



# THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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SERVING CORYELL COUNTY SINCE 1881 | VOLUME 121, No. 21, ISSN No. 0894-4954



## County deals with jail expansion 'sticker shock'

BY JEFF OSBORNE  
Senior Writer & Editor

After receiving a guaranteed maximum price that was \$476,098 higher than anticipated for the expansion of the Coryell County Jail, the Coryell County Commissioners Court will have a special meeting at 9 a.m. Monday, April 17 to discuss possible solutions.

The commissioners court had budgeted for both the jail expansion and also the construction of the Leon Street Annex nearby, and during a presentation, Elan Shney with Butler-Cohen general contractors noted the price will be "roughly \$4.5 million."

Miller initially thought the cost was \$642,000 more than the projected cost was in January.

"That's kind of the big number, that's an eye-opening number," he said.

Commissioner Scott Weddle, who worked closely with Heffelfinger and Butler-Cohen before the presentation to

commissioners court, said when he found out about the unexpected increases, "I expressed my disappointment that we were that far off. I went on about a 10-minute rant."

He said when looking closely at the numbers, the amount over budget is actually \$476,098 more than the county had budgeted for the jail expansion project.

"So we're \$476,000 over - where do we cut \$476,000," Miller asked. "I don't say it flippantly."

"That's a question, not a solution," Weddle said.

"I don't know the solution," Miller responded.

"I have some thoughts," Weddle said. "In the real world we deal with these things all the time. That is our maximum risk. All I'm doing is giving y'all my assessment and opinion. That number includes contingencies. I'm hoping the second project (the Leon Street Annex) can come in at or under the estimate. I have a feeling there will be some money coming back."

"Money not being spent," said Commissioner Kyle Matthews.

Because of the specialized nature and exact requirements to meet standards connected with a jail, finding areas to cut on that project "is a tough row to hoe," Weddle said. He added that the commissioners court will have to "figure out in the budget to make sure we have it covered. Worst case scenario, we pay it. Best case, we don't spend it all and can give back to taxpayers or to budget for other construction."

Weddle said he only saw two possibilities. "One is we cut our losses right now and run (opting not to expand the jail)," which he said is not a valid choice. "Two, we move forward and figure out how to cover the \$476,098."

Miller said one difficulty was getting the news on short notice.

PLEASE SEE COSTS | A3

## Popping with color



COURTESY OF HAL DAVIDSON

Poppies add a dash of beauty and bright color to the courtyard garden at the Coryell County Museum and Historical Center, located at 718 East Main St. in Gatesville. The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Hal Davidson, who took the photo, is the caretaker of the garden.

## Scott Albert accepts city manger position

BY JEFF OSBORNE  
Senior Writer & Editor



Scott Albert

Scott Albert is expected to begin his role as Gatesville's new city manager on May 10 after accepting an offer for the position from Mayor Gary Chumley.

The Gatesville City Council approved the contract on April 11.

Albert is currently the Hondo city manager. Hondo is about 40 miles west of downtown San Antonio.

"He has accepted the offer and gave notice to the Hondo City Council," Chumley said.

Acting City Manager Bill Parry said he received positive feedback about Albert from department heads working for the city of Hondo.

During a meet and greet session in March, Albert said Gatesville's central location is what initially attracted him.

"The location works out for me personally, and I see a lot of positive things about Gatesville," he said. "I think it's a great fit with my background in economic development."

Albert said he is looking forward to "getting to know the community, the civic organizations, the different leaders and listening to staff on areas to work on. Bill (Parry) has done a wonderful job and I want to continue that. There's always room for improvement in moving Gatesville forward for the future."

Albert's ties in working with the military is also something he sees as a positive considering Gatesville's proximity to major military installations, including Fort Hood (which will officially become Fort Cavazos on May 9 - the day before Albert is scheduled to start) and North Fort Hood - which will be called North Post as part of the name changes.

Albert has been Hondo city manager since March 2021 and has more than 20 years experience in local government. He worked as a management assistant in Plano, and has had city manager jobs in Fairview, Celina and Angleton - all in Texas.

Albert earned his bachelor of public administration and master of public affairs from the University of Texas at Dallas.



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Asked whether it's drug manufacturing or trafficking that is the biggest problem, Gonzales said manufacturing is not the big issue.

"We rarely see a meth lab these days," he said. "Drugs are so cheap to bring in from Mexico, so that's

the source."

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"I said, 'So what do I do?'" Gonzales said.

He attended a jailer training course to get some background, and then focused on the issues facing the jail.

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The sheriff's office is required to transport inmates to other counties, and to state jail facilities after an inmate is sentenced. It can be a taxing assignment keeping everyone moving where they need to be.

Offering an example of the difficulties involved in housing inmates elsewhere, he said one county may say they have room for 20 inmates, but then ask for a record book on inmate behavior. Based on that, they may refuse to take 10 of those inmates. Then, they ask for the medical book, and by the time all those issues are sorted out, Coryell County might only be able to send two of the 20 inmates elsewhere.

Also, defense attorneys don't want to travel out of the area to see an inmate client, so the sheriff's office has to bring them back for legal consultation. There are also out of state depositions, in some cases.

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cost of \$1.75 million to Coryell County taxpayers. In addition to that, some other inmates are still housed in other areas.

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ed) or non-violent crimes."

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"We need updates," he said. "We're not in this century right now with what we have going on."

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# Folks around town



ALEX MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Seyla Kim

## Say hello to our neighbor, Seyla Kim

Seyla has been the owner of the Donut Hole on Hwy. 84 since its doors first opened nine years ago. His favorite part of his job is baking donuts for the community. He enjoys seeing friendly people daily. Seyla reads the Gatesville Messenger to stay informed on the latest news around town.

If you happen to see Seyla around town, say hello! He is one of us!

## FROM MY FRONT PORCH

# The joys, mysteries of marriage are no joke



BY SAM HOUSTON

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

**T**here is an old saying that declares there are three different kinds of rings during marriage. There is the engagement ring, the wedding ring, and then the suffer-ring.

It is hard to hear that old joke and not crack at least a little smile. The joke is not told here in an attempt to make a mockery of the institution of marriage, but rather to acknowledge the long and continuing struggle marriage brings.

I have a unique family for one reason; The Houstons marry and stay married for a long time. My grandparents were married just a month or two short of 74 years! There are not many people who will surpass that record of longevity. I also have two aunts/uncles who were married for more than 70 years! All my aunts and uncles were married more than 60 years, with the lone family exception being my folks who only made 58 and that is because my dad passed.

Many times, I have sat and examined all those married relationships to see what they had in common and how they were different from each other. What made this group of people stick together when so many couples don't make it?

The conclusion I drew was, each one of the couples were committed to each other. People nowadays seem to say the word commit-

ment, but I am not sure they really and truly "live" the commitment. All the family members I referred to would have given their last drop of life to their mate, and never considered doing otherwise. They stayed together even when things were rough during the Great Depression, when they lived through rationing and uncertainty during World War II, or when children were sick, hurt or troubled. Oh, they had plenty of problems to face, plenty of challenges to confront, and fears to overcome, but each couple did it together, never wavering on their course and never losing faith in their partner.

It is a little humorous to reflect on, but I would have never chosen my dad to be with my Mom. She was gregarious, fun loving and outgoing almost to a fault, while my Dad was quiet and reserved and very seldom smiled or laughed out loud. Yet, they were a true team in every sense of the word. If Dad was digging out tree stumps Mom would have a shovel digging right alongside him, doing work no woman should have to do.

At the same time, when

they were done and walked in the back door, dad was just as likely to turn to mom and say, "Give me the dirty clothes you have on so I can throw them in the washer, then I will start some dinner. You go jump in the bath and relax for minute. I will wash up when you get done." They were a team! Marriage truly worked for them. While love might make a heart flutter, it is the commitment, devotion and dedication to each other that creates an enduring marriage.

I am the black sheep of the family (perhaps for more reasons than one!). The mother of my two children and I ended our relationship after seven years. Not even 10% of the length of my parents' marriage. Sometimes I look back and while I can recite my ex-wife's failures with specificity, I also know I was not the perfect husband and at some level failed to make the absolute commitment my grandfather made to his bride. Is it the contemporary time we live in, or the time they lived in, or is there a difference? Guess that is an answer I will always want.

At the end of this year, I will be married five years. After my first wife I was single for many, many years. I never gave up on marriage and hoped one day I would find the right woman to truly commit to and hoped she would do the same with me. I am certain I have many shortcomings and am far from the perfect husband, but with age, I have learned

marriage is something for which you sacrifice, because your partner's happiness means more to you than your own. I have fallen short many times in life, but I hope this is one commitment where I never falter.

In the meantime, one of our young reporters at the paper is getting married this fall. She is giddy and excited, and this past week she and her beau were shopping around trying to get an offer in on a house. Her happiness overflows like pouring a gallon of water in a quart container. She has been smiling nonstop and I truly wish her and her future husband all the happiness in the world. I wish them the very best in life and urge them to live the commitment to each other the institution of marriage truly requires.

Granddad told me on their wedding night he and Grandma made a promise to each other. He would make all the major decisions in their marriage, and she would make all the minor ones. He would proudly proclaim in nearly 74 years of marriage, there was never one major decision. Then he would look at me, wink, and say, "I sure do have a fine wife." He was 100% right.

Thought for the day: In every good marriage it pays for someone to be a little deaf!

Until next time, I will keep ridin' the storm out...

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

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## Spring into Summer set for May 4

The Gatesville Independent School District will have its first Spring into Summer showcase from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 4 at Gatesville Elementary School.

The event is geared to help parents and students learn about different activities available over the summer, including area museums, wildlife safaris and Vacation Bible School opportunities.

## COSTS

FROM PAGE A1

"I'm challenged with - in one hour's notice seeing these numbers and being able to say I'm comfortable being \$476,098 more than I was expecting," he said. "I'm not saying I'm opposed to it. Mr. (Eric) Cohen I appreciate all y'all have done. This is an eye-opening experience for me and I have the utmost respect for what y'all have done.

"I will propose to the court that we regroup to explore options. I do think there are some options.

Commissioner Kyle Matthews proposed one potential solution.

"I believe we go to a local bank if we need to make this up and work some terms out," he said. "All the meetings I've had with y'all (Butler-Cohen and architect Jeff Heffelfinger) everything's been 100% fabulous."

Several bids have been received from subcontractors for work, and Shney provided detailed information about potential costs, including about \$69,000 to relocate the heating, ventilation and air conditioning at the jail and an additional \$166,000 to replace and modernize the fire alarm system on site.

There will also be a \$100,000 allowance to make any necessary adjustments and \$5,000 for a consultant to make sure of the building's watertight seal.

"Unlike with a new building, we came to the conclusion it is in the county's best interest to have a third party look at it," said Jeff Heffelfinger, president of Southwest Architects.

Matthews voiced agreement, saying the fee was "cheap insurance" to make sure the work is done correctly.

Shney said the cost estimates provided are valid "until April 22." He added that the duration of construction is expected to be 39 weeks.

The cost of preconstruction work will also include a scan with ground penetrating radar.

"They just did this in Kendall County and it showed us some (underground) utilities that were not recorded," Shney said. "It saved us a huge amount in time and expense (finding those utilities before construction began)."

Heffelfinger said that with the county committed to jail expansion and construction of the Leon Street Annex in the same timeframe, "there will be cost sharings. We will work to make sure that masonry debris is taken to be used by road and bridge. Any time we don't spend money, it benefits the county."

A 6% construction contingency is included, which means default insurance will help protect the county from unex-

pected delays.

"In simple terms, instead of the client paying 2% to 3% to bond, we're carrying the bond, essentially," Shney said.

Heffelfinger pointed to a nearby example of unexpected complications impacting major construction.

"I think you're familiar with what happened in Lampasas County," he said. "A contractor defaulted and it caused over a year delay. This allows us to keep the project going and avoid delays, working with the bond insurers, court hearings, et cetera. At the end of the day, it saves y'all money and we get a better project. It's an awesome 1.5% savings, and it also opens up the subcontractor list."

Shney went over a detailed list of those who responded to the county's bid request for the project.

"In some cases, we felt based on the experience of vendors that the low bid was not always the best bid," said Eric Cohen, one of the owners of Butler-Cohen.

County Judge Roger Miller asked how many local contractors responded, those located "within a 50- or 60-mile radius?"

"We had roughly 10 to 15 local contractors (respond)," Shney said.

Miller asked if any of those were selected as the best bid, and Shney said several were.

# County leaders consider ways to fund high dollar projects

BY JEFF OSBORNE

Senior Writer &amp; Editor

While Coryell County is awaiting the possibility of receiving millions of dollars in grants to fund road improvement projects, it also faces the likelihood of having to wait until it receives those funds.

How to keep the construction process going while awaiting reimbursement was a topic considered during the April 11 meeting of the Coryell County Commissioners Court.

"Are we going to borrow money? Move money around? We ain't got no money (to fund the projects out of pocket)," said Precinct 3 Commissioner Ryan Basham.

County Judge Roger Miller said he had a discussion with County Auditor Matthew Wood about ways to funnel money to the projects.

"There is a good chance we can cash flow that without having to borrow any money," Miller said. "That is a very simple thing we'd be able to do. We can also look at borrowing

short term with our depository bank."

Miller said if more than \$10 million was borrowed, the commissioners court would need a more formal process in place.

"There is a window if it gets in excess of \$20 million, we would need a short-term line of credit established with our depository bank," he said.

"If we get a really large sum of money (via grant) - Mr. Wood had recommended we look at a hybrid of some short-term local funding and a tax note. That would allow us some flexibility and also allow us to get projects funded as quickly as possible. We do have some deposited funds to borrow against. There's some pretty significant numbers there. It reflects a 25% reserve as we try to cash flow things until the tax revenue comes in at the end of January."

Additional options might be needed, depending on the amount of grant revenue promised to the county and also what deadline was given for the work to be completed.

"A third option might be required depend-

ing on how things play out," Miller said. "We would get a line of credit with our depository bank to be able to fund some things quickly. Borrowed funds would not be debt that would be funded by taxpayers. The grant would fund any debt that we would incur."

Precinct 1 Commissioner Kyle Matthews asked Wood to put specifics related to possible funding mechanisms in writing "to help the commissioners court. It's always helpful to have it (written) in black and white."

