

SERVING CORYELL COUNTY SINCE 1881 | VOLUME 121, No. 11, ISSN No. 0894-4954

Military, Vietnam veterans honored

BY JEFF OSBORNE Senior Writer & Editor

Community members and soldiers stationed at North Fort Hood gathered for the 15th Annual Military Appreciation Fish Fry on Feb. 10 at the Gatesville Civic Center, which included a pinning ceremony to recognize Vietnam veterans.

The ceremony was hosted by the Central Texas Chapter of the Association of the United States Army (AUSA) and recognized the following honorees, each of whom served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War: Stan Esparza, Bill Don Gifford, Amador Guajardo, John P. Kieltyka, Eloy Mainez, John Pitts, Thomas E. Preston, Ronnie Lee Snively, Norman Wibbenmeyer.

Mayor Gary Chumley thanked those attending for participating in the event.

"For those of you in the military, we appreciate you being here and allowing us to honor you," he said. "Time is one of the greatest gifts you can give someone, and we thank you for your time."

Chumley also recognized U.S. Army veteran and Gatesville City

PLEASE SEE MILITARY | A2



JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER Major Gen. Joseph A. Edwards talked about how what people do - regardless of how big or how small - matters. He was speaker for the 15th Annual Military Ap-

preciation Fish Fry on Feb. 10.



JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Pastor Buddy Wheat of The Presbyterian Church of Gatesville, a retired U.S. Army colonel, gave the invocation at the Military Appreciation Fish Fry.

Organ donations can create opportunity to save people's lives

BY JEFF OSBORNE

Senior Writer & Editor

While the subject of organ donations is rarely discussed, it does offer the opportunity for people at the end of their lives to save someone else's life — and potentially to save multiple lives.

Alyssa Stills, who works for the Southwest Transplant Alliance (STA), spoke to the Gatesville Lions Club on Feb. 8 about the impact people can make by choosing to be organ donors. After spending time with the U.S. military in Iraq, where she met her husband, Gatesville firefighter Jeremy Stills, Alyssa Stills attended the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor and graduated from the registered nurse training program. She worked as a surgical trauma nurse before going to work for STA. "I had a patient who was a soldier who tried to end his life," Stills said. "I sat with his mother for several days in the ICU (intensive care unit of a hospital). She decided to donate his organs when he died. His ending didn't have to be tragic, he could go out a hero by helping others.'

one's ability to be an organ donor. Stills said that people up to age 100 can be listed as organ donors.

"We determine the medical suitability (of potential donations), and when it comes to end of life options we discuss organ donation options," Stills said. "The hospital team is not allowed to talk about it (with patients or families). It has to be discussed with an



That experience inspired Stills to become an advocate for organ donation, "and I'm very passionate about what I do," she said.

About 112,000 people in the United States are awaiting a lifesaving organ transplant, Stills said, including 10,000 in Texas.

"With each donor, eight people can be saved and about 75 can be affected with tissue donation," she said.

Even old age doesn't necessarily prohibit

organ procurement organization (OPO)."

Three OPOs serve Texas, including the one that Stills works for. She said that circumstances that allow for organ donation include gunshot wounds, various accidents, falls which later cause a fatality, drug overdoses, and drownings.

Those who have conditions such as HIV or hepatitis C are not prevented from donating organs, as long as those receiving the organs also have those same conditions.

In order to be able to donate organs, the donor must be on a ventilator at the time of death so that the organs can be kept alive even after the patient dies.

"Just 1% of people who register to be donors are actually able to do so," Stills said. When determining if someone can be an organ donor, the heart and head of a patient are considered separately.

"The heart is very unique," Stills said. "It has special cells and as long as it gets oxygen it can beat on its own, it doesn't need the brain to do so. As long as the heart gets

PLEASE SEE **ORGAN** | A2

JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Alyssa Stills with the Southwest Transplant Alliance spoke to the Gatesville Lions Club about the importance of organ donations.

Fennimore Street house renovation nears completion

BY JEFF OSBORNE

Senior Writer & Editor

About a year and a half after a Waco man first talked to the Gatesville City Council about planned repairs for a house at 308 Fennimore St., work is substantially complete at the structure that had been ruled substandard by the city in 2021.

Dennis Berry had originally hoped to complete renovations much earlier that were needed to bring the house into compliance with city code requirements.

In January, City Manager Bill Parry said electrical work at the house was done, and the power was on.

"There has been progress," Parry told the Gatesville City Council on Jan. 24. "We're probably about five days away from finishing the project, but six months ago we were about five days away from finishing the project."

Berry said problems with securing contractors disrupted the renovation process, and he had asked for additional time to finalize repair work.

The Council decided to give Berry until the Feb. 14 meeting to have the house in full compliance and ready for inspection.

"He is showing a good faith effort on his part and trying to get this done," said Mayor Gary Chumley. "I've got no problem with giving him until the next council meeting (to finish work) with no penalties."

The council could have started issuing citations starting Jan. 25, Parry noted.

"I walk past it almost every day and have seen the work being done," said Council member John Westbrook. "He (Berry) has made a concerted effort to get things done."

The house previously belonged to Adelia McDonald until her death. Berry's sister-in-law had lived there at one time before moving away. Berry had hoped to make renovations, and depending on his sister in-law's plans, possibly sell the home.

In 2021, the structure was valued at \$31,290, and the needed repairs were expected to cost at least \$15,000 to \$20,000. According to the Coryell County Central Appraisal District, the house was valued at \$52,080 for 2022. There was no listed appraisal value for 2023 on the Coryell CAD website.



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JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER Ronnie Lee Snively (center) is recognized for his military service.



JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER Eloy Mainez (center) is recognized for his military service.



JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER Amador Guajardo (center) is recognized for his military service.



JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER Stan Esparza (center) is recognized for his military service.



JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER



JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER Norman Wibbenmeyer (center) is recognized for his military service. John P. Kieltyka (center) is recognized for his military service.







JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER Thomas E. Preston (center) is recognized for his military service.

JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER John Pitts (center) is recognized for his military service.

JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER Bill Don Gifford (center) is recognized for his military service.

MILITARY FROM PAGE A1

Manager Bill Parry at the event. Parry, who has served as city manager since 2015, was previously director of the Heart of Texas Defense Alliance and before that, the garrison commander at Fort Hood.

Regarding the AUSA pinning ceremony, Chumley said it was important to recognize the Vietnam veterans "and give them the recognition they deserve and didn't get when they came home."

Sponsors of the event were the city of Gatesville, Gatesville Chamber of Commerce and the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce Foundation and the Gatesville Fire Department

Carla Manning, the military affairs representative for the Chamber, introduced the speaker, Major Gen. Joseph A. Edwards, commander of First Army Division West.

"Thank you to the leaders of the com-

munity with Gatesville at the center of all that, on behalf of all units stationed at Fort Hood," Edwards said. "Thank you for what you do for us. What you do matters and we're eternally grateful. That's what I say to the soldiers - what you do matters, no matter how small or how big.

"That American flag we fly and you wear on your shoulder means something. It stands for freedom and is a beacon of hope to people around the world. It is a sign of hope that we are here to defend you. You are the 1% of Americans allowed to stand up and defend our nation so that others may live freely. You're not alone. First responders, I salute you as well. What you do matters as well. We are one big team. God bless each and every one of you.

Ken Cox with the Central Texas AUSA chapter commended Division West for its work.

"There's some unsung heroes that work at Fort Hood and that's Division West," he said.

"It is a distinct honor for us to participate in the pinning ceremony. It is important for us to make sure these veterans receive the appreciation and recognition they should have received years ago"

KEN COX

Central Texas AUSA representative

"They get overlooked sometimes but what they do to get us ready (to mobilize) is really crucial to what we do.'

Cox also paid tribute to those Vietnam veterans who were recognized.

"It is a distinct honor for us to participate in the pinning ceremony," he said. "It is im-

portant for us to make sure these veterans receive the appreciation and recognition they should have received years ago. As authorized by Congress and on behalf of our nation we are doing now what we should have done 50 years ago. We are honoring Vietnam vets and their families."

There are 7.2 million Vietnam veterans and 9 million families connected with them, Cox said, adding, "Too many fought in Vietnam and didn't return home. There are 58,307 names on the Vietnam Veterans Wall (the list of those who died in service) at an average age of 23 years. We recognize all Vietnam veterans who served between Nov. 1, 1955, and May 15, 1975.

Cox said the pins given to the Vietnam veterans "are intended to be a lasting memento of our nation's gratitude."

A full banquet room at the civic center gave a standing ovation to the Vietnam veterans who were honored.

ORGAN

FROM PAGE A1

oxygen, the brain doesn't have to be alive."

Before someone is allowed to donate organs, the hospital gives a clinical exam and measures different items, such as brain stem reflexes. A patient is allowed to pass peacefully and then surgeons and a recovery team work to secure organs, Stills said.

"I strongly believe if everybody was educated on the amazing things that organ donations can do and what they can be used for, more people would donate," she said.

