS FILED IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW ON THE 22ND DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2022, APPLICATION FOR INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION AND LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 401.003 OF THE STATE OF THE TEXAS ESTATES CODE OF SAID ELAINE WILKEY, DECEASED.

SAID APPLICATION SHALL BE HEARD AND ACTED ON BY SAID COURT ON OR AFTER THE FIRST MONDAY NEXT AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF TEN DAYS FROM DATE OF POSTING THIS CITATION, THE SAME BEING THE 30TH DAY OF JANURARY, 2022, AT THE SAME COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS.

ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN SAID ESTATE ARE HEREBY CITED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY AT THE SAME ABOVE MENTIONED TIME AND PLACE BY FILING A WRITTEN CONTESTING SUCH APPLICATION SHOULD THEY DESIRE TO DO SO.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS THE 19th day of January, 2023.

JENNIFER NEWTON
CORYELL COUNTY CLERK
CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

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Hazardous Mitigation Plan to be discussed at Copperas Cove

Local governments have the responsibility to aid in protecting the health, safety, and welfare of their citizens. When disasters hit and cause loss of life, damage property, and infrastructure, they have devastating consequences for a community's economic, social, and environmental well-being. Coryell County has therefore begun development of a countywide Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). An HMP outlines actions to be taken to eliminate or reduce long-term risks to residents and their property from natural hazards.

The goal is to increase Coryell County's resiliency in response to the hazards it faces by developing an HMP. This Plan will identify and outline the types of hazards the County experiences and how the County will address and mitigate vulnerabilities and risks associated with those hazards. Having an HMP in place would benefit the County in numerous ways such as protect public safety and prevent

loss of life and injury, reduce harm to existing and future development, minimize operational downtime and accelerate recovery of government and business after disasters, just to name a few.

Development of a plan requires effort and input from the citizens, cities, and villages in Coryell County as well as County officials. Furthermore, public involvement and feedback is essential to develop a comprehensive HMP. Coryell County citizens can provide vital information by partaking in the "Coryell County Hazard Mitigation Planning Public Opinion Survey". This short survey is comprised of questions about your awareness and concern about natural hazards and their impacts on you, your family, property, and community. Participation in the survey is voluntary and should be completed by an adult. All individual responses are strictly confidential; your name will not be requested or collected,

and your survey responses will be completely anonymous and will be used for research and planning purposes only. The survey is available electronically and will be distributed in paper form at various venues including public meetings and county offices. The survey is currently open and will close on February 12, 2023.

To partake in the survey, please follow this link: <https://s.surveypal.com/qyobvfqy> For more information on the HMP please visit: www.coryell-countyhmp.com The public is encouraged to attend the Copperas Cove Public Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 25, 2023, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, located at 508 S. 2nd Street, Copperas Cove.

Citizens may also join the meeting virtually via Zoom at: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82777686791?pwd=TG1NOU51eJlRGRsrblVOMVc4LlJRdz09>

Gatesville High School Band mattress fundraiser set for Feb. 4

The Gatesville High School Band will hold a fundraiser on Saturday, Feb. 4, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. at Gatesville High School located at 205 S. Lovers Lane. The event will be a "mattress fundraiser" and every purchase will benefit the

school's band program. Among the Beautyrest mattresses sold will include an adjustable base, luxury pillows, and mattress protectors. All sizes will be available, with 25 styles on display. The mattresses are brand new with full factory

warranties including the offer of delivery.

All forms of payment are accepted with financing available. Those purchasing mattresses can save an extra \$50 off on any set over \$299.

Our Lady of Lourdes to celebrate 75 years

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Gatesville will be celebrating its 75th anniversary on Feb. 12. Bishop Joe S. Vasquez, the Bishop of the Diocese of Austin, will be in attendance.

Our Lady of Lourdes is lo-

cated at 1108 West Main St. in Gatesville.

After Mass, there will be a celebration at 1 p.m. at the Gatesville Civic Center with a meal, entertainment, social time, children's games, a talent show, and Loteria

(Spanish BINGO). There will also be an Our Lady of Lourdes History Book and Directory available for \$35 per copy. Meal tickets may be purchased for \$5 each after Sunday Masses or call 254-865-6710.

Gatesville Lions Club will host annual chili supper on Friday

The Gatesville Lions Club will host its 46th annual Homer Davis Chili Supper on Friday, Jan. 27, at the Gatesville High School cafeteria. The supper will begin at 4 p.m. and continue through 7 p.m.

