



# THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

SATURDAY | March 4, 2023



Oglesby Lions host Rattlesnake Roundup, see Page A10

\$1.00



SERVING CORYELL COUNTY SINCE 1881 | VOLUME 120, No. 99, ISSN No. 0894-4954

## Residents voice concerns about Twin Caverns Ranch

BY JEFF OSBORNE

Senior Writer & Editor

Several Oglesby area residents voiced their concerns about a proposed 592 house subdivision - now identified as Twin Caverns Ranch - that they say will have a negative impact on current property owners.

Residents of the area near where the proposed development will be located have expressed concerns to the Coryell County Commissioners Court since a Sept. 13, 2022 meeting. On Feb. 28, many residents were back before the court to speak during the public forum session.

"I came before you in October regarding fast development and the unsustainable numbers coming in," Debbie Vanous said. "Nothing is in place to protect your citizens who are

already here and paying taxes."

Vanous said she and other residents felt threatened on Saturday, Feb. 25, when the property developer, BG Development Group, held a "pre-development grand opening" for prospective property buyers.

She said she felt unsafe because of erratic driving on County Road 267 near the proposed development, and also voiced concerns about how the subdivision would impact water availability. She asked the commissioners court if an aquifer study has been done, asked about future plans for expanding CR 267, and also said she has concerns about people trespassing on her property to do survey work.

"We've been working with y'all for six months and after Saturday (the Feb. 25 showcase by the developer), I don't

feel like y'all are on our side," Vanous said.

She added that the sheriff has said he is concerned about his department not being able to adequately cover the area, and said the millions of dollars allocated for expansion of the county jail should have been spent to hire deputies to protect local residents.

Later during the meeting, Commissioner Scott Weddle said that the jail expansion has the aim of protecting county residents. He noted that deputies often have to spend time taking inmates to other counties because of a lack of space at the Coryell County Jail. He said having the additional jail

PLEASE SEE CONCERNS | A3

## Ceremony for city manager



JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

City Manager Bill Parry receive a token of appreciation from Gatesville Mayor Gary Chumley during a reception on Feb. 28.

## Parry recognized for contributions to Gatesville

BY JEFF OSBORNE

Senior Writer & Editor

Gatesville City Manager Bill Parry's eight-year tenure was recognized during a retirement reception on Feb. 28 in the Gatesville City Council Chamber, although Parry will continue working as a contractor until a new city manager takes office this spring.

During the reception, Mayor Gary Chumley asked Parry, who had a distinguished career in the U.S. Army - including as garrison commander at Fort Hood - what prompted him at that point in his career to become a city manager. He recalled that Parry said, "I like a chal-

lenge."

Parry said the city staff members have done an excellent job, making his own job much easier.

"They don't get enough credit," he said. "It's a dream come true working with professionals like that."

Parry said strong support from the community and the Gatesville City Council have also helped Gatesville to make many improvements over the years.

"We didn't always see eye to eye on everything, but you can have some great debates and still work together to do the best for your community."

## County up against multi-million dollar road repair pricetag

BY JEFF OSBORNE

Senior Writer & Editor

Coryell County faces a multi-million-dollar cost for road repair, and delaying work will only escalate those costs in the future.

That was the message presented to the Coryell County Commissioners Court during a special meeting on Feb. 24 by Shannon Farrell, a consultant with Natural Resources Solutions.

Farrell focused on needed road repairs, including roads considered to be at or near failure, and prospective conditions to the future.

"We used data to see what the road failure rates were in each precinct, and to determine what roads are in good shape," she said. "Looking at the average annual repair rate, about 16 miles of roads are being repaired in-house (using county manpower and equipment) each year.

Eleven miles of road per year are entering a failed state or near-failed state."

Doing the work using county resources costs an average of \$100,000 per mile, while hiring an outside contractor to do the work approaches a cost of \$400,000 per mile, Farrell noted. However, the lack of resources to do all of the work needed makes hiring a contractor to help with roadwork a less expensive proposition in the long run.

Based on the schedule needed to complete all the roadwork, Farrell noted at the current rate it would take until 2069 based on current road failure rates, and that an increase in road failure rates "could push that out to 2075.

If action is taken beginning this year to make road improvements, including using contractors to help, Farrell said the cost of the repairs would be \$90.8 million. If action is delayed until 2028, the cost will rise to more than \$110.7 million.

"The cost of waiting five years is a significant increase," she said.

"About 222 miles of road are in need of repair for 2023-2024. The cost to do the work in house would be about \$1.4 million, and

the outsource rate would be \$5.7 million."

Continuing to address the road needs at a slower rate, the county would "break even" on needed road repairs around 2070, Farrell said.

"You can save money in the long run by outsourcing and getting things done more quickly," she said. "The most important factor in reducing the cost for the county is time - getting repairs made sooner rather than later."

County Judge Roger Miller said the backlog of needed road repairs is something that has developed over a long period of time.

"We didn't get that way overnight," Miller said.

He added that the designation of failed road doesn't mean it can't be used, but that it doesn't meet the top quality standards.

"It's pretty depressing," said County Commissioner Scott Weddle.

Steve Manning, president of NRS, said the outlook isn't entirely bad.

"It's not all doom and gloom," Manning said. "We are presenting ways for the road and bridge department to be able to get things done. The time component in particular really hit me. I've lived here all my life and didn't realize the situation. Time is not our friend.

"Over the last four or five years the road and bridge department has stabilized that so you're no longer trending down."

A major federal infrastructure bill means that billions are available nationwide for road and other infrastructure building and repairs.

"These grant opportunities are popping up, so you need to determine if you get grants where to allot the funds to get the biggest bang for your buck and the best return for your money."

Justin Latham, director of the county road and bridge department, said a primary goal is "transitioning from a construction department to a maintenance department" and repairing roads, rather than having to build them.

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# Gatesville ISD students recognized in the Spotlight



JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

During a Student Spotlight presentation at the Feb. 20 Gatesville ISD Board of Trustees meeting, students involved in the Gatesville High School band, color guard and Dazzlers dance team were recognized for their achievements and dedication. The GHS band finished among the top 18 programs in Texas in Class 4A last fall, their best showing ever. Among those honored during the meeting were (from left) leadership member Lena Clawson, color guard member Emery Wood, Dazzler officer Jaynee Green and drum major Noah Smith. Also pictured is Superintendent Barrett Pollard. Not pictured is Dazzler officer Alianna Longoria.

## Get Off the Fence and Back on Your Feet



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

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## Consultant: GIS specialist needed

BY JEFF OSBORNE  
Senior Writer & Editor

The lack of a full-time geographic information systems (GIS) specialist for Coryell County is the biggest deficiency in the county's record and information gathering capabilities, a consultant told the Coryell County Commissioners Court during a special meeting of the court on Feb. 24.

Steve Manning, president of Natural Resources Solutions, said that although his company and other companies can provide some GIS services, the lack of an employee dedicated to that area is holding the county back.

"You need a GIS specialist," he told the commissioners court. "I know that costs money but eventually it will save you money."

He said having a GIS specialist would allow that person to do map work for different data countywide instead of having a contractor do the work.

"If you put a pencil to it (figuring up the costs of a county employee doing the work rather than paying contractors), it will save you money," Manning said.

"The big gap I see so far is GIS. Y'all are paying us or someone else to do it. You'll get a very big return on investment if you

*"The big gap I see so far is GIS. Y'all are paying us or someone else to do it. You'll get a very big return on investment if you handle it in house."*

**STEVE MANNING**  
NRS president

handle it in house."

County Attorney Brandon Belt said the issue isn't one that will be decided at least until the next county budget is enacted, which takes place during the summer months.

"The GIS issue isn't going to get resolved until a decision is reached at budget time, and we need to determine what direction the court wants to go," Belt said.

"It will be better for you if you can handle it in house," Manning said.

"Unfortunately, we have a lot of things in that category," Belt said.

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**DEADLINES:**

Submit all news articles, classifieds and display advertising by 10am Tuesday for the Saturday issue. Articles about events that have occurred 30 days prior to submission

will not be accepted. However, they will be accepted as paid advertisements.

All articles and advertisements must meet our standards and newspaper format as determined by management.

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

**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.

# Folks around town



SAM HOUSTON | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Sarah Marquez

## Say hello to our neighbor, Sarah Marquez!

She is the Supervisor of New Accounts at the First National Bank in Gatesville. A member of our community for seven years, she enjoys taking care of her customers and the small-town love found in Gatesville. She reads the Messenger and enjoys how it informs residents of what is going on in our town.

If you happen to see Sarah when you are out and about, say hello! She is one of us!

FROM MY FRONT PORCH

# A bigger, better Gatesville Messenger comes to town



BY SAM HOUSTON

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

The staff and I are excited about this new, bigger and better Gatesville Messenger.

After long and serious debate, we concluded a true “community” newspaper needed to truly engage with the community. The term we are using is “hyper local” — meaning you’re going to be seeing more and more school news, photos of school events, reports on the happenings in our city and feature stories that educate, inform, entertain or amuse you. We have a wide variety of interesting concepts we will bring to you, and we feel confident you will be pleased.

The Gatesville Messenger is a 142-year-old newspaper. Over those 142 years newspapers have been forced to adapt because new technology has changed how people receive their news and what they are looking for. We will not be printing

national or state news in the Messenger. There are a number of institutions that do so and frankly, the Messenger cannot staff to take on such a large area of coverage. What we will be covering is all things local.

We are the only reliable source for local news, and we intend to present to you those stories you cannot get anywhere else. We understand you want to know about the actions of the City Council and the School Board. It is important to read what is happening in the Commissioners Court and to also see how our other elected officials are performing. We will report factually, in an unbiased and fair manner. We will not be writing op-eds or attempting to tell you how to think or what to believe. We will,

however, provide you with good, pertinent information that will allow you to make an informed and solid judgment.

A newspaper can be the lifeblood of a city. It serves as a depository and archive for what happens in our town and maintains those memories for years to come. You will be seeing lots of photos, lots of information that you need and want to know, in a timely and succinct fashion. We want you to call the Messenger, “your paper” because it is something you are proud of — and whether it is online or by home delivery, you know you are getting “the news” you can trust.

I have had a few people reach out to me and ask if their subscription is going to be extended since we will only be printing once a week instead of twice a week, and the short answer is no. The Gatesville Messenger has not had a price increase for nearly 20 years. Can you name another product that can make that claim? During that same time the U.S. Postal service has had 12 price increases, which total a 100% increase. The cost of a dozen eggs has increased from 52 cents to \$3.69 and a loaf of bread from \$1 to over \$2. The

cost of newsprint is up over 50% in just the last two years, as have other operational costs. Remember just the cost of mailing the newspaper to you is half the cost.

Instead of raising our subscription rate, we decided to leave it as is for now, and give you more value by producing a bigger and better paper. Make no mistake, there will be a price increase this year. We also believe as readers you will be convinced in our new product and be willing to accept the increase.

We look forward to being part of the Gatesville community for a long time. Thank you for your continued support and patronage.

Thought for the day: The hometown newspaper never goes out of style, for it provides us with intimate looks at ourselves.

Until next time .. I will keep ridin’ the storm out!

Sam Houston  
sam@hcnews.com | 817-573-7066, ext. 260

# County approves road variance request for new Firefly RV Park

BY JEFF OSBORNE

Senior Writer &amp; Editor

Questions about road access to the future Firefly RV Park as well as whether to require the business to meet subdivision requirements led to plenty of discussion were resolved with the approval of a variance on Feb. 28 by the Coryell County Commissioners Court.

During a Feb. 14 meeting at which no action was taken, questions about requirements for the road to the RV Park were addressed. “We went through the checklist and they met our regulations, but would have to build roads to our subdivision standards,” said Justin Mannix, who is with the county’s road and bridge department. Stating that the county has no intention of taking over ownership of the road on the property, Mannix said, “I don’t know why we care if it’s paved or not.”

He added that city of Gatesville leaders are “concerned because they don’t view Veterans Memorial Drive as a road and the county does. The county has always viewed it as a road.”

The RV park is located outside the Gatesville city limits, but falls within the city’s extraterritorial jurisdiction. The city also voted in May 2022 to provide water to the RV park., which is located near the Gatesville Civic Center and nearby athletic fields and rodeo arena.

County Judge Roger Miller said because the property is within the city’s ETJ, the city is required to create a plat for it. However, the county also has some authority regarding the RV park.

“Our regulations give you (the county commissioners

court) the authority to approve or deny an RV park,” said Justin Latham, director of the road and bridge department. “They’re not going to sell those slabs (where RVs will be located) but the court needs to note in its minutes whether they approve the application,” Mannix said.

Latham said there are new regulations (for the county) that went into effect “about a year ago, so this is uncharted water for us.”

He added that any RV park that had three or more sites for RVs is within the realm of county oversight.

“They applied for ag use only on road access,” Latham said.

Commissioner Keith Taylor noted there is a road between the RV park and duplexes owned by Bob Brown.

“That road was abandoned — half belongs to Mr. Massingill and half belongs to Mr. Brown,” Miller said. “I don’t know if it was ever developed as a (real) road. If Mr. Massingill gave up some of his property, he could have a more southerly entrance.”

Although the city granted water access to the property, it has not extended sewer services to the area.

“They will have multiple septic systems on site, all under 5,000 gallons,” Latham said. “Brandon (Belt, the county attorney) views these as separate and has tried to get in touch with TCEQ (the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality) but there hasn’t been a response.”

Latham asked the commissioners court about requirements for the road accessing the property.

“What about the road construction criteria?” he asked.

“Do they build it to our subdivision regulations? Is that too much? We’re never going to take that road over. Our current regulations state they have to build the road to our subdivision standards.”

Taylor said his only question is about access to the property.

“I don’t know why they (the RV park owners) don’t get something from the city saying they are granting access. They granted them water.”

Miller said certain requirements must be met regarding access.

“It has to be acceptable (entrance and exit) for emergency vehicles regardless of the road conditions.”

Commissioner Kyle Matthews said the RV slabs on site “are not designed for residential — they are for up to 10 days occupancy.”

“That’s a big difference letting people live there versus bringing in tourists (for temporary occupancy),” Commissioner Scott Weddle said.

In addition to the 120 sites for the RVs, a park area, dog park and swimming pool are planned for the property.

In a meeting with the Gatesville City Council last spring, owner Lynn Massingill said the property will be “an upscale RV park.”

Another issue is related to a soundproof wall to be located on the property, and Mannix said that Massingill has said he will have the wall built.

## CONCERNS

FROM PAGE A1

capacity locally will free up deputies for patrol duty.

Vanous said she is concerned that the quiet, safe property she and her family own is rapidly changing for the worse.

“I’m heartbroken,” she said. “The land my husband and I are on was a lifelong dream for us. We are losing acre by acre through eminent domain (the right of a government or its agent to acquire private property for public use). I am now looking at losing three-fourths of my frontage property to road expansion.” She asked the Commissioners Court to instead require that land for future road widening would be acquired across the road from her, even if they met relocating utilities.

“You posed three questions,” County Judge Roger Miller said. “First, the Middle Trinity Groundwater (Conservation) District is developing their aquifer model. We will have that information available to us in the future — likely by December of this year.

“Second, this court has had no discussion of expanding County Road 267. And third, regarding surveying, the county is not involved.”