A heart can save one person, lungs can save up to two, a

liver can save one, kidneys can save two and other organs, such as the pancreas, intestines, corneas from the eyes, bone and even skin can help people in a variety of ways.

In some instances where the organs are not transplanted, they can still be used for medical studies - research and education that helps to provide invaluable information in helping doctors find alternate treatments, Stills said. One of the areas being studied is how to reduce pain without the use of opioids.

In some cases, organ donors remain anonymous according to their family's wishes, but in others, there is an opportunity for people to see how a loved one's organs help to save lives.

"I was able to be with a mother who lost her 8-year-old son in an accident, and she was able to listen to her son's heart beat in someone else's body," Stills said.

Experiences like that underline the lifesaving impact that organ donations can have, she said.

"It will definitely give you a different perspective on organ donation," Stills said.

In addition to STA, other OPS serving Texas are LifeGift and the Texas Organ Sharing Alliance. More information about organ donations can be found online at www.donatelifetexas.org.





General Manage JANICE VELASQUEZ

DEADLINES: Submit all news articles, classifieds and display advertising by 10am Friday for the Wednesday issue and 10am Wednesdav for the

Articles about events that have occurred 30 days prior to submissior will not be accepted. However, they will be accepted as paid advertise ments All articles and advertisment must meet our standards and

newspaper format as determined by management The Gatesville Messenge is not responsible for copy omission, typographical error or any unintentional error other than to publish a correction.

(ISSN-08944954) | P.O. Box 799. Gatesville. TX 76528 | 116 South 6th St., Gatesville. Texas 76528 | 254-865-5212 The Gatesville Messenger is published every Wednesday and Saturday by Messenger Publishing Co. Inc., Periodical class postage paid at Gatesville, TX 76528.

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



Grave marker of Jesse Graham located in Restland Cemetery in Gatesville.

CORYELL COUNTY HISTORICAL MARKER "SPOTLIGHT"

Jesse Graham (1804-1887)

Marker Text

Noted Coryell County pioneer and pastor Jesse Graham was born in North Carolina. He moved with family to Tennessee and then to Alabama, where he married Martha Jane Fanning and became a Primitive Baptist minister. By 1850, the Grahams, who would have 12 children, were in Texas. In 1855, they moved to Coryell County, settling along Brown's Creek. The next year, Graham organized Sugarloaf Baptist Church, which he pastored. He also helped establish Rainey's Creek Baptist Church. Elder Jesse Graham served as a circuit riding preacher to a large portion of central Texas. After his death, he was buried in Graham Cemetery before being reinterred in Restland Cemetery.

FROM MY FRONT PORCH Would-a, could-a, should-a: Oh, the choices we make in our lives!

SAM HOUSTON

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

any people have heard the expression, "would-a, could-a, should-a" It refers to decisions where a person might have taken a different path than the one they actually chose. In a recent conversation a friend used the expression, and it got me to thinking about some decisions in my life and some of the things I "could-a, would-a, shoulda."

If I could go back:

I "would-a" taken music courses in high school and college and learned to play an instrument if only I had realized how important music was to me. It would have allowed me to have the fun of playing along with some of my talented music friends and would a been a big help during the times when I produced musical shows. I know I can't sing, but I sure could-a been part of the band. I guess I was too preoccupied with sports and girls.

Some years ago, while visiting Las Vegas, I "could-a" seen Frank Sinatra live at the Sands Hotel and Casino. I chose not to go because the friends I was with wanted to do something else. I tried to convince my travel companions but finally gave in to their wishes. I have made it a point to see as many great performers as possible. I have attended the shows of George Strait, Elvis, George Jones, the Eagles, Loretta Lynn, Tammy Wynette, Willie, and many others. I will always regret I did not go and see the Chairman of the Board. It is an opportunity lost that will never come again and yes, I regret it.

I "should-a" taken someone up the many invites I have received to go snow skiing, especially since there vacation home at no cost. I right way from the beginam not really a cold weather

was always too busy to take give skiing a try. Opportunity missed.

tention to my accounting breaking and tearing variand math classes in college if I had any awareness of how important numbers older version of me. Then were in business as well as again, without all those esin your personal life. Keeping good books, knowing where you stand financially, are mornings when I roll understanding where your out of bed and wish I had money comes from and listened, at least a little bit. where it goes, is essential to having financial security. When I was going through this world we make the best those classes I never had decision we can at the time, any idea of how often I would use the information quences. Life is like a great that was being taught. Paying closer attention would only makes one revolution. have saved me a lot of time and aggravation.

golf at a young age rather might have happened if in than waiting until my 20s. I "could-a" received professional instruction and learned the proper way to swing and hold a club instead of trying to teach myself and then having to unlearn all my bad habits. never know. Golf is such a wonderful game and one that can still Don't waste time thinking be enjoyed late in life. The game is frustrating enough without trying to unlearn all have been times the "swing flaws" I made by when I could have gone with teaching myself. Sometimes friends and stayed at their it is just best to learn the



HOUSTON

young, in shape, and ath- those folks who told me the letic. It probably would have things I was doing were gobeen fun and enjoyable but I ing to make my body really hurt when I got old. Those the time and go. Now I am folks were absolutely right too old and out of shape to and knew 100% what they were talking about. Riding rough stock, working in the I "would-a" paid more at- oilfield, playing ball and ous bones and muscles have all come back to haunt the capades life would have been pretty dull. Still, there

Life is full of "I would-a, could-a, should-a's" but in and live with the consebig merry go round, but it There is no going back once decisions have been made. I "could-a" learned to play It is fun to imagine what the poker game of life different cards had been drawn. My experience tells me most folks imagine they would have drawn aces. Wonder if they consider they might have drawn deuces? We will

> Thought for the day: about what could have been when you could be thinking about what could be.

> Until next time I'll be ridin' the storm out.

sam@hcnews.com | 817-73-7066, ext. 260

Oglesby Lions Club to host annual Rattlesnake Roundup, Feb. 25-26

nual Rattlesnake Roundup snake Roundup will include

RMP M41774

Jeff Tesar

Office: (254) 404-2242

The Oglesby Lions Club on Saturday, Feb. 25, and a snake show and vendor "The Texas Snake Man," will a.m.-5 p.m. There will also be need to be signed, and a corwill be hosting the 53rd an- Sunday, Feb. 26. The Rattle- fair, which will take place at perform live demonstrations

O & J SUPERIOR

PLUMBING

AMERA LOCATOR

RPZ Backflow

the Oglesby Community Center. General admission will

be \$5. Children under six years of age are free to enter. Oglesby Independent School cords. In 2006, Bibby held 10 District will provide breakfast on Saturday and Sunday mornings from 7-10 a.m. Concessions will be taken ness World Record in the care of by the Oglesby Volunteer Fire Department and in Mouth" category. the Oglesby ISD.

World famous snake han- Saturday from 9:30 a.m.-5 dler Jackie Bibby, known as p.m. and Sunday from 11:30

at 10 a.m., noon, 2 p.m., and 4 p.m. Bibby has more than 50 years of snake handling experience. Bibby is known for taking risks to break rewestern diamondback rattlesnakes in his mouth for 12.5 seconds, setting the Guin-"Most Live Rattlesnakes Held

The Vendor Fair will be

live entertainment from "Ed Leonard & Friends" on Saturday from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. On Sunday, "Tell Runyan" will perform from 1-4 p.m.

Snake registration will be on Saturday morning, Feb. call 25. Registration will open at 7 a.m. with a fee of \$5. There will be no professional snake Feb. 26. A Safety Pledge will up.

rect hunter's license will be required.

A car/motorcycle show will take place on Feb. 25, and a community blood drive.

more information For 469-450-4973, or email oglesbyrattlesnakeroundup@gmail.com. Information can be found online hunters, and snakes will not on Facebook at Oglesby Libe registered after 10 a.m. on ons Club Rattlesnake Round-



STAFF PHOTO THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER Onlookers watch as members of the Oglesby Rattlesnake Roundup handle dozens of live rattlesnakes at a past show held in Oglesby.





We havel

you call

OBITUARIES

CARLA JO SPANIHEL Nov. 29, 1956 - Feb. 5, 2023



Carla Jo Spanihel, age 66, of Gatesville, passed away Sunday, February 5, 2023. A memorial service was held on Friday, February 10, at 2 p.m. at Scott's Funeral Home with Rev. Bruce Cox officiating.

ber 29, 1956, in Houston to tage and learning about her the late John Edward and family history. Joneva (Blanchard) Phipps. She graduated from Northbrook High School in 1976. She later attended Mary Hardin-Baylor for a short time.