Miller said "one number we discussed as a dividing line was \$25 million and they would need our audit reports. It would be contingent on the announcement of the granting agency. It would take them about 45 days (for a lending agency to deliver the funds to Coryell County). With a smaller amount in the few million, they'd be able to do that in a couple weeks."

Matthews said he wanted Wood's input on different borrowing options.

"I just think not that we need to explore it, but what options you (Wood) need to take," Matthews said. "There may be some dollar amounts we cannot handle. I just think there need to be some options. We have to make sure we've really thought (the options) through."

Miller said he and Wood will "come up with a diagram that will lay out different options for general funding scenarios. There is an amount, and I don't know what that is, beyond our ability to fund it."

Matthews said the time constraints that granting agencies give Coryell County is also a big factor in determining what can be done.

"For us, there is an absolute ceiling" on what the county can manage in a specific timeframe, Miller said.

"One size doesn't fit all with these various amounts we're plugging in there. It does streamline some paperwork and some (financial) draws."

# Don't Mess with Texas presents annual trash-off

Staff Reports

On Saturday, April 1 Don't Mess with Texas began the annual trash-off for the entire month of April. Every year families, social clubs, Adopt-a-Highway groups,

neighborhoods, and Keep Texas Beautiful come together all over the state join forces to pick up litter and beautify their communities.

For the month of April, an individual or a group can

participate in the clean-up of any area around the Gatesville community. Take a before and after photo and tag Keep Gatesville Beautiful on Instagram or Facebook and your work will be shared.

Recommended clean-up areas include Business 36 from Lovers Lane to 36 (mostly the west side of the road), West Main Street along the long bridge area, South Levita Road near the drain-

age ditch, the empty wooded lot next to Cefco located at 116 and West Main Street, the area behind El Rodeo (between El Rodeo and Verizon), South Lovers Lane, and Old Waco Road.

For more information on the monthly litter pick-up, contact Keep Gatesville Beautiful by email at keep-gatesvillebeautiful@gmail.com.



# Cen-Tex Crime Stoppers seeking sponsorships for Donut Dash

**Staff report**

Cen-Tex Crime Stoppers is seeking sponsorships for

the 2023 Donut Dash to be held on May 20. This event raises funds for the administration of rewards to peo-

ple submitting tips that result in the arrest or recovery of stolen property. Sponsorship costs range

from \$100-\$1,000. For more information about sponsorship opportunities, please call JoAnn Sugg at 254-493-

7938, or email josugg@embarqmail.com.

To register for the race, go to: [runsignup.com/Race/](https://runsignup.com/Race/)

TX/Gatesville/CrimeStoppersDonut Dash

## The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of April 5 - 11. 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**

**April 5**  
5:31 p.m., an accident was reported in the 2200 block of Bridge Street.

5:33 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2300 block of Business Hwy. 36.

5:40 p.m., a threat was reported in the 2600 block of Jackson Drive.

10:15 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 1800 block of Old Osage Road.

**April 6**  
2:05 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 1500 block of W. Main Street.

2:48 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 200 block of Old Osage Road.

11:36 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 2600 block of E. Main Street.

11:39 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 1700 block of Bridge Street.

**April 7**  
6:06 a.m., criminal tres-

pass was reported in the 1200 block of E. Main Street.

12:46 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of E. Leon Street.

3:26 p.m., harassment was reported in the 1400 block of W. Main Street.

7:32 p.m., a hazmat spill was reported in the 3300 block of E. Main Street.

**April 8**  
3:47 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 600 block of College Street.

7:11 p.m., animal cruelty was reported in the 200 block of N. 19th Street.

8:18 p.m., a burglary was reported in the 2000 block of Waco Street.

11:07 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 2500 block of Oak Drive.

**April 9**  
7:35 a.m., a threat was reported in the 100 block of N. 30th Street.

1:07 p.m., an accident was reported in the 1500 block of State School Road.

6:02 p.m., criminal tres-

pass was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.

9:53 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 2300 block of Bridge Street.

**April 10**  
8:55 a.m., a theft was reported in the 3200 block of S. State Hwy. 36.

1:33 p.m., harassment was reported in the 100 block of State School Road.

2:50 p.m., a brush/grass fire was reported in the 7000 block of FM 185.

6:24 p.m., a threat was reported in the 100 block of N. State Hwy. 36 Bypass.

**April 11**  
6:47 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 4600 block of S. State Hwy. 36.

9:03 a.m., a structure fire was reported in the 100 block of CR 231.

2:27 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2300 block of Bridge Street.

9:28 p.m., a burglary was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.

**CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**April 5**  
6:49 a.m., a major accident was reported in the 2100 block of FM 116.

3:21 p.m., harassment was reported in the 200 block of E. Brooks Drive.

3:46 p.m., the burglary of a habitation was reported in the 2600 block of Horseshoe Bend.

10:17 p.m., a neighbor dispute was reported in the 400 block of Ranier Road.

**April 6**  
7:00 a.m., identity theft was reported in the 1200 block of Duncan Road.

9:47 a.m., the burglary of a vehicle was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.

4:37 p.m., a civil matter was reported in the 1800 block of CR 269.

5:35 p.m., a stolen vehicle was reported in the 1300 block of Duncan Road.

**April 7**  
11:23 a.m., a livestock

complaint was reported in the 4400 block of FM 1241.

11:40 a.m., fence damage was reported in the 2700 block of Mountain View Drive.

3:59 p.m., a stolen vehicle was reported in the 7900 block of FM 215.

7:17 p.m., a vehicle fire was reported in the 1500 block of CR 161.

**April 8**  
12:49 p.m., a theft was reported in the 11000 block of N. Hwy. 36.

3:41 p.m., a stolen vehicle was reported on FM 215 and CR 258.

7:04 p.m., an out-of-control child was reported in the 1000 block of TX 236.

7:27 p.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 800 block of Wagon Wheel Drive.

**April 9**  
10:25 a.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 6200 block of N. Hwy. 36.

12:44 p.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 800 block of Wagon

Wheel Drive.

1:10 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 1000 block of CR 145.

5:43 p.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 200 block of Julia Drive.

**April 10**  
4:36 a.m., a fatality was reported on FM 1113 N. of CR 3295.

11:26 a.m., a neighbor dispute was reported in the 400 block of Rainer.

6:13 p.m., an assault was reported in the 800 block of Crest Court.

6:54 p.m., a man with a gun was reported on McKinzie Lane.

**April 11**  
9:03 a.m., a possible fire was reported in the 100 block of CR 231.

11:20 a.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 1300 block of CR 274.

5:40 p.m., a theft was reported in the 1500 block of FM 184.

9:28 p.m., harassment was reported in the 9300 block of S. Hwy. 36.

## 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](mailto:editor@gatesvillemessenger.com).

**Baked Potato Soup**  
DeDe Powell

4 large baking potatoes  
12 slices of bacon, cooked, crumbled, and divided

2/3 c. butter or margarine  
1 1/4 c. shredded cheddar cheese, divided  
2/3 c. all-purpose flour  
1 (8-oz.) carton sour cream  
3/4 tsp. salt  
6 c. milk  
1/2 tsp. pepper  
4 green onions, chopped


and divided.

Wash potatoes and prick several times with a fork; bake at 400 for 1 hour or until done. Let cool. Cut potatoes in half lengthwise; scoop out pulp, and set aside. Discard skins. Melt

butter in a heavy saucepan over low heat; add flour and whisk in milk, stirring until smooth. Cook for 1 minute, stirring constantly, until mixture is thickened and bubbly. Add potato pulp, salt, pepper, 2 tablespoons green onions, 1/2 cup bacon

and 1 cup cheese. Cook until thoroughly heated and stir in sour cream. Add extra milk, if necessary, for desired consistency. Serve with remaining green onions, back, and cheese. Yield 10 cups.

# GOLDEN DEEDS



# AWARDS BANQUET

Golden Deeds Banquet by Exchange Club of Gatesville will honor the following on

Monday, April 24

at First Methodist Church • 6:30 p.m.

Those honored will included:

Care Award:  
**Timothy Muegge**  
Proudly We Hail:  
**Hidden Valley RV Park**  
Educator of the Year:  
**Jean Grimsley**  
Senior Citizen of the Year:  
**Rebel Brown**  
Peace Officer of the Year:  
**Sgt. Blake Riley**  
Firefighter of the Year:  
**To be announced**  
Health Professional of the Year:  
**Dr. Jeffrey Bates**

Youths of the Year, A.C.E. Scholarship Winners, Exchangite of the Year and Book of Golden Deeds all to be announced at banquet.

Students of the months:  
**Hadleigh Ament, Thiele Alvarado, Korbin Brown, Brady Carothers, Lindsey Cummings, Slone Early, Ariel Findley, Lucas Garcia, Ben Mabry, Laura Mitchell, Kallyn Moreland, and Ty Warren.**

JOIN IN OUR CELEBRATION

Tickets are \$10 purchased from Exchange Club Members, the Gatesville Messenger or Chamber of Commerce until April 20.

## CLASS OF 2023

# ATTENTION

Parents, Grandparents, & Loved Ones

## Joey

Congratulations on your achievements! Remember to take life just one pitch at a time!

We are so proud of you!

Grandma & Grandpa



\$55.00

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2 col. x 4" ad (actual size)



Scan this QR code to get started!

Tell your special graduates how proud you are of them in the special section "CLASS OF 2023" to be published in The Gatesville Messenger May 20, 2023 and distributed at the graduation ceremony.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

## May 1, 2023





## Coward informs Exchange Club members about 4-H speaking contest

BY DAVID SCOTT  
Staff Writer

Coryell County Extension agent, Becky Coward, recently spoke to a meeting of the Gatesville Exchange Club. She told the club members that the 4-H students had been busy lately with all the latest stock shows and that last week the 4-H State Ambassador Team had visited the state capitol. "4-H just doesn't stop after the county fair, it just picks up," Coward said.

Coward said the 4-H members will soon be participating in their speaking contest and that there will be thirty-two 4-H members who will give presentations. She explained that the students research their 4-H projects that they're interested in and want to learn more about, then they do a five-minute speech in front of a panel of judges. "It teaches them communication skills they need, public speaking skills, and it lets them research about something they're interested in," Coward said.

Coward introduced two of her 4-H ambassadors who gave their speeches to the Exchange Club members including GHS junior Matti Mann who gave a presentation on dental health and GHS sophomore Jeret Burks who spoke about beef cattle and the new types of feed.

Matti was described by Coward as being a Healthy Texas Youth Ambassador meaning that she is a leader for the state for the 4-H program helping people be healthy - specifically her peers. "Matti has been interested in dental health for a long time and also as a potential career," she said.

Coward said that Jeret feeds commercial steers for the county show and "he's looking to try to get a better angle at that and improve his feed efficiency and that's why he chose this topic."

"It's such a blessing for our kids to communicate effectively. Speaking in front of people can sometimes be a challenge for the students," she said.



Pictured left to right, Exchange Club member Alan Mathis, GHS junior Matti Mann, Coryell County Extension Agent Becky Coward, and GHS sophomore Jeret Burks.

DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

## Almond Blossom Ministries presents New Mercies Conference

Staff Reports

Almond Blossom Ministries will hold a New Mercies Conference on Saturday, May 13 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The conference will be held at the Gatesville Civic Center, hosted by Cheyenne Kizer,

Founder of Almond Blossom Ministries.

Pre-registration is online at [www.almondblossomministries.com](http://www.almondblossomministries.com). Registration will cost \$45 with lunch included and \$35 without lunch. If you decide to have lunch, be sure to choose from the

listed food choices online while registering. Lunch will be provided by various local food trucks.

The keynote speaker will be Tammy Trent. Trent has been ministering to audiences around the world through her music and speaking

since singing her first record deal in 1995. In early 2023 she became the new co-host on LIFE Today TV. The conference will also feature Shelli Zan, with the Impact over Influence podcast. Impact over Influence is a non-profit organization designed

to bring relevant, authentic, and relational bible study that can be used across the world to bring people closer to the kingdom of God.

There will be activities including door prizes, goodie bags, free coffee, snacks, and fellowship. Music will be pro-

vided by Born to Worship. Almond Blossom Ministries can be contacted by email at [almondblossom.ministries@gmail.com](mailto:almondblossom.ministries@gmail.com). The Gatesville Civic Center is located at 301 Veterans Memorial Loop.

## Bible Conference and Heritage Sunday to be held at Cornerstone

Submitted Article

Former professional golfer Kermit Zarley headlines the third annual Bible Conference and Heritage Sunday at Cornerstone, April 21-23. Zarley will present four sessions on theology and prophecy.

Zarley, who played golf for the University of Houston and later co-founded the PGA Tour Bible study, said he is looking forward to his

return to Texas.

"I lived in Houston for over 30 years before moving to Phoenix," he said. "I actually went to church with Hal Lindsey (author of The Late Great Planet Earth)."

Zarley said he has a quite different perspective than Lindsey, but has titled his two-part presentation, "The Late Great Plastic Empire." Those sessions will be at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Saturday.

In 2008 Zarley published

The Restitution: Biblical Proof that Jesus Christ is not God. On Friday starting at 7 p.m., Zarley will describe his spiritual journey to what is referred to as Biblical Unitarianism, the belief that God is one person and Jesus is his only begotten son.

Cornerstone pastor Greg Demmitt said a desire to further understand Biblical Unitarianism sparked Cornerstone's first Bible Conference in 2018 with Kegan

Chandler.

"Several folks from the church met Kegan at a Dallas conference and wanted to hear more about this teaching," Demmitt said. "Our church has always held to this simple understanding, but it's never been a point of emphasis, so our people wanted to learn more."

Chandler will speak on "Filial Piety, the Essence of Christianity" at 1 p.m. on Saturday. Other speakers in-

clude Kevin George, Albert Valdez, and former University of Texas quarterback David Ash.

"David connected with our church several years ago when he discovered we held to this simple understanding that God is one person and Jesus is his son," Demmitt said. "We've been pleasantly surprised to make connections with folks all over Texas who are interested in this perspective and expect

we'll have quite a few in attendance at our conference."

The conference will conclude on Sunday with worship at 11 a.m., followed by a carry-in dinner. Zarley will speak on "Proofs of the Resurrection." For a full conference schedule, see Cornerstone Gatesville on Facebook.