Blayr Bernard, who also owns property near the proposed development, said she and other residents felt threatened by aggressive driving by those coming in for the developers’ presentation on Feb. 25. She said it has been confirmed through a deputy with the Coryell County Sheriff’s Department that trucks belonging to BG Development were among those she felt were not driving safely.

She also said inaccurate information was

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also provided to prospective buyers of land in the proposed subdivision.

“They told buyers a (water) well would cost \$15,000,” she said, adding that estimates of \$75,000 to \$100,000 have been received by current residents in the area — herself included.

She said developers have also threatened residents who stood on their property with signs that had information about concerns about Twin Caverns Ranch.

“No one wants to be threatened because of signs with facts on them,” Barnard said.

Joyce Riley and Joyce Terry, who both live

in the area of the development, said they also had concerns about unsafe driving and feeling unsafe in an area where they previously felt safe.

“There were hundreds of vehicles driving fast (in the area near the proposed subdivision on Feb. 25) until the sheriff was called and slowed them down,” Terry said. “I couldn’t even get across the road to my mailbox.”

“People who work for the developer said we are in line for defamation lawsuits,” Vanous said. “They took pictures of our license plates and of us.”

Gary Hanneman said he has spoken to the commissioners court in the past about several issues related to the subdivision.

“I share a mile of fence line with this development, and I also have nine water gaps that come off this property onto my property,” he said. “Once that big rain comes, I’m really curious what will wash onto my property, including pesticides and herbicides. Anybody that has an interest in protecting neighboring properties will be anxious to see.”

During the meeting, approval of the plat (official map showing the divisions of the land) for Twin Caverns Ranch was one of the items on the agenda.

“This is at the core of why many of you are here today,” Miller told those attending the meeting. “About two years ago we updated our subdivision regulations and reached out to a number of counties of similar size and growth. We took lessons learned and modeled our subdivision regulations. They were submitted to a legal firm that reviewed them and then were adopted in June 2021.”

Miller added that at that time, the county had not seen explosive growth “like we’re

seeing now. Several deficiencies have been identified and there are some things we can do if we have the right data. We are working on those to do the best we can for the citizens of Coryell County.”

Miller said the county government is only authorized to do what it is allowed to do by state law, and that actions are being taken to address concerns.

“Are we moving as fast as some of you would like? Probably not but that’s where we are right now.”

One of the residents said the county’s actions are “too little, too late.”

Justin Mannix with the county road and bridge department said the developer has met all the criteria currently required by the county, and supplied the necessary information requested.

He said the county has requested the developer place a 30,000-gallon water tank on the property to help respond to fires.

Commissioner Ryan Basham asked for the commissioners court to delay approval of the plat.

“I have concerns we haven’t answered yet and haven’t had an engineer look at it.”

The court voted to table (or delay) approval, but Miller noted that by state statute the county has 30 calendar days to consider a plat for approval.

“If no action is taken (during that timeframe) the application is considered approved,” Miller said.

Commissioner Scott Weddle said March 18 is the deadline for the commissioners to take action on the plat request.

“Mr. Basham’s concerns are about floodplains and drainage issues,” Miller said, adding that he hopes to have those questions addressed soon.



COURTESY PHOTO

**COMMISSIONERS' SCHOOL:** Pictured, from left: Pct. 1 Kyle Matthews, Pct. 2 Scott Weddle, Pct. 4 Keith Taylor, and Pct. 3 Ryan Basham

## County Commissioners attend school at College Station

Coryell County Commissioners recently attended the 65th annual V.G. Young School for County Commissioners Courts in College Station.

The Institute provides continuing education for county judges and commissioners and attracts county officials from all areas of the state. It is known for providing accurate, timely information and well-respected speakers.

Attendees earn accredited

hours of continuing education that apply toward their state-mandated continuing education requirement. Commissioners are required to attain 16 hours during every 12-month period. They may carry forward up to eight hours.

The faculty and staff of the Institute work with the officers of the professional associations and education committees to plan relevant and effective educational programs. In addition,

the Institute serves as the educational sponsor for district, regional, and statewide conferences throughout the year.

Some of the key issues discussed included: public works, county vehicle inspections, grant seeking, budgeting, emergency management, groundwater considerations, civil rights, cybersecurity, investments, purchasing, and fire dilemmas.

## County conservation partners host annual local work group meeting

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Hamilton-Coryell Soil and Water Conservation Districts are seeking input from the public on how to best serve local citizens through farm bill conservation programs and technical assistance. The public is invited to attend the Fiscal Year 2024 Local Working Group (LWG) meeting on Monday, March 13, 2023, from 9-11 a.m. at the Meissner Farm located at 1383 CR 420 in Aleman.

The meeting is an opportunity to bring farmers, ranchers, conservationists, and others together to discuss

natural resource needs and set local conservation priorities. The information gathered at these listening sessions helps provide NRCS and the districts the necessary technical and financial support to help land managers make on-the-ground management decisions that produce positive ecological outcomes at the local and state level. This input helps determine collaborative efforts for natural resource priorities and identifies opportunities to address them with conservation practices that improve soils, watershed health, biodiversity, and farmers' livelihoods.

Conservation stakeholders and others interested in obtaining federal technical and financial assistance to improve private land in Hamilton and Coryell counties are encouraged to participate in the meeting.

For more information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service, at 254-386-3913 ext. 3. A request for accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made at least 48 hours before the meeting. For more information, visit the NRCS Web site at <http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/> online.

## Designer bag giveaway to be held March 10 to support 4-H Judging trip

A Designer Bag Giveaway will be held on Friday, March 10 at the Gatesville Civic Center. The fundraiser is in support of the 4-H Coryell County Livestock Judging Team, which qualified for the International Judging Contest at the Royal Highland Show in Scotland, to be held this July.

Team members who qualified for the Reserve National Honors are Kinsey Gardner, Samuel Belt, Costin Allison, and Trey Harbour. Only a few teams in the United States have qualified for the

international event.

The fundraiser will feature games throughout the evening and the winners will earn a designer handbag or other designer items. Refreshments will be served, and each participant will have a chance to win door prizes. All proceeds from the event will go toward the team members' travel expenses.

Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. and games begin at 6:30 p.m. All guests must be at least 18 years old. Limited tickets are available at the cost of \$50 per ticket, or at the night of

the event for \$65. Tickets can be purchased at Vintage Royalty Boutique, and will include 10 games, door prize ticket, light refreshments, and a goody bag. To reserve a table the cost will be \$600 and will include eight tickets and a designer keepsake.

For more information contact Julie Gardner at 254-223-2017. Vintage Royalty is located at 2401 S. TX-36, Suite 100 in Gatesville. The Gatesville Civic Center is located at 303 Veterans Memorial Loop in Gatesville.

## Gatesville Country Club hosts scramble

Gatesville Country Club will hold a two-person scramble, Bunch O' Hacks, on Saturday, March 11 and Sunday, March 12.

Tee times will be at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. both days, with a

shotgun start, preflighted at the cost of \$320 per team. Private carts are welcome and rental carts will be available to use.

If there are any handicaps, the home course and the

course number is required to enter the scramble. All handicaps will be verified.

Sign up at the clubhouse or call 254-865-6917. For more information call Ray Feight at 254-366-2760.

## Carter BloodCare blood drive to be held March 9 at Coryell Health

A community blood drive will be held on March 9, sponsored by Coryell Health and Carter BloodCare.

The blood drive will be held at the main hospital in the front parking lot. Coryell Health and Carter BloodCare welcome anyone who would like to come and donate.

Blood donated with Carter BloodCare goes to patients

across North, Central, and East Texas as well as family, friends, and neighbors. People face emergencies every day such as older adults with age-related health issues, mothers experiencing difficulties during childbirth, and major accidents to name a few. Carter BloodCare serves more than 200 medical facilities in 50 plus

counties in Texas.

Carter BloodCare is the sole supplier of blood units for Coryell Health. Each donation from Carter BloodCare is contributing to our community. Coryell Health gives an average of 23 units of blood to patients per month, so it's very important to have donors to keep the supply available.

Carter BloodCare provides multiple options to sign up and they're user friendly. Call Lori Wolff at 254-248-6271, sign up online at [https://ww3.greatpartners.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/137591](https://ww3.greatpartners.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/137591). Be sure to bring your photo identification when you arrive.

An email will be provided

when signed up, and an online link will be sent with a donor history questionnaire to save time on the day of donation. For any questions call Carter BloodCare at 800-366-2834 or text CBC-Donate or HELP to 999-777 and a Carter BloodCare representative will assist you. For more information visit [https://www.carterblood-](https://www.carterbloodcare.org/)

[care.org/](https://www.carterbloodcare.org/) online.



## Income tax preparation assistance offered March 16 at Gatesville Public Library

The United Way of Central Texas will be hosting Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) with free tax preparation of those households with an income of \$60,000 or less per year.

IRS certified VITA volunteers will provide basic income tax return services without charge, ensuring 100% of an individual's tax

refund goes directly to that individual without any hidden fees or costs.

The tax preparation event will take place on Thursday, March 16, from noon until 3 p.m. at the Gatesville Public Library located at 111 N. 8th Street. It will be by appointment only. If you wish to take advantage of this service, please call 254-778-

8616 to make an appointment in advance.

For those wanting to participate, the following documents must be brought to an appointment: a photo ID; Social Security card or ITIN card (for you, your spouse, and all dependents); W-2s; and if applicable, a copy of last year's Federal Tax return; 1095 - (A,B, or C) proof

of health insurance; 1099-G (unemployment insurance benefits); 1099-INT (bank interest); 1098-T (tuition statement); 1098-E (interest on student loan); Notice 1319 (advance child credit); 1099-NEC, 1099-MISC, and/or 1099-K; Checking/savings account statement with bank routing numbers (optional); if you are married filing

jointly, your spouse needs to be present at the appointment.

Due to program limitations, they will not prepare the following:

Married Filing Separately; Schedule C with loss, depreciation, or business use of home; Complicated Schedule D (capital gains and losses); Form SS-5 (request for Social

Security Number); Form 8606 (non-deductible IRA); Form 8615 (child taxed at parent's tax rate); Form SS-8 (determination of worker status for purposes of federal employment taxes and income tax withholding); Parts 4 & 5 of Form 8962 (premium tax credits).

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# OBITUARIES

## BILLIE RIGDON LAM

Dec. 16, 1929 - Feb. 24, 2023



Billie Rigdon Lam, of Gatesville, passed away on Friday, February 24, 2023, at the age of 93, surrounded by her loved ones.

Billie Ray Lam was born December 16, 1929, in Lockney, to Thomas Rigdon and Nellie Busby Rigdon. She married Waylan Dow (Dinkie) Lam on September 15, 1948 in Tucumcari, New Mexico and celebrated 52 years of marriage before his passing.

Billie went to work when she was 13 years old and

retired at the age of 83. Her first work experience was in a movie theater in Amarillo. She and Dinkie raised their family in Flat while owning and operating Dinkie Lam Lumber Company. She worked selling merchandise and keeping the books during the week and on Saturday worked at the US Post Office in Flat. Later she was employed at TDCJ and worked seven years at the Gatesville Senior Center, retiring from there in 2013. In 2008 she was voted Senior Citizen of the year by the Gatesville Exchange Club.

Billie was a member of Flat Baptist Church and devoted her life to giving glory to her Lord, Jesus Christ, and love and commitment to her family and friends. She enjoyed being a caregiver. Billie, a fabulous cook, was known for her cakes, candies, and homemade picante sauce. Her family was always excited to come over for her meals, especially her turkey and dressing at Thanksgiving. Her enjoyment in life was raising her family, taking road trips with her hus-

band, and spending time with her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Thomas and Nellie Rigdon; her husband, Waylan Dow (Dinkie) Lam; son, Francis Paul Lam; sister, Fay Elrod; and brother, Sam Rigdon.

Billie is survived by her daughter, Kathy Lam; grandchildren, Gwen Copeland, Amanda Wolff and husband, Jud, Kayla Hobbs, and Owen Lam; great-grandchildren, Addi, Alyssa, Cash, Autumn, and Vivianne; siblings, Jack, Jimmy, and Ronnie Rigdon; sister-in-law, Debbie Rigdon; and daughter-in-law, Linda Lam. She is also survived by her numerous nieces and nephews.

A private burial will take place at Flint Creek Cemetery at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Gatesville Senior Center, 208 Lutterloh, Gatesville, Texas, 76528.

## JAMIE SUMMERS ALTAMIRANO

Oct. 10, 1979 - Feb. 25, 2023



Jamie Summers Altamirano, age 43, of Gatesville,

passed away on Saturday, February 25, 2023, in Gatesville.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 1, 2023, at Scott's Funeral Home Chapel, with Rev. Matt Dossey officiating. Interment followed at Restland Cemetery.

Jamie Nell Altamirano was born on October 10, 1979, in Waco. She went to school in Gatesville and graduated from Lorena High School in 1998. She married Ramon Altamirano on March 25, 2011, and they have resided in Gatesville.

Jamie is survived by her husband, Ramon Altamirano; father, Larry Summers and wife, Sandra; mother, Denice Vrba and husband,

Gary; children, Gracie Summers-Lewis, Leila Altamirano; sister, Monica Vrba; brother, Adam Ray; father-in-law, Leonel Altamirano; brothers-in-law, Christian Altamirano, Leonel Altamirano; nieces and nephews, Judd Bates, Kennedy Mofatt, Mateo Altamirano and Gianni deLacruz.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to The Big Sting, 3417 Imperial Dr., Gatesville, TX 76528.

## PATTY LOU LAXSON

May 11, 1952 - Feb. 25, 2023



Patty Lou Laxson at the age of 14 put her faith and trust in Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior. On February 25, 2023, surrounded by her family, she peacefully entered into His arms. Patty, age 70, of Lorena, was preceded in death by her parents Cecil and Nell Moore and her husband of 39 years, Rolland Roberts Laxson.

On May 11, 1952, Patty entered the world. She grew up in Gatesville as the only child of Cecil and Nell Moore, surrounded by aunts, uncles, and cousins. Not long after graduating from high school she met the love of her life and late husband Rolland Laxson. The two were married in 1971 and moved to Lorena

where they raised their two daughters, Jana and Jeanie. Patty was a devoted mother and exemplified dedication and commitment to all she did. As a young woman she worked at Avery Paper for 20 years, followed by a 24-year career as the court administrator for the City of Hewitt. It was there she made some of her best friends that were with her through thick and thin. In January of 2022, Patty retired from the city but her friendships and love for those she worked closely with continued to the very end.

Patty, whose smile made everyone feel like a friend, loved being active. She traveled all over the country visiting her daughter Jeanie and her family, enjoying rodeos, and simply exploring all that our great country has to offer. She also treasured shopping trips with her oldest daughter Jana and seeing her compete in numerous barrel races. Years after Rolland passed, Patty met her friend Richard Leggett who she enjoyed listening to live country music with, dancing, and their shared passion for all things country.

For all who really knew Patty it was clear that her most precious treasure in this world was her granddaughters, Alexandria and

Olivia Vinson. In her 20 years as "Grami," Patty never missed one of the girl's birthdays or Christmas' no matter where they were.