She met Anthony James Spanihel in Houston while daughter, Stephanie Lam he was attending mortuarv school and she, ironically, at a monument com- and Jemma Lam; brother, pany. They were married on November 6, 1982. Karla; sister, Elizabeth They resided in El Campo Hudnall and husband, for a while where they be- Charlie; nephew and niece, gan their family. They had Jackie Posey and Jennitwo daughters; Tiffany Marie, June 29, 1984, who loved like one of her own passed shortly after birth children; other nieces and and Stephanie Marie a year nephews to include Cortis later in 1985. Anthony's ca- and Kristin Phipps, and reer then led them to live Matthew, Hannah and Hayin Dallas for a few years lee Blumrick; as well as 5 where they added a son, great nieces and nephews Marcus Anthony, to com- and many others that she plete their family. In 1995 loved dearly.

to live near Carla's family. Carla worked for Gatesville ISD for many years working in the cafeteria. She was blessed to be able to work at the Meadows while her mom was a resident there. That allowed her to see her every day. She also worked at Walmart for a while where she made many friendships she cherished.

they moved to Gatesville

Carla enjoyed quilting but her favorite thing to do was spend time with her grandbabies, Joleen and Jemma. She loved children and making sure they were taken care of and loved, and her door was always open for any child who needed a place to stay. She loved her furry friends and had many pets over the years. Carla adored her family, loved her parents and the family farm, and Carla was born Novem- was very proud of her heri-

> Carla was preceded in death by her parents, John and Joneva; husband, Anthony; son, Marcus Anthony Spanihel; and daughter, Tiffany Marie Spanihel.

> She is survived by her and husband, Dustin; grandchildren. Joleen Johnny Phipps and wife, fer Upchurch, whom she

Remembering Uncle Bob

BY DAVID SCOTT Staff Writer

obert Lee "Uncle Bob" Saunders was an early-day resident of Gateslle and the son of one of Gatesville's early business pioneers. Born in 1880 in Gatesville, Uncle Bob had many memories and stories from his childhood which, later in life, he put in writing during the 1940s and 1950s for The Gatesville Messenger in a weekly column entitled "Down Memory Lane."

always had a .45 pistol belted around their middles. And we read in story books that lots of the old-time marshals wore two pistols tied down to their legs so they could make a quick draw. Maybe so, may Anyway, we never had any two-gun officers in Gatesville or Coryell County, at least not in my time, and my times date from the middle 1880's when the Legislature placed a law on the statue books to the effect that it was agin the law for the ordinary citizen to go gunned up. Way back yonder, Gatesville had the reputation According to John Frank of being a purty tough little town, but we never ville Messenger from had to have one of them two-gun marshals to tame her. I have read stories of where them town-tamers West Main Street home in had to ride or walk down the shadow of the county the middle of the street so he could watch all the alleys and corners to have an even break with the bad boys in Coryell County that would take a pot shot at you from the bushes; but most of our bad men had the guts to shoot at you in the open when it come time to do any shooting. Never speaking. He was spared was in my day and time but any tedious research as one or two bush-whackings here in town proper. Course, west of Cowhouse he could weave into his Creek, the folks who lived own inimitable embroidery in Missouri and Langford's using colorful anecdotes, Cove indulged in a good deal of shootings from the bushes; in fact, for a good, long time it was a yearround sport with them. Never heard of but one umn was a hit with the peace officer that had the readers of the newspaper nerve to ride out there and make an arrest, and that was Wild Bill Wilson, deputy sheriff under Jim Raby back in the early 1870's. Wild Bill didn't get the job done, for them boys shot him from the bushes." For those wishing to read Memory Lane column more of Uncle Bob's stowhich appeared in the ries, they can be found in June 18, 1948 issue of The a bound volume entitled "Down Memory Lane" which is sold at the Coryell Museum's gift shop. The "Back yonder the Old museum is located at 718

CLARA DELOIS (LAWRENCE) LYNN

Sept. 23, 1930 - Feb. 2, 2023



Clara DeLois (Lawrence) Lynn, age 92, of Bellmead, passed away February 2, 2023. Funeral services were held at 11 a.m., Monday, February 6, 2023, at the First Baptist Church in Oglesby. The family received visitors from 6-8 p.m., Sunday February 5, 2023, at Cole Funeral Home in McGregor.

Clara, better known as "Dee," or "NeNo," was born September 23, 1930, to L.E. (Tobe) and Mary Agnes Pearl (Springfield) Lawrence. She grew up in the Oglesby area before marrying Joe Wesley Lynn in 1950.

She was no stranger to hard work, first picking cotton and working the

DEAN WARE July 24, 1926 - Feb.18, 2023



Dean Ware, age 96, of Gatesville, passed away on Wednesday, February 8,

farm as a child and young adult, then later retiring from Imperial Woodworks after 35 years of service.

Her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren will remember her fondly as a loving, devoted, and selfless mother.

She was a woman of faith who used her gift with children to serve in the nursery of the Oglesby First Baptist Church for over 50 years.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Joe, and siblings Jack, Velma, Willie Bell, Ray, Wayne, Bill, and Peggy Joyce.

She is survived by a son, Gary Lynn of Bellmead, daughter, Jorene Everett of Oglesby, sister Nancy Greene of Lorena, niece Carolyn Derrick and husband, John, of Gatesville, granddaughter Amber Burns and husband. David. of Woodway, granddaughter Kylie San Miguel and husband, Ryan, of Denton, grandson Adam Lynn and wife, Stephanie, of Hewitt, grandson Scott Everett and wife, Kacey, of Robinson, great-grandchildren Aleah. Bella, Clara, Xander, Abigail, Ava, Jolie, and Lucas, and many nieces and nephews.

The family would like to thank the staff at Hillside Medical Lodge for their care and support.

dings, and local special oc-

casions, Dean created joy

for others in the thousands

of floral arrangements she

created over the next two

decades. She took pride in

her floral designs, from the fresh flowers all the way to the perfect bow and her arrangements were special

to all those that received

Dean's creative spirit

would spread beyond the floral shop. She loved to sew and crochet, bake

cakes and cookies for oth-

ers, and garden in her spare

time. She enjoyed traveling

and experiencing new plac-

es with her husband. With

them.

JEANIE K.

HENLINE "KATY"

May 7, 1957 – Jan. 15, 2023

Jeanie K. Henline, age 65, of Gatesville, passed away on January 15, 2023. Katy was born on May 7, 1957, to Annie Jeanette Fears and Bobby Gene Fears.

Katy became a charge nurse in the early 80s at the Rotunda Nursing Home where she did what she loved — taking care of those in need. When she took care of those close to her, she gave you three options: Nurse Nice, Nurse Dana Millsap; her grand-Nasty, and Nurse Gestapo. You never knew what she she was like her favor- his wife, Zoe Potter, Mat-Squarepants. She would have you laughing one moment and crying the next!

early age; and after she and his wife, Sandy Fears; had her three beautiful as well as her Aunt Neter girls, she found the love Lum and her many nieces of her life, Robert Henline. and nephews and special On July 23rd, 1993, Pastor Sonny Garman pronounced them husband and wife. Katy attended Grace Assembly Church, with Pas-

JOANN **FLEETWOOD**

Dec. 17, 1931 - Feb. 10. 2023

Joann Fleetwood, age 91, of Gatesville, passed away family has requested that on Friday, February 10, memorials be made to the 2023, in Temple.

tor Wrav Nunn and Thelma Nunn, for most of her life. They taught her and Robert how to become ministers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This is where she began playing her yellow electric guitar and assisting with fellowship. She ministered her love of her Father, Jesus Christ, and sowed the seeds that led people to Jesus Christ.

Katy, to all who knew her, was a kind, loving, and giving person. She never met a stranger and she always brightened a room. Many considered her to be a mother figure, as she opened her arms to anyone she met. Like a mother figure she didn't refrain from "setting you straight", as she did not stand for any "nonsense." She was a 5-foot, 100-pound spit fire! She is loved by many! Her love for God and her family will always be remembered by those who knew her.

Jeanie K. Henline is survived by her doting husband, Robert Henline and her children; Annie Aviles and her husband, Erasmo Aviles, Melinda Greene, and children Whitney Escobar and her husband, Gerardo was going to say or do, Escobar, Travis Potter and ite character, Spongebob thew Aviles, Carson Aviles, and Christian Aviles; her siblings Gaylen Henson, Tammy Strickland, Jason Katy found Christ at an Lee, and Bobby Fears Jr. friends.

> She was preceded in death by her parents and beloved sister Cindy Gordon.

ers in need. Her spirit of love and generosity, along with a lifelong passion for learning, knowledge, travel, and independence is a gift passed down to her family.

In lieu of flowers the Boys and Girls Club, 2533 Graveside services at Da- E. Main Street, Gatesville, vidson Cemetery will be an- TX 76528, or Pecan Grove

Post, editor of the Gates-1946-1978, "Mr. Saunders composed his Down Memory Lane columns from his courthouse dome. Deadline time would find him hunched square-shouldered over his small desk pecking away at his typewriter." Post continued, "disdaining the rules of grammar and political correctness, he wrote like he talked - straight and plainhis gifted memory supplied him with facts that local history, and happenings. Yes, Uncle Bob knew how to juice up a story."

Post recalled that the "Down Memory Lane" colfrom the beginning. Post said that Uncle Bob's close friends felt he viewed his writing as a "gift to his generation and a legacy to generations to come."