There will be a choice of chili or soup served with beans, a drink, and dessert.

The cost for adults is \$7 per person, and \$4 for children. Tickets for the supper are available at Extraco Bank or can be purchased at the door.

The Gatesville Lions Club is a strong supporter of many Gatesville community functions and humanitarian programs. Weekly meetings

are held at the Junction on Route 36 every Wednesday starting at noon.

Gatesville High School is located at 205 S. Lovers Ln. in Gatesville. For any further information about the event contact the Gatesville Lions Club at 254-865-4626, or by email at gatesvillelionclub@gmail.com.

Retired school personnel to hold first meeting of the year Jan. 26

The first meeting of Coryell Retired School Personnel (CRSP) will be on Thursday, Jan. 26, at Rancher's Steakhouse. It will be an important meeting as the primary activity will be raising money for CRSP's scholarship fund. This will be accomplished through a "silent auction."

Members are asked to provide items for the auction by donating such things as baked goods (cakes, candy, cookies, pies, breads, jams, and jellies for example). Items like gift cards, gift certificates, dishes, hand-crafted items, apparel, jewelry, quilts, knives, books, and a wide variety of other items are acceptable, too.

Money from the silent auction will be placed in the CRSP scholarship fund. Chairman of the Scholarship Committee Velva Riddle explained, "Each year, retired school personnel present two scholarships to deserving high school graduates from Coryell County who are planning to enroll in college in the fall and pursue a career in education."

She requests that scholarship committee members arrive a few minutes early to help set up the silent auction items. Members should bring their donated items at about 9:30 a.m., and they

will have an opportunity to visit, socialize, get that all-important cup of coffee, look over items and place a few bids. Financial donations are also acceptable.

The regular meeting will begin at 10 a.m. The guest speaker will be Stephen Schmidt from the Methodist Church, who will be speaking on "Beginning a New Year."

President Gail Johnson has announced a big legislative event coming up on April 12, "A Day at the Capitol." A bus will take retired school employees from Waco or Belton to Austin and drop them off on the Capitol steps. She explained, "We will visit with the House Gallery around 9:30 a.m. and the Senate Gallery around 10:30 a.m. Amy's ice cream will be served on the East Lawn between 12:30 and 2:00 p.m. Legislators will join us, and we can discuss retirees' needs."

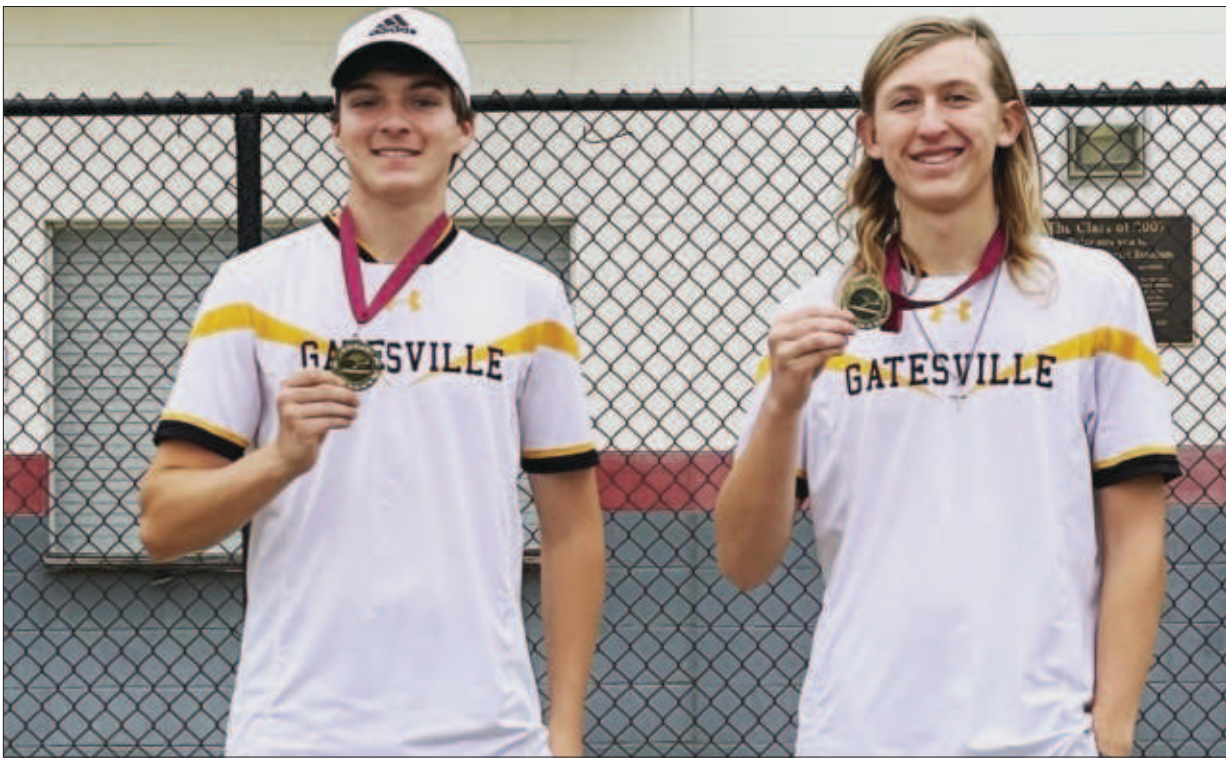
Gail needs to know if any members are interested in going to A Day at the Capitol. Bus tickets are \$20. She is needing to turn in a bus count soon. She can be texted, emailed, or called at 254-865-4388 or gg4johnson@yahoo.com.