## Mother Neff State Park introduces geocaching

Staff Reports

Mother Neff State Park will hold an Introduction to geocaching class today, April 15. The class will be a come and go event from 8 a.m. to noon. There is no cost, only a park entrance fee of \$2 for adults, and children under 12 get in

free.

Geocaching is a global hunt of people looking for caches, or hidden stashes of objects. It may also be described as a series of hide-and-seek games, where hiders provide online clues for seekers. Seekers use global positioning system (GPS) devices to

find hidden caches around different areas.

Instructor Ron Willis will provide knowledge of geocaching while connecting with one's love of technology, nature, and being outdoors.

It is recommended to download a free geocaching

app on your phone before attending the class.

Mother Neff State Park is located at 1921 State Park Rd. in Moody. For any further information contact Mother Neff State Park at 254-853-2389.

## Jonesboro Volunteer Fire Department to host BBQ luncheon

Staff Reports

The community is invited to attend the Jonesboro Volunteer Fire Department BBQ luncheon on Sunday, April 16. The luncheon will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. held at the Jonesboro Community Center.

Adult plates will cost \$12 and child plates will be \$8. Dine in or carry out

is available. There will be chopped beef, sausage, potato salad, beans, iced tea or water, and homemade desserts.

Donations are to be mailed to the Jonesboro Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 6 Jonesboro, Tx 76538.

The Jonesboro Community Center is located at 11625 TX-36 in Jonesboro.

## Pearl to hold flea market, community garage sale

Staff Reports

The town of Pearl will hold a flea market and a community garage sale at the Pearl Community Center on Friday, April 21 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and on Saturday, April 22 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. All

proceeds will benefit the Pearl Community Center.

The flea market will be held at the Pearl Community Center and will have both indoor and outdoor booths available.

Stop by the Pearl Community Center kitchen for a free

map of all the participating booths marked for the shoppers' convenience.

The community center will be open to serve homemade breakfast, lunch, and delicious desserts. This will be cash only, and to-go orders will be available for pur-

chase.

For more information call Rhonda Dickey at 254-595-1096.

The Pearl Community Center is located at 6301 FM 183 in Gatesville.

## Turnersville Community Center emergency meeting set for April 24

The Turnersville Community Center has scheduled an emergency meeting at the center on Monday, April 24, scheduled to start at 6

p.m.

New board members need to be elected to fill vacancies due to resignations. The center needs an intact

team of board members to ensure its proper management. This meeting is open to the public.

The Turnersville Com-

munity Center is located at 8115 Farm to Market Rd 182.

## Central Texas Travel Club to meet April 18

Staff Reports

The next meeting of the Central Texas Travel Club will be held on Tuesday, April 18 at Johnny's Steaks

and Bar-Be-Que in Salado, beginning at 11 a.m.

The meeting is open to anyone interested in travel, with no membership dues or requirements. The club will

discuss upcoming trips including Christoval, Hawaii, France, Painted Churches, Branson, and Colorado Springs.

Johnny's Steaks and Bar-

Be-Que is located at 301 Thomas Arnold Road. For more information, contact the Central Texas Travel Club by email at [centraltexas-travelclub@outlook.com](mailto:centraltexas-travelclub@outlook.com).



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# OBITUARIES

## GLENN DEAVERS

June 3, 1931 - April 7, 2023



Glenn Deavers, Lt. Col. USAF (Ret.), age 91, of Abilene, passed away on Friday, April 7, 2023, in Abilene.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Thursday, April 13, at Scott's Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Robert Whitefield and Pastor Jeff

Addison officiating. Interment with full military honors by the Joint Base San Antonio Base Honor Guard, followed at King Cemetery. For those unable to attend, Mr. Deavers funeral services were livestreamed at the link below his obituary at [www.scottsfh.com](http://www.scottsfh.com).

Glenn Winifred Deavers was born on June 3, 1931, in the Springhill community of Coryell County to the late Virgel and Della Witte Deavers. He graduated from Gatesville High School in 1948, where he played football. He then attended Navarro Junior College in Corsicana, where he played on the football team for two years. He entered the United States Air Force in 1951 and received his pilot wings in 1954. On Mother's Day in 1968, he went to Vietnam where he flew the supersonic F4 Phantom II bomber jet. Glenn served for 341 days in

Vietnam and flew 212 Combat Missions. He received many commendation decorations for his valor, including the Air Force Distinguished Flying Cross with One Oak Leaf Cluster. He retired as Lt. Col. in 1973, with over twenty years of service. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering from Texas A&M University. He entered a second career as an Industrial Engineering Manager in Dallas / Fort Worth with General Dynamics & Vought Company until his retirement.

Out of all his many accomplishments and phenomenal adventures, Glenn's most profound achievement was being an amazing father and husband. He had a wonderful sense of humor and enjoyed telling funny stories and jokes. Glenn loved horses, hog hunting, sports, 42 Dominoes and was a horse breeder and member of the

American Quarter Horse Association. He was a former member of Proctor Baptist Church and current member of Ridgemont Baptist Church in Abilene.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Clayton Deavers; and sisters, Gloria Koch and Ethelyn (Pod) Harper; and brother-in-laws, Fred Koch and Travis Harper.

Glenn is survived by his wife, Madelynne Dickie Deavers; children, Greg Deavers and wife, Carla, Lisa Johnson, Kami Deavers, Rick Corley and wife, Cindy, David Corley and wife, Karen, Tommy Corley, Debbie Barnes and husband, Tom Hale; numerous grandchildren and nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, Glenn's family requests that memorials be made to the Coryell Museum and Historical Center, P.O. Box 24, Gatesville, TX 76528.

## PEGGY SUMMERS

June 5, 1941 - April 3, 2023



Peggy Summers, age 81, of Copperas Cove, passed away on the morning of April 3, 2023.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 11, at Scott's Funeral Home Chapel in Gatesville, with Montie Bland officiating. Interment followed at Restland Cem-

etery.

Peggy Druscilla Summers was born on June 5, 1941, in Jonesboro to the late Charlie and Sybil Roach Walsh of Coryell County. She grew up and attended school in Gatesville. She was a lady with the biggest of the big hearts; wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She attended business school in Waco, where she gained secretarial skills as a career. Then, as God arranged it, she met and married the love of her life, Bill Summers, in 1961. From there, she took on the most formidable task in life as a homemaker. With the helpful hands of God, Bill, and her extended family, she cared for and raised three loving children in their home outside Copperas Cove. Peggy was a member of the Presbyterian Church in Copperas Cove. She was a community supporter, helping Cub Scout Troop 252 as assistant

den mother. She was an ardent supporter of Copperas Cove Bulldog Football, during the 80's, assisting their Quarterback Club fundraising. She was named "Mamma Bulldog" by the Quarterback Club in 1985. She was also a great cook. After raising her children into young adults, Peggy went back to work at Copperas Cove I.S.D. as a services staffer for almost 10 years. She also assisted secretarial duties for Topsey Water Supply, a rural water supply outside Copperas Cove. She supported her husband with their modest property management business, which included six living units, primarily leased to service members stationed at Fort Hood. Peggy spent her 60's and early 70's traveling in RV parks and RV clubs with Bill. They made many lifelong friends from all over the country, who they kept in touch with over the years. In 2017, she moved into

Stoney Brook Assisted Living in Copperas Cove. There she made many friends with the residents and staff. She enjoyed living there, playing cards, and dominoes; making new friends and listening to the various musicians who visited and put on quality live shows. Peggy dearly loved the residents and staff at Stoney Brook. Lastly, and above all, she was always an uplifting spirit to anyone who knew her, especially those attending any family functions that included her kids and other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Bill Summers and daughter, Amy Summers-Cantu.

She is survived by her sons, James Summers and Scott Summers; three grandchildren, Cheyenne, CJ, and Conrad; and one great-grandchild, Summerlynn.

## WONNIE ODELL HAYES BELL MORGAN

Dec. 22, 1925 - April 2, 2023



Wonnie, or Odell as she was known, was born on December 22, 1925, in Gatesville, to Luther Lee and Mildred Sydow Hayes. Luther Hayes owned two large farms and her childhood was spent on the farm along with her siblings, Glyn, Minnie, Buck, Dessie and Jean. She was the "tomboy" of the

family, working on the farm taking care of crops and the animals.

She disliked school and wearing her bonnet and preferred mischief, skipping school, and fighting other girls along with her best friend Ima Jean. As a teen, she lived in town with relatives and worked at her Uncle Eston's store behind the soda fountain. She also was a member of the Hayes Family Quartet, a Christian singing group formed by her sister Glyn.

She met Lamon Bell, of Purlmela, in 1944, they married, and the Army transferred them to Denver. She worked at the Dentler Potato Chip Factory and The Wright & McGill Fishhook Company. After the Army, Lamon took a job in Texas City at Union Carbide.

They moved to Dickinson and the League City area and had 4 children, Donald, Linda, Marcia, and Larry. They both became active in the League City Church of Christ. Wonnie loved the

church, fishing, volunteering, bowling, playing in a softball league, baking, and gardening. She was a devout Christian and brought many friends and neighbors to Christ.

After Lamon became ill with Parkinson's Disease, Wonnie enrolled in Lee College to become a nurse to support the family. Her state board exam score of 86.8 made the school rank 4th among 74 schools participating! She was an excellent nurse, and all her patients loved her.

After Lamon's death in 1983, Wonnie relocated to Belton, purchased a home overlooking Stillhouse Lake, became nurse and caregiver for her mother, her Aunt Nellie, and multiple patients around the Belton area. She volunteered with Meals on Wheels, Helping Hands, the church food pantry, and several nursing homes. Her prize-winning desserts were highly coveted. She spent many years with her beloved family traveling, shopping

garage sales, spending time at the deer lease, fishing, gardening, and playing dominos and wahoo weekly. She bowled in a League, traveling to Las Vegas, winning 6th place out of 70 lanes!

She reconnected with a school friend, Edwin Morgan in 1993, and married again. They bought a 40' houseboat. She cared for him until his death 9 years later. She lived in Belton until 2015 when she moved in with her daughter Marcia and lived with her until her death on April 2, 2023, at the age of 97.

Wonnie is survived by her sister, Dessie Farrell of Temple; her children, Linda Jeter of Katy, Marcia Vineyard of Alvin, and Larry Bell of Houston; two grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and seven great-great grandchildren along with many others who loved her dearly.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers please make a donation to your favorite ministry.

## Revival set at Mound Cowboy Church

Submitted Article

Mound Cowboy Church will hold a Family Revival on Sunday, April 30 at 9 a.m. and again Monday, May 1 at 6 p.m.

Special musical guest will be Keron Jackson, described as an acclaimed

powerhouse bass singer with an extraordinary voice and an even more incredible story.

The revival will be held inside the church at 3075 FM 931.

## Greenbriar Cemetery Association to hold meeting May 6

Staff Reports

The Greenbriar Cemetery Association will meet on Saturday, May 6 at 9 a.m. at Greenbriar Cemetery. If you are unable to attend, be sure to make a donation for the

upkeep of the cemetery. Remit to "Greenbriar Cemetery Sherrie Barton, 2470 Greenbriar Road, Gatesville, Texas 76528."

For more information contact Sherrie Barton at 254-865-3341.

## Wood Cemetery sets workday for today

Staff Reports

A work day will be held today, April 15 from 9 a.m. to noon at Wood Cemetery. A meeting will commence following lunch at noon.

Be sure to bring gloves, hoes, shovels, lawnmowers, weed eaters, chain saws, and wheel barrows to help with the cleanup.

If you are unable to do any work, simply stopping by with water would be enough. If you are not able to attend, consider donating to help upkeep the cemetery. Mail all donations to Wood Cemetery Association, attention Melinda Burke, 430 Old

Georgetown Rd., Gatesville, TX 76528.

For more information contact Melinda Burke, secretary and treasurer, at 254-865-2085 or 254-223-3546.

Wood Cemetery, believed to have been named for noted pioneer educator D.R. Wood, was established with the 1858 burial of Sarah E. Shipman, wife of prominent local rancher John K. Shipman. More than 20 additional burials were recorded before John Shipman deeded 11.5 acres for a cemetery, church, and school in 1877.

## Murphree Cemetery Association to hold meeting April 16

Submitted Article

The annual business meeting of the Murphree Cemetery Association in Evant has been scheduled for 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 16 at the First National Bank.

The agenda will include a financial report, the election of some of the officers and directors, and a report on the maintenance of the cemetery. The at-

tendance of all interested parties is encouraged and appreciated.

Those unable to attend, but who need to make their annual maintenance payment, may send a check made out to Murphree Cemetery Association to P.O. Box 144, Evant, TX 76525. The maintenance fee is \$8 per grave and purchased grave site. For questions, call Scott Marwitz at 254-749-3932.

## Bible Conference

And Heritage Sunday, Apr. 21-23

**Special guest Kermit Zarley**  
Former professional golfer and co-founder of the PGA Tour Bible Study

**Friday, April 21**  
7 pm Worship with Kermit Zarley, faith journey  
8 pm Reception

**Saturday, April 22**  
9 am Kermit Zarley, The Late Great Plastic Empire, Pt. 1

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>Conference Schedule continued</p> <p><b>Saturday, April 22</b></p> <p>10 am Kevin George, Can a Human Jesus Save Us?</p> <p>11 am Albert Valdez, faith story</p> <p>Noon Lunch</p> <p>1 pm Kegan Chandler, 'Filial Piety' as the Essence of Christianity</p> <p>2 pm Kermit Zarley, The Late Great Plastic Empire, Pt. 2</p> <p>3 pm David Ash, Dennis Smith, others, faith stories</p> | <p>4 pm Mark Cain, UCA, Seth Ross, COG</p> <p>5:30 pm Spaghetti dinner</p> <p><b>Sunday, April 23</b></p> <p>10 am Sunday School</p> <p>11 am Kermit Zarley, Proofs of the Resurrection</p> |
|--|---|

Meals provided: Sandwich lunch and spaghetti dinner on Saturday; Carry-in dinner on Sunday.

RSVP to [greg@cornerstonetv.com](mailto:greg@cornerstonetv.com) or call 480.824.8311

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# Mr. Whiz Bang Upbeat Feel Good in Marshall



BY **TUMBLEWEED SMITH**

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

People all over East Texas have told me I need to interview James Duncan, who works at radio station KMHT in Marshall.