The following is an excerpt of Uncle Bob's Down Gatesville Messenger:

Pistol Men in Old Gatesville

Timers called all peace of- E. Main Street. ficers Pistol Men, for they

2023.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, February 18, 2023, at Scott's Funeral Home Chapel. The family will receive visitors one hour prior to services at the funeral home.

Jewel Dean Ware was born on July 24, 1926, to Asa and Nola Baize Carpenter of Pearl. At the age of 13, Dean's family moved to Jonesboro. On her first day of school, Dean's father offered to give a ride to a young boy from a neighboring farm. That young boy would later become the love of her life, Matt Ware. Her husband Matt has always said it was love at first sight for him, even though it took several years for Dean to warm up to him. After several years of courting, Dean and Matt were married on April 27, 1945. They lived in Abilene and Odessa, where they raised two children, Jimmy and Dianne. While raising her children, supporting her husband, and creating a loving home; Dean found time to volunteer with a local florist in Odessa, where she fell in love with the art of floral design. They later moved to Hico in 1969 and opened a local florist and greenhouse. She was the creative spirit behind Hico Florist. From homecoming mums to prom corsages and boutonnieres, wed-

all her accomplishments, her love and marriage to Matt was a testament to all those that came in contact with them. Even in their later years, Matt and Dean were still holding hands while walking the halls of Hillside Medical Lodge in Gatesville.

Throughout her 96 years, Dean was a loving mother, grandmother, great grandmother, sister, and friend. She will be forever remembered by her kind smile, gentle spirit, and unconditional love.

She was preceded in death by her son, Jimmy Brooks Ware and wife, Linda; daughter, Bessie Dianne Martin and husband, Keith; sisters, Janie Woodson, Opal Faubion; brothers, John Carpenter and Addran Carpenter.

Dean is survived by her husband of 77 years, Matt Ware of Gatesville; grandson, Austin Brooks Ware and wife, Morlley, of Kingwood; granddaughter, Hope Treacy McCracken and husband, Andrew, of Belton; great-grandchildren, Matthew Ware, Madison Ware, Kaitlyn Mc-Cracken; brothers, Jeff Carpenter, Jack Carpenter, and Joe Carpenter.

nounced at a later date.

(Joann) Mueller-Neuhaus 76528. Fleetwood was born on December 17, 1931, in Kuestrin, Germany, which is now Poland, to the late Werner Richard Anton Mueller-Neuhaus and Liselotte Lungen Mueller-Neuhaus. Joann came to the United States with her husband, Cecil Fleetwood in 1953, and they moved to Gatesville in 1954.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband. Cecil Fleetwood in 1992; son, Dennis Fleetwood in 2019; and a grandson, Daniel Fleetwood in 2015.

Joann is survived by her sons, Kenny Fleetwood and wife, Sandie, Gene Fleetwood and wife, Donna, Rick Fleetwood and wife, Robyn; daughter-in-law, Brenda Fleetwood. She loved and cherished her eight grandchildren, Sarah, Olya, Wes, Tiffanie, Megan, Colin, Paige and Rianna; six great-grandchildren, Jackson, Carson, Lincoln, Annie, Blayne and Jackson, along with Cecily, who will be born in May.

Joann had an unwavering faith in Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior and was ready to be called home to Him. She was a member of Pecan Grove Baptist Church and spent years loving and serving oth-

Baptist Church, 1110 Old Gisela Hannah Marie Ft. Gates Rd., Gatesville, TX



500-600 lb. 600-700 lb. 700-800 lb.	175-215 155-185 145-175
No. 1 Heifers under 300 lb. 300-400 lb. 400-500 lb. 500-600 lb. 600-700 lb. 700-800 lb.	170-215 165-215 165-210 150-190 145-165 125-155
Slaughter Cows High Yielding Low Yielding Fats Thin & Shelly	85-98 65-75 75-90 30-55
Packer Bulls (1250 Yield Grade 1&2	
Cow & Calf Pairs Young Choice Young Fair Aged Pairs	
Young Pregnancy Replacement Cow Number of Head	600-1400
Hwy. 36. Gatesville	(25/1) 865-0121

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FUNDS FOR 4-H SCOTLAND TRIP



The Coryell County 4-H Youth Livestock Judging **Team recently held** a bake sale in continued efforts to raise money to attend the 2023 Royal Highland International Livestock **Judging Contest in** Scotland. The team recently gualified for the event and the members were invited to attend the contest. As **Reserve National** Champions, they will be representing Texas and the **United States at** the show.

DAVID SCOTT

SENGER

THE GATESVILLE MES

RECIPE

This recipe appeared in the "Methodist Best" cookbook in 2008. The Gatesville Messenger plans to run a series of recipes from that cookbook. If your church has a cookbook or if you would like to submit your own recipe of a favorite dish for possible publication, please email it to editor@gatesvillemessenger.com

PINEAPPLE UPSIDE-DOWN BISCUITS By DeDe Powell

- 1 (10 oz.) can crushed pineapple, drained, juice reserved $\frac{1}{2}$ c. packed light brown sugar
- 10 maraschino cherries
- 1 (12 oz.) pkg. refrigerated buttermilk biscuits (10 count)
- ¹/₄ c. butter, at room temperature

Preheat oven to 400. Grease 10 cups of a muffin tin. Combine the pineapple, sugar, and butter and mix well. Divide the pineapple mixture among the muffin cups. Place a cherry in the center of each muffin cup. Place one biscuit in each cup on top of sugar and pineapple mixture. Spoon 1 teaspoon pineapple juice over each biscuit. Bake



for 12 to 15 minutes, or until golden brown. Cool for 2 minutes. Invert the pan onto a plate to release the biscuits. Serve warm.



Our Lady of Lourdes additional parishioners. Catholic Church recently celebrated its 75th Anniver- mass, a celebration was a brief account of the 1943 sary Jubilee. A special morning mass was conducted by Center with a meal, enter-Austin Diocese and Father and Loteria (Spanish bingo). Jayaraju (Jay) Polisetty, pas- Thaddeus A. Podbielski, a lobuilding was provided for anniversary hardbound book

Following the

held at the Gatesville Civic the Most Reverend Joe S. tainment, a social time, chil- pastor Jay Polisetty was pre- ell County. Five years later, was made during the celebra-Vasquez the Bishop of the dren's games, a talent show, sented with an Apostolic Bishop Reicher designated tion by Thaddeus Podbielski. tor. The church was packed cal historian, had compiled honor of the church's 75th to capacity and an over-flow the church history in a 75th anniversary.

founding of the church.

During the celebration, Catholic Church in Cory-Blessing from the Vatican in Rome from Pope Francis in rate parish with the respon- had discussed the expansion

Our Lady of Lourdes Par-

historic the church. Podbielski read as a mission church under Catholics in the military who St. Mary's in Lampasas. It were stationed at Fort Hood was established as the first during World War II. Our Lady of Lourdes a sepa-

that is offered for sale by ish was established in 1943 parish also served the many that the bishop had noted

A special announcement He said that Bishop Vasquez sibility of ministering to the of the parish including the Catholics at the State School possible construction of a for Boys in Gatesville. The new church. Podbielski said

that the church was "in need of better facilities." Following the process of locating land for a new church, Podbielski reported that this would be a "multi-year process."

> PHOTOS BY DAVID SCOTT AND **REYNA MELENDEZ**



Father Jayaraju (Jay) Polisetty, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes, displays an Apostolic Blessing that the church received from the Vatican in Rome from Pope Francis in honor of the church's 75th anniversary.





Church officials pose for a photo outside Our Lady of Lourdes during the 75th Anniversary Jubilee following the celebratory Mass.



Members of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church gathered for a special mass in honor of the church's 75th Anniversary. Due to high attendance, an overflow room was provided for those who could not find a seat in the church.



Held at the Gatesville Civic Center, masters of ceremonies for the celebration were Alan Mathis and Dolores Lobo.

Massive amounts of food were brought into the civic center by parishioners for the celebration. There was something for everyone and no one left hungry.



Father Jay Polisetty, Father Timothy Vaverek, and Father Anthony Mbanefo are shown cutting a cake in honor of the 75th anniversary of the church.



SCHOOL

GATESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL BAND VISITS PRIMARY



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the Gatesville High School Band recently visited with students at the Gatesville Primary School. During class rotation, students were escorted to the school's cafeteria where they were treated to an introduction and demonstration of all the various types of instruments used in the band program at GISD.



Mock trial team attends regional competition

ville High School mock received wonderful scores trial team competed in the before falling short of first 44th annual regional mock place. Their hard work and trial competition. Three dedication helped them to team members received succeed. The team received top votes from judges. assistance from attorney Alex Johnson received Polly Stevens, Assistant two votes for top advocate District Attorney Scott Stewhile Mackenzie Stacher vens, and District Attorney and Aeriale Appleton each received one vote for top witness. Ellie Knobloch was

On Feb. 2-4, the Gates- the courtroom artist and Dusty Boyd in preparation for competition.

CRSP to hold *meeting Feb. 23*

The next regular meeting for CRSP (Coryell Retired School Personnel) will be Thursday, Feb. 23 at Ranchers' Steakhouse. Members may come at 9:30 a.m. to visit and socialize, and the meeting will start at 10 a.m.