Those left to cherish her memories are her oldest daughter Jana and her husband, Roger Kennedy; youngest daughter Jeanie and her husband, Jay Vinson; her two granddaughters, Alexandria and Olivia Vinson, Richard Leggett, and too many friends to list.

A funeral service to celebrate Patty's life will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday March 4, at Grace Gardens Funeral Home followed by her burial at Davidson Cemetery near Mound.

Psalm 23  
The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

## PHILLIS JONES

July 7, 1942 - Feb. 23, 2023



Phillis Jones, age 80, of Jonesboro, passed away on Thursday, February 23, 2023, in Gatesville.

Graveside services were held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, February 28, at Jonesboro Cemetery, with Rev. Larry Williams officiating.

Phillis Jean Jones was born on July 7, 1942, in Gatesville, to the late Mer-

ville Howard and Dovie Logan White. She grew up in the Whitehall community of Coryell County and went to school in Ireland, Whitehall and graduated from Gatesville High School. She married Oscar Jones on October 31, 1959. They have resided in Jonesboro since 1975. Phillis worked for the Jonesboro I.S.D. for 22 years, driving the bus and cooking homestyle meals in the cafeteria. After retiring from the school, she worked in Central Supply at Coryell Memorial Hospital for 12 years, before fully retiring from working. All the years, Phillis worked from sun up to sun down every day, caring for and raising her family, tending to farm chores and any other task asked of her or she seen that needed doing; all without a single complaint spoken. She always said, "I'm just an ol' country gal!" She was called

Mom, Granny, or Aunt Jean by all of her loved ones. To know her, was to love her.

Phillis was preceded in death by her parents, M.H. "Stump" and Dovie White; sons, Vernon Dean Jones, Robert Glen White, and Corey Heath Jones; sisters, Dorothy Songer and Ruth White; brothers, John Thomas (J.T.) and Donald White; grandson, Oscar Lee Jones.

Phillis is survived by her husband, Oscar Dean Jones; sons, Noble Jones, Troy and wife, Kelli Jones, Joshua Damon and wife, Kara Lee, and their son Joshua Clark Jones; daughter-in-law, Karen Mengelkamp; sister, Clydene White Leos; cousins loved as sisters, Joann Paul and Faye Jean Crosson; brothers, Lonnie and Howard White; brother-in-law, Bill (Mary) Jones, and many loved grandchild, great-grandchildren, cousins, nieces, and nephews.

## LEGACY COMES TO LIFE

# Madison Thompson King: farmer, patriot, family man



BY STEVE TEEL

EDITOR'S NOTE: The story of Madison Thompson King is told by his great-great grandson, Steve Teel. Steve is an active member of the David Crockett Chapter of the Sons of the Republic of Texas (SRT) in Granbury.

My family was among many others who came to the Republic of Texas seeking new opportunities and new lives in the new Republic. Even as a child I knew our family would have a great future in Texas.

Madison T. King is my name, but family and friends call me Matt. It was exciting times for our family, but especially me and my brother Andy. Anderson was his name, but we all called him Andy. He and I did everything together and we shared the same vision for adventure and the great lives we could build in Texas.

I am the oldest child of Davis and Mary (Polly) Sartin King and was born Jan. 8, 1822 in Lincoln County, Tennessee, and we emigrated to the Republic of Texas in 1838. In 1839 my family received a land grant for 360 acres in Nacogdoches County south of the town of Nacogdoches about 10 miles or so.

Nacogdoches was an old town created in Mexican Texas in 1826. This is where we would begin building our farm and I have to tell you it was hard work. Fortunately, there were lots of natural re-

sources available to build a modest house and the land was fertile. I stayed with my family most of the time helping with the farm until I turned 26 and married Sarah Jane Haynes on Nov. 16, 1848. As a wedding present my parents gave us 75 acres



1st Lieutenant Anderson Augustus King

in Nacogdoches County near the town of Woden.

Hostilities between us settlers and Indians was a serious problem. We always had to be prepared for attack, so I gave an axe to my new bride, to wear in a belt around her waist, just in case she needed it. Sarah Jane and I had six boys and four daughters. We raised them in the Methodist Church even though I was raised in the Presbyterian Church. Sarah was raised in the Methodist Church, so I converted to her church and served as a steward to the Melrose Circuit Conference for many years.

During my growing up years and continuing to the end of my life, farming was always challenging to provide for our families.

Nacogdoches County was formed in 1837, and was full of small farms and a few plantations. We were all subjected to Texas weather, which varied almost every year — we had many lean years and many good years — just not altogether. The other big issue was the lack of transportation to move



our goods. We raised pigs and some cattle, and raised vegetables and some oats.

The population of Nacogdoches County was growing and growing fast. The new settlers tended to be staunch Democrats from southern states. As the Civil War began to get closer, the mood for secession began growing and in 1860 a vote was taken for Nacogdoches County to secede or not.

The vote was 411 to 94 to secede but there was strong sentiment against it. Our great Governor Sam Houston was dead set against secession, but he was driven out of office and Texas joined the Confederacy.

I was commissioned as a 2nd Lt. in Company C, 2nd Infantry Regiment, Texas State Troops. My job was to supervise the hauling of supplies from Nacogdoches County to East Texas and West Louisiana. In 1863 my brother Andy joined Arnold's Riflemen as part of the Texas State Troops and was killed in service. This was a great blow to me as we were very close.

## WHO ARE THE SONS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS?

The Sons of the Republic of Texas (SRT) consists of members who are direct lineal descendants of those who settled the Republic of Texas from 1836 to February 19, 1846. The purpose of the SRT is to perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who won independence for Texas. They set the course for Texas to become a nation and eventually the 28th state. LEGACY COMES TO LIFE personifies our ancestors with true stories about real people who changed the course of history!

For membership information please visit; [srttexas.org](http://srttexas.org) or email; [old300.srt@gmail.com](mailto:old300.srt@gmail.com).

After the Civil War, the next 20-30 years were tough years for farmers in Nacogdoches County with issues of weather, economic ups and downs, transportation and many other issues that directly affected us not to mention reconstruction. Through all this our family remained strong in our faith

and confident in a great future in and for Texas.

My Sarah died on April 27, 1900, and I followed her about five months later on Sept. 4, 1900. We are buried next to each other in the King Family Cemetery near our home on Kingtown Road.



Headstones of Madison T. and Sarah King

COURTESY PHOTOS

# The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of February 22 - 28. 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. 22**  
1:27 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 4600 block of S. State Hwy. 36.  
5:17 p.m., a missing person was reported in the 3300 block of Churchill Drive.  
5:30 p.m., criminal mis-

chief was reported in the 3400 block of E. Main Street.

**Feb. 23**  
8:43 a.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 300 block of Mulberry Avenue.

12:31 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 800 block of S. 7th Street.

9:55 p.m., a threat was reported in the 2300 block of Business Hwy. 36.

**Feb. 24**  
9:19 a.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 1800 block of St. Louis Street.

9:23 a.m., an accident was reported in the 1200 block of E. Main Street.

5:52 p.m., a missing person was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.

**Feb. 25**  
7:31 a.m., a burglary was

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reported in the 2300 block of E. Main Street.

2:40 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2200 block of CR 268.

7:34 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2400 block of Oak Drive.

**Feb. 26**  
3:07 a.m., a burglary was reported in the 2400 block of E. Main Street.

7:42 p.m., criminal mis-

chief was reported in the 2300 block of Business Hwy. 36.

7:43 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 500 block of E. Leon Street.

**Feb. 27**  
9:15 a.m., a theft was reported in the 300 block of S. State Hwy. 36.

6:12 p.m., a structure fire was reported in the 900 block of Garand Street.

8:54 p.m., a threat was reported in the 1200 block of Straws Mill Road.

**Feb. 28**  
10:54 a.m., a brush/grass fire was reported on CR 188.

2:27 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.

6:03 p.m., a theft was reported in the 1400 block of Pleasant Street.

10:32 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 2500 block of Mears Drive.

## CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

**Feb. 22**  
9:55 a.m., a civil matter was reported in the 100 block of College Avenue.

4:44 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 3300 block of CR 318.

8:48 p.m., suspicious activity was reported on FM 116 near FM 1783.

**Feb. 23**  
8:00 a.m., a stolen vehicle was reported in the 1600 block of FM 107.

11:58 a.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of Linda's Lane.

5:32 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 1700 block of CR 142.

**Feb. 24**  
2:39 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 100 block of Canyon Drive.

3:52 p.m., a theft was reported in the 200 block of Harrell.

10:41 p.m., an assault was reported in the 400 block of CR 341.

**Feb. 25**  
8:45 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 100 block of CR 303.

9:20 a.m., vandalism was

reported in the 3300 block of CR 267.

8:03 p.m., a prowler was reported in the 500 block of Nathan Drive.

**Feb. 26**  
8:55 a.m., a civil matter was reported in the 2900 block of Willow Loop.

10:40 a.m., an out-of-control child was reported in the 300 block of TX Hwy. 236.

12:24 p.m., a theft was reported in the 10000 block of FM 1783.

9:44 p.m., a reckless driver was reported on FM 217.

**Feb. 27**  
11:40 a.m., a theft was reported in the 100 block of Atchley Road.

12:15 p.m., trespassing was reported in the 3300 block of FM 107.

7:32 p.m., suspicious persons were reported on FM 2312 and FM 580.

**Feb. 28**  
9:55 a.m., a dog bite was reported in the 2500 block of CR 303.

3:10 p.m., harassment was reported in the 500 block of E. Leon Street.

7:05 p.m., a major accident was reported in the 9700 block of FM 929.

8:13 p.m., a neighbor dispute was reported on Boone Drive.

## Morris Federation to meet March 11

Members of the Morris Federation will have their March meeting on Saturday, March 11, in the James Coryell Room at the Coryell Museum and Historical Center beginning about 10:15 a.m. Members may start arriving at about 10 a.m.

The program, titled "Bee Happy," will be presented

by Christina Baker Coleman. She will be sharing educational materials about bees with the group -- information about kinds of bees (but especially honeybees), characteristics and interesting facts, how their hives work, their significance, etc. Those attending will also learn a little about beekeeping.

The Morris Federation still has copies of some of the papers and forms that David Myers left for members who missed the January meeting on "What Seniors Need to Know." He has also sent along some HIPPA forms for those interested in them.

The group hopes to see all at the meeting!

## PEARL NEWS

### Little Oliver isn't so little...

BY BETSY CLARK  
Pearl News Correspondent

I just received a call from one of my "partners in 'crime' (mischief is probably the better word)" who asked me if I am delusional, delirious or intoxicated since I reported absolute fake news last week.



Huh? (We know I don't drink anything but sweet tea and Dr. Pepper, but the other two possibilities, well...). It seems that my faux pas was in describing the new Pearl mascot, "little" Oliver, the very friendly and loving dog that has become the watchdog of Pearl. Therefore, I am submitting this retraction and my apologies to all concerned, especially Oliver, since he seems to be completely unaware of his gargantuan size. I had forgotten that Oliver is the size of a small horse and thinks he can fit in the passenger side of Linda Ray's small SUV. He's so smart that he could probably drive that car, if he could actually fit in the darn thing! I did get one thing correct, though. Oliver is very sweet and absolutely adorable! When he comes to services at Pearl Church of Christ on Sundays, Oliver immediately looks for his kiddos. Those precious kids love to lay on the ground to let Oliver walk across them -- forward and back again. They giggle hysterically, and Oliver looks like he has done something heroic. You just can't fault a dog who loves children as much as he does. Oliver was introduced to Linda's niece recently, an adorable, but oh-so-tiny puppy named Lulu. Oliver and Lulu bonded instantly as that oversized lunk treated Lulu with extreme care and concern. So, if you happen to be in Pearl and run into a dog the size of a Buick who wants to welcome you to Pearl with all his heart, just go with the flow and show Oliver some love. He will be your friend for life.

I got to talk to Kay this past week. She reports that she is keeping Gatesville in order just like she did with Pearl. Lucky Gatesville. She and her faithful companion, another puppy roughly the size of a Volkswagen Beetle, can be found along with their other sidekick, Michelle, patrolling Raby Park. We

wish the crew hundreds of top-ten weather days. Be sure to say hello to this merry group when you're out enjoying this historical, shady Gatesville treasure.

The next Pearl Bluegrass and Pearl Cottage Bookstore Day will be March 4. The book cottage will open at 10 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. Be sure and visit Linda, Kay and Corlisa. You never know what treasures you might find in the cottage. Plus, just browsing the over 6,000 books in the store is fascinating. Most items are "buy what you want, pay what you want," and all proceeds go toward local charities. Visit the friendliest little bookstore in Texas - you'll

be so glad you did. There's no place like Pearl!

This week's Bible verse comes from Colossians 3:12 - "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience." (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

## "Water Day" March 8 for well owners

Texas Rural Water Association will host a "Water Day" March 8 at Gatesville Civic Center, 301 Veteran's Memorial Loop.

The free public education event is scheduled for 10 a.m.-4 p.m. for private well owners to learn about where our water comes from and best management

practices to protect it from contamination.

Industry professionals will be there to discuss Texas' water through educational materials, visual demonstrations, and presentations. Guests are encouraged to bring a water sample from their private well for free nitrate sam-

pling. Land and well owners of Coryell, Hamilton, McLennan, Bosque, Comanche, Bell, and Erath counties are welcomed.

Food trucks will be onsite for food purchase.

Visit [www.trwa.org/page/privatewells](http://www.trwa.org/page/privatewells) for more information.

## CENTEX CRIME STOPPERS - CRIME OF THE WEEK

### Eazy-Go golf cart stolen Feb. 25-26

Centex Crime Stoppers can use your help in solving a case of a theft over \$2,500. During the overnight hours from Feb. 25 into Feb. 26, 2023, an unknown person(s) committed an act of theft in the 300 block of Gateway Circle. Suspect(s) stole a red Eazy-Go golf cart, which is missing the driver-side headlamp. The golf cart seats four people and has a roof that is white. No suspect description is available.

If you have any informa-

tion about any case or any local crime, call Centex Crime Stoppers 24 hours a day at 1-254-865-8477 (TIPS) or visit our website at [www.centexcrimestoppers.org](http://www.centexcrimestoppers.org) or by downloading the "P3" mobile app available on both the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. You never have to give your

name, and if your information leads to an arrest, you may be eligible for a cash reward.

Crime Stoppers, citizens, police, and the news media working together can make our community a safer place to live. Together we can make a difference.

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Thank you

I would like to offer my deep appreciation to the person that alerted the Gatesville Fire Department, and for them coming in the early morning hours of February 22, to upright the utility pole by my house and put out the fire in the tree. Thanks also goes to Texas-New Mexico Power for putting in the new pole, etc. May God Bless you all.