So, on an interview trip to that part of the state I stopped at the station. The enterprising staff had arranged a full day of interviews for me; a rare happen-

ing indeed and I appreciate it very much. To stay in one place and get a dozen interviews happens just a handful of times. It sure cuts down on expenses and time.

They even provided a delicious lunch for me. James Duncan was my first interview. It certainly set a high standard for the rest of the day's activities, although I was amazed at the amount of talented, knowledgeable, smart people the folks at KMHT arranged for me.

When James was growing up in Gilmer, he had trouble spelling his middle name: Michael.

"When I was about 15, I called my dad because I wanted to borrow the car that afternoon," James said. "So, I called his office. He was district attorney at the time, and I said this is Michael and I want to borrow

the car. He said, 'Who?' I said Michael. He said, 'Spell it.' I said J-a-m-e-s."

He loves working at the radio station.

"KMHT is the heartbeat of East Texas. We try to bring news and views that fit our area. We're local and cover local activities and local news."

He does a program called Swap Shop weekday mornings from 9 to 10.

"You know one of the interesting items people call in and have for sale is guineas. They're the best watchdogs ever and we get lots of calls about them. We still get horses and mules. But we're country. It's like

Canton First Monday on the radio with dogs and chickens, all kinds of stuff. You know Canton's trade days event was started by coon dog trading down at the sale barn."

He really gets close to his callers.

"These people are just like family. It's just like you were in the bunkhouse back on the ranch talking with a group of friends. And they do have some interesting stories. And they're good people. They make me feel good and I'd like to think I make them feel good. It's one of those things where you kinda get personal with the people who call in. We

get people of all ages who sew, split wood, and talk about recipes."

James has a constant stream of callers. He never has to play music during his show because people are waiting on the phone to get on the air.

"You'll hear a lot of commercials. People like to buy time on Swap Shop because that's when people are listening. Everybody has that distinct East Texas accent and people tune in to hear the flavor and heritage of the language."

James was in the cattle breeding business before going into radio in 1968.

## PEARL NEWS

# Pearl Community Center flea market is today



BY **BETSY CLARK**

Pearl News Correspondent

Mark your calendars for April 21 - 22 for the Pearl Community Center Flea Market.

Also, the Pearl Cottage Bookstore and Resale Shop will have a big indoor/outdoor sale! Items we will include a quilt rack with quilt tops, quilts, two dining room tables, coffee tables, end tables, a motorized cart, a washer and dryer, a dresser with lots of boxes of Amish Christian books, and a lot of exceptional glassware and jewelry. Of course, the usual bookstore items and over 6,000 books will be available at those times as well. For more information, please contact Linda Ray at 254-865-9282 or Kay Pruett at 254-865-5864.

Just two weeks after the Flea Market, the next Pearl Cottage Bookstore Day happens on May 6. That's twice in two weeks that you can go to the book cottage to stock up on summer reading material!! And you can visit with the cheerful bookstore ladies who not only love to see you, but they also cherish your visits!! Remember, you never know what you might find at the Pearl Book Cottage! All proceeds go to support the bookstore's local charities!!

Pearl Church of Christ has announced their annual Vacation Bible School Dates...

May 29 through June 2, 9 a.m. until noon. Please share this information with all your friends and family. Everyone is welcome!

I'm sure you all know that May 1 through May 5 is Teacher Appreciation Week. I just wanted to give you a heads up in case you want to start thinking about what you can do for the special teacher(s) in your lives! As a retired teacher, I can tell you that most all of us greatly appreciate chocolate! Lots of us also thrive on coffee and most of us would never turn down gift cards to practically anywhere! Trust me,

the lives of teachers can get very hectic, and the greatest majority of them LOVE our kids!! Let's love them back!!

This week's Bible verse comes from Romans 5:10—For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to Him through the death of His Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through His life. (NIV)

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

## MOUND NEWS

# Mound had a busy Easter weekend



BY **BARBARA HOPSON**

Mound News Correspondent

Martha Lawhorn was honored for her birthday with a dinner. Those who attended were Craig and LaWanda Lawhorn, Rhett Lawhorn of Temple, and Elizabeth and Benjamin Phillips.

Ray and John Stephens and Martha Lawhorn were Easter dinner guests of Mike and Donna Schultz.

The Carothers families enjoyed an Easter dinner at the home of BJ and Tracy Carothers.

Emma Blakley of College Station came home Thursday evening for Easter weekend.

Robert, Carolyn and Emma Blakley attended a fish fry in Gatesville Saturday evening at the home of Will and Becky Coward.

Mrs. Bettie Blakley of

Pearl was an Easter dinner guest of Robert, Carolyn and Emma Blakley.

Mound Cowboy Church had its annual Easter breakfast and worship service. After the worship service they had an Easter egg hunt.

Sue Jones visited with Barbara Hopson Friday afternoon.

Mound Ladies Bible Study Group will be having their Women's Prayer Breakfast this Saturday at 8:15 a.m. at the White Mound Baptist Church Youth Building.

## Coryell County Historical Marker

# SPOTLIGHT

## EVANT METHODIST CHURCH

Marker Text:  
Organized by the Rev. Joe Price between 1874 and 1876 in Langford's Cove Community (later renamed Evant). The Evant Methodist Episcopal Church began with seven charter members: Mr. and Mrs. W.C. Winters, Mr. and Mrs. G.T. Winters, Mr. and Mrs. Edington and Miss Elam. After a short time, the Rev. Mr. Price returned to his home in Mississippi. The congregation continued to hold prayer meetings led by W.C. Winters and occasional visiting pastors, including M.M. Weaver and W.H. Carr of nearby Levita, the Rev. Dr. Perry from Hamilton, the Rev. Mr. Davenport and the Rev. Osgood Shook. First meeting in members' homes and under brush arbors, they eventually began to hold prayer meetings in the small local school-house.

In the spring of 1879, a camp meeting was held at Cottonwood Springs. New families began moving into the area, including the Muirhead family from Rhode Island and the Thomas family from Wales,



COURTESY OF WAYMARKING.COM

## Evant Methodist Church

Great Britain. They began a Sunday school and invited area young people to join them in Methodist Church.

In 1884, the Baptists built the first church building in the community. The Methodists shared the structure with other denominations until 1905 when they erected their own building.

It was moved across the street in 1937 due to highway development.

The Methodist church in the nearby Vista community joined with Evant Methodist in 1949 and they dedicated a new brick building that year in a ceremony led by the presiding bishop. The congregation's

growth reached its 20th century peak in 1963 with 201 members. The Evant United Methodist Church continues in the traditions of its founders.

Marker erected in 2000.

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**\$15.00 per plate**  
Plate includes Brisket, Sausage, Beans, Potato Salad, Bread and Tea



# Remembering Uncle Bob...

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

According to John Frank Post, editor of the *Gatesville Messenger* from 1946-1978, "Mr. Saunders composed his *Down Memory Lane* columns from his West Main Street home in the shadow of the county courthouse dome. Deadline time would find him hunched square-shouldered over his small desk pecking away at his typewriter." Post continued, "disdaining the rules of grammar and political correctness, he wrote like he talked - straight and plain-speaking. He was spared any tedious research, as his gifted memory supplied him with facts that he could weave into his own inimitable embroidery, using colorful anecdotes, local history, and happenings. Yes, Uncle Bob knew how to juice up a story."

Post recalled that the "Down Memory Lane" column was a hit with the readers of the newspaper from the beginning. Post said that Uncle Bob's close friends felt he viewed his writing as a "gift to his generation and a legacy to generations to come."

\*\*\*\*\*

The following is an excerpt of Uncle Bob's *Down Memory Lane* column that appeared in the February 24, 1950, edition of *The Gatesville Messenger*:

## Early Day Barber Shops in Gatesville

Throughout the ages, it has been an accepted fact that cleanliness is next to Godliness, and way back yonder, the men-folks of Gatesville 'lowed as how they order take a bath once a week whether they really needed it or not. Course that didn't mean you was supposed to

rub all the cuticle off; you was just sorter supposed to loosen up said cuticle, for a nice, refreshing bath taken in a gentlemanly manner didn't hurt nobody. While it was more trouble than using Hoyt's German Cologne, you kinder felt more like you was somebody.

After the Gatesville Water Company brought in the big artesian well, "Old Jumbo," and got to piping water all over town, there was plenty for everybody to take a bath. But them tin bath tubs cost lots of money, and they was mighty few folks that could afford to own one. But it's an ill wind that don't blow somebody some good - the barber shops of the town, knowing how their customers would want to take baths, put in bath tubs in their tonsorial parlors and charged 25 cents per bath. Every young feller that had outgrown that old No. 3 zinc tub that used to be placed in the kitchen every Saturday night, went up to the barber shop, put his two bits on the line, and the porter would heat him a tub full of water.

If you have never had a good, hot bath in the barber shop, you shore have missed one of the joys of life. I remember way back yonder one of the main barber shops in town had so many young fellers that wanted to clean up on Saturday night they had to put in two bath tubs, and they liked to worked that porter to death fixing them baths and scrubbing out the real estate after from them tubs.

Long about milking time in the evening on Saturday you would see the young fellers along the street headed for the barber shop with their clean clothes wrapped up in a newspaper. You really didn't have to ask him where he was going, for that roll of newspaper was a dead giveaway. The real sports of the town - the boys that made such big money as \$30 a month - would go the whole hog by getting a haircut, shave, shampoo and bath. All of this would cost you

one silver dollar, and that amount of money wasn't to be sneezed at, so the owner of the shop was always polite to them kind of free-spending customers and he would always have the porter brush off their clothes free of charge. Most of the big shots that would spend that much money would have their private shaving mugs which stayed in the barber shop all the time, and some of them real sports would have their names printed on the mugs in big gold letters.

The first barber shop I remember in Gatesville was run by Bennet Jones and Joe Nemeir. Bennet Jones had to have special-made shears as he had two thumbs on one of his hands. They had their shop over on Rat Row on the north side of the square, and they done most of the barber business in town when I was a small boy. Back in them days I would always let my hair grow as long as I could get the folks to stand for it, so I would look like Buffalo Bill and them other long-haired Injun scouts. Most folks would cut their own kids' hair on Sunday morning and save that two bits.

There was one thing you could always depend on, and that was plenty of gossip. If you wanted to hear the latest news, and some of it was pretty scandalous, you would hear it around the old-time barber shop. The barbers always had a great fund of this idle gossip to retail to their customers while they were scraping their chins or cutting their hair. Barber shops were ever a great hangout for men and boys, especially in the old days before the wimmin folks took over and installed them beauty shops. We can't be quite as free and easy in our talk as we used to be. Years ago, barber shops were sorter like saloons and pool halls; you could turn loose and say whatever you pleased, but you shore can't do it now, not with the wimmin folks prancing through the shop going to their hair-do parlours.



PHOTO BY DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

**BATH TIME:** Antique tin bath tub used in a local hotel in the 1890's is exhibited at the Coryell Museum and Historical Center.

## The Buzzard

BY SANDRA TATUM  
Contributing Writer

This story came to mind when the buzzards from Mexico made their way here as they do every year in late February and early March. Oh, how I dread them as our goats are having their baby kids at this time. I've tried to make them "kid out" at other times, but that doesn't always work because nature does what it wants to do!

I know our eco system requires a lot of things I don't like, but it seems that's just the way it is in birthing season.

My story isn't all about Mexico buzzards because I don't remember them even being here then when I was a teenager years ago. They were just our ugly black buzzards flying around!

Remember, we had only a windmill and a huge storage tank for our only water then - no community water like we are so fortunate to have now. Anyway, the storage water tank had no cover - a fact that caused our misery for several days.

A buzzard somehow decided to land on our storage water tank that supplied water to our house. Maybe it was thirsty or just fell in our tank, but it happened. So yes, the tank had to be drained - thank goodness there was a way for the precious water to be drained from the side. All that water going into the ground, and Dad had to have water for us from North Fort Hood. Our great neighbors helped with containers to aid us.

Then the work began. The tank had to be cleaned with bleach, and many mops and, and many mops and hard work began - again with neighbor help - thank goodness. The wind did blow when this was completed and the rinsing began - more hard work, then the round screen had to be built so this would not happen again! I remember Mom saying, "Oh why didn't we do this long ago." I felt so sorry for her. Times were not easy back then, please remember that.

I will always remember how our neighbors helped

us and how lucky we were to live in our great community and how good they were to us. All are gone now, but I remember and tell my story to my kids. Be thankful for your friends.

The windmill and storage tank are here no more as we have community water now; just turn on a faucet. I do miss the sound of the windmill and I really remember the "old days" at times especially when the water bill arrives, but progress had made our lives easier.

The buzzards still fly, and I don't like them one bit. Our goats have guard dogs now and they keep them away from the goats at birthing time fairly good.

I just wanted to tell you another story about my growing up days in the country that I dearly love. I guess I just wanted to remind everyone how lucky we are to have family and live in a helping community.

Okay - until I remember another story! Have a great day everyone and be thankful for our country that is free for now anyway.

## Whatever happened to...

### 20 YEARS AGO (2003)

Pamela Herring was presenting a program on her knowledge of stained glass to the Coryell Art League who was meeting at Rancher's Steakhouse.

Amanda Hopson, along with several other students, was recognized by the Gatesville Exchange Club at the annual Golden Deeds Banquet held at the First United Methodist Church.

Robert and Carol Wallace of the Mountain Community were celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. Robert Wallace and the former Corlinda Curtis of England were married April 12, 1953, in Beaumont.

Eric Herbelin was the guest of honor at a senior party given at the Fort Gates annex

building. Seated at the head table with the honoree were his parents, Ronnie and Liz Herbelin.

Gatesville pole vaulter Amos Phillips had cleared 13' 6" in the District 17-AAA track meet to advance to the regional meet in Humble.

### 30 YEARS AGO (1993)

Gina Michael Menzies had announced her candidacy for the Gatesville City Council. Menzies was born and raised in Weslaco and moved to Gatesville in 1984.

Lynn Massingill was asking voters to re-elect him as a trustee of the Gatesville I.S.D. school board. Massingill was listed as a Gatesville native who graduated from Gatesville High School in 1970.

Merritt Tierce, a 13-year-old Gatesville student was

scheduled to perform as a member of the Waco Symphony Youth Orchestra in. She was listed as the daughter of Randy and Beverly Tierce of Gatesville.

Laura White, who was a counselor at Gatesville Junior High School, was among those recognized during the Region IV conference of the American Vocational Association.