One of the main activities for the meeting will be playing "BINGO for Books." Members can make a donation or choose to pay per card per game. All money collected will go into the Children's Book Project Fund. The organization needs to replace lots of books given away in 2022 -- about 2,320 books. Members are asked to help by bringing small gifts to use as bingo prizes.

Members are also reminded to bring in their count of volunteer hours for Debbie Grmela. Next month is dues payment month, but members may make their payments at this meeting (total dues are \$45, which includes \$35 for the state and \$10 for our local chapter).

Upcoming dates to remember include:

March 23: the meeting program will feature M.J. Wofford as Elizabeth Barrett Browning; April 12: "A Day at the Capitol" with four local members attending (Gail Johnson, Cheri Braziel, Gerald and Gayla Linton); and May 16: the district meeting in Waco at the Region XII Education Service Center. Any number of delegates may attend the district meeting, where JoAnn Sugg will be presiding as president.



GHS Mock Trial team competes at regional competition Feb. 2-4.

COURTESY PHOTO

Retired School Personnel (CRSP) provide free books for children

BY MARSHA LEE Contributing Writer

Every educator knows that developing a love of reading is the key that opens the door to a world of knowledge and discovery for students. With that in mind, members of Coryell Retired School Personnel (CRSP) once again option, and lots of parents tion from time to time or continued their annual participation in a statewide Children's Book Project, aimed at placing free books in the hands of children, ages 12 and under, who otherwise might not have books of their own.

started in 1998 by TRTA (Texas Retired Teachers), the nation's largest organization of retired public-school employees. Book totals for 2022 are not yet available for the entire state, but in 2021, cover, indicating that it is a the statewide total of books gift from CRSP. According used books or money to buy given away was over 117,850 books. Locally, our chapter gave away 2,320 free books are no longer actively teachin 2022.

About 1,500 books were delivered to the Gatesville Care Center to be distributed to clients for their children as Christmas gifts. Books have also been donated to Jonesboro and Oglesby school districts, and to the as they strive to encourage books, please contact Mar-Texas Hospitality House.

Something new was tried last fall as several retir- importance of reading."

ees worked at tables set up behind the Presbyterian Church on Halloween. As trick-or-treat for candy, CRSP out a free book or two inseemed to really enjoy this of our effort and said they would try to donate books for next year. About 175 evening. CRSP Book Project are not brand new, but they committee members plan to This statewide project was other special events and activities.

> Books are chosen for their content and artwork as er groups' book sales or gawell as appropriateness for rage sales, where we can pick grade level. A book plate is carefully placed inside the to Gail Johnson, local CRSP president, "Although they ing in the classroom, our members continue to care about school children. Memthe job that current teachers do; they have walked in if you know of another ventheir shoes. The book project is also supportive of parents table to offer free children's their children at home. Retirees never underestimate the

CRSP purchases new books with funds raised or donated by members themselves. One children came by to play meeting a year is spent playgames, check out booths, or ing "Bingo for Books," where members pay a nominal fee allowed the children to pick to play a card(s) in each game and receive a small prize if stead of candy. The children their card is a winner. Some members just make a donaexpressed their appreciation purchase a few new books to donate. The retirees also collect "gently used" books each year to give away to books were given away that children. (Gently used books are in very good condition: try out the idea in 2023 at no writing in them; no torn pages, cover, or spine, etc.)

We are always on the 'look out' for a book deal, like othup some nice books to add to our book numbers. If anyone would like to donate gently new books, our unit will appreciate it. Contact Marsha Lee via text 254-216-1677 or email marsha_lee48@yahoo. com; likewise, if you know of some other group that bers respect and appreciate could benefit from receiving a free book for children, or ue where we could set up a sha Lee.

Meet Corgell 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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TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY_{TM}

Texans' 2023 football schedule is announced

TSU Sports Information

TEPHENVILLE — The next college football season can't get here fast enough, but there is now a starting date in sight.

Tarleton State University recently announced its 2023 regular-season football schedule, which is set to begin on Saturday, Sept. 2, and go through Saturday, Nov. 11.

The Texans have another 11-game slate that features five home games at Memorial Stadium and six true road games, including a Sept. 16 contest at Texas Tech University in Lubbock. The schedule alternates between road and home games the entire season, and features no open date until the final week of the college football regular season. This is the first time since 2009 that Tarleton has no consecutive home games and no consecutive road games. The Texans had a 10-3 record that year and advanced to the second round of the NCAA Division II playoffs.

All games will be on Saturdays this season. Of the 11 opponents

Tarleton will face, 10 are NCAA Division I programs, the most the Texans will have ever played against in a single season in program history.

"As the Tarleton football program enters its final year of reclassification, we continue to elevate our strength of schedule and that is evident once again this year,"

head coach Todd Whitten said. "This is again the best and most difficult schedule we've ever faced. The 2023 season will be our greatest challenge, but I know we're up for it."

Tarleton opens Sept. 2 in Lake Charles, Louisiana, for a rematch against McNeese State University. The Texans and Cowboys played a double overtime thriller in Tarleton's first-ever game as an NCAA Division I program in the 2020 season that played in the spring of 2021. The Texans last played on the road at McNeese in 2016, which served as Whitten's first game back with the program in his third stint.

The Texans' home opener will be a "Purple Out" on Sept. 9 against North Alabama.

That matchup will serve as a conference game for Tarleton as part of the continued ASUN-WAC partnership, which for the first time is serving as a single sports conference. The ASUN-WAC football group has nine participating institutions; Abilene Christian, Austin Peay, Central Arkansas, Eastern Kentucky, North Alabama, Southern Utah, Stephen F. Austin, Tarleton and Utah Tech. UTRGV will join the competition on the field in 2025. Tarleton went

to Florence, Alabama, last year and snapped North Alabama's 16-game homecoming win streak in a 43-28 decision, as the Texans outscored the Lions 23-7 in the second half.

Like last year, Tarleton will take on a Big 12 program on the road, this time Texas Tech at Jones AT&T Stadium in Lubbock. Whitten will take his Tarleton team to where he began his coaching career in 1988. The Texans have never played the Red Raiders in football. Last season, Tarleton played its first-ever game against a Power Five conference program at TCU, who ended up playing in the College Football Playoff National Championship.

On Sept. 23, Tarleton hosts Family Weekend against the Southwest Baptist Bearcats, who the Texans beat last year. On Sept. 30, Tarleton will be at the Southland Conference's Southeastern Louisiana in Hammond. The Lions just advanced to the second round of the 2022

NCAA FCS Playoffs. On Oct. 7, Tarleton's Legends Game will feature WAC foe Southern Utah, which heads to Stephenville for the first time. The Texans and Thunderbirds have split their meetings over the past two years in chaotic fashion, with Tarleton winning 42-40 in Cedar City, Utah, this past season, and SUU winning 40-35 at Choctaw Stadium (formerly Globe Life Park) in Arlington the year before.

The Texans will honor the 2002-03 men's basket-



DATE	OPPONENT	THEME	LOCATION
Sept. 2	McNeese State		Lake Charles, La.
Sept. 9	North Alabama*	Purple Out	Stephenville
Sept. 16	Texas Tech		Lubbock
Sept. 23	Southwest Baptist	Family Weekend	Stephenville
Sept. 30	Southeastern Louisiana	·	Hammond, La.
0ct. 7	Southern Utah*	Legends Game	Stephenville
0ct. 14	Eastern Kentucky*	-	Richmond, Ky.
0ct. 21	Morehead State	Homecoming	Stephenville
Oct. 28	Central Arkansas*	-	Conway, Ark.
Nov. 4	Stephen F. Austin*	Military Appreciation	Stephenville
Nov. 11	Abilene Christian*		Abilene, Texas
		HOME GAMES IN BOLD *WAC GAMES	

ball program at the Legends Game this year — a team that was 29-4 overall on its way to the Lone Star **Conference North Division** title and a three-game run in the NCAA South Central Regional Tournament, held in Stephenville. Members of the team interested in attending the festivities should reach out to Tarleton Athletics Associate AD for Alumni Engagement and On-Air Broadcasting Byron Anderson at banderson@tarleton.edu.

On Oct. 14, Tarleton will be back in Richmond, Kentucky, this time for a

conference game against Eastern Kentucky. The two teams met as non-conference opponents in 2021. On Oct. 21, the Texans return to Stephenville for their homecoming game against Morehead State. The Eagles, out of Morehead, Kentucky, and the Pioneer Football League, will face the Texans for the first time.

Tarleton will then make its first trip to Central Arkansas on Oct. 28 in Conway to play the Bears. This will be a conference game for the first time, which wasn't the case when Tarleton hosted UCA in the 2021 season finale

at Memorial Stadium. The Texans put on a show to win 24-3.

For the first time since 1974, Stephen F. Austin will travel to Stephenville. On Nov. 4, the Texans will clash with the Lumberjacks for the third straight season but for the first time at home in 49 years. The WAC rivalry game will also be Tarleton's Military Appreciation Game.