P. Smith

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JD 3039R/ Loader- 1412 transmission- 2017 model \$29,500

JD 4044m/400E Loader w/ box blade and tiller 2022 model- 32 hours- 44 h.p. \$36,000

JD 5075m/ Loader - 2012 model - open station 4wd- 75 h.p. \$44,000

JD 5055D/ 512 Loader 2009-2wd - 800 hrs \$19,500

JD 4044m w/Loader and shredder- 4wd- 226 hrs - very nice \$30,000

JD 6155m-2018 model-47wd- 550 hrs - Triple Scvs - 155 eng. h.p. .... \$135,000

JD 4020/ Loader- 7288 hrs. \$12,000

**Hay Equipment**  
(2) 468 Baler (1) 469 Baler  
(1) 567 Baler (1) 569 Baler  
(2) 460m Baler (1) 568 Baler

032  
**MISCELLANEOUS**

**HEAD START**  
TAKING APPLICATIONS!! (No Transportation Provided)  
Gatesville Head Start is now accepting applications for the 2023-2024 school year. Head Start is a pre-school offering excellent educational opportunities along with medical, dental, developmental, and nutritional benefits at no cost. The Head Start approach of individualized care and guidance is well suited to helping children with disabilities. Children between the ages of 3 and 5 may be eligible. There is no charge for participation in Head Start. Pick up your application now at the Head Start Center at 1105 Saunders Street. For more information, call your local center at 254-865-5423, or Hill Country Community Action Association at 325-372-5167.

**HEAD START**  
ESTA ACEPTANDO APLICACIONES!!! (Ningun Transporte Proporcionado)  
Gatesville Head Start esta aceptando aplicaciones para el año 2023-2024. Head Start es una escuela para niños de edad 3-5 años que califican. Head Start ofrece oportunidades excelentes para educación y también beneficios de médico, dental, desarrollo, y de alimentos. Head Start ofrece mucha ayuda para niños y familias. No cuesta nada para que su niño atienda el programa de Head Start. Puede usted recoger ahora una aplicación para solicitar un puesto en Head Start. Para más información llame a la Head Start, 1105 Saunders Street, 2 del teléfono: 254-865-5423, or Hill Country Community Action at 325/372-5167.

We buy junk cars with or without title! Contact 254-721-6592 00029903

**FREE**  
Anyone willing to pick up two lease campers needing work. Cabover used for storage for years.  
- 18' goose neck  
- AC broken  
- vacant years.  
Left by former hunters. Near Star, Texas.  
Call 832-444-3817.  
G

037  
**HELP WANTED**

**Come Join Our Team!**  
Our Nursing Department is hiring!

**Registered Nurse**  
(Full Time Night Shift)

**\*\*\*Ask about our \$10,000 sign-on Bonus\*\*\***

Come Enjoy:  
Competitive salaries, paid time off, health, dental, vision and supplemental insurance, fitness center membership, education reimbursement, holidays, matching 457B retirement program, and employee discounts.  
For complete job descriptions and applications, visit [www.hamiltonhospital.org](http://www.hamiltonhospital.org) or contact us at (254) 386-1920

**HAMILTON HEALTHCARE SYSTEM** Care Runs Deep in Rural Hamilton  
400 North Brown Hamilton, TX 76531  
[www.hamiltonhospital.org](http://www.hamiltonhospital.org)

**NOW HIRING** | **Coryell HEALTH REHABILITATING AT THE MEADOWS**

- RN – FT & PRN; All Shifts for Charge Nurse and Nursing
- LVN – FT & PRN; All Shifts for Charge Nurse and Nursing
- CNA/NA – FT, All Shifts

**\*\$4,000 FT SIGN ON BONUS**  
Now offering 8-hour shifts for

**\*SIGN ON BONUSES W/1-YEAR COMMITMENT**  
OTHER STIPULATIONS MAY APPLY. ASK FOR DETAILS.

**BENEFITS OFFERED:**  
Competitive compensation • Paid Vacation • Sick time accrual • Matching 457B Investments  
Tuition Reimbursement • Health, Dental, Life and Supplemental Insurances, etc.

**APPLY IN PERSON OR DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION FROM WEBSITE:**  
110 Chicktown Rd. off: (254) 404-2500  
Gatesville, TX 76528 fax: (254) 248-6288  
humanresources@coryellhealth.org

**Job summaries at [www.CoryellHealth.org](http://www.CoryellHealth.org)**

**DRIVER WANTED**  
Gatesville to Houston and Houston to Gatesville.  
Pickup in Gatesville every Thursday afternoon, drop off in Houston.  
Pick up in Houston every Monday morning, drop off in Gatesville.  
Nonsmoker with reliable car. Must have safe driving record.  
obdrf@aol.com  
00029967

**HILLSIDE MEDICAL LODGE**

**COME JOIN OUR TEAM!**

- Night shift nurses, 6 p.m.-6 a.m.
- Laundry, M-F 2:30 p.m.-10:30 p.m.; weekends 6:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m.
- Night shift CNAs, 6 p.m.-6 a.m.

**APPLY AT WWW.HILLSIDEML.COM**  
For more info. call Administrator Michael Beasley, 254-865-7575

**NOW HIRING**

**HAMILTON HOSPITAL**

- EMS Ambulance Billing Specialist - FT
- Marketing/Community Relations Director - FT
- EMT-Basic - FT
- Housekeeper (\$5000 sign on bonus) - FT, PT & PRN
- Cook - PRN
- RN (\$10,000 sign on bonus) or LVN (Nights) - FT
- Admissions Clerk (Sat & Sun) - PT
- Admissions Clerk - FT & PRN
- Customer Service Representative - FT
- Physical Therapist Assistant - FT
- Maintenance Worker - FT
- Ultrasound Technologist - FT
- Respiratory Therapist - PRN

**EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT**

- Registered Nurse - PRN

**GOLDTHWAITE CLINIC**

- CMA or LVN - FT

**HAMILTON RHC**

- CMA - FT

**HICO CLINIC**

- CMA - FT

**SOLUTIONS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

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

**SPECIALTY SERVICES**

- Registration Clerk - FT

**SURGERY**

- Certified Scrub Tech - FT

**WOUND CARE**

- RN or LVN - PRN

**CENTRAL TX EYE CARE**

- Optometry Assistant - PRN

Come Enjoy:  
Competitive salaries, paid time off, health, dental, vision and supplemental insurance, fitness center membership, education reimbursement, holidays, matching 457B retirement program, and employee discounts.  
For complete job descriptions and applications, visit [www.hamiltonhospital.org](http://www.hamiltonhospital.org) or contact us at (254) 386-1920 or [humanresources@hamiltonhospital.org](mailto:humanresources@hamiltonhospital.org)

**HAMILTON HEALTHCARE SYSTEM** Care Runs Deep in Hamilton, TX  
400 North Brown • Hamilton, TX 76531  
[www.hamiltonhospital.org](http://www.hamiltonhospital.org)

037  
**HELP WANTED**

**Come Join Our Team!**  
Multiple positions now available with our Environmental Services Department!

Offering flexible schedules with full-time, part-time and PRN options available

**\*\*\*Ask about our \$5,000 sign-on Bonus\*\*\***

\$13.00 hourly rate  
\$1.00 per hour Night Differential  
\$0.50 per hour Weekend Differential

Come Enjoy:  
Competitive salaries, paid time off, health, dental, vision and supplemental insurance, fitness center membership, education reimbursement, holidays, matching 457B retirement program, and employee discounts.  
For complete job descriptions and applications, visit [www.hamiltonhospital.org](http://www.hamiltonhospital.org) or contact us at (254) 386-1920

**HAMILTON HEALTHCARE SYSTEM** Care Runs Deep in Rural Hamilton  
400 North Brown Hamilton, TX 76531  
[www.hamiltonhospital.org](http://www.hamiltonhospital.org)

**Come Join Our Team!**  
Our Surgery Department is hiring!

**Certified Scrub Tech**

Come Enjoy:  
Competitive salaries, paid time off, health, dental, vision and supplemental insurance, fitness center membership, education reimbursement, holidays, matching 457B retirement program, and employee discounts.  
For complete job descriptions and applications, visit [www.hamiltonhospital.org](http://www.hamiltonhospital.org) or contact us at (254) 386-1920

**HAMILTON HEALTHCARE SYSTEM** Care Runs Deep in Rural Hamilton  
400 North Brown Hamilton, TX 76531  
[www.hamiltonhospital.org](http://www.hamiltonhospital.org)

**Come Join Our Team!**  
Our Radiology Department is hiring!

**Radiology Technologist**

**\*\*\$10,000 Sign-on Bonus with 2 year contract\*\***

Come Enjoy:  
Competitive salaries, paid time off, health, dental, vision and supplemental insurance, fitness center membership, education reimbursement, holidays, matching 457B retirement program, and employee discounts.  
For complete job descriptions and applications, visit [www.hamiltonhospital.org](http://www.hamiltonhospital.org) or contact us at (254) 386-1920

**HAMILTON HEALTHCARE SYSTEM** Care Runs Deep in Rural Hamilton  
400 North Brown Hamilton, TX 76531  
[www.hamiltonhospital.org](http://www.hamiltonhospital.org)

**NOW HIRING** | **Coryell HEALTH**

**Assisted/Independent Living:**

- CNA – FT, Night shift
- \*\$4,000 SIGN ON BONUS
- CNA-PRN all Shifts
- CMA - PRN

**Home Health:**

- PCA PRN – for Gatesville, Copperas Cove, and Hamilton

**Infection Prevention:**

- BSN-RN – FT; Preferable Certified Infection Control & Epidemiology

**Medical Clinic:**

- LVN – FT
- Certified Medical Assistant/CGMA – FT
- Outpatient Admission Clerk – FT, Mon.-Fri., 8am-5pm
- Clinic Registration Clerk – FT Mon.-Fri., 8am-5pm
- Registration Clerk (Float) – FT Must be willing to travel

**Culinary:**

- Cook – FT (Food Handlers Certification preferred)
- Cook Assistant – FT

**EMS:**

- Paramedic – FT
- \*\$8,000 BONUS

**Emergency Department:**

- RN – FT Nights
- \*\$10,000 BONUS
- RN – PRN all shifts

**Health Information Management:**

- Certified Medical Coder – FT
- HIM Specialist – FT

**LAB:**

- MLT – PRN

**Material Management:**

- Housekeeper – FT & PRN

**Med Surg:**

- RN/LVN - FT nights
- \*\$10,000 SIGN ON BONUS
- CNA – FT All Shifts
- \*\$4,000 SIGN ON BONUS
- RN or LVN – PRN All shifts

**Radiology:**

- CT/X-Ray Tech – PRN; TDH MRT & ARRT w/1 yr. exp. in CT/X-Ray
- Cath Lab Tech – FT, experience preferred
- \*\$10,000 SIGN ON BONUS

**Patient Experience:**

- Social Worker – FT, Mon.-Fri., 8am-5pm

**\*SIGN ON BONUSES W/1-YEAR COMMITMENT**  
OTHER STIPULATIONS MAY APPLY. ASK FOR DETAILS.

**BENEFITS OFFERED:**

- Competitive compensation • Paid Vacation & Sick Leave
- Matching 457B Investments • Tuition Reimbursement
- Health, Dental, Life and Supplemental Insurances, etc.

**APPLY IN PERSON OR DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION FROM WEBSITE:**  
1507 W. Main St. off: (254) 248-6386  
Gatesville, TX 76528 fax: (254) 248-6288  
humanresources@coryellhealth.org

**Job summaries at [www.CoryellHealth.org](http://www.CoryellHealth.org)**

018  
**PETS**

**ENGLISH MASTIFF/ CANE CORSO**  
Puppies are smart, well-socialized, raised in home, and will be 100lbs. Parents are mellow, watchful of kids, animals, and our place. 970-729-3243-PURMELA 00029949

**FREE TO GOOD HOME:**  
Female English Bulldog/Bull Terrier mix. All shots, good with kids. 8 months old, all white. Text only: 254-688-0508. 00029966

045  
**SERVICES**

**Central Texas Landscaping & Services, LLC**  
Mowing, Landscaping, Brush Clearing, Trash Clean Up, Pipe Fence Painting (Ospho), Road Installation. John Capella, 254-216-3684. Licensed & Insured.  
00029588

**ASHLEY'S LANDSCAPING & SERVICES:**  
Tree Trimming, Leaf/Yard Cleanup, Mowing, Landscaping, Moving Services.  
254-239-8842  
John 3:16  
Like us on Facebook  
00029942

**TREE WORKS Tree Service:**  
tree trimming, removal & stump grinding. Free estimates. Call Lloyd, (254)223-3287.  
00029937

**Jason Paul Constuction:**  
Painting, Decks, Roofs, Texture, Flooring, Windows, Sheetrock, Porches, Add Ons, Metal Buildings, Trash Haul Off and Dump Trailer Rental. 254-383-3305 or 254-404-3367.  
00029934

**FERGUSON ROOFING**  
Locally owned company serving all Central Texas area. Commercial and Residential, Free Estimates  
254-466-5128  
00029935

**Dry Creek Trash Service**  
Weekly Pickup and Roll-off container rentals  
Ofc. (254) 463-4988  
Cell (254) 206-1512  
[drycreektrashservice.com](http://drycreektrashservice.com)  
00029936

**HUNT FENCING**  
Farm & Ranch Fence, Residential, Corrals, Automatic Solar Gates, Custom Entryways & Gates, Welding Projects. **John Hunt, Owner, (254)248-2613**  
00029938

**R&M FENCING & DOZING:**  
barbed wire, custom pipe, entryways, corrals, barns, fence row clearing, metal buildings, residential & game fencing, solar gate openers, dozer work. Free estimates. **Larry Riddle, 254-248-2205; Joyce McAdams, 254-248-4318.**  
00029940

**CENTRAL TEXAS REMODELING AND HANDYMAN**  
Tile, sheetrock, painting, decks, fences, flooring, windows, siding, roofing, texturing. **Cecil Woodson, 254-216-3835.**  
00029941

**Schuman's HEAT & AIR Inc.**  
Residential & Commercial Service • Installation  
**Refrigeration**  
Servicing All Brands  
Gatesville & Surrounding Areas  
**Darrel Schuman - Owner**  
254-499-0054  
[www.schumansair.com](http://www.schumansair.com)

**NOLTE'S CONSTRUCTION**

Roads • Tanks • Driveways, Septic Systems • Land Clearing  
Building Pads • Trenching  
**254-432-1705**  
**CELL 254-216-2938**

# CLASSIFIEDS

## 099 PUBLIC NOTICES

No. 23-10774

ESTATE OF  
MICHAEL WOODSON TERRY  
DECEASED

IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW  
OF  
CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Michael Woodson Terry, Deceased, were issued on January 25, 2023 in Cause No. 23-10774 pending in the County Court at Law of Coryell County, Texas to: Joyce Carroll Terry Independent Executrix of the Estate of Michael Woodson Terry.

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.

Joyce Carroll Terry  
c/o: Karen C. Matkin  
Attorney at Law  
PO Box 407  
Waco, Texas 76703-0407

DATED the 26th day of January 2023.

Karen C. Matkin  
Attorney for Independent Executrix  
State Bar No.: 13197400  
PO Box 407  
Waco, Texas 76703-0407  
Telephone: (254) 776-1752  
Facsimile: (254) 741-6022  
Email: kmatkin5@aol.com  
00029904

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Lydia Rodriguez, Deceased, were issued on February 13, 2023, in Cause No. 23-10781, pending in the County Court-at-Law of Coryell County, Texas, to: David Rodriguez.

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 14th day of February, 2023.