There are only three meetings and a workshop re-

maining before the group's summer break. If members want to mark their calendar, they are as follows: (Feb. 22) "Bingo for Books" to support their Children's Book Project; (March 23) "Love Story of Elizabeth Barrett Browning" as presented by M.J. Wofford; (April 27) "What's New in 4-H?" with Becky Coward and members of 4-H; (May 16) District XII Spring Leadership Meeting at the Region 12 Service Center in Waco, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

One final reminder for members: Debbie Grmela, chairman of Local Community Volunteer Services, requests, "Members who have not turned in ALL volunteer service hours for 2022, PLEASE turn them in at this meeting. Our chapter's total count is due very soon." Members are also welcome to turn in their volunteer hours for this January, but keep them separate from those in 2022.

Gatesville High School tennis players bring home the gold & silver



SE'VETTE EARLY | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

(Left photo) Ty Warren and Alex Scott won first place in boys doubles competition Jan. 20 in Bastrop. (Right photo) Slone Early won second place in boys singles competition.



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Hornets battle past Pirates, 53-52



SE'VETTE EARLY
THE GATESVILLE
MESSANGER

Rayshon Smith brings the ball downcourt vs. Salado. On Jan. 20, Gatesville defeated Salado, 53-52.

Gatesville earns victory at La Vega for first time since 2008

BY CHRIS ALLMAN
Sports Correspondent

West Allman hit a go-ahead layup in the closing seconds and Tyler Shea blocked a layup on La Vega's final possession to secure a 53-52 win on the Pirates home floor – giving Gatesville their first road win in the series since 2008.

"The win itself was awesome. I love the fact that we pulled it out," said head coach Brit Campbell. "It's tough to win on the road in district and it's tough to win at La Vega. They are a very good team and to beat them on the road was great for us."

The Hornets (23-4, 2-1) led by double-digits for most of the first half and led 34-26 at the half before La Vega clawed back in the third quarter. The Hornets led 39-38 after three quarters but the Pirates took their first lead at 40-39 early in the fourth.

La Vega (14-10, 1-2) led 50-45 in the fourth when the Hornets battled back. After rallying back from nine points down in one minute to beat Salado in the previous game, overcoming a five-point deficit over four

minutes didn't seem to phase the Hornets. "I think Tuesday, having to come back, helped that," Campbell said.

Shea cut the lead to 50-48 when he buried a three-pointer with just under four minutes left. The Hornets later tied it at 50-50 when Trae Miller picked up loose ball and dropped in a short jumper with 1:50 to play.

On the following possession La Vega guard Monta Hilliard got into the paint, hit a layup and drew a foul for a 52-50 lead. He missed the free throw and, on the ensuing possession, the Hornets quickly found Carter Williams who was fouled and hit one of two free throws to make it 52-51 La Vega with 51 seconds left.

A foul from the Hornets sent La Vega's Qwae Willis to the line where he missed both of his free throw attempts. Shea rebounded the miss and hit Williams, who pushed the ball up to West Allman on the right wing.