Members of the Coryell County Historical Commission joined Judge John Hull in proclaiming the week of April 10-17 as Archaeological Awareness Week in Texas and Coryell County.

### 40 YEARS AGO (1983)

Gatesville Mayor Creston Brazzil had been named the Gatesville Messenger's "Citizen of the Week." In addition

to being mayor, Brazzil was president of Mid-Tex Regional Water Supply Corporation.

Part of some 75 volunteer workers began construction on the new First Baptist Church in Flat. The new \$90,000 building was expected to be completed in May.

Tom Springstun, a member of the 1983 Gatesville High School senior class, was honored with a dinner at The Outpost restaurant in Waco. Gena and Joyce Arnold were hostesses.

Diana Clark, Gatesville High School freshman and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Clark, reigned as queen of the Hornet Relays at McKamie Stadium.

Gatesville Lions Club had elected Art Dorsey as the club's president for 1983-84. He had previously been named Lion of the Year for 1981-82.

### 50 YEARS AGO (1973)

Pam Richards, age 17, a Gatesville High School junior, had been chosen the 1973 queen of the Gatesville Lions Club and its nominee for District 2-X3 queen.

Principal laurels at the Gatesville Garden Club's silver anniversary flower show went to Mrs. Louie Powell who received a tri-color award for her arrangement of calla lilies and candlesticks.

Gatesville's school board

had approved the employment of two new teachers for the 1973-74 school year. Mrs. Bonnie Sexton was to teach fifth grade and Sue Hix would teach girls physical education.

Hal Anderson was re-elected president of the Gatesville Independent School District board of trustees for 1973-74. Dr. William F. Floyd was chosen vice president to succeed James (Buddy) Powell.

Sheriff's officers were investigating the burglary of a barn on the Kenny Shelburne place near Mound where thieves hauled off tools and 50 feet of welding cable.

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**032 MISCELLANEOUS**

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DOLLAR SALE!! Tues, 04/18-Sat, 04/22. The Boys & Girls Club Resale Shop, 1706 E. Main. Tuesday-Friday, 8a.m.-5p.m. & Saturday, 9a.m.-3p.m. 00030027

## 099 PUBLIC NOTICES

Evant I.S.D. is currently accepting sealed bids for the replacement of all exterior doors at the school. All services to complete the work will be provided by the contractor. Please contact Director of Operations Steve Adcock for specifications before submitting a bid. To submit a bid, please send it to Evant ISD at 339 Memory Lane, Evant, TX 76525 or hand-deliver it to the Evant ISD superintendent's office at 339 Memory Lane, Evant, TX. Clearly mark "Exterior Doors" on the front of a sealed envelope. For additional information, you may contact Steve Adcock at 254-471-5536. The deadline to turn in a bid is 10:00 a.m. on May 10, 2023. Proposals will be reviewed at the May school board meeting at 339 Memory Lane, Evant. The trustees of the school reserve the right to reject any and all proposals and to accept any proposals deemed most advantageous to Evant I.S.D., as well as negotiate with successful bidders as deemed advisable. 00030043

### Proposal Notice for Entry Resistant Film

The Gatesville Independent School District (ISD) will accept competitive sealed proposals for materials and installation of entry resistant film at all GISD facilities (High School, Junior High, Intermediate, Elementary, Primary, DAEP, SCGC, Technology building, and the Central Administration building) until 10:00 AM on Monday, May 8, 2023.

A mandatory pre-bid meeting and onsite inspection of the project is scheduled for 9:00 AM on April 24, 2023. Bidders will meet at the GISD Central Administration Building at 311 S. Lovers Lane, Gatesville, Texas.

Proposals can be mailed to Gatesville ISD, attention Yancey Sanderson, 311 S. Lovers Lane, Gatesville, Texas 76528. Please mark your sealed bid "Entry Resistant Film." Proposals will be opened and read aloud at 10:00 AM on Monday, May 8, 2023. Tabulations of the proposals will be made and presented to the School Board for action at 5:30 PM on May 15, 2023.

Specifications and the Required Bid Forms packets are available on the Gatesville ISD website after April 17, 2023. Questions regarding this project should be directed to Toby Williams at 254-865-8922. Gatesville ISD reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals or price quotes and waive any formality in bidding. 00030039

### Notice of Public Meeting

The Oglesby Housing Authority will hold a Public Meeting on May 4, 2023, at 1:00 P.M., at City Hall, to receive comments on the 2023-2027 Capital Fund 5-year Action Plan Budgets. All documents are on display and available for viewing at the office of the Housing Authority, located at 118 College Ave. (office), Tuesday through Friday, between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 11:00 A.M.

## 099 PUBLIC NOTICES

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids addressed to City of Gatesville will be received at City of Gatesville City Hall, 803 E. Main Street, Gatesville, TX until 3:00 PM on April 26, 2023, for the Mills Street Phase 2 Water & Wastewater Improvements. Bids will be opened publicly and read aloud shortly thereafter on the same date in the same place. Copies of the bidding documents can be obtained electronically via CivCast (www.civcastusa.com). For more information, contact Amy Jo Moreno at 254-714-1402. 00030037

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## 060 GARAGE SALE

## 099 PUBLIC NOTICES

### TEXAS

#### NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

**APPLICATION.** L3 Construction on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) construction of a permanent road in Coryell County, Texas 76528. This line courtesy and not part of the application. <https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/> to the TCEQ on February 14, 2023, March 27, 2023.

**PUBLIC COMMENT.** Written comment period. You may submit comments to the Chief Clerk, MC-1 [www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/ec](http://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/ec) phone number, email address submit public comments is 30 days after the comment period closes.

**RESPONSE TO COMMENTS.** after the comment period closes mailed to everyone who submitted comments will be posted in the public comment period.

The executive director shall accept comments during the public comment period, considering all comments meet the requirements of the Texas Administrative Code.

**CENTRAL/REGIONAL OFFICE** and the TCEQ Waco Regional Office of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**INFORMATION.** For more information call the Education Program toll free at 1-800-695-7388.

Further information may also be obtained by calling Mrs. Melissa Fitts, Vice President of the TCEQ at 512-261-6200.

Notice Issuance Date: April 6, 2023

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- ▶ 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 +/- acres, 3/2.5 barn/condominium, 1197 CR 404, Hamilton, TX. 1 water well, metal building, nice porch, good tree cover, rolling terrain, good fences. \$549,000
- ▶ 11.64 acres 3/2 home south of Evant, TX in Coryell County. Nice porch, large master bedroom/bath, barn, workshop, seasonal creek, Hwy 281 frontage. \$850,000
- ▶ 20 acres, 3 Br 2 Ba home, 8 ft porches, 3900 CR 404, Hamilton, TX. \$325,000
- ▶ 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
- ▶ 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
- ▶ 38 +/- acres, south of Pearl, TX, Coryell County. FM 183 frontage, rolling terrain and scattered tree cover, nice views and would make a great home site, centrally located about 20 minutes from Evant & Gatesville and about 45 minutes from Coparas Cove-Killeen, Waco & Temple. \$372,400
- ▶ 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
- ▶ 50.24 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 barn/condominium, 1197 CR 404, Hamilton, TX. 1 water well, metal building, nice porch, good tree cover, rolling terrain, 2 tanks, good fences. \$875,000
- ▶ 55.88 Acres, south of Evant, 2000 CR 390, Lampasas County, cabin with bathroom, water well, electricity, rolling terrain with good tree cover, small seasonal branch. \$488,950
- ▶ 60.23 acres, CR 238 near Turnersville, TX. 1 stock tank, good fences, scattered tree cover, rolling terrain. \$421,610
- ▶ 68.9 acres, 3/2.5 rock home, 101 Mac Dr., Gatesville, Tx. Approx. 2900 ft of Leon River frontage, ceramic tile floors, carpeted floors, granite counter tops, fireplace, granite countertops, breakfast bar, granite island, built-in appliances, 12 x 24 ft, older barn approx. 50 ft. x 30 ft., cattle pens, 1 stock tank, approx. 48 acres of coastal. \$1,275,000
- ▶ 82.43 acres west of Evant, TX, Mills County. 1200 acres west of Evant, Mills County tree cover, native grasses, 1 stock tank, fenced on 3 sides with approx. 1910 ft that needs to be fenced on the south side of the property. \$560,524
- ▶ 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
- ▶ 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

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# TAKE UP YOUR CROSS AND FOLLOW ME - MATTHEW 16:24



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Community members gathered on Good Friday to trek down Main Street carrying a large, wooden cross signifying the cross Jesus was nailed to by Roman soldiers nearly 2,000 years ago. The journey began at First Methodist Church and continued to Coryell Community Church, and included a stop at Coryell County Courthouse.



# Business Directory

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# Coryell County Jail history being salvaged

BY DAVID SCOTT  
Staff Writer

With the upcoming demolition of the old Coryell County Jail, several items housed in the structure were recently donated to the Coryell County Museum and Historical Center and some historic paperwork has since been returned to the Coryell County Clerk's office.

The 90-plus-year-old jail was first occupied by Sheriff Walter (Holly) Hollingsworth, his wife Willie Birdie, and their children. Back then, becoming sheriff meant the family would move into the county jail. Living quarters were located downstairs for the sheriff and his family, and prisoners were housed upstairs.

County Commissioner Ryan Basham stated, "I met with the museum, and we

found some things that the museum would like to have. We've moved the JP's over to the city hall and then we reached out to the museum. They're also interested in an old jail door that has the combination like an old safe. We're happy to share with the museum a part of Coryell County history."

In addition to an old jail door, the museum received a Woodruffs suspension file holder cabinet, which was

dated 1887. Museum Board President Ervin Adams said, "It helps us to continue the legacy since we have the original jail that was built in Coryell County in 1855 and we have one of the doors from the second jail after that and now this. It continues the legacy being able to show the jail history and about law enforcement in Coryell County."

The boxes of historic paperwork found stored in

the jail's upstairs cell blocks were recently moved to the county clerk's office. Coryell County Clerk Jennifer Newton reported that at least 12 boxes of records had been returned, most of which were early-day civil records, some reported to be from the 1850s. Newton said the documents would be examined and indexed.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Coryell County Clerk Jennifer Newton examines some of the documents found in the old jail – some dating back to the 1850s.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

An upstairs window was removed from the jail so that boxes of documents could be moved from the structure before demolition begins.

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DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

County Commissioner Ryan Basham and county maintenance worker William Snell move an antique 1887 filing cabinet from the jail into the Coryell County Museum.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

The fourth jail built in Coryell County, which housed the sheriff's family living quarters downstairs and the cell blocks upstairs in the building.



## GHS tennis trio advances to state



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Coach Brit Campbell, senior Ty Warren, senior Slone Early, senior Alex Scott, Coach Wendell Jones and Coach Kimberly Chaffin celebrate a trio of gold medals. On April 12, Warren and Scott teamed up to win the regional championship and advance to the state tennis tournament, and Early won the regional championship in boys' singles and will also compete at state in San Antonio later this month.

## Early, Scott & Warren make school history with success

BY DAVID SCOTT  
Staff Writer

After winning in the district tournament, the Gatesville High School tennis team sent five qualifiers to the Regional 4A Championship Tournament held April 11-12 in Bryan-College Station. The boys' singles competitor, Slone Early, won in the singles division and will progress to state competition in San Antonio. Joining him will be the winners of the boys' doubles competition, Ty Warren and Alex Scott. In addition to Early, Warren, and Scott, other regional qualifiers were Callie Smith and Kasey Fitzner.

GHS Head Tennis Coach Wendell Jones said, "School history had been set today." In previous years, GHS has never sent more than one student to the state tennis tournament in one season.

"I knew this possibility was with us to have two finish first

and go to state. This will be the first time in school history we'll be taking more than one division to state in tournament tennis," Jones said. The last time boys' singles reached the state level was 15 years ago. Even more astounding is the fact that the boys' doubles team has not reached the state level since 1950, 73 years ago.

Callie Smith came up against Caden Proctor of Houston Scarborough and won 2-6, 6-0, 6-4. Smith lost her next match to Maddi Majors of Bullard, 2-6, 0-6. Kasey Fitzner won over Brooke Caddy of Center 6-2, 6-2, and lost to Madeline Inman of Lago Vista 1-6, 4-6.

Slone Early defeated William Webb of Manor Tech 6-2, 6-1. Early also defeated Dylan Leps of Huffman Hargrave 6-0, 6-0 and Kaden Slider of Robinson 7-5, 6-1.

The boys' doubles team of Ty Warren and Alex Scott defeated Gavin McFarlin and Jackson New of Livingston

6-3, 6-3. Warren and Scott also defeated Ethan Kohler and Westyn Hassell of Jacksonville 6-1, 6-0, and Connor Hughson and Waylon Chapman of Caldwell 6-3, 6-3.

Assistant tennis coach Kimberly Chaffin said, "This being my first year here and getting to be a part of the tennis program, I've been able to hear about all of the success and about how everyone has been getting to a point like this. To hear that school history has been made and I get to be a part of it is even more special."

Brit Campbell, assistant tennis coach, reflected on the team wins by saying, "I'm super proud of them. Going into it I told them that you're deserving of this and that they could get things done and now you've got to go and do it. I was very pleased with how they played today and how they competed. They backed each other up."

## Gatesville junior Barrett Boyd sets school record in pole vault



COURTESY PHOTO

FLYING HIGH: Barrett Boyd cleared 12 feet, 3 inches in pole vault competition recently at a track meet in Lampasas, breaking the school record in that event. Boyd won four gold medals. In addition to finishing first in the pole vault, she won the 100 and 300 meter hurdles and the high jump competition.



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# Lady Hornets still in softball playoff hunt despite losses

BY CHRIS ALLMAN  
Sports Correspondent

A pair of district losses to China Spring and Connally has left the Gatesville Lady Hornets softball team with work to do to clinch a playoff spot in 23-4A.

The Lady Hornets fell 8-7 to The Lady Cougars on Monday, then lost 13-3 to Connally on Tuesday leaving them 3-5 in league play with two games remaining.

A win in either of their final two games – at Salado and home against Waco La Vega – and two China Spring losses would lock up the No. 4 seed for Gatesville. China Spring faces district leaders Salado and Robinson in their two remaining games.

A pair of wins and two Connally losses would secure the No. 3 seed for the Lady Hornets, and a potential playoff for the No.