Allen D. Place, Jr.  
Attorney for David Rodriguez  
State Bar No.: 16058500  
109 S. 7th Street  
Gatesville, Texas 76528  
Telephone: (254) 865-8475  
Facsimile: (254) 865-5274  
E-mail: allenplacejr@aol.com  
00029910

### NOTICE TO BID-CORYELL COUNTY Timeframe: February 28, 2023-February 27, 2024

Paving Aggregate  
3/8 Pea Gravel Washed, FOB Plant/ County Location  
Paving Rock Type B, Grade 3, Grade 4, Grade 5, FOB Plant/  
County Location

Additional Information: Contact the Road and Bridge Department, 254-865-5021 and visit the Coryell County website: <http://coryellcounty.org> for the bid sheets and additional information. The Commissioners' Court has the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

Sealed bids addressed to the Honorable Judge and Commissioners' Court will be accepted until 9:00 a.m. on February 27, 2023. Mail or bring your bid to:

Hon. County Judge Roger A. Miller  
Coryell County Main Street Annex (SEALED BID)  
800 E. Main Street, Suite A  
Gatesville, Texas 76528

Bid will be awarded at the Commissioners' Courtroom on Tuesday, February 28, 2023, 9:00 a.m., Main Street Annex Building, 801 E. Leon St., Gatesville, Texas.  
00029897

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The City Council of the City of Gatesville, in the Regular Meeting held on February 14, 2023 did pass and approve on the third and final reading the following ordinance:

#### ORDINANCE NUMBER 2023-02:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GATESVILLE, TEXAS ABANDONING AND VACATING A PORTION OF 26TH STREET AND BIGHAM DRIVE RIGHT-OF-WAY, SITUATED IN THE E NORTON SURVEY, CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS, ORIGINALLY DEDICATED BY THE BARTON ADDITION PART THREE PLAT

Complete text of this ordinance is available for inspection, during regular business hours, at City Hall, 110 N. 8th Street.

Wendy Cole  
City Secretary  
00029915

## 099 PUBLIC NOTICES

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Thomas Jason Walden, Deceased, were issued on February 13, 2023, in Cause No. 21-10516, pending in the County Court-at-Law of Coryell County, Texas, to: Angela Walden.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them 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 14th day of February, 2023.

Allen D. Place, Jr.  
Attorney for Applicant  
State Bar No.: 16058500  
109 S. 7th Street  
Gatesville, Texas 76528  
Telephone: (254) 865-8475  
Facsimile: (254) 865-5274  
E-mail: allenplacejr@aol.com  
00029909

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Administration for the Estate of Alan Andrew Hennessy, Deceased, were issued on February 13, 2023, in Cause No. 22-10747, pending in the County Court-at-Law of Coryell County, Texas, to: Fantu Hennessy.

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 14th day of February, 2023.

Allen D. Place, Jr.  
Attorney for Fantu Hennessy  
State Bar No.: 16058500  
109 S. 7th Street  
Gatesville, Texas 76528  
Telephone: (254) 865-8475  
Facsimile: (254) 865-5274  
E-mail: allenplacejr@aol.com  
00029908

### NOTICE TO BID-CORYELL COUNTY Timeframe: February 28, 2023-February 27, 2024

#### Hauling

Hauling of gravel, crushed rock, and other materials.

Additional Information: Contact the Road and Bridge Department, 254-865-5021 and visit the Coryell County website: <http://coryellcounty.org> for the bid sheets and additional information. The Commissioners' Court has the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

Sealed bids addressed to the Honorable Judge and Commissioners' Court will be accepted until 9:00 a.m. on February 27, 2023. Mail or bring your bid to:

Hon. County Judge Roger A. Miller  
Coryell County Main Street Annex (SEALED BID)  
800 E. Main Street, Suite A  
Gatesville, Texas 76528

Bid will be awarded at the Commissioners' Courtroom on Tuesday, February 28, 2023, 9:00 a.m., Main Street Annex Building, 801 E. Leon St., Gatesville, Texas.  
00029898

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Howard Eugene Arnold, Deceased, were issued on February 13, 2023, in Cause No. 23-10783, pending in the County Court-at-Law of Coryell County, Texas, to: Suzanne Arnold.

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 14th day of February, 2023.

Allen D. Place, Jr.  
Attorney for Suzanne Arnold  
State Bar No.: 16058500  
109 S. 7th Street  
Gatesville, Texas 76528  
Telephone: (254) 865-8475  
Facsimile: (254) 865-5274  
E-mail: allenplacejr@aol.com  
00029907

## 099 PUBLIC NOTICES

### ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS

Sealed proposals addressed to City of Gatesville will be received at Gatesville City Hall, 110 N. 8th Street, Gatesville, TX until 3:00 PM, on March 15, 2023 for the Regional Water Supply Clarifier No. 2 (RE-BID). Proposals will be opened publicly and read aloud shortly thereafter on the same date at City of Gatesville City Hall. Copies of the proposal documents can be obtained electronically via CivCast ([www.civcastusa.com](http://www.civcastusa.com)). For more information, contact Amy Jo Moreno at 254-714-1402.  
00029912

## 102 REAL ESTATE

## 102 REAL ESTATE

**BURKS REAL ESTATE**

*"Committed to Excellence"*

**BROKER, CALVIN BURKS**  
Bus. 254-471-5738 • Cell 254-865-3601  
JOHNNY BURKS, 254-223-0833

**715 E. U.S. Hwy. 84, Evant, TX 76525**  
For complete listings, go to [www.burksrealestate.com](http://www.burksrealestate.com)

- ▶ 2/1 brick home, 560 W Hwy. 84, Evant, TX. Recently painted, updated shower, garage/workshop, fenced in backyard, utility shed-boat shed. \$169,500
- ▶ 1.064 acres, 4/2 Doublewide Home, 509 W Brooks Dr., Evant, TX. Open floor plan, fireplace, island in kitchen, garden tub, walk-in closet, 2-car carport, shed. \$168,500
- ▶ 10.01 acres east of Evant, TX. Lot 8, Phase 5, Rio Escondido Subdivision. Good tree cover, rolling terrain, great views to build a home, gated subdivision. \$119,900
- ▶ 10.01 acres north of Evant, TX. Lot 85, Phase 4, Rio Escondido. Rolling Terrain, good tree cover, good views. \$129,500
- ▶ 10.01 acres, Lot 20, Phase 4, Rio Escondido, north of Evant, TX. Good tree cover, great views. \$150,000
- ▶ 10.01 acres, Lot 28, Phase 4, Rio Escondido, north of Evant, TX. Good tree cover, great views. \$200,000
- ▶ 10.01 acres, Evant, TX. Buffalo Creek Ranch Subdivision, Lot No. 53, Langford Branch. Nice home site, scattered tree cover, native pasture. \$225,000
- ▶ 11 +/- acres at Arnett, TX in Coryell County. Good tree cover, nice home site, the property will need to be fenced on the east boundary. You will need to drill a water well for water. \$179,500
- ▶ 11.64 acres, 3/2 home south of Evant, TX in Coryell County. Nice porch, large master bedroom and bath, barn, workshop, seasonal creek, Hwy. 281 frontage. \$850,000
- ▶ 20.02 acres, Evant, TX, CR 421, Hamilton County, Lot No. 21, Mulberry Creek. rolling terrain, good tree cover. \$250,000
- ▶ 20.02 acres, Evant, TX PR 42107, Hamilton County, Lot 43, Phase 6, Rio Escondido. Rolling terrain, good tree cover, season creek. \$265,000.
- ▶ 21 acres south of Evant TX, CR 154 W, Coryell County. Rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, good views, electricity running across the property. \$252,000
- ▶ 25 acres west of Purlmela, TX on CR 181. Stock tank, good exterior fencing on 3 sides, 1 side will need to be fenced, coastal and native grasses. \$275,000
- ▶ 25.06 acres, Pottsville, TX Hamilton County, Paloma Vista Subdivision, Lot 31. Rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, great views. \$275,000
- ▶ 33.43 acres near Coryell City, Coryell County, FM 929 & CR 260 frontage. Rolling terrain, good views. \$295,000
- ▶ 36 +/- acres west of Evant, TX, Hamilton County. Scattered tree cover & rolling terrain, Fiber Optic Internet Service, you will need to drill a water well. \$387,000
- ▶ 47.332 ac. south of Ireland, TX. Good tree cover, rolling terrain, good fencing on 3 sides, southside will need to be fenced. \$395,000
- ▶ 50.07 acres 8 miles south of Evant TX, Coryell County, CR 154. Rolling terrain, good tree cover and good views. \$425,000
- ▶ 50.28 acres 8 miles south of Evant TX, Coryell County, CR 154. Rolling terrain, good tree cover, good views, electricity on northeast corner of property. \$425,000
- ▶ 50.24 acres, 3/2.5 home, 2171 CR 419, Evant, TX. Rolling terrain, 40% being good tree cover, the remaining balance being open pasture, great views. \$675,000
- ▶ 52.73 acres, 3/2.5 barndominium, 1197 CR 404, Hamilton, TX. 1 water well, metal building, nice porch, good tree cover, rolling terrain, 2 tanks, good fences. \$899,000
- ▶ 68.9 acres, 3/2.5 rock home 101 Mac Dr., Gatesville, TX. Approx. 2900 ft. of Leon River frontage, ceramic tile floors, carpet in the bedrooms, vaulted ceiling, rock fireplace, granite countertops, breakfast bar, garden tub, metal building approx. 45 ft x 24 ft, older barn approx. 50 ft. x 30 ft., cattle pens, 1 stock tank, approx. 48 acres of coastal. \$1,375,000
- ▶ 74.264 acres west of Purlmela, TX, FM 1241 & CR 181. Stock tank, barn, cattle pens, good exterior fencing, approx. 65 acres with coastal & native grasses. \$556,980
- ▶ 88.007 acres, 36 ft. Travel Trailer, 25 ft. x 30 ft. metal barn, electricity, 1 tank, seasonal branch, water well, scattered tree cover, good hunting. \$720,000
- ▶ 100.054 acres 8 miles south of Evant TX, Coryell County. Rolling terrain, good tree cover, good views, Electric on property. \$850,000
- ▶ 105 acres south of Pearl, TX on Self Rd. Good tree cover, rolling terrain, small branch, barn, rain harvest system. \$743,775
- ▶ 179.562 acres 1.6 miles south of Gatesville, TX. FM 116 frontage, great views, stock tank, rolling terrain & scattered tree cover. \$1,230,000
- ▶ 252.87 acres, 3 Br, 2 Ba home, open floor plan, wood burning fireplace, breakfast bar, ceramic tile in kitchen, breakfast area & bathrooms. Lamanite wood flooring in living room & carpet in 2 bedrooms, inground pool with slab that was pour for a future outdoor kitchen, 3 car attached carport with 12 ft. x 13 ft. storage building, a 60 ft. x 66 ft. metal building with 24 ft. x 60 ft. lean-to, there is also approx. 900 sq. ft. that has been framed out for living quarters inside the main part of the building, good exterior & interior fencing, set of cattle pens near the center of the property, rolling terrain with scattered tree cover and great views. \$2,150,000

**LOOK**  
IN THE  
**CLASSIFIEDS**

**You never  
know what  
you might  
find...**

**CARS -- TRUCKS  
BOATS -- PETS  
FURNITURE  
JOBS -- TOOLS  
HOUSES -- PETS  
RV's -- PLUMBERS  
CARPENTERS**





COURTESY PHOTO

**HARE RAISING EXPERIENCE:** Chelsea Johnson is pictured with one of the rabbit judges, John Terry, at the San Angelo Stock Show

## Johnson competes in rabbit division at San Angelo Stock Show

Gatesville 4-H member Chelsea Johnson recently competed in the San Angelo Stock Show and Rodeo where she entered seven breeding rabbits in the Junior Livestock Show. Of the seven rabbits, three were Californian rabbits, three were French Lops, and one was a Polish rabbit. She placed Best and Best Opposite Breed with two of her Californian rabbits, as well as Best and Best Opposite Breed with two of her French Lop rabbits. The Californian classes, in which she won first place, each had

more than 50 entries.

Johnson went on to show against all the other Californian class winners, and she won Best with her buck, and Best Opposite with her doe. Next she competed against all the Best of Breed winners in the Commercial Division. At the end of the day, she won Reserve Champion Commercial Breeding Rabbit, judged by John Terry.

In addition to being in 4-H, Johnson is also a member of the American Rabbit Breeders Association, Texas Rabbit Breeders Association, Na-

tional Lop Rabbit Breeders, and the Texas Lop Specialty Rabbit Club.

Johnson will be showing at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, March 4-8. She also plans to compete in the state level Royalty contest April 1, in Belton, which could move her onto the national level in October. Johnson plans to attend the 100th Anniversary American Rabbit Breeders Association Convention in Louisville, Kentucky, October 6-11.

## Miss Spring Fest Pageant set for 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.

Deadline to enter is March 15 at a cost of \$50.

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



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# Rattlesnakes take center stage



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

A snake handler works with rattlesnakes during the 53rd annual Oglesby Rattlesnake Roundup. Attendance was near an all-time high at the event Feb. 25-26.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

World famous snake handler Jackie Bibby has been a staple of the rattlesnake roundup for several years.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Those attending the roundup had the opportunity to try fried rattlesnake, and other more common options, such as catfish, were available as well.

## Lynch has witnessed Rattlesnake Roundup from the beginning



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Kermit Lynch has been a part of the Oglesby Lions Club Rattlesnake Roundup since the event began.

**BY DAVID SCOTT**  
Staff Writer

The 53rd annual Rattlesnake Roundup was a special event for Coryell County native Kermit Lynch who has been attending and working at the roundups since 1970. The event was first created by the Oglesby Lions Club as a fundraiser for the community and Lynch has been one of its staunch supporters. Lynch, 83, became a member of the club in 1967.

When Lynch first joined the Lions Club, the Rattlesnake Roundup didn't exist. Lynch said the only fundraisers they had were mop and broom sales. The club uses fundraisers to create proceeds, which go back to the community, to the school, and to the Lions Club Eye Bank.

"Prior to our Rattlesnake Roundup, Walnut Springs had an event like this and some of our members went up there and saw it and said I think we could do this as well and that's when we started," Lynch said. "Our first year, the roundup was held in the old gym at the high school, and we all tried to cook the food and we were the only vendors - and that wore us out. The next year the Bellmead Lions Club came over and did the cooking and we made money out of that snake hunt."

This year, a good number of vendors attended the roundup, which has become an annual event, Lynch said.

"The very first Rattlesnake Roundup we had, some of the club members carried snake hunters out to hunt, now we don't do that anymore. That first year, Maurice Martin and I carried out a few young boys to hunt along the river and we took them to a snake den and didn't find anything except a big old rock and one snake under that rock...a big snake

and the boys got it out and got it in a bucket and ended up winning second place with that snake," Lynch said.

Members of the Oglesby Lions Club served fried catfish to the crowds, as well as fried rattlesnake.

"When we started serving rattlesnake at the roundup, that wasn't at the beginning. Everyone has to say they 'tried it' one time I guess, and people say they like it, but I don't," Lynch said.

One memory stands out in his mind.

"I remember one year we thought we would have a failure - snow and ice that day, but the next day the sun was shining, and we had a lot of people in attendance," Lynch said.

During the COVID year, the event was cancelled completely due to the fear of crowds and that would later cause a decline in attendance. During that time, Lynch said "we had a fish fry or chili supper to raise a little money since we didn't have any other money coming in."

Lynch has never held a snake, nor has he touched one.