To conclude the 2023 campaign, Tarleton will travel to Abilene to play Abilene Christian on Nov. 11. Tarleton's open date is the last week of the regular season, Nov. 18.

Texans stay undefeated at home with 81-62 victory over Grand Canyon

Tarleton Sports Information

STEPHENVILLE — Tarleton State University's Texans led by as many as 33 point in their decisive 81-62 victory over the Grand Canyon University Lopes on Jan. 28.

Tarleton (12-10, 5-4 WAC) and Seattle University are the only two teams in the WAC to remain undefeated at home this season.

The Texans set the tone

early as Shamir Bogues instantly stole the ball from the opening tip-off and slammed it home for the first points of the game.

GCU (14-8, 5-4 WAC) took its first lead of the game shortly after that, off a pair of free throws and jumper after three minutes of play. The Texans and Lopes traded the lead four times over the next five minutes until Tarleton began to pull away.

The Texans put together a 19-0 run through the middle of the first half with five players contributing to the offensive onslaught. The Lopes were held scoreless for seven straight minutes as Tarleton climbed to a 21-point lead.

Tarleton pushed its lead to 24 points heading into halftime after shooting better than 50 percent from the field and holding GCU to 6-of-20 (.300).

Tarleton quickly pushed its lead to 27 points after three minutes had passed to start the second half. Both teams went on a four-minute scoring drought before the Texans peaked their lead for the game. With 11 minutes remaining in the game, Tarleton was on top of the Lopes by 33.

The Texans shot 75 percent (15-20 FG) from the field in the second half and 61.5

percent for the game while holding the Lopes to 18-of-42 (.429) shooting overall.

Gaddy was a dominant and disruptive presence against GCU. He was perfect from the field (7-7 FG) and scored 15 points in the game. Freddy Hicks, the Fireside

District Player of the Game, was the top scorer with 18 points (7-10 FG, 2-3 3PT). Hicks also grabbed a gamehigh eight rebounds.

Bogues, who helped set the tone for the game in the opening seconds after tipoff, scored 12 points (5-9 FG) and had three rebounds. Lue Williams scored 11 points and grabbed six rebounds. Jakorie Smith contributed eight points, Tiger Booker picked up six points and Shakur Daniel had four points and five assists.

TSU mourns death of assistant coach, former player Marc Martinez

TSU Sports Information

STEPHENVILLE — Tarleton Football announced Friday that longtime assistant coach and former player Marc Martinez has died following a car accident in the Stephenville area Friday morning.

"This is a terrible day in the Texan Football program," Tarleton head football coach Todd Whitten said. "Coach Martinez was not only a great assistant coach, but he was a great leader, a great person, and a great friend. He has done an incredible job in helping boost this program to where it is today, and we're beside ourselves that he is no longer with us. My heart breaks for his family, his wife Lacie, and his daughters, Estella and Camilla. We will miss him dearly.'

Martinez completed his sixth season as a full-time linebackers coach and his fifth as the program's summer camp director in 2022, marking his eighth season with the Texan coaching staff overall.

"It's hard to find the words when we lose a valued member of the Tarleton Athletics



tating," Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics Lonn

Reisman said. "Not only was he a treasured member of the Tarleton Football coaching staff, he has been a treasured member of Tarleton Athletics for the past 12 years. Marc will be remembered for his great servitude and for his tremendous career as a true Tarleton Texan. We will miss Marc, and we pray for all of his family and friends."

Martinez was an integral part of helping the Texans start their NCAA Division I reclassification with three straight winning seasons. In just his second full-time season in 2018, Martinez helped coach the Texan defense to the most successful season in school history. The Texans went 12-1, winning the first outright LSC title in program history and advanced to the NCAA regional finals with a No. 5 national ranking.

The Tarleton State

University alum has coached several all-conference linebackers, including the highest drafted Texan in school history, E.J. Speed, who was picked in the fifth round of the 2019 NFL Draft by the Indianapolis Colts.

Martinez began his coaching career at Tarleton in 2015 as a graduate assistant coach for the defense, following a stellar four-year playing career for the Texans. He was a two-time All-LSC linebacker, capped off by his senior campaign when he topped the 100-tackle mark to lead the team. For his career, Martinez played in 35 games and was part of the 2013 Lone Star **Conference Championship** team. He amassed two interceptions, four forced fumbles and five fumble recoveries in his career while making 253 total tackles (119 solo). He made 17 tackles for a loss in his career and deflected seven passes.Martinez earned his undergraduate degree and master's degree from Tarleton. The 30-year-old leaves behind his wife, Lacie, and his two young daughters, Estella and Camilla.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TSU

Tarleton State University's Tyler Jackson (22), a 5-9 sophomore guard from Allen, looks for an opening while dribbling the ball during the Texans' 55-48 women's basketball road loss to Southern Utah University on Jan. 28. At left is TSU teammate Nyajah Mitchels (21).

WANT MORE? FOR THE LATEST TARLETON SPORTS **ACTION OR TO BUY GAME TICKETS, VISIT TARLETONSPORTS.COM**



The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of *February 9 – 12. 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 Feb. 9

8:21 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 2400 block of E. Main Street.

9:37 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 1200 block of E. Main Street.

5:07 p.m., harassment was reported in the 300 block of FM 107.

5:21 p.m., a threat was reported in the 300 block of Carroll Drive.

5:56 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1100 block of Golf Course Road.

8:02 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 500 block of Stoneridge Drive. Feb. 10

3:12 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 400 block of Coryell City Road.

1:30 p.m., a burglary was reported in the 100 block of Magaldi Street.

3:56 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 6000 block of N. State Hwy. 36.

4:08 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2000 block of Waco Street.

6:44 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 100 block of Veazey Drive.

6:46 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2400 block of Business Hwy. 36. Feb. 11

5:43 a.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 1600 block of E. Main Street.

10:37 a.m., a threat was reported in the 100 block of Surrey Lane.

reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.

3:30 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 400 block of Valley View Drive.

6:57 p.m., a reckless drivblock of FM 116.

9:24 p.m., a disturbance

block of FM 107. Feb. 12

12:37 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 100 block of FM 116.

was reported in the 400 block of E. Main Street.

2:40 a.m., a noise disturbance was reported in 155. the 1300 block of St. Louis Street.

10:26 a.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 4600 block of S. State Hwy. 36.

10:07 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 800 block of S. 7th Street.

11:13 p.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Hwy. 36.



3:41 p.m., animal neglect was reported on CR 3390.

5:12 p.m., harassment was er was reported in the 100 reported in the 300 block of Carroll Drive.

7:39 p.m., an animal com-

was reported in the 300 plaint was reported in the 200 block of Old Pidcoke Road. Feb. 10

3:15 a.m., a domestic disturbance was reported in 2:35 a.m., a disturbance the 400 block of Coryell City Road.

5:56 a.m., a grass fire was reported on FM 1690 at CR

9:01 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 100 block of S. 6th Street.

12:29 p.m., fraud was reported in the 10000 block of FM 1783.

4:39 p.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 9800 block of Greenbriar Road.

6:48 p.m., a welfare concern was reported on Blue Bonnet Road.

Feb. 11

6:32 a.m., a stolen vehicle was reported in the 300 block of FM 107.

7:27 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 9600 block of FM 929.

10:43 a.m., terroristic threats were reported on Surrey Lane.

12:39 p.m., the burglary of a building was reported in the 1800 block of CR 100.

5:13 p.m., an assault was reported in the 300 block of FM 107.

9:11 p.m., a vehicle fire was reported in the 5600 block of Mother Neff Parkway. Feb. 12

9:57 a.m., a fatality was reported in the 3800 block of

E. Hwy. 84. 1:21 p.m., trespassing was reported in the 500 block of Self Road.

6:55 p.m., a medical emergency was reported in the 8700 block of E. Hwy. 84.

8:07 p.m., a domestic disturbance was reported in the 8600 block of FM 1783.

Central Texas Travel Club to meet Feb. 21

The February meeting of The meeting is open to Branson, France, Hawaii, and

the Central Texas Travel anyone interested in travel, others.

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Puzzle by websudoku.com

Brown Bag Ministry continues to feed the homeless weekly

Brown Bag Ministry will entry of the park. be helping the homeless

and those in need by pass- non-perishable such as pop- but smaller than a grocery ing out brown paper bags open canned goods, pack- bag in size. full of non-perishable ets, crackers, etc. There will food items every Thursday be no forms to be filled out appreciates the outpouring morning at 9 a.m. at Raby or questions asked to re- of support of those help-Park beginning January 26. ceive the bags. There will be The brown bags will be dis- a max of two sacks per per- homeless. tributed in the half circle son. First come, first served.

The bags will be bigger than All bagged items will be a typical brown lunch bag,

> The Brown Bag Ministry ing this ministry to feed the

Meals on Wheels needs of volunteers

prepare a meal, don't drive, perks. and have no one to cook in our community on local 5,000 routes only.