3 seed is also still in play between Gatesville and Connally.

The Lady Hornets' loss to China Spring was a makeup game that was postponed due to inclement weather on April 7 and was a back-and-forth battle – particularly in the middle innings.

China Spring scored once in the top of the second inning to take a 1-0 lead but Gatesville responded with three runs in the bottom of the second to take a 3-1 edge. It was short-lived as the Lady Cougars snatched the lead back with a three-run top of the third inning.

Down 4-3 in the bottom of the third the Lady Hornets struck again for three runs and a 6-4 lead. Kagen Hunt and Ibet Carmona drew a pair of walks and Hunt scored on an error to make it 4-4. Lauren Stuard drove

in courtesy runner Aliyah Trotter and Kallie Featherston with a single to center field to give Gatesville the 6-4 lead.

China Spring came back with two runs in the fourth, one in the fifth, and one in the top of the seventh to take an 8-6 lead into Gatesville's final at-bat.

After a strikeout, the Lady Hornets ripped off three straight singles from Carmona, Featherston and Stuard. Grace Carothers then laced a sacrifice fly to score Carmona to make it 8-7, but the ensuing throw to third was there in time to double off the runner and end the game.

Stuard and Kinlee Gardner each had two hits while Hunt walked three times and scored two runs. Featherston scored twice and stole a base.

In the loss to Connally, the Lady Hornets

led 2-0 after their half of the first inning but would score just one more run along the way.

Kinlee Gardner and Brinlee Ford led the Lady Hornets' offense with two hits apiece while Hunt drove in two runs. Lauren Stuard had Gatesville's other RBI in the top of the third.

Gatesville traveled to Salado on Friday and will wrap the regular season at home against La Vega on April 18. A playoff berth for Gatesville would likely mean a first-round matchup with the 24-4A champion or runner-up. Through April 12, Burnet led the district with Georgetown Gateway Prep in second place. The Lady Hornets defeated Gateway Prep 3-2 on Feb. 16.

# Gatesville notches its first district baseball win against Connally

BY CHRIS ALLMAN  
Sports Correspondent

Bralen Veazey and Aydan Necessary combined for a one-hit pitching performance and Gatesville racked up 13 hits en route to a 20-1 baseball victory over Waco Connally Tuesday.

The win snapped a four-game losing streak and inches the Hornets closer to a playoff berth for the second time in three seasons. The Hornets fell 7-3 to Class 4A No. 4-ranked China Spring on Monday – a game that was postponed on April 6 due to severe weather.

Against the Cadets, the Hornets scored two runs in the first inning, two in the second then combined for 16 runs over the final two innings. Lawson Mooney, Banner Allman, and Brady James combined to go 6 for 10 with eight RBI and seven runs scored from the top three spots in the lineup. Mooney also stole three bases.

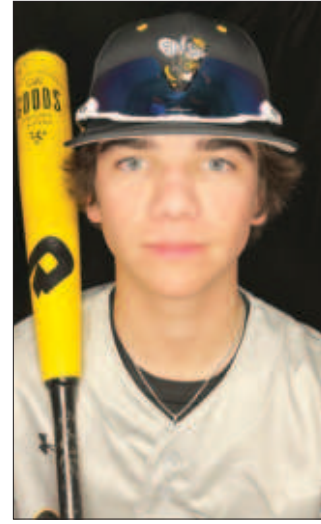
Justin Johnson had two hits and scored twice while William Crozier had a single, two RBI, and scored a run. In all, nine different Hornets had hits and 13 scored at least one run.



Justin Johnson



Lawson Mooney



Aydan Necessary



Banner Allman



William Crozier

"We hit some balls hard tonight and I hope it can build confidence in some guys that have been working hard and deserve to see that come through with some good hits," said head coach Chase Smith.

Veazey was his usual self as he struck out nine hitters, walked one, and allowed just one single. The junior lefty got the win but handed the ball to Necessary to start the fifth and finish the game.

Necessary, a senior who has missed two full seasons

of baseball due to knee injuries suffered in football, retired all three hitters he faced. After a lineout to start the inning, he got a pair of strikeouts to end the game and set off a celebration at the pitcher's mound that's rarely seen in 20-1 games.

"The positive energy coming from the dugout and the guys was really nice to see and getting to see Aydan get in to pitch made it even more special for us all," Smith said.

The Cadets had just three wins coming into the con-

test so the Hornets were heavy favorites, but Smith felt like his players did what they were supposed to do and built momentum for the home stretch of district.

"I think it was good for us in a lot of areas," Smith said. "We are really taking it a game at a time trying to get better and again play our best against some good teams to come."

The Hornets and Cougars played 1-1/2 innings on April 6 before severe weather postponed the game. It was resumed on Monday.

When it did, the Hornets grabbed a 3-1 lead in the bottom of the third.

Kason Herbelin, Mooney, and Allman all singled before James drove in Herbelin and Mooney with a single to center field. Allman scored the final run of the inning on a wild pitch.

China Spring scored five times in the top of the fourth inning to take a 6-3 lead, but freshman Gehrig Keeton took over in the fifth and allowed just two hits and one run over three innings of work.

Gatesville faced Connally on Friday night, then was scheduled to welcome Salado for a crucial series on Tuesday. A sweep or a split with Salado would bring the No. 3 playoff seed into play. Should they drop both games to Salado, sweeps of Connally and Waco La Vega will get the Hornets into the postseason as the No. 4 seed.

As the No. 4 seed, the Hornets would likely face Marble Falls, Burnet, or Jarrell out of District 24-4A.

## GISD Sports Roundup

**Girls Soccer:** GHS had 4 players named to the THSCA academic-all-state team: Lola Barron, 1st team; Grace Penrod, 2nd team; Payton Armstrong and Charlee Barron, honorable mention. The honors are based upon class rank, GPA and ACT/SAT scores. GHS had seven players named to the District 5-4A all-league team, headed by first team selection Lola Barron. Payton Armstrong, Andrea Ortiz and Bethany Penrod were named to the second team, while Raisa Leon, Allyson Penrod and Grace Penrod received honorable mention.

**Boys Soccer:** GHS had a total of 10 players named to the District 5-4A all-league team, including first team picks Angel Almendariz, Jack Armstrong and Asa Hardcastle. Hardcastle was also voted the league's Defensive Newcomer of the Year. Abraham Almendariz, Morgan Clary and Oswaldo Leon were named to the second team, while Damian Guerrero, Malachi Olvera and Hector Silva received honorable mention.

**Girls Track:** Varsity came in second at the Lampasas Badger Relays, scoring 158 points and claiming gold in six events. Barrett Boyd won four events, including a school-

record height in the pole vault. Her vault of 12'3" set a new GHS record, eclipsing the old mark of 12'1" set by Jordan Morse in 2019. Boyd cleared 5'0" for gold in the high jump, won the 100 hurdles in a time of 15.36 and was first in the 300 hurdles with a time of 48.07. Vania Martinez won the 3200 in a time of 11:42 and later took first in the 800 with a winning time of 2:29. The JV girls scored 142 points and also finished second overall. GHS competed in the District 23-4A meet April 12-13 at Waco Connally.

**Boys Track:** Varsity won its fifth meet of the season, accumulating 147 points to win the team title at the Lampasas Badger Relays. The Hornets won three events: Ashtyn Culley, 6'4" in high jump; Trent Ray, 153'5" in discus; Carlo Martinez, 4:30 in 1600 meters. JV also won its fifth meet title with a whopping 193.5 points to finish 1st overall. GHS competed in the District 23-A meet April 12-13 at Waco Connally.

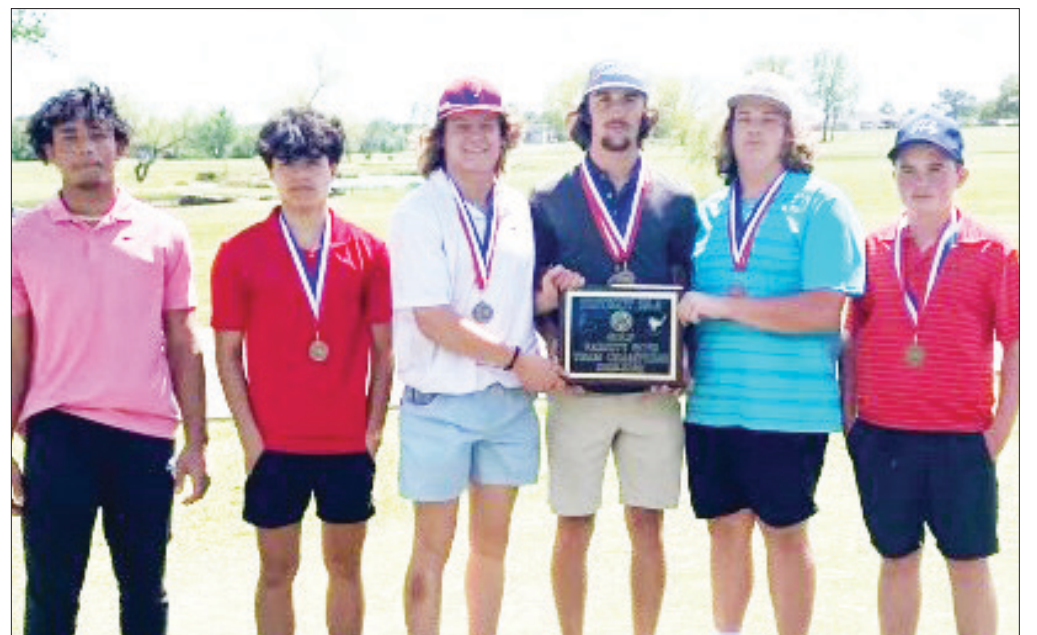
**Girls Track:** GHS scored 29 points in the field events and 3200 meters on Day 1 of the District 23-4A meet, qualifying three athletes for area competition in the process. Barrett Boyd won the pole vault (11'0"), Vania Martinez was second

in the 3200 (11:29), and Jacy Archie claimed third in the discus (98'10.5") to advance to the area meet. Other points: Boyd, fifth in high jump; Marin Segraves, fifth in pole vault; Lauren Stuard, sixth in high jump. JV scored 27 points on the first day of competition.

**Boys Track:** GHS totaled 47 points through the 3200 and field events on Day 1 of the District 23-4A meet, qualifying five athletes in six events for area competition. Carlo Martinez (9:20) won gold in the 3200, while teammate Justin Muegge (10:20) was fourth in the same race. Braden Minton was a double qualifier, taking second in the shot put (45'1") and third in the discus (135'6"), while Rayshon Smith was second in the long jump (22'0.25") and Ashtyn Culley third in the high jump (6'4") to earn area-meet berths. Other points: Culley, fifth in long jump; Trent Ray, fifth in shot put; Kyle Shafer, sixth in triple jump. JV scored 48 points on the first day of events.

**Junior High Track:** GJHS results from District 23-4A meet: Eighth grade girls were fifth with 71 points, seventh girls were sixth with 34 points, eighth boys were fifth with 68 points and seventh boys were fourth with 91 points.

# Oglesby golf wins district titles at competition in Gatesville



COURTESY PHOTOS

**TIGERS TAKE TOP PRIZES:** Oglesby High School's boys and girls golf teams both recently won the district championships in golf during competition in Gatesville. Matti Dixon was the girls individual champion while Lacie Luckie was the runner-up. Brodie Fisher won the boys championship, Hunter Walter was runner-up and H. Ewing won third place.

## Area Fishing Report

### Lake Belton

GOOD. Water lightly stained; 63 degrees; 14.33 feet below pool. White bass fishing is excellent and will continue to improve as weather warms and stabilizes. The most productive tactic this week has been using the sawtooth method with either MAL Heavy or MAL Dense lures with chartreuse tails,

tossing them out, letting them fall to bottom, and working them back by cranking 8-9 times and letting them fall again. This horizontal tactic is easily outfishing vertical tactics by 4 to 1. The annual threadfin shad spawn is poised to come on strong with just a bit more warm, stable weather. This will create an intense, albeit brief, shallow water bite right

at first light.

Blue catfish are fair drifting shallow flats for catches up to 10 pounds. Larger blues and flatheads have been good in 2-5 feet of water. Fresh gizzard shad or carp has worked best. Channel catfish have been good on prepared baits in shallow muddy water.



# Mountain View Unit held graduation for STRIVE program

## Staff Reports

April is Second Chance Month, and the Texas Department of Criminal Justice is committed to guiding these incarcerated individuals onto the right path to be released back into society. They will have an opportunity to earn industry credentials and skills through education and on-the-job training programs.

On Friday, March 31 of this year, President Joe Biden proclaimed April as Second Chance Month and called for observance of the month with programs, ceremonies, and activities.

The Mountain View Unit provides the STRIVE program for incarcerated individuals to prepare for life upon their release and reentry into society. In the past week, 26 individuals from the twentieth cohort gradu-

ated from the program. The ceremony commenced with the nation's colors being presented by the Mountain View S.T.A.R.S. Woman Veteran's Color Guard and the singing of the National Anthem.

During the ceremony, Regan Sayan, graduate and class speaker, was treated to a surprise guest, her mother, who was a graduate of the fifth cohort.

Afterward, Patrick O'Daniel, Chairman on the Texas Board of Criminal Justice, shared words of encouragement during his keynote speech, as well as visiting with staff members. He also met with the Veterans Program, Peer Recovery and Life Coaches, Death Row, and other women within the facility.

The Mountain View Unit can be contacted at 254-865-7226.



COURTESY PHOTO

**SECOND CHANCE:** 26 incarcerated women from the twentieth cohort recently graduated from the Mountain View Unit's STRIVE program. The program was created to help prepare those incarcerated for life upon their release and reentry into society.

# Righteous Roots to host community spelling bee April 29

## Staff Reports

A spelling bee will be hosted by Righteous Roots for the community's youth on Saturday, April 29. The event will begin at 1 p.m. at

the Gatesville High School auditorium and is open to second grade through eighth grade. The times during the event are to be determined based on the number of participants.

General admission is \$10 per person. There is no cost for the participants to sign up. The link to the registration can be found on the Righteous Roots Facebook page.

There will be a list of spelling words and rules sent to the email address attached to the registration form.

At the end of the spelling bee when there are only two spellers left, if one speller

misspells that word, the other speller must spell that word correctly, plus one more word to be declared the winner.