"No, and I'm not going to," Lynch said. "I'll touch it with my .410 (gun)."

Lynch is satisfied working outside with the vendors and doing other jobs at the roundup rather than dealing with the snake pit.

"I don't go back there, I have nothing to do with that at all...nothing to do with the snakes," he added.

Lynch expressed his feelings about the Oglesby Lions Club by saying, "It's a good community activity for everybody - a good club. I hope the Rattlesnake Roundup will continue and will make money for the community and for children and I think everyone enjoys it."

## Gatesville competes in Hornet Relays



COURTESY PHOTOS  
**BORN TO RUN:** Top photo, Jaynee Green sprints while waiting for Paige Sentillas to hand off the baton during the Hornet Relays on Feb. 23. Left photo, Cory Burns and Daniel Gonzales compete for Gatesville in the Hornet Relays. Right photo, Ian Rainer was among the Gatesville athletes participating in the recent track meet hosted by the Gatesville school district.

## Hornets close historic season with loss in area playoff round

BY CHRIS ALLMAN  
Sports Correspondent

One of the great seasons in Gatesville High School basketball history came to a close on Friday with a 92-51 area playoff round loss to fifth-ranked Houston Washington. Now that it's over, the discussion among the Hornets' faithful turns to whether this season's 28-8, record-setting squad is the best the school has ever put on the floor.

When you ask GHS players, the answers range from diplomatic to definitive.

"I haven't seen the past teams that have been great play, but I think we are up there," said senior Tyler Shea.

"I think we could go play with any Gatesville team there was," senior Carter Williams said.

"Our five are beating any other Gatesville five. No doubt," senior Banner Allman said.

"Best Gatesville team. Ever," junior Trae Miller said.

The numbers on the 2022-23 squad would seem to validate any argument made in favor of this being the best basketball team in school history.

The Hornets tied a school record with 28 wins, won 17 straight games from mid-November to late December, captured championships in two of the three tournaments they entered, and won the school's first playoff game in 10 years - which also happened to be the first Class 4A playoff game in history. Along the way, the Hornets set or tied six other individual program records and nearly topped eight more.

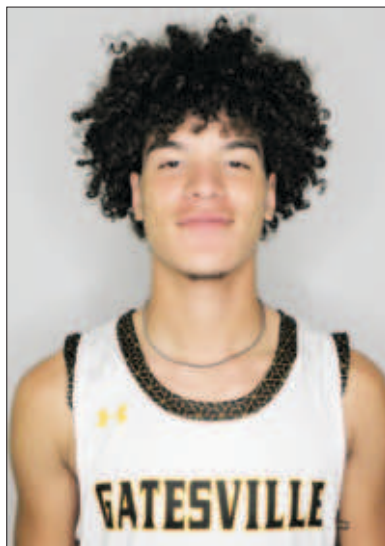
Getting a 29th win would have required taking down a Washington juggernaut with designs on a state championship. The Eagles narrowly missed a state tournament appearance in 2022, losing in their regional final to Silsbee. They returned all five starters from that team and came into the area playoff game at 24-7 and winners of 16 straight games.

The athletic, long, and disciplined Eagles deployed a full-court press for three quarters and forced the Hornets into 23 turnovers and a 29% shooting percentage on the game.

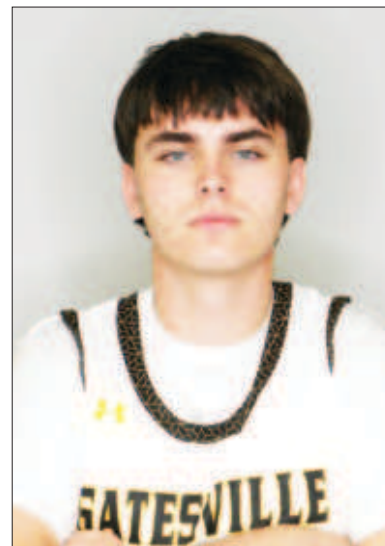
After battling back from an 11-0 deficit to make it a 24-13 game af-



Carter Williams



Tyler Shea



Ethan Nichols



Banner Allman

ter the first quarter, Gatesville was undone by missed shot attempts in the second and third quarters. They made just eight of 34 field goal attempts over the middle periods and were 1-for-14 from three-point range in that stretch. It all added up to a 51-21 halftime lead for Washington.

"We knew we had to take care of the ball and once we broke their pressure we needed to put the ball in the hole. When you work that hard to get a shot and it doesn't go in, it takes some stuff out of you," head coach Brit Campbell said. "We just couldn't get things going offensively because of their pressure. We tried to simulate their pressure in practice but it's just different."

Rayshon Smith led the Hornets in scoring in the loss with 11 points while West Allman added 10 points. Shea had nine points and 13 rebounds. Banner Allman had eight points, while Miller scored six, and Williams scored five. Senior Ethan Nichols had two points and three rebounds in extended minutes.

The loss was the final high school basketball game for four Hornets: Tyler Shea, Carter Williams, Banner Allman, and Ethan Nichols. Allman was the team's leading scorer this season at 18.1 points per game, while Shea led in rebounding and steals. Williams was the team's lead defender and leading free-throw shooter at 70% for the season.

The end of their careers, as well as the end of the most successful

season in his young head coaching career, meant that Campbell was more concerned with reflecting on the season as opposed to diving into game film.

"The last game stinks whether you lose or win your state championship and I thought every single one of them was legitimately sad it was over. They wanted to keep playing. That reality is hard for them," he said. "It was a tough loss. We are better than we played and we wanted to keep going."

"That said, we need to keep our head held high. It was an unbelievable season."

After winning just five games in 2021 and improving to 13 wins in 2022, little was expected of the Hornets outside the walls of GHS. The feeling inside was much different.

"I thought it even last year. I kept trying to tell them these things. I saw it last year. I knew we would be good," Campbell said. "Then this year, we would finish practice and come in the office and say, 'dang we are good'. It could be a drill or a scrimmage where we are doing everything right that would make (me) feel that way."

"This season felt like a revenge season for me. After making the playoffs last year but losing first round, I wanted to get some gold balls this year," Shea said.

"I don't think it was necessarily a moment where it set in," Banner Allman said. "I knew how good we could be from the beginning, it was more of whether we were going to put forth the time and effort

and learn how to play well together. But then we kept winning and more of us realized this was not just any other team."

After losing 59-55 to state-ranked Lorena on Nov. 21 to fall to 2-1, the Hornets did not lose again until dropping the Brownwood Tournament championship 67-54 to Abilene Wylie. That 17-game winning streak featured tournament championship wins in Salado and Hamilton and, according to Williams, the game that validated how good the Hornets were and could be.

"I always knew that this year was going to be special but a specific game was when we shut down Decatur in the third quarter," he said.

In that contest, the Hornets trailed 24-14 at halftime. In the third quarter they held the then-No. 17 Eagles scoreless in the quarter en route to a 40-13 second half advantage and a 54-37 win.

The Hornets entered the state rankings after winning the Salado tournament and got as high as No. 23 in the TABC ranking. They finished the regular season at No. 23 in the Max Preps rankings.

They will have to replace a significant amount of production with the loss of Shea, Williams, and Allman - a trio that accounted for 43 points, 21 rebounds, seven assists, and five steals per game.

"The production they've had is something we literally have to replace," Campbell said. "The fact we aren't going to have those guys out there who can guard anyone, handle the ball, score 20 a night

is going to be tough. Hopefully the younger guys saw what they did and want to replace what they brought but not everyone plays like Banner Allman, or Tyler Shea, or Carter Williams."

The cupboard will hardly be bare for the Hornets as they will return junior guard Trae Miller and sophomores Rayshon Smith and West Allman - a group that brought an average of 21 points and 10 rebounds to each game this season.

"This is going to be their team now. You have to step up and continue what we have done and be even better," Campbell said.

For Campbell, Miller's return is valuable well beyond numbers.

"With Trae, people look at his stats and they aren't gaudy but his leadership is invaluable. I am so happy he is coming back," he said.

They will also promote talent from a junior varsity squad that was 22-5 this season. Campbell is confident that it will all add up to another step forward for his program.

"I feel like we will step on the court and expect to win," he said, looking toward next season. "We got close last year and we got to that point this year."

"That is going to be the thought process not just next year but as a program that is where we are at right now."

"My expectation is that we are good every year and I feel like that is going to be the expectation from the players' standpoint."



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# Lady Hornets split six games in Gatesville Invitational

Gatesville closes out tourney with 2 wins in home showdowns

BY CHRIS ALLMAN  
Sports Correspondent

After starting the Gatesville Invitational with three losses in their first four games, the 18th-ranked Gatesville Lady Hornets softball team bounced back with two straight wins to move to 10-5 on the season.

The Lady Hornets lost to Little River Academy to 10-3 open the tournament then beat Ellison 17-4. Following losses to Troy (19-2) and Shoemaker (7-5) they trounced Moody 15-0 and closed with a 5-3 win over Valley Mills.

"We had a variety of challenges this weekend," said head coach Andrew Holdbrook. "Two games proved that pitching is always an equalizer. If we struggle to hit, then pitching has to be perfect, but we are not there yet."

On the weekend, the Lady Hornets racked up 50 hits and 47 runs - with three coming via home runs from Kaitlin Stuard. Gatesville pitchers struck out 26 over six games.

If not for a highlight reel type catch, the Lady Hornets would have left the tournament with a 4-2 record.

Down 7-2 in the bottom of the fourth, they cut the deficit to 7-3 on an RBI single from Raylee Glover. Three batters later, Ibet Carmona drove home Glover and Kinlee Gardner but Madison Hester's potential game-tying hit was caught in center field to end the game.

"Unfortunately we made a few mistakes early on in the Shoemaker game that came back to bite us in the end. We threatened in the last inning and had an opportunity to tie it up but their CF made a great catch to end the game," Holdbrook said.

Glover was stellar offensively for the tournament. She had 10 hits in the tournament - including four doubles - and scored seven runs. She raised her season average to .514. Carmona had eight hits and drove in eight runs, and leads the team in hitting with a .556 batting average.

"In the games with Shoemaker and Valley Mills, we actually hit the ball really well. Against Moody and Ellison pitching, hitting and defense were on point. We can be tough to beat when we are playing well in all three categories," Holdbrook said.

Kallie Featherston picked up wins against Ellison and Moody, allowing just five hits



COURTESY PHOTOS

The Gatesville softball team gathers together during a game at the Gatesville Invitational, where the Hornets split six games. The GHS softball team earned a state ranking despite having a tough schedule to start the season.

and one earned run over the two games. Hester did not allow an earned run as she picked up the win over Valley Mills.

The Lady Hornets welcomed Rogers on Feb. 28 and head to Franklin for tournament play this weekend. Holdbrook said the tournament will serve as another opportunity to put pieces in the right place and also be a gauge for where her team is as district play approaches.

"Wins are nice but I care more about finding the right chemistry for our lineup. We are getting close, but we still have a ton of details to work out," she said. "This week we head to Franklin to face some tough competition. I feel confident that the teams we will face this weekend will help us prepare for district."

Note: On Feb. 28, the Hornets lost a game to the Rogers Eagles, 5-3. The team was

scheduled to take on Coahoma at 9:35 a.m. in the opening game, followed by a contest against Danbury at 11:35 that day.

Also on Tuesday, the Gatesville junior varsity softball team defeated the McGregor Lady Bulldogs, 15-1.

Coverage of Gatesville's games in Franklin are scheduled to appear in the March 11 edition of the Gatesville Messenger.

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# Winning continues for GHS tennis program

# GHS Sports Roundup



Left photo, the Gatesville High School junior varsity tennis team recently competed in Temple. From left are Alora Whittle who won B girls singles consolation, Carolmarie Szustak & Jack Armstrong who won mixed doubles second place, Abraham Almandariz & Ally Nichols who earned first place in mixed doubles, Daniela Caminero A who won girls doubles consolation and Elizabeth Bales & Alison Ochoa who won girls B doubles. Right photo, the varsity tennis team recently competed at the Waco Regional Tennis Center. Carlo Martinez was first in Boys A singles, Kasey Fitzer was first in girls B singles, Callie Smith was second in Girls B singles, Slone Early was first in Boys A singles, and Ty Warren and Alex Scott teamed up to win first place in Boys A doubles.

SE'VETTE EARLY | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

**Girls Powerlifting:** GHS has qualified 13 lifters for the upcoming regional meet, which will be held March 3 at Dublin High School. The Hornet qualifiers include: Zoey Arnold, Brookelynn Byrd, Lena Clawson, Lindsey Cummings, Emma Davidson, Kensley Eary, Kasey Fitzer, Vielka Gonzalez, Isabela Mondragon, Paislyn Roberts, Marin Segraves, Shaylie Teague, Paisley Wells.

**Boys Powerlifting:** GHS has qualified five athletes for regional competition. The qualifiers include Caden Brister, Zach Bryant, Gabe Charles, L.J. Hall and David Sims, all of whom finished ranked among the Top 10 in their respective weight classes.

Gatesville will host the THSPA Class 4A regional meet here March 11.

**Girls Soccer:** Varsity defeated Academy 4-0 and lost to Stephenville 4-0. The Hornets (10-6 overall, 4-5 in district) are tied for fourth place in District 5-4A. Next game is March 7 at China Spring.

**Boys Soccer:** Hornets defeated Academy 2-0 and lost to Stephenville 7-0. The Hornets (10-4-2 overall and 5-4 in district) are tied for fourth place in district. Next game is March 7 at China Spring.

**Boys Golf:** GHS shot a team score of 385 and finished 16th in 30-team field at Hutto Invitational. The varsity shot a team-score of 376 to finish sixth in the 27-team Salado Invitational. Kasen Bankhead was sixth medalist with a round of 87. GHS will play in the Glen Rose tournament on March 7.

# Gatesville baseball team gets one win in Salado tournament

BY CHRIS ALLMAN  
Sports Correspondent

After opening the Salado Invitational Tournament with a blowout win, Gatesville High School's baseball team lost its next three games.

The Hornets beat Killeen 10-1 in the first game of the tournament, then lost 11-1 to Troy, 8-3 to Gateway Prep and 4-3 to Jarrell. Despite the losses, head coach Chase Smith said there were plenty of positives from the weekend.

"You know I always want to win every game we play. That's why we play but we have had the opportunity to look at a lot of guys in different places and have gained valuable experience that we can build off of from this weekend," Smith said. "It's really been good for us to see what we need to work on and the guys are going to be hungry to get back at it and play better."

The highlight of the tournament was the win over Killeen and particularly the pitching of Grant Erwin. The senior pitched six innings and struck out 10 while only walking two. In seven innings of work this season, he has struck out 11, walked just three, and has given up only one earned run.

Nine different players had hits for the Hornets in the win, with Mason Mooney and Sean Aguilar leading the way with two hits apiece. Mooney had a pair of doubles and scored two runs while Aguilar scored twice. Junior Clayton Gregory drove in two runs with a double.

In the losses to Troy and Gateway, the Hornets (2-3) were undone by mistakes on the field. Against Troy they committed seven errors and then had another four in the loss to Gateway.

"I didn't like the errors and we didn't take care of the ball at times which is something we have been spending a lot of time on, but we know we are going to make some mistakes and we have to bounce back," Smith said.