Meals on Wheels is cur- hour to complete. Volun- tious meals, friendly visits, rently in need of volunteer teers can build their own and safety checks that endrivers. Meals on Wheels schedules with no contract able America's seniors to is a federally funded pro- necessary. If you are a volgram for older adults who unteer age 55 or older, you independence and dignity. are homebound, unable to may be eligible for different By providing funding, lead-

Meals on Wheels Amerfor them. The program ica is the oldest and largprovides home-delivered est national organization empowers its local memnutritious meals to seniors supporting the more than ber programs to strengthen senior nutrition programs nior at a time. The Gatesville Senior Cen- across the country that are ter is looking for four driv- dedicated to addressing se- Center is located at 208 N. ers per day to drive four nior hunger and isolation. Lutterloh in Gatesville. For different routes. The shifts This network exists in vir- more information contact will be Monday through Fri- tually every community in the Senior Center Director, day, starting at 10:30 a.m. America and, along with Pam Rudolph at 254-865-The Meals on Wheels run more than two million vol- 8234. will take approximately one unteers, delivers the nutri-

live nourished lives with ership, research, education, and advocacy support, Meals on Wheels America community-based their communities, one se-

The Gatesville Senior

Club will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 21, beginning at 11 a.m. or requirements. The club tact Peggy Stewart at cenat Johnny's Steaks and Bar- members will be discussing traltexastravelclub@outlook. becue, 301 Thomas Arnold upcoming trips including com or like us on Facebook. Rd. in Salado.

with no membership dues Tulipalooza in Waxahachie,

For more information con

Honoring Texas country musicians

TUMBLEWEED SMITH

Tumbleweed Smith is a newspaper columnist and producer of The Sound of Texas radio series.

mall dreams don't stir men's souls," said Tommie Ritter Smith of Carthage. "That's kind of been my theme."

She had a big dream, and While she was Chamber of it came true. Tommie is the guiding light behind the Texas Country Music Hall of Fame in Carthage, a \$4 million museum and reference center for country music. It opened 25 years ago and is a huge monument to ments," Tommie said. "Then Texas country musicians. I added Jim Reeves and some The state has a lot of them others." including Gene Autry, Bob Wills, Tex Ritter, Jim Reeves, Dale Evans, Earnest Tubb, Waylon Jennings, Lefty Frizzell, Buck Owens, Barbara Museum in Nashville. Tom- versary of the Hall of Fame, Mandrell, George Strait, Kitty Wells, Hank Wiilliams, Kenny Rogers, Ray Price, and Willie Nelson. They are among 50 inductees into the hall of fame in Carthage. New ones are added in August each year with a big concert and ceremony. "When I started this project, I sat down and made a list of 400 singers, songwriters and others who had made significant contributions to country music. If I could live long enough, I could do this a hundred years and still have plenty to put in there. Now we have another generation of musicians."

seat. Tommie is kin to Tex. munity really got behind the

Commerce manager in Carthage, she built the Tex Ritter Museum upstairs in the antebellum house where the chamber offices are located. "It was a modest display of SMITH Tex's costumes and instru-

The germ of the idea to project to build something build the Hall of Fame grew when Tex Ritter was inducted into the Grand Old Opry mie convinced civic lead- Tommie started writing ers in Carthage to go with her for the event. "All of activities. She realized she the Grand Ole Opry stars needed help organizing all were there along with all the people who were anybody in Nashville. The delegation former state historian and from Carthage saw how wellrespected Tex Ritter was and what an important part of 150-page book titled approthe country music scene he priately "The Texas Country was. He was president of Music Hall of Fame." It's full the Country Music Associa- of photographs and stories tion for a while and one of about country musicians the first inductees into the who call Texas home. Bill, a Country Music Hall of Fame thorough researcher, noted in Nashville and it was a that Panola County is the great weekend of celebration only county in the United honoring Tex Ritter. They States that has produced two came back realizing we had famous country musicians. Tex Ritter and Jim Reeves something to build on. So, came from Panola County, we started raising money where Carthage is the county soon after that. The com- pel musicians.

to honor Texas country musicians."

To mark the 25th annidown some of its history and the material, so she called on her neighbor Bill O'Neal, author of nearly 50 books, to help her. The result is a

Tommie is now planning to add an exhibit of Texas gos-

4-H photography contest underway

month of March. The Co- to district. rvell County online entry youth in grades K-12.

showcase their photogra- note that all photos entered tography-contest/

District 8 of 4-H will be phy skills. No entry fee will in the district contest must holding its 2023 photog- be required. Winners at the have first qualified from raphy contest during the county contest will advance their county contest. Stu-

deadline will be March 2 at aged to dig out those cam- for their contest dates and 11:59 p.m. The contest will eras and go find the beauty deadlines. be open to all Coryell 4-H in their surroundings. This year's contest will open categories can be found by This is a great opportu- online March 6 and run visiting:

dents need to make sure The 4-H youth are encour- they check with their CEA All rules, guidelines and

https://agrilife. nity for the 4-H youth to through March 24. Please org/.../events-and.../pho-

Keep Gatesville Beautiful to host litter clean up, Feb. 25

clean up day on Saturday, Feb. 25. Volunteers would be greatly appreciated by the organization. For those interested in helping clean up the roadways are asked to meet at the Gatesville Public Library located at 111 N. 8th Street at 9 a.m. on Feb. 25. Visit the Keep Gatesville Beautiful website to register for the event at keepgatesvillebeautiful. com.

The mission of Keep Gatesville Beautiful is to educate and engage Gatesville citizens to take responsibility for a cleaner, more beautiful community. It is a community driven non-profit organization that works to improve the community's environmental awareness. From improvement

Keep Gatesville Beauti- projects to educational pre- Beautiful is 100% volunteer ful will be hosting a litter sentations, Keep Gatesville run.

PUZZLE SOLUTION

6	1	9	5	7	3	8	4	2
5	8	7	2	4	6	9	1	3
3	4	2	9	1	8	7	5	6
1	3	8	4	2	9	5	6	7
9	6	5	7	3	1	2	8	4
2	7	4	8	6	5	1	3	9
4	2	1	3	5	7	6	9	8
7	9	6	1	8	4	3	2	5
8	5	3	6	9	2	4	7	1
Puzzle by websudoku.com								



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* Consistent and clear communication with customers throughout project process.

* Ensure compliance with all company rules, policies, and procedures.

Resolve complaints and project issues in a timely manner.

* Review field timesheets and completed work orders for completion and accuracy

* Review and approve all invoices related to projects and production

* Review completed project files and turn in for final billing.

* Perform project close-out process.

Additional tasks as assigned.

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Gatesville varsity tennis team hosts GHS Invitational tournament



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the Gatesville High School varsity tennis team pose for a photo on Feb. 10 following the Gatesville Invitational.

GHS soccer beats Lampasas, splits games vs. China Spring with Lions, Eagles up next

BY GLADYS WHITENBURG *Contributing Writer*

It was a night of excitement at Tommy Davidson Field at McKamie Stadium on Feb. 7. Gatesville High School's girls and boys soccer teams both were victorious over the visiting Lampasas Badgers.

LADY HORNETS

The Lady Hornets came through with a solid defensive performance, leading to a 2-0 victory over the Lady Badgers.

Taking the lead in the first half, Payton Armstrong sent in a beautiful corner kick assisted into the net by Andrea Ortiz. Ortiz also scored a header off a Lady Badger defender later in the game.

On Feb. 10, the Lady Hornets lost to China Spring, 1-0. GHS is 2-2 in district play.

HORNETS

Gatesville High School's boys soccer squad captured an exciting 2-0 win over the visiting Badgers Feb. 7. Hector Silva Hernandez cashed in an early lead for the Hornets. With a tied score of 1-1 at halftime, Hornet's Sergio Bucio Rivera scored an exciting goal in the bottom three minutes of the game, putting Hornet fans on their feet.

On Feb. 10, the Hornets shut out China Spring, 2-0. GHS is 3-1 in district play

The next games were Feb. 14 at Gordon Wood Stadium in Brownwood. On Feb. 17, the teams are scheduled to play at Salado, with the girls beginning at 5 p.m. and the boys starting at 7 p.m.

A busy schedule continues for Gatesville ISD athletics.

Girls wrestling: On Feb. 10, Taylor Shea has advanced to the semifinals and Bri Allen advanced as well to Day 2 of the 5A-III tournament in Anna.

On Feb. 11, Allen and Shea both finished fourth in the tournament. The top four in each division advanced to state competition.

Girls Powerlifting: GHS finished third at the McGregor meet. Isabela Mondragon and Brookelynn Byrd won gold medals, Lena Clawson silver, Emma Davidson and Shaylie Teague bronze.

Boys Powerlifting: Hornets took second at the McGregor meet. Caden

Area Sports Roundup

Brister, L.J. Hall, David Sims and Zach Bryant won gold medals. Cooper Jones and Tookie Jones earned bronze medals.

Tennis: The mixed doubles team of Ally Nichols and Jahaziel Martinez finished 3rd in the GHS Invitational.