The sophomore forward – who hit the game-tying and go-ahead baskets against Salado – got past the La Vega defense and hit a runner to give Gatesville a 53-52 lead

with 13 seconds to play.

Following a timeout, Hilliard attempted to get to the basket for a game-winner only to have his attempt rejected by Shea. Hilliard gathered the loose ball and was able to put up a runner that was also rebounded by Shea securing the win.

After falling down 8-1 to start the game, the Hornets led by as many as 12 points in the first half thanks to the near-perfect shooting from Banner Allman. The senior guard scored 21 of his game-high 23 points in the first half and hit all nine of his field goal attempts in the half. He also added seven rebounds. Shea had 15 points and 9 rebounds in the game.

"We just played (in the first half)," said Campbell. "I thought guys were being aggressive and we were handling their pressure well. We executed and pushed the ball in transition pretty well."

In the third quarter, the Hornets attempted just two shots.

"I didn't like our third quarter. We weren't as aggressive, and they picked up our pres-

sure. We got away from doing things the right way," Campbell said.

Campbell said he saw the win as most important to the district standings but was less concerned about whether the win validated his team's credentials to those outside the program.

"I would say in a way yes just because it's district and you have to turn it up a notch in district. Any time you can do that it's a validating win," he said. "Others might have needed to see that too. It's been a long time since Gatesville has won at La Vega."

Connally sits atop the district standings at 3-0 and is followed by Gatesville and China Spring at 2-1. La Vega and Salado are both 1-2 while Robinson is 0-3.

The Hornets faced the Rockets in Robinson on Jan. 24 and will close out the first half of district play at home against China Spring on Jan. 27.

Connally was set to play China Spring on Jan. 24, while La Vega was scheduled to take on Salado.

Gatesville ranked 23rd in Lone Star Cup standings

BY CHRIS ALLMAN
Sports Correspondent

Gatesville High School is tied for 23rd among 213 Class 4A member schools in the UIL Lone Star Cup standings announced on Jan. 20.

The UIL Lone Star Cup is awarded annually to six high schools, one in each of the six UIL classifications, based on their team performance in district and state championships. The winning schools in each classification will receive the UIL Lone Star Cup trophy and a \$1,000 scholarship.

The first standings include results from Team Tennis, Cross Country, Marching Band, Military Marching Band, Volleyball, Robotics BEST, Football, Congress, and Spirit and the Hornets share the No. 23 spot in 4A with Canyon West Plains and Comal Davenport.

Canyon Randall currently sits in first place in the 4A standings while China Spring is No. 3, Lago Vista is at No. 7 and Glen Rose is tied with three other schools at No. 18. The Hornet football team lost to Glen Rose in the second game of the season while the Hornet Volleyball team fell in five games to Lago Vista in the regional quarterfinals. Gatesville and China Spring are district opponents in Boys and Girls basketball as well as baseball and softball.

Standings will be updated two more times during the current 2022-2023 school year to include winter and spring athletics, academics, and One-Act Play.

The Lone Star Cup was first awarded after the 1997-98 school year.



GLADYS WHITENBURG | THE GATESVILLE MESSANGER

Payton Armstrong outruns a defender for Gatesville during a home soccer game. On Jan. 20, the GHS girls defeated Florence, 8-0, to improve to 6-1, while the GHS boys beat Florence 5-1 to improve to 5-0-2. The soccer teams will host Academy on Friday, Jan. 27.

OHS splits with Abbott

Oglesby split their Jan. 20 basketball games vs Abbott.

The Lady Tigers defeated the Lady Panthers, 46-34.

Lacie Luckie led the team with 20 points, 10 rebounds, and two assists. Addison Hamilton had nine points, seven rebounds, and three assists. Hailey Meyers had nine points and six rebounds. Matti Dixon had two points, four rebounds and four assists. Alyssa Castillo had two points, five rebound and one assist. Charolette Richtie had two points, four rebounds and two assists. Jayda Gonzalez had two points.

The Tigers fell to the Panthers, 58-27. Tyler Fossett led the team with eight points, 10 rebounds and two assists. Hunter Walter had eight points, and four rebounds. Alex Castillo had six points, two rebounds and three assists. Hunter Ewing had two points, and two rebounds. Johnny Gomez had two points, and Gomez Fisher had one point, three rebounds and one assist.