Troy broke that game open by scoring four runs in the fourth inning and two more in the fifth inning.

Gatesville's pitchers gave up 10 hits but allowed only four earned runs. Justin Johnson scattered seven hits and struck out two. Freshman Brady James allowed just one earned run in 1-2/3 innings of work. Offensively, five different players picked up hits

for the Hornets with Lawson Mooney driving in the only run with a triple in the first inning.

In the loss to Gateway, the Hornets could not take advantage of another stellar start by junior Bralen Veazey, who went 2-2/3 innings and gave up no earned runs. He allowed just one hit and struck out six.

Gatesville led 3-0 after one inning thanks to an RBI single from James and an RBI double from Veazey but would not score again. The Hornets led 3-2 after three innings but Gateway would score six runs - just one of them earned - over the final three innings for the win.

James paced the Hornets on offense with three hits, with GHS also getting hits from Veazey, Lawson Mooney, Mason Mooney, Sean Aguilar, and freshman Miles Tull.

It was another freshman, Gehrig Keeton, who was given the ball to start in the Hornets' rematch with Jarrell in the tournament finale. Keeton pitched four innings, allowed four hits, four runs, struck out four, and also walked four.

The Hornets managed just three hits in the game - one from Keeton and two from

Gregory. "Gehrig hit the ball well and pitched well which is really encouraging," Smith said. "Gregory was another guy who swung it well this weekend. He is a guy that gives us depth at both corner infield positions and some pop at DH or as a pinch hitter late in the game, which is nice. We have some really good young guys that are performing well at the varsity level."

Lawson Mooney and Jacob Ybarra had the only RBI in the loss to Jarrell, both on sacrifice flies.

Despite the brief losing streak, the ever-optimistic Smith believes his team is headed in the right direction.

"I liked our attitudes and how we came out with energy after not playing well at all against Troy," he said. "We have a bunch of guys that really care about each other and I'm really excited about that because we will only get better and better on the field."

NOTE: The varsity defeated the Clifton Cubs 15-0 on Tuesday to improve to 3-3 on the season while the JV beat Clifton 16-3.

GHS was scheduled to play in the Rogers tournament March 2-4.

# CONGRATULATIONS ON A GREAT SEASON!



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BOOK REVIEW

# You have a lot of catching up to do.

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

How long has it been since you were all together last? Doesn't matter, the years fall away when you're with your oldest, longest friends. There was a time when you were inseparable and man, it feels good to reconnect, but as in the new novel, "Device Free Weekend" by Sean Doolittle, how well do you still know them?

Had it actually been 20 years since the Stillwater Seven was together?

Stephen Rollins added it up on his Chicago-to-Denver flight. Yep, it had been every bit of two decades since his college chums had all been in the same room. Last time was Will and Perry's wedding day, and yeah, it'd been awhile.

He'd kept up with everyone, sometimes, more or less. Will and Perry filled him in on Emma's life in Minnesota; he'd semi-followed Beau and Lainey (known as Blainey) on YouTube. As for Ryan, well, Stephen watched from afar; his old roommate was too busy running a multinational, multi-multi-million-dollar social media corporation to stay in frequent touch.

So when the fancy invitation arrived with glitter and silver and a number on the back, Stephen waffled; did he want to keep the window shut and skip the weekend at Ryan Cloverhill's private Pacific Northwest island? Then again, how could he pass up an all-expenses-paid three days of boating, whale-watching and reminiscing?

He was really glad to see Emma on the same flight, Denver to Seattle. Once, Stephen was in love with her and so was Ryan, and there were regrets - but reconnecting with her felt right. This would be good.

Not good, though; once they'd arrived, Ryan confiscated everyone's cell phones, tablets and watches, and he

acted weird. Also not good: Ryan looked awful, and he singled Stephen out to say that he had cancer, and that the weekend was his last hurrah.

It was so unlike him. He begged Stephen not to tell the others.

And then he drugged everyone at supper the first night, and Ryan disappeared....

Draw the connections however you want, between social media, the online world, ubiquitous devices, techxperts and all - the fact is that with one finger on a digital pulse and one on a trigger, "Device Free Weekend" is a pretty fine thriller.

While you might sense what's going to happen in

the first few pages - and you'd be right - author Sean Doolittle keeps readers guessing on the details of this novel - details that readers will be happy to note are believable without going full I.T. on anyone. Reading this book doesn't take you into CPU territory; no, it's current but with the usual, comforting familiar elements of a thriller - revenge, bullets, spy devices, high-speed chases - perched on a tightrope between good and greed and killers with morals.

Like many thrillers, "Device Free Weekend" can lag sometimes, but take it as a chance to snag a breath before being plunged back into a story that turns you every



COURTESY OF JESSICA DOOLITTLE  
**SEAN DOOLITTLE**

which way. If you're up for that, it's a book to catch.



"Device Free Weekend: A Thriller" by Sean Doolittle  
©2023, GRAND CENTRAL PUBLISHING, \$28.00, 288 PAGES

# RECIPE

This recipe appeared in the "Methodist Best" cookbook in 2008. The Gatesville Messenger is running 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

## GRILLED PLUM OR APRICOT PORK CHOPS

Marcia Strieber

- ¾ c. plum or apricot preserves
- 2 T. green onions, chopped
- ¼ c. lemon juice
- 4, 1 ¼ thick pork loin chops
- 2 tsp. soy sauce
- ½ tsp. dried sage, crushed or rubbed between the palms of your hands to liven up flavor

Combine the first four ingredients in saucepan and cook over low heat until melted. Stir in onions. Grill pork chops 25-30 minutes until barely pink in the middle. Baste with sauce last 10 minutes on both sides. Serve remaining sauce drizzled over meat.

## Weekly Sudoku Puzzle

		7			6			
5	8						3	
	1	9	8				7	4
	5		6	7		9		
		8		2		7		
		2		1	9		5	
8	4				2	3	6	
	3						8	7
			4			5		

See next Saturday's Messenger for Sudoku puzzle results

### Kid Scoop

CELEBRATE WOMEN'S HISTORY

## History of Women in Sports

Today, we know that exercise is good for everyone's health - boys and girls, men and women.

Today, girls and women can play sports for fun. They also can compete and become professional athletes. But that was not always the case.

Imagine being told that you can't do something you love to do. Or that you are forced to wear clothing that

makes it difficult to do what you love to do. Or that you can't find anyone to play a sport with you. Or that you aren't allowed on a golf course, a tennis court or other sporting fields.

How would all of that make you feel? Frustrated? Lonely?

That is how girls and women who enjoyed sports felt before the year 1972, a year of important change.

Standards Link: Read informational text in history.

### Would you want to play tennis dressed like this?

In the early 1900s, women wore long, heavy skirts that made it hard to run after a tennis ball.

It wasn't just the skirts that were a problem, they also wore corsets and blouses made with long sleeves and stiff collars. They were expected to wear jackets, heavy shoes, and even broad-brimmed hats.

### What's a corset?

A corset is a tight-fitting undergarment worn under a blouse.

Two women, Mrs. Edwards and Miss Kussin, boxed each other and showed women can throw punches.

Billie Jean King beats the No. 1-ranked men's tennis player, Bobby Riggs, showing women can compete with men.

Aileen Riggan became the first female Olympian to win medals in two different sports at the same Olympic Games. She medaled in both swimming and diving. Some say she was the first athlete, male or female, to win two medals in the same Olympic Games.

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

### Kid Scoop Puzzler

#### Picture Puzzles

A rebus is a puzzle that uses pictures to reveal a word or phrase. Can you solve this rebus puzzle?

SHE [house] A [runner]

Standards Link: Find similarities and differences in common objects.

#### Double Double Word Search

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

ATHLETE  
COMPETE  
FIRST  
HATS  
HEALTH  
OLYMPIC  
SCHOOL  
SHOES  
SLEEVES  
SPORTS  
TENNIS  
THROW  
WOMEN  
WORN  
YEAR

Standards Link: Language Arts: Identify parts of speech.

### FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

## Women in Sports Collage

For one week, look through the newspaper for pictures and articles about women in sports. Cut these out and make a collage with everything you find.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Identify parts of speech.

### Write On!

## The Woman I Most Admire

Write about a woman you know that inspires you.

### Kid Scoop Together

## The Amazing Babe Didrikson Zaharias

Babe Didrikson Zaharias is considered one of the greatest athletes of the last century. Few, if any, have matched her achievements in sports.

Babe was born on June 26, 1911. When she was young, most girls did not participate in sports. Babe loved sports. In her lifetime, she was an Olympic gold medalist in track and field, an All-American basketball player, a champion golfer and an extraordinary baseball player, swimmer, bowler, diver and tennis player.

### A Running Start

When the news of the 1928 Olympic Games filled the newspapers, Babe decided to begin her own training. She practiced hurdles by soaring over seven hedges in her neighborhood. When one of the hedges was a bit too high, she asked the people who lived there to cut it down to the right size, and they did!

How many differences can you find between these two pictures?

Standards Link: Read biographical text.

### Golfing Great

Babe was an excellent golfer. From 1946-47, Babe won 13 tournaments in a row. Babe would go on to win 113 golf tournaments.

Standards Link: Read biographical text.

### Extra! Extra!

## Roman Numerals

I = 1 Title IX uses the Roman numerals IX to show the word nine.

II = 2

III = 3

IV = 4 Look through the newspaper for five numbers and rewrite each one as a Roman numeral.

V = 5

VI = 6

VII = 7

VIII = 8

IX = 9

X = 10

Standards Link: Math: Understand the use and system of Roman numerals.

### Maze

Before and After Title IX

Before 1972, less than 300,000 girls participated in school sports in the United States. Write down the numbers on the correct path through the maze to discover how many girls participate in school sports today!

More than 5 girls participate in school sports today!

# TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

## Garcia delivers perfect game, earns Coach Cumpian's 200th win

### Tarleton Sports Information

STEPHENVILLE — The road to 200 wins has had its twists, turns, and bumps. But No. 200 was perfect.

Tarleton right-handed pitcher Grace Garcia on Feb. 19 fired the second perfect game in Tarleton State University's softball history and the first since Caryn Holbrook on March 29, 1997 against Eastern New Mexico. Garcia pitched all six innings, going 18 up and 18 down with five strikeouts. Brittany Coe caught all six innings of it. Tarleton defeated Texas A&M-Commerce 8-0 in six innings to cap off an undefeated home tournament.

"That was incredible. I'm usually not one to be at a loss for words, but I am," TSU Head Coach Mark Cumpian said. "Grace is such a talented young lady and I'm so happy for her. Our defense played incredible, the offense was on fire, and I don't think there was a single player in that dugout that wasn't going

to give everything they had for their teammate today. It sounds cliché, but it was perfect."

After a plethora of delays to get through the first five batters of the game, Austin Germain began a run of three consecutive doubles hit by the Texans. Germain ripped a line drive into right that skipped away from the defender and allowed her to reach second. Then Kelci Hill followed with a sinking line drive double into left field before Katy Schaefer plated them both with a two-run double into the left field corner for a 2-0 Texan lead early.

While Garcia was cruising through the Lion batting order, the Texans tacked on another in the bottom of the second - again with Germain serving as a catalyst. The sophomore from San Antonio



Garcia

dropped an RBI double down the right field line to bring home MacKenzie Peterson from second for a 3-0 Tarleton lead.

The offense continued to scorch the Commerce pitching staff in the third as Schaefer and Rowland ripped back-to-back doubles to lead off. Kayla Wallace singled to and then stole second to get the offense set up again. Brittany Coe plated one run with a single before a double steal from Wallace and Hayden Fox capped off the three-run third for a 6-0 lead.

After Garcia sat the Lions down in order for the fourth consecutive inning, the doubles parade continued when Germain and Kelci Hill led off the fourth with back-to-back two-baggers to bring home another run. Hill's double was the seventh of the game, breaking a long-standing school record (6). The previous mark was set against St.

Edward's on March 22, 1999 and has been matched five times since, most recently in 2017.

Tarleton couldn't push the final run in the fifth, forcing Garcia out to pitch the sixth.

Things got dicey as she fell behind 3-0 to the leadoff hitter, but Garcia rebounded with back-to-back strikes before getting a flyout to Hill in center before sitting down the next two Lions. Hill, Schaefer, and Rowland loaded the bases in the sixth before Jordan Dickerson drew a walk-off walk to clinch the perfect game for Garcia and the milestone win for Cumpian.

After spending six years as the team's top assistant, Cumpian wasted no time in securing win No. 1 in his debut on Feb. 3, 2017. Haley Freyman twirled a one-hit, complete game shutout to beat Washburn 5-0 in Magnolia, Arkansas.

That win proved to be the cornerstone for the beginning of Tarleton's best runs of success since its 1996 inception.

With Cumpian at the helm, he became the first head coach in TSU athletics history to reach an NCAA national postseason in his rookie coaching season. The Texans qualified for the South Central Region with 35 wins in his debut season.

The next two years, Cumpian's Texans were a dominant force in the Lone Star Conference. Tarleton won 50 games for the first time in program history in 2018 and stretched it out to 109 wins from 2018-20, the most for any Lone Star Conference team over that span.

Under Cumpian, Tarleton reached Division II national powerhouse status.

Then the road to national dominance took a detour, but the vision for the program never did. The goal was always about competing and finding ways to win.

With the Texans on top of the LSC standings at 19-4 in the spring of 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic shut down the season and put

all recruiting on hold for the next year. Meanwhile, Tarleton was moving to NCAA Division I and the Western Athletic Conference.

The Texans won 17 games in their first Division I season under Cumpian, but the following season Cumpian was back to his winning ways. Tarleton turned it around for year No. 2 in Division I and won 30 games for the fourth time in Cumpian's first six seasons. The improvement from 2021 to 2022 was the 17th best turnaround in all of NCAA Division I.

"That first season in Division I taught me a lot as a coach. It taught me that winning any game in Division I is hard, and I should never take a single one for granted," said Cumpian. "These accomplishments aren't mine alone. We have had an incredible group of players and coaches along the way.

"200 is great, but we're nowhere close to done," he added.

## TSU women fall to ACU in Abilene, 78-60

### Tarleton Sports Information

ABILENE — Tarleton State University's women's basketball players continue to show they aren't packing it in on 2022-23, storming back from down 18 points at Abilene Christian on Feb. 16 to take the lead in the fourth quarter. But a big Wildcat fourth quarter run gave the Texans their ninth straight loss, 78-60.

The Texans (7-18, 1-13 WAC) shot lights out in the second and third quarters at Moody Coliseum, combining for 13-of-20 (.650) from the field, including 5-of-8 (.625) from three-point range. Once down by 18 points in the second quarter, the Texans chipped away and even took the lead after the first possession in the

fourth quarter, 54-52. ACU (12-13, 6-8 WAC) responded with a 20-0 run, outscoring ACU 26-9 in the final frame.

After the loss, Tarleton was two wins back of the final WAC Tournament spot with four games left to play. The Wildcats clinched their WAC Tournament berth with the win.

Tarleton's Jenna Dick continued her hot shooting of late, draining 4-of-5 from downtown, including three straight threes in the span of 70 seconds. She finished with a team-high 18 points (5-8 FG, 4-4 FT), adding three rebounds off the bench.