Boys junior high basketball: 7A vs China Spring

1 2 3 4	FINAL			
Gatesville	12 6	12	3	33
China Spring	6 5	5	11	27

Leading Scorers: Grady Keeton 13, Eli Phillips 12, Draven Henderson 6, Braxton Brown 2 **

Softball: The Hornets were scheduled to host McGregor on Feb. 14. The varsity team is competing in the Killeen ISD tournament Feb. 16-18.

Golf: The GHS girls and boys teams are scheduled to participate in a regional showcase starting at 8:30 a.m. Feb. 17 at the Bearkat Golf Course in Huntsville.

Tennis: On Feb. 17, the varsity tennis team travels to Midway High School in Waco for a tournament that begins at 8:30 a.m.

Powerlifting: GHS girls and boys will compete in the West meet beginning at 8:30 a.m. Feb. 18.

TPWD responds to governor's support of parks

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) Executive Director Dr. David Yoskowitz expressed gratitude Thursday for the vision and support provided by Gov. Greg Abbott during a keynote address celebrating 100 years of Texas State Parks.

Governor Abbott provided the keynote address at the Feb. 8 Texas State Parks Centennial Celebration at the Bullock Texas State History Museum's The Art of Texas State Parks exhibit in Austin, where he cited the economic impact of Texas State Parks on local communities and highlighted the conservation efforts made by TPWD.

"On behalf of our hardworking Texas State Parks staff and TPWD in general, I want to thank Governor Abbott for his

support for conserving state lands for future recreational use," Yoskowitz said. "Supported largely by the funding allocated to our agency by the Texas Legislature through Proposition 5 in 2019, TPWD has an ambitious plan to bring new parks online for public enjoyment over the next decade. Governor Abbott's elegant endorsement of our work provides fresh inspiration for expanding access to the natural wonders throughout our state."

TPWD's Centennial Celebration kicked off Jan. 1 to recognize Texas' 89 existing state parks and natural areas – which span more than 640,000 acres and welcome around 10 million visitors each year – while highlighting the need for even more state parkland.





Hornets top Rockets for team's 27th win

BY CHRIS ALLMAN Sports Correspondent

Gatesville head basketball coach Brit Campbell has rarely been at a loss for words when talking about his team this season.

But on a night when his Hornets - led by seniors Tyler Shea, Carter Williams, Ethan Nichols, and Banner Allman - tied the school record for wins in a regular season, even Campbell had a hard time locating the words.

"Where do I start? I don't even know where to start with them," he said.

Describing the numbers is a good place to begin.

The Hornets' 64-51 Senior Night win over Robinson gave the Hornets 27 wins (against 6 losses) on the season. That ties them with the 2008-09 team that won 27 regular season games, then captured a bi-district playoff win to finish the season with 28 victories.

"I told them before the year how good they are. And they are doing it now. It's like a proud dad moment," Campbell said.

The quartet of seniors were honored before the game in a ceremony that Campbell said hit him harder than he expected.

"I got emotional. I told myself I wasn't going to but I have a special place for them," he said.

Shea, Williams, Nichols, and Allman are two-year lettermen who have helped the Hornets go from having a 5-20 record in 2021 to 13-22 in 2022, to 27-6 with one regular-season game remaining in 2022.

"I am extremely proud of this group of seniors. Just the dedication that they have. They have put in so much work. They have turned this into such a passionate thing not just for them but for the players coming up behind them." Campbell said. "I am extremely proud of them for different reasons."

"Tyler gets everyone's energy up and he gets pumped when he is able to help his teammates get buckets and Ethan is so valuable. He's a great teammate. Not just off the court and on the bench but he's a guy our team wants to be with. Each one of them has a very unique role but at the same time they are very together."

Campbell said one the best things about this particular group has been the amount of responsibility the players have taken in the direction of the team.

"I've been able to put more on this group than any group I have ever been a part of. I am able to just tell them 'you talk it out' or 'vou figure it out' or 'you got it' and they know what to do and what to say," he said. "Sometimes I tell myself to shut up because they know what I am going to say."

That attribute came in handv in the days leading up to the win over Robinson as it



Tyler Shea is one of the Gatesville Hornet basketball team's seniors who has helped lead GHS to 27 wins this season.

ond 64-62 loss to the Pirates on Feb. 7.

"After that game there were some devastating looks. Multiple guys felt like it was their fault. They were blaming themselves and it was more than one guy feeling like that," Campbell said, "We talked about it and I told them that you need to have this feeling and realize how much you don't want it again."

"The night was very down but the next day was good. The next day we were back."

Against the Rockets, the Hornets looked a step slow but still led 30-23 at the half and put the game away with a run to start the third quarter.

After Robinson's Peyton Tindell hit a

bucket to cut the lead to 30-25 the Hornets ripped off an 11-0 run to make it 41-25 with 5:08 remaining in the quarter. Williams and Allman combined to score all 11 points in the run.

"We still didn't play our best but we didn't play our worst. We made plays when it mattered. We made a run when it mattered and we got stops when we needed to," Campbell said. "We played a good game but we still have fine-tuning to do in the little things."

Williams scored 13 points and had six rebounds in the win. In 2022, Williams played more than 1.100 minutes and carried a larger scoring burden. This season he has adopted a more versatile role.

JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

"Carter's role changed so much from last year and he has embraced it by becoming more of an assist guy and defending the other team's best player," Campbell said.

Allman, who led the Hornets with 25 points and 12 rebounds in the win and leads District 23-4A in scoring at 21 points per game, also drew praise from his head coach.

"I am hugely impressed with where he's at. I can't be his No. 1 fan because Coach Allman has that spot but I have to be right behind him," Campbell said.

The Hornets twice led by 18 points in the fourth quarter and led 60-42 with three minutes left before Robinson closed the game with a 9-4 stretch.

came on the heels of the Hornets' last-sec



Banner Allman



Ethan Nichols

Allman and Williams were the only Hornets to hit double-digits in scoring. Rayshon Smith and West Allman each had eight points and Shea had six points. Smith turned in one of his most efficient games of the season while adding in six assists and three rebounds. West Allman and Trae Miller each had six rebounds.

The Hornets wrapped up their regular season at China Spring on Feb. 14. A win coupled with a Waco La Vega win would mean a one-game playoff between the Hornets and Pirates to determine second place in the district.

The Hornets are assured of finishing no worse than third place – their highest dis-trict finish since 2013. They will open the playoffs on Feb. 20 or Feb. 21 against an opponent to-be-determined from District 24-4A.

While Campbell knows he has at least two games left with his record-setting squad, he's certainly hoping for more.

"I'm happy for them, I'm proud of them, and I'm excited for them. But I don't want it to stop."

Two Hornets named to All State football team

BY CHRIS ALLMAN

Sports Correspondent

A pair of Gatesville Hornets football standouts earned spots on the Texas Sports Writers Association/Blue Bell Class 4A All-State Team released on Feb. 8.

Senior Kyle Shafer and junior Lawson Mooney each made the honorable mention list on the annual team. The duo helped lead the Hornets to a 7-3 record and a third-straight playoff appearance.

Mooney — a junior listed as a 5-9 linebacker and free safety - added another superlative to an already lengthy list. In addition to being the District 11-4A Defensive Player Of The Year award for 2022, he was a First Team All-District selection in District 6-4A in 2021 and was named the Defensive Newcomer of the Year in 2020.

In 2022 he had a remarkable 161 tackles including six for a loss he also had a pair of interceptions, four pass breakups, and a quarterback sack on the defensive side. He scored a receiving touchdown in the Hornets season opener.

Shafer who filled the Hornets tight end role, finished tied for the team lead in receiving touchdowns with six and added a pair of two-point conversion catches as well. None was bigger than his touchdown



Kyle Shafer



Lawson Mooney

reception and two-point conversion catch with 22 seconds left to push the Hornets past Taylor in the season opener. He had 25 catches for 324 yards in all for the season

It's the second consecutive year the Hor-

nets have placed a player on the TSWA/ Blue Bell team. A year ago, Hayden Mooney made the honorable mention list for the 2021 season after setting a single-season record for tackles in a season with 209.

Fishing Report

Belton

GOOD. Water lightly stained; 52 degrees; 13.89 feet below pool. The water temperature roller coaster moves on as Winter Storm Mara dropped the surface temperatures to the lowest point "winterto-date" and then three days of 70 degree weather pushed the surface temperature back up to just over 52 degrees. Fish are both tight to the bottom on breaklines in distinct schools as well as parallel to and just off of the main river channel in very large, slowly moving, suspended schools.

Waco

GREAT. Water stained; 55 degrees; 11.81 feet below pool. Crappie are great biting anywhere from 20-35 feet of water on brush piles and open water. Best success with ATX Lure Company paired with a 1/8 ounce jig head, if that is not getting the bite try a 1/8 ounce slab. Report by Zach Minnix, JigNJerk Guide Service. Crappie with a few sand bass mixed in are in 2-8 feet of water in the creek mouths using crappie jigs paired with a 1/16 ounce eye hole jig. Report by Robert Stover, Workingman Crappie Guide.