For more information contact Candi Garvin by email at

cgarvin@gatesvilleisd.org. Gatesville High School is located at 205 South Lovers Lane.

# Gatesville Education Foundation to present Ties and Tiaras

## Staff Reports

The Gatesville Education Foundation will hold its Ties and Tiaras Daddy-Daughter Dance on Saturday, April 22 at the Gatesville Civic Center. For some, fathers may be uncles, grandfathers, etc.

Students who plan on attending the dance must be a current Gatesville Independent School District student.

There will be a live DJ, a photo booth, dancing, food, and more.

The Pre-K through first

grade dance will take place from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The second grade through fourth grade dance will be from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The fifth grade and sixth grade dance will take place from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

If you have daughters in multiple time slots, choose the best time that works for the family.

Tickets will cost \$25 for a dad and daughter; it will be an extra \$5 for each additional daughter.

The deadline to purchase tickets early online was Tuesday, April 11, but can still be bought the day of the dance at the door before entering. This will be with cash or check only.

All proceeds will go to

the Gatesville ISD Education Foundation.

The Gatesville Civic Center is located at 301 Veterans Memorial Loop. For more information on the dance call the Gatesville Education Foundation at 254-865-7251.

# Applications now accepted for Head Start

## Staff Reports

Head Start is now accepting applications for the 2023-2024 school year. Head Start provides quality childcare for children ages three to five years old, and other needed services for qualifying families at no cost.

The services that are offered at Head Start are educational activities, child development, family engagement, language and literacy, health and nutrition services, services through community partnerships, and special services for children with disabilities.

Visit your local Head Start center to pick up an application or visit the website [www.hccaa.com](http://www.hccaa.com). Head Start is located at 1105 Saunders Street in Gatesville. For more information contact 254-865-5423.

# Diamond Divas softball team sets April 29 crawfish fundraiser

## Staff Reports

The Diamond Divas 12u traveling softball team will hold a crawfish boil fundraiser in the Mico Feed parking lot on Saturday, April 29. The fundraiser will begin at 11 a.m. and will continue until it is sold out.

The crawfish will be \$20 for a 2-pound plate, and the cost for extra crawfish will be \$8 per pound with the purchase of a plate.

Pre-orders are available from now until Tuesday, April 25. Contact a player to begin your pre-order.

The Venmo for the team is at CTXDiamondDivas2k10.

For more information contact the team by email at [ctx.DiamondDivas2K10](mailto:ctx.DiamondDivas2K10). Mico Feed is located at 2409 TX-36 BUS in Gatesville.

## BOOK REVIEW

# 'Untold Story': Don't miss surprising behind-the-scenes tale of Edith Wilson



BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

Terri Schlichenmeyer writes book reviews for over 220 Newspapers and magazines around the U.S. and Canada.

**B**ehind every great man, they say, is an even greater woman.

You might not see her but she's there, cajoling and nudging to keep things on track. She's part helpmate, partner, co-conspirator, and ally, making him shine but not always expecting her own glitter. Sometimes, she leads. Sometimes, she pulls. And in the new book "Untold Power" by Rebecca Boggs Roberts, sometimes, she runs the country.

Born after the Civil War was over, Edith Bolling decided early in life that she didn't "have the childhood she thought she deserved." Though her parents had once been well-to-do, the War "upended her family's wealth and social status" and Edith never forgot that.

Growing up, she was fiercely independent but she could be snobbish. She "always claimed she didn't want to marry," so she surprised everyone when, in 1896, she wed jeweler Norman Galt who, Roberts says, was a "fusspot" and not at all Edith's type. Still, theirs was a good marriage, until Galt died of the flu in 1908.

For a number of years then, Edith traveled back and forth to Europe and had many beaux but none was as persistent as then-President Woodrow Wilson, himself a widower. Wilson overcame Edith's reluctance to wed again with passionate letters and, moreover, by encouraging her to be his helpmate

in policy-making and paperwork.

That was something Edith could understand.

By the time they were married in late 1915, "Woodrow," says Roberts, "had come to rely on Edith as much as, if not more, than any man in the administration."

This was essential to him as America headed for war with Germany, despite his wish to avoid entanglement. Even after World War I ended, the pressure on Wilson was enormous and he fell ill. In the fall of 1919, after the war's end, he suffered a debilitating stroke and Edith swung into action. She conspired to issue a statement that he would be back on his feet soon.

In the meantime, she decided, she'd do his work and "pretend everything was fine."

So you say it's about time we had a woman in the Oval Office? Give a woman a chance, right? In "Untold Power," you'll see how that's more-or-less already in the bag.

Oh, my, but a book like this is fun to read, and here's why: readers will scarcely be able to imagine anything like what happened more than a century ago, happening now. We're too savvy, too 24/7, too demanding for a First Lady to pull off such a thing, which just leaves us to marvel at and appreciate Edith

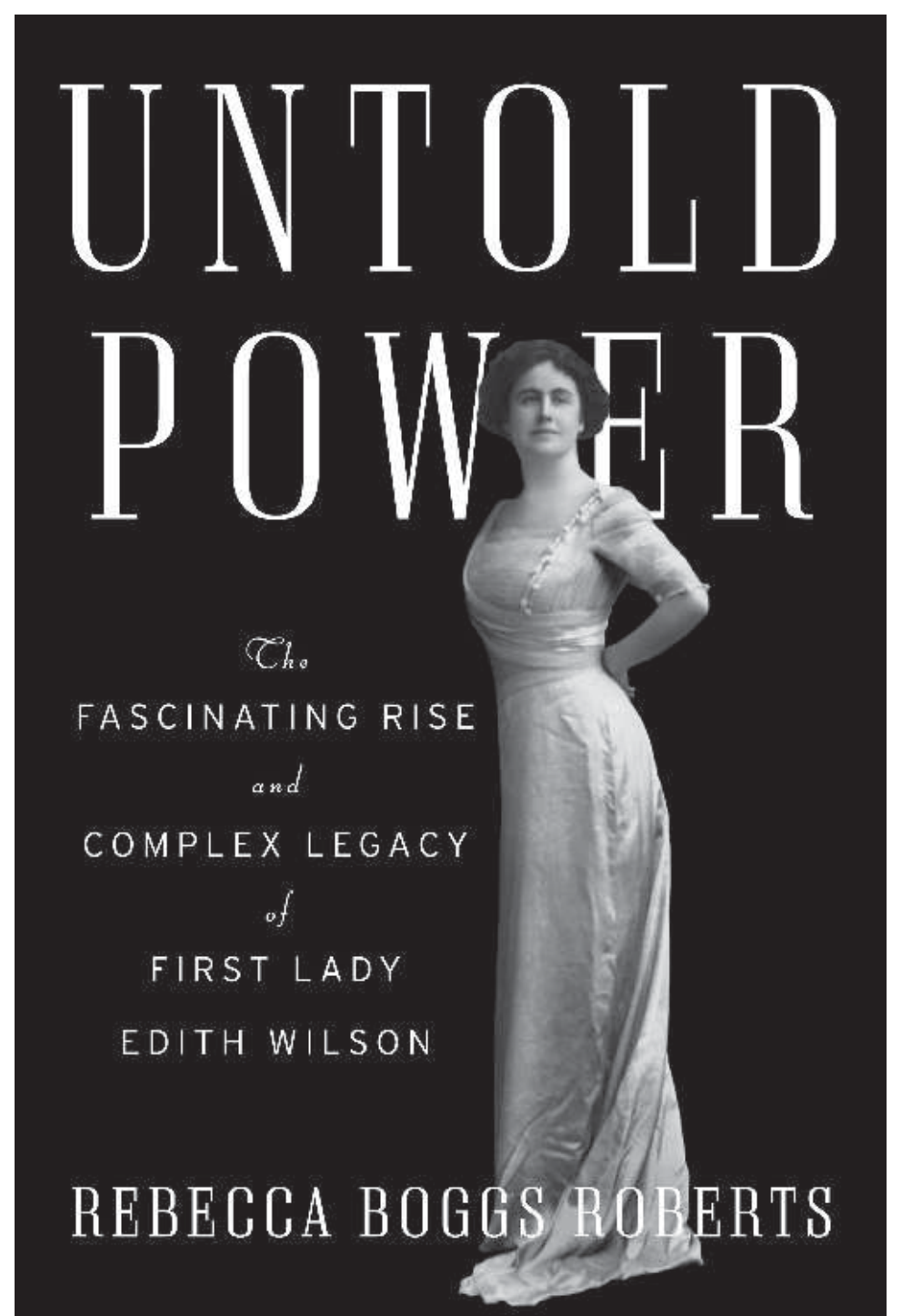
Wilson's determination, guts, and her audacity.

Author Rebecca Boggs Roberts does a perfect job showing readers how Wilson came by these qualities, and why her tale's been a

hidden-in-plain-sight story for so long. That might make you wonder what other silent stories lurk in the corners of history.

There are lots of them, and this is one you

shouldn't miss - especially if you love women's history with spirit. If that's you, then you'll find "Untold Power" to be pretty great.



**'Untold Power: The Fascinating Rise and Complex Legacy of First Lady Edith Wilson'** by Rebecca Boggs Roberts c.2023, Viking . \$30.00. 320 pages.



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Steven L. Bogan, pastor; Hwy. 84 & FM 116; Sunday Bible study 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.  
**CANAAN**  
Jim Keever, senior pastor; 177 Coryell City Road, Crawford; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday worship 10:30 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.  
**COLD SPRINGS**  
Bob Phillips, pastor; Sundays - Sunday School 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.  
**EASTWOOD**  
Lynn Parks, pastor; 2518 East Main, Gatesville; Sundays - Sunday School 9:45 a.m., worship 10:50 a.m. & 6 p.m.  
**FIRST BAPTIST EVANT**  
Dane Barron, pastor; 200 Live Oak Street, Evant; Sundays - Sunday School 9:45 a.m., worship 11 a.m., adult Bible study 6 p.m.; Wednesday services - kids' & youth Bible study 6 p.m.  
**FIRST BAPTIST FLAT**  
9775 TX-36, Gatesville; Sunday School 9 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.; Wednesdays - Prayer & Bible Study 7 p.m.; Youth Group & Kid Knights 7 p.m.; Supper first Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m.; Men's Breakfast second Saturday of each month at 7:30 a.m.  
**FIRST BAPTIST GATESVILLE**  
912 E. Main St.; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., morning worship 10:45 a.m.  
**FIRST BAPTIST OGLESBY**  
Jeremy Sanders, Pastor; 120 College Ave.; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 am; Wednesdays - supper at 5:40 p.m., Kids & Youth Group 6 p.m., Prayer meeting 6 p.m.  
**FIRST BAPTIST PURMELA**  
875 FM 932, Purmela; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.  
**GATEWAY**  
Michael Bragdon, Pastor; 2819 S. Hwy. 36, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.; Wednesday Service 7 p.m.  
**HARMONY**  
A.C. Painter, pastor; 1750 FM 215, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday evening worship 6:30 p.m.  
**HAY VALLEY**  
3110 Hay Valley Road; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. AWANA children's ministry Sundays 5-7 p.m. Bible Study for men & women on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.  
**JONESBORO**  
Matt Dossey, pastor; 11420 N. State Hwy. S; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 10:50 a.m.  
**KING**  
Charles W. McKamie, pastor; 6730 FM 1783, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.  
**LIBERTY**  
Royce T. Cockrell, DMin., Pastor; Corner of FM 107 & HWY 36, Gatesville; Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Sunday Service 11 a.m. & 1 p.m., Family Bible Study Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.  
**LIVE OAK**  
David Crosby, Interim Pastor; 113 FM 107, Gatesville; Sunday School 9:15 a.m., Sunday worship 10:30 a.m., Wednesday evening Youth & Children's Bible Study 6 p.m.

**MOUNTAIN**  
Rev. Kurt Fuessel, pastor; 6319 US-84, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. Prayer meeting 7 p.m. Wednesday.  
**OSAGE**  
Chris Thomas, pastor; 7505 FM 185, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.  
**PEARL COUNTRY CHURCH**  
2082 FM 1690, Gatesville; Sunday worship 10 a.m.  
**PECAN GROVE**  
6545 FM 107, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.  
**PIDCOKE**  
Donald McConaughay, pastor; 11125 FM 116, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday service 11 a.m.  
**PLEASANT VALLEY**  
Chris Post, Pastor; CR 301, Jonesboro; Sunday school 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.  
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Jon Crosby, Pastor; 8120 FM 182, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m., Wednesday night Bible study, 6 p.m.  
**WESTVIEW**  
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**WHITE HALL**  
Mike Barron, pastor; 2040 CR 238, Gatesville; Sunday school 10 a.m.; Sunday worship 11 a.m.; 254-679-3200.  
**WHITE MOUND**  
Bruce Cox, pastor; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.; 642 CR 320; mailing address: P.O. Box 103, Mound, TX 76558.  
**MOUND COWBOY CHURCH**  
Bruce Cox, pastor; Sunday worship 9 a.m., Sunday school 9:30 a.m. Men's breakfast every third Saturday at 8 a.m. Inside: 3075 FM 931, outside: 2000 CR 321. Mailing address: P.O. Box 103, Mound, TX 76558. For more info. & location, call 254-865-5908.  
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**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
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Deral McWhorter, minister; 104 Cedar Ridge, Gatesville; Sunday worship 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.  
**EVANT**  
Will Vann, Preacher; 310 W. Brooks Dr., Evant; Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday worship 10:20 a.m. & 12:30 p.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.  
**FORT GATES**  
4605 St. Hwy. 36 S., Gatesville; Sunday worship

10:30 a.m.  
**GATESVILLE**  
Justin Hall, minister; 2417 E. Main, Gatesville; Sunday Bible class 9:30 a.m., Sunday service 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Bible classes 6:30 p.m.  
**LA IGLESIA DE CRISTO**  
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**PEARL**  
6790 FM 183; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.  
**CHURCH OF GOD**  
**CORNERSTONE**  
Greg Demmitt, pastor; 338 State School Rd., Gatesville; Sunday worship 11 a.m.  
**LUTHERAN**  
**IMMANUEL**  
David Reedy, International Interim Pastor; 922 Lutheran Church Rd., Copperas Cove; Sunday Bible Study 9:15 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.  
**ST. JOHN**  
Rev. Christopher Richman, PhD; 10801 FM 929, Coryell City; Sunday worship 9 a.m., Sunday School 10:15 a.m.  
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**GRACE BIBLE**  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday services 10:45 a.m.; 4012 US Hwy. 84, Gatesville.  
**HARVESTING SOULS INTERNATIONAL**  
Mike & Martha Johnson pastors, 503 N. 11th St., Gatesville; 865-6222. Sunday worship 11 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study Ministries (Men, Women, children) 6 p.m. "Overcomers" a TDC & state approved 12-step recovery program meets Tuesday 6 p.m.  
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Peter M. Mafwal, Pastor; 4460 FM 930, Levita; Sunday Bible Study 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:45 a.m.  
**MOTHER NEFF FAITH TABERNACLE**  
William Bertelsen, Pastor; 1415 Texas Hwy. 236; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.  
**PEARL COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP**  
6735 FM 183, Pearl; Sunday Services 9 a.m.  
**THE HOUSE THAT GOD BUILT**  
Bill Trotter, pastor; 3412 E. Main St., Gatesville; Sunday service 11 a.m., Wednesday service 7 p.m.  
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Rev. Jimmy Skiles, pastor; 202 E. Main, Gatesville; Sundays 10 a.m.; Wednesdays 7 p.m.; 254-206-1826.  
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Max Gunn, pastor; 254-216-1537; 10 miles west of Gatesville on HWY 84; Sundays 10:30 a.m.; Wednesdays 7 p.m.; Youth Sunday Service 9:45 a.m.  
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## GJH CHOIR COMPETES IN UIL



COURTESY PHOTOS

Recently the Gatesville Junior High School Choir competed in UIL Concert and Sight Reading. This was the first time the majority of the students had been to a UIL competition and the first time GJH had three choirs at the same time participating in UIL in over a decade. The UIL results for the Gatesville Junior High Choir included 3rd Period NV Girls: Excellent in concert, Excellent in sight reading; 8th Period NV Boys: Superior in concert, Excellent in sight reading; and 4th Period Var Girls: Superior in concert, Excellent in sight reading.