Tyler Jackson continued her impressive play when facing ACU with 14 points (5-12 FG) and five rebounds, playing all 40 minutes. In her four games versus the

Wildcats, she has scored 10-plus points in each game.

Mayra Caicedo just missed out on a double-double once again, recording 10 points, nine assists and six rebounds. Over her last two games, she's averaged 10 assists and 7.5 rebounds.

The Texans had a respectable day shooting the ball at 45.2/42.9/76.2 splits, but so did ACU, shooting 49.1/47.8/57.9. The Wildcats also outrebounded the Texans 35-25 and scored 27 points off of 18 turnovers.

ACU had a strong start, racing to a 10-2 lead that built to 21-6 at the 1:10 mark in the first quarter. ACU won the opening frame 21-8 upon shooting 8-of-13 (.615) from the field.

The Wildcat lead grew to 18 at 28-10, but Tarleton

kept at it, getting closer as the second quarter wore on. By halftime, the Texans were within seven, 41-34, thanks to an 8-of-12 (.667) clip from the field, 4-of-5 (.800) from distance and 6-of-7 (.857) from the stripe.

The wearing down continued for the Texans in the third quarter as their defense ramped up, forcing the Wildcats to shoot just 3-of-16 (.188) in the frame to take it 17-11 and trail by just a point at the end, 52-51.

Dick opened the fourth with her fourth three-point bucket to give Tarleton its first lead at 54-52. ACU followed with back-to-back-to-back three-pointers over the span of 60 seconds, then hit free throws and layups to conclude a 20-0 run that spanned just four minutes.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TSU SPORTS INFORMATION

**Shakur Daniel (13), a 6-6 guard for Tarleton State University, takes a shot during the Texans' 64-59 loss to Sam Houston State University on Feb. 18 in Stephenville. Daniel scored three points and had a team-high four assists.**

## Texans struggle from the foul line in loss to Sam Houston State University

### Tarleton Sports Information

STEPHENVILLE — The Tarleton State University Texans took the Sam Houston State University Bearkats down to the wire on Feb. 18, but a low free throw percentage resulted in a 64-59 loss.

Tarleton (14-14, 8-8 WAC) jumped on the scoreboard early, courtesy of a catch-and-shoot three-pointer from Lue Williams.

Sam Houston (20-6, 10-4 WAC) responded with an 8-2 run to take a seven-point lead over the first five minutes of the half. Williams had an answer though, hitting consecutive three-pointers to tie the game up at 12.

The Bearkats worked their lead back up to seven points before an 8-0 run from the Texans gave them a one-point advantage.

The teams traded three-pointers to stay neck-and-neck, but a strong finish from Sam Houston reestablished their seven-point lead over the Texans at the half.

Both teams came out swinging to start the second half, sinking multiple shots from range and putting on a show for the Wisdom Gym

crowd.

With 10 minutes left in the game, a second-chance layup from Freddy Hicks tied the game at 46 all.

The Bearkats grew their lead to a game-high 11 points with just under three minutes left in regulation. Tarleton struck back, cutting the Sam Houston lead to just three points with under a minute to play.

The Texans enacted a full-court press on the Bearkats, but earlier free throw struggles came to haunt them as Sam Houston narrowly edged out a 64-59 win over the Texans.

Tarleton was led in scoring by Hicks, who picked up 15 of his 18 total points in the second half. He also had a team-high seven rebounds.

Shamir Bogues and Williams both earned 12 points for the game, with Williams hitting all four of his three-pointers in the first half of play.

Jakorie Smith picked up 10 points, five rebounds and two assists. Coreyon Rushin scored four points with two rebounds and assists a piece. Shakur Daniel dished out a team-high four assists and earned three points.

## Anderson runner-up in Utah golf tourney for TSU's best D1 individual finish

### Tarleton Sports Information

ST. GEORGE, Utah — Tarleton State University's men's golf team has had an incredible start to its first NCAA Division I campaign, and it got even more special on Feb. 12.

Jack Anderson shot -8 for the tournament to take second place overall, Tarleton's best individual finish in the program's D1 history. The Round Rock native led the field of 68 through the first two rounds Feb. 10-11, and finished one stroke behind the winner the next day for the silver medal.

Anderson shot 65-74-69 for his -8 at the Pat Hicks Invitational at Sunbrook Golf Course in St. George, Utah. He finished only behind Utah Valley's Brady McKinlay, who turned in a 65 in the final round to win by a stroke.

Tarleton's other four participants finished within five strokes of each other. Freshman Cristobal Sepulveda shot +9 (76-

77-72) to finish tied-38th. Bladen Samaniego went +11 (78-77-72) to place tied-43rd. Masen Ward shot +12 (74, 74, 80) to finish 45th. Max Bengtsson went +13 (72-79-78), tied 46th.

Samaniego's third round of even-par 72 was his best score to par of the season and his tied-best gross score. As a team, Tarleton finished seventh at +16 (880). In all five tournaments this season, the Texans have finished in the top seven.

"It was awesome to see Jack in contention this week and almost pull off a wire-to-wire win," TSU head coach Chance Cain said. "He stumbled out of the gate this morning but did a great job keeping his composure and played really well the rest of the round. He actually had three really good looks coming in, especially on the last where he lipped out about a nine-foot eagle putt. We have a couple of weeks at home to clean up some things until we head out to Wyoming's Event in



PHOTO COURTESY OF TSU SPORTS INFORMATION

**Jack Anderson of Tarleton State University was the leader after the first 18 holes in the Texan golf team's recent tournament in Utah, with the lowest score to par (-5) and gross score (65) shot by a Texan this season.**

Palm Desert, California."

Anderson was the leader after the first 18 holes on Friday with the lowest score to par (-5) and gross score (65) shot by a Texan this season. He made two eagles in the first round, the first Texan with multiple eagles

in a round, including on his first hole, the Par 4, 281-yard 14th. He also eagled the 502-yard Par 5 seventh hole, and had two birdies over his final three holes of the day to complete his record round.



## Gatesville Elementary School brings home awards from UIL competition

Gatesville Elementary School recently participated in the District 23 - 4A UIL Elementary Academic Meet held in Waco. Gatesville Elementary was honored to be chosen as the overall runner-up for 2023. Gatesville students were in competition with other elementary schools including Waco La Vega, Robinson, Salado, Waco Connally, and China Spring. In addition to the academic competition among the 2nd and 3rd grade students, Gatesville Elementary was awarded the Chess Team Champions of 2023.

Results for the 2nd grade include:

Spelling: Presley Gilbert, 5th place; Oliver Pollard, 6th place.

Oral Reading: Presley Gilbert, 4th place; Anna Whitenburg, 5th place.

Storytelling: Delilah Stanfield, 3rd place; Hayleigh

Shands, 6th place.

Music Memory: Aza Johnson, 1st place; Dylan Collins, 2nd place; Cyrus Crosby, 5th place.

Chess: Chance Farley, 1st place; Bear Hodges, 3rd place; Mason Williams, 6th place.

Results for the 3rd grade include:

Spelling: Caleb Buss, 5th place.

Oral Reading: Corriene Woodson, 2nd place; Fynlee Brown, 5th place; Layla Withrow, 6th place.

Ready Writing: Landry Pritchett, 2nd place; Conrad Coffman, 5th place.

Music Memory: Violet Steffey, 3rd place; Blake Winkler, 8th place; Ryleigh Banegas, 13th place.

Chess: Tripp Winkler, 1st place; Kylie Caraway, 3rd place; Noah Foreman, 6th place.



UIL: The 2nd and 3rd grade students at Gatesville Elementary School who recently participated in the UIL competition held in Waco for District 23 - 4A.

DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER



STUDENTS HONORED: Students of the month are pictured with Exchange Club president, Helen Munday. From left are Brady Carothers, Ariel Findley, Helen Munday, Hadleigh Ament, and Korbin Brown.

COURTESY PHOTO

## Exchange Club names students of the month for January and February

BY DAVID SCOTT  
Staff Writer

The Exchange Club of Gatesville recently named its students of the month chosen for January and February 2023.

Students of the month are seniors nominated by a teacher for their outstanding qualities as young people. This recognition is not based solely on academics, but also on character, school and community involvement and leadership abilities that make a well-rounded individual. Exchange Club members receive the nominations and score each one on merit.

Two students are selected each month from September to February. The 12 students selected during the year will be recognized again at the Golden Deeds banquet in April. After another round of scoring by club members, the two students with the highest scores will receive \$1,000 scholarships from the Exchange Club.

The students of the month chosen for January and February are Ariel Findley, Brady Carothers, Hadleigh Ament, and Korbin Brown.

Findley was nominated by teacher Julia Incerpi, who described her as being "as bubbly and friendly as she was her freshman year." Incerpi continued by stating that Findley was very serious about her academics and planned to graduate early and begin her university studies. She said that Findley had a "well-rounded character and is committed to her goals."

During her years in high school, Findley has been involved in volleyball, softball, and track. She was also in band and involved with cheerleading. She has been a member of 4-H since the fifth grade. Academically, she has been on the A/B Honor Roll with a 2.44 GPA and is ranked as 104th in her class.

She has worked at the Feed Mill in addition to doing volunteer work at the

Coryell Museum and Hillside Medical Lodge. She also volunteers with her church in feeding the homeless and helping the elderly.

Findley is currently attending Tarleton State University where she is studying in the field of psychology.

Carothers was nominated by teacher Bonnie Latham, who described him as being "an extraordinary young man who will succeed in any environment he is placed in." Latham continued, "Brady's unyielding passion, determination to achieve his goals coupled with his natural intelligence, creativity, deeply rooted sense of responsibility, and ability to balance expectations will benefit any environment, organization or program."

Carothers has served as a class officer as historian and has worked on the yearbook since ninth grade and is currently the editor. He has been in the National Honor Society during his junior and senior years and was recognized as the "Most Outstanding Student Dual Credit, English." Additional school-related activities and honors include all dual credit, honors, and AP classes. He is also a member of the Broadcasting Club.

In the past, Carothers has served as a lifeguard at the city pool and has been working part-time at H-E-B during his high school years.

Carothers has a GPA of 3.9 and is 14th in his class. He plans to attend Texas State University to study accounting.

Ament was nominated by teacher Sharon Inbody, who described her as "one of the most sincere, hardworking, dedicated students in her classes." She went on to say, "Hadleigh is a student that everyone loves to teach. She is receptive to learning new things and is a fast learner. She has a great outlook on life and that is reflected in her personality."

During her high school years, Ament has been involved in student council,

track, and FFA. She has also been a CNA in health sciences, all four years. She has actively shown lambs through 4-H and was awarded Reserve Grand Champion at the Coryell County Youth Fair. Ament serves on the Heart of Texas Junior Committee, State of Texas "Healthy Texas" Youth Ambassador and County Ambassador.

Academically, Ament has been on the A-Honor Roll and A-B Honor Roll and has had perfect attendance. She has volunteered for the "Adopt a Highway" trash pick-up and has been a 4-H Ambassador. She currently has a GPA of 3.6 and is currently ranked 25th in her class.

Ament plans to attend Temple College to study ultrasound, then go on to pursue a veterinarian degree with a specialization in ultrasounds.

Brown was nominated by teacher Bonnie Latham, who described him as being "an extremely respectful and responsible young man that demonstrates all the qualities you hope to see in students." Latham continued that Brown "takes all advanced courses and loves to challenge his mind by taking additional core courses instead of electives. Korbin is like a shining light both academically and personally." Latham also went on to say that Brown "shows maturity beyond his years and stands out among his peers in this respect."

During his high school career, Brown has excelled in the GHS theater program and its productions. He has also served as the vice president of the National Honor Society.

Academically, Brown's GPA is listed as a 4.0 and he is ranked ninth in his graduating class. During the summer months, he has been employed by the local H-E-B.

Brown plans to attend Texas A&M University to study engineering.

## CITY OF GATESVILLE MUNICIPAL COURT CASE RESOLUTION EVENT

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Message from Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins & Mott, LLP  
in conjunction with City of Gatesville



## Gatesville Elementary presents Fine Arts and STEM Family Night

The Fine Arts and STEM Family Night will be held on Thursday, March 9, at the Gatesville Elementary School from 5:30 p.m. through 7 p.m. Each grade level will have a live performance while singing on stage in the cafeteria. First grade will perform at 6 p.m., second grade will perform at 6:15 p.m., and third grade will perform at 6:30 p.m.

In addition, there will be

Art and STEM activities set up in the gym for students to participate with their families. There will be a blooming lily experiment, funny grass heads to plant and take home, and origami bookmark making. Students can create a pan flute from straws and will also have the chance to paint on a canvas while learning about the artist Claude Monet.

There will be a book fair

in the library for anyone who would like to visit, or to purchase books. A concession stand will serve popcorn and soft drinks. This will be a fun evening for Gatesville Elementary families.

For more information on this event contact Gatesville Elementary School by calling 254-865-7262. Gatesville Elementary School is located at 2537 E. Main Street in Gatesville.

# GHS Culinary, Theater Departments merge talents

BY DAVID SCOTT  
Staff Writer

For the first time in several years, Gatesville High School's Culinary and Theater Departments joined forces to showcase the tal-

ents from both departments in the form of a dinner / theater. There were over 100 in attendance for the evening theater program and meal.

The GHS Culinary Arts class, instructed by Angela Tyree, worked for two days

to prepare 110 meals for the event. Tyree said that 70 of her students were involved in the preparation of the spaghetti dinner. "The culinary senior class came up with the menu and I'm so proud of these kids," Tyree said.

Not only did the culinary students prepare the meal, but they also served the food and waited on tables.

While enjoying the meal, those attending also were able to see the production of "12 Angry Jurors," a one-

act play written by Reginald Rose and directed by Amanda Cummings and Claude Williams. With a cast and crew of 24 students, the one-act play was a very serious production reflecting what sometimes happens in a jury

room following a trial.

In speaking of the actors and crew, Cummings said "These kids have worked really hard to get to this point. They have been very dedicated and given so much of their time."



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**CULINARY ARTS:** The head of the GHS Culinary Arts Department, Angela Tyree, stands behind just a few of the seventy culinary students who participated in creating and serving the evening's meal.



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**CAST & CREW:** Co-directors, Amanda Cummings and Claude Williams, joined the cast and crew of twenty-four GHS actors and crew members for a group photo at the play's conclusion.



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**12 ANGRY JURORS:** Cast from GHS theatre department perform on stage during a dinner theatre production at the high school.



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**SERVING:** Culinary Arts instructor, Angela Tyree, assisted her students with the preparation of the individual plates provided to those in attendance.



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**CROWD:** Over one hundred were in attendance for the dinner theater production of "12 Angry Jurors." They were treated by the GHS Culinary Arts Department with a pasta meal and for entertainment, the GHS Theater Department put on a one-act play.



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**DIRECTORS:** Amanda Cummings and Claude Williams served as the co-directors for the rehearsals and final production of the one-act play, 12 Angry Jurors.

## Attention Subcontractors: Bid Opportunity!

Butler-Cohen has been awarded the **Coryell County Jail Expansion** project in Gatesville, TX  
If interested, please contact: [estimating@butlercohen.com](mailto:estimating@butlercohen.com)

**Pre-Bid Meeting:**  
March 2nd at 10 AM, Coryell County Jail  
510 E Leon St, Gatesville, TX 76528  
**Bids Due: March 17th**



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