## Stingettes Dance Crew Training Camp April 29

### Staff Reports

Gatesville Junior High School's Stingettes Dance Crew Training Camp is scheduled for Saturday, April 29 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the junior high school in the new gym. The training camp is open to all incoming seventh and eighth grade students for the 2023-2024 school year.

There will be a question-and-answer meeting after the training camp.

The cost for the training camp will be \$50 per person and includes a T-shirt and the opportunity to perform at a junior high pep rally.

Registration forms will be available at Gatesville Junior High and Gatesville Intermediate School within the week.

Gatesville Junior High School is located at 307 South Lovers Lane.

For more information, email Helen Gonzales at hgonzale@gatesvilleisd.org.

## Gatesville Junior High announces cheer teams

### Staff Reports

Gatesville Junior High School recently announced its seventh and eighth grade cheer teams for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year.

The seventh-grade cheer team includes Tenley Winkler, Aidan Doss, Allie Powell, Callie Sheets, Brooke Perez, Bobbi Tubbs, Malorie Renner, and Ashlin Disenens.

The eighth-grade cheer team includes Kynlee Mangum, Lila Long, Lillie Mann, Lila Ayers, Casey Comstock, Bracy Wise, Adalyn Shelton, Callie Smith, Leanna McCauley, Jaelie Bajovich, Emmalee Pearce, and Maria Martinez.

The mascots will be Kylee Davenport and Braylynn Fritze.

GJHS is located at 307 S. Lovers Lane.

## SUDOKU

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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| 3 |   |   | 1 | 8 |   |   | 4 |   |

Puzzle by websudoku.com

### Last week's puzzle solution

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

## CONGRATULATIONS GHS TENNIS & GOOD LUCK AT STATE, ALEX, TY AND SLOAN!



Texas UIL State Tennis Tournament  
April 25 & 26 in San Antonio.

The qualifiers are Alex Scott and Ty Warren who won the regional boys doubles and Sloane Early who won the regional championship in boys' singles. This will be the first time in school history GHS will take more than one division to state in tournament tennis!

## GOOD LUCK TO THE GHS GIRLS AND BOYS GOLF TEAMS!



GHS will have a boy's team entry and girl's medalist competing in the

4A Region III Golf Tournament

Girls will play April 17-18

Boys will play April 19-20

At Bearkat Country Club  
in Huntsville

The top 3 teams and top 3 medalists (not on a qualifying team) will advance to state competition.

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# TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

## Bridges' no-hitter leads to sweep of California Baptist

### Tarleton Sports Information

STEPHENVILLE — No-no, no-no. Yes, the Texans have done it now twice this season.

Entering this season, there had been eight no-hitters thrown in Tarleton State University's softball program history. On Friday, March 31, Tristan Bridges tossed the Texans' second of the year and 10th all-time for the purple and white, as she no-hit the California Baptist Lancers in the first game of the conference doubleheader.

It was just the third Tarleton no-hitter thrown in a game that lasted the full seven innings, joining Jordan Withrow's gem in 2020 and Heather Russell's complete game-performance in 1998. "I'm so happy for Tristan," TSU head coach Mark Cumpian said. "She has been a big part of our program for five years and to see her finally complete a no-hitter after coming close a few times is incredible. She's such a hard worker and I'm thrilled for her achievement."

Bridges led Tarleton to a 2-0 victory in Game 1 with her masterful performance, pitching 7 innings with no runs and no hits — allowing just three baserunners the entire game, two on hit batters and one on an error.

The error was a blip in an otherwise incredible showing by the defensive performers behind her, who recorded all 21 outs, as Bridges pitched the first no-hitter in program history that didn't include a strikeout.

Bridges and Grace Garcia, who threw a perfect game on Feb. 19 against Texas A&M-Commerce, have teamed up for Tarleton's fourth single-season in program history that featured two no-no's. Of course, these were the first in Tarleton's NCAA Division I era.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TSU

**Pitcher Tristan Bridges flashes a bright smile after her no-hitter on March 31 in Tarleton State University's 2-0 home softball victory over California Baptist University. Bridges' teammates made all 21 outs in the seven-inning contest, making it the first no-hitter in TSU softball history that didn't include a strikeout. Teammate Grace Garcia threw a perfect game for a Feb. 19 win over Texas A&M-Commerce, making those two gems the first in Tarleton's brief NCAA Division I softball history.**

### TARLETON 2, CALIFORNIA BAPTIST 0

To open the Friday night doubleheader between Western Athletic Conference opponents, Tarleton struck in the first inning, which would be the only run they'd need behind Bridges' no-hitter.

After the senior set the Lancers down in order to start the game, Kayla Wallace singled home Kelci Hill to give the Texans a quick 1-0 lead.

CBU had hitters plunked in the second and third innings, which was no problem for Bridges to manage, quickly ending each minor threat to keep Tarleton ahead. In the bottom half of the third, Morgan Medford walked, then Austin Germain doubled to put runners on second and third. Katy Schaefer then hit a grounder to third, but everyone was safe as

Medford beat the throw at the plate to make it 2-0.

The next 15 batters in the game after that were sent packing, quickly putting the game into the sixth inning. In the bottom half, the Texans loaded the bases to potentially burst the game open, but their pinch hitter struck out to keep it a two-run game.

Tarleton had four hits (Hill, Germain, Schaefer and Wallace) and four walks (Medford, Germain, Brady Rowland and Jordan Dickerson).

### CALIFORNIA BAPTIST 13, TARLETON 2 (5 INNINGS)

In the second game, the Lancers' bats woke up, going from no hits to 18 — the most Tarleton has allowed in a game all season by four. The Lancers outthit the Texans 18-2, scoring eight in the fourth inning to put the

game away.

With a no-hitter still fresh on everyone's minds, CBU got its first hit of the day in their second at-bat of Game 2. Tarleton starting pitcher Garcia moved past it though to keep the Lancers without a run through the first eight innings played Friday.

CBU scored its first run in the second inning, which Tarleton quickly matched. Wallace hit one off the wall for a triple, and scored on a Tristyn Trull sacrifice fly in the next plate appearance.

The Lancers scored two more in the third to take a 3-1 lead, then opened the fourth with a home run and a single to end Garcia's day. The Texan senior was charged with five earned runs on eight hits in 3.0 IP, striking out two.

In the bottom of the fourth, Schaefer hit her team-leading fourth home

run of the season and her second in four games, a solo shot.

### CALIFORNIA BAPTIST 6, TARLETON 5

Game three of the series (Sunday, April 1) was a thriller from start to finish, but three unanswered runs from CBU over the final two innings cost Tarleton the game and the series. The Lancers won the finale, 6-5.

Tarleton struck first when Kelci Hill ripped an RBI single up the middle to score Morgan Medford from second. After a shutdown inning from Tristan Bridges, the Texans tacked on two more in the second on a squeeze bunt single from MacKenzie Peterson and a double steal that put the Texans on top 3-0.

CBU answered with three in the third on a two-run home run and an RBI triple

to reset the score at 3-3.

Two innings later, Hill and Katy Schaefer led off the inning with singles before Tristyn Trull crushed a two-run double down the left field line to put the Texans back on top 5-3.

Once again, the long ball helped the Lancers, as they tied the game with a two-run shot. Tarleton had its chance in the bottom of the sixth with back-to-back singles from Kayla Wallace and Medford but couldn't capitalize.

Tarleton pounded out 12 base hits in the game with Wallace sparking the offense in the leadoff spot, going 3-for-4. Medford, Hill, and Trull each had two hits while Peterson, Schaefer and Rowland had one each. Tristan Bridges went the distance pitching, and took the loss.

## Texans suffer baseball series sweep at UTRGV Stadium



### Tarleton Sports Information

EDINBURG — Tarleton State University fought to stave off a series sweep at UTRGV Baseball Stadium on Sunday afternoon, April 2, but the Vaqueros ended the game on a walk-off solo home run in the ninth inning to take the game 9-8 and complete the sweep over the Texans.

**Tarleton State University finished its baseball series against UTRGV on April 2, but the Vaqueros managed a 9-8 victory to secure a sweep over the Texans. Pictured is Kooper Shook, a TSU junior outfielder from Breckenridge.**

PHOTO COURTESY OF TSU

The Texans (14-11, 1-6 WAC) outthit the Vaqueros for a second consecutive game and were clean defensively, making no errors. UTRGV (15-12, 6-6 WAC) managed timely hits and kept the Texan pitching staff on its heels all game. Tarleton had four runners thrown out on the base paths, two caught stealing and two picked off.

The sixth inning presented the most action on the afternoon as the two teams combined for 11 runs total. Tarleton entered the inning trailing 3-2 and left it with an 8-3 lead.

The first run of the sixth inning for Tarleton came as Dylan Kurahashi-Choy Foo walked with the bases loaded to score Trace Morrison — a sophomore outfielder out of Stephenville High

School — tying the game at three. Mason Hammonds continued to be a key cog in the Texan offense as his two-run double to left field gave Tarleton a 5-3 lead. In the next at-bat, Edinburg native Jaime Perez launched a ball over the left field fence for a three-run home run, his second of the season. It gave Tarleton an 8-3 lead.

The lead was erased by UTRGV in the bottom half of the sixth, as they countered with five runs of their own, tying the game at eight.

The seventh and eighth innings were scoreless for both teams. Tarleton pinch runner Tyson Drake advanced to third base in the top of the ninth, but the Texans were unable to hit him in with two outs.

UTRGV came to bat in the ninth and the first batter,

Kade York, hit a solo home run to left field on the fourth pitch he saw to end the game.

Zane Badmaev (L, 0-1) was the pitcher of record for Tarleton. He tossed an inning, allowing the winning run on two hits.

Offensively, Hammonds and Perez paced the Texans. Hammonds finished with three hits and two RBI. Perez had two hits, three RBI and two runs scored. Cris Enriquez and Alec Williams each added two hits and an RBI apiece.

All five Texan pitchers who made an appearance allowed a run. Peyton Hutson earned the start, his first as a Texan. He threw 2 innings, allowing three runs on two hits. He struck out three and walked three.

## TSU relay teams set two school records competing at Texas Relays

### Tarleton Sports Information

AUSTIN — Tarleton State University track and field made history at the Texas Relays on Saturday, April 1 as the Texans broke two relay school records.

The first record broken was the 4x100-meter relay. The four student-athletes who

broke the record were Justin Raines, Reid Vincent, Everett Sadler, and David Mvundura. They combined for a time of 40.33 seconds, breaking the previous record of 40.42 seconds, which was set in 2002.

The second record broken was TSU's distance medley relay. The record was broken

by Angel Contreras, Brandon McKissick, Bailey Smotek, and Kevin Baez. Contreras started the relay with the 1,200-meter segment and ran it in a time of 3:02.30. He passed the baton to McKissick who ran the 400m leg in a time of 47.58 seconds. McKissick passed the baton to Smotek and ran

his 800-meter leg in 1:50.85. Baez finished the final leg in the 1,600-meters with a time of 4:10.82 for a total record-breaking time of 9:53.54.

### OTHER NOTABLE FINISHES

Konnor Hoerman ran a season best in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 14.22

seconds.

Hanna Dudley and Danielle Thomas both competed in the 100-meter event. Dudley ran a time of 11.68 seconds, while Thomas had a time of 12.06 seconds.

Both Sadler and Mvundura also ran in the 100-meter event. Sadler recorded a

time 10.34 seconds, while Mvundura ran a time of 10.77 seconds.

Gabriele Tosti recorded a distance of 15.46 meters in the triple jump event.

Brady Sisneroz competed in the 400-meter hurdles and recorded a time of 55.86 seconds.



# EASTER EGG HUNT AT FIRST METHODIST CHURCH, GATESVILLE



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

With rain on the forecast, it was decided at the last minute to move the annual Easter Egg Hunt at the First Methodist Church indoors. Parents and their children were treated to refreshments in the Banquet Hall while church members began the task of hiding eggs inside the church. The gym was used for the Pre-K children, while the sanctuary was used for the elementary age children, and the Sunday School rooms were used for the older children. The hunters were thrilled with the appearance of the "Easter Bunny" who encouraged them and helped search for eggs.

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| F | G | H | I | J |
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| K | L | M | N | O |
|   |   |   |   |   |
| P | Q | R | S | T |
|   |   |   |   |   |
| U | V | W | X | Y |
|   |   |   |   |   |
| Z |   |   |   |   |

### American Sign Language

American Sign Language or ASL is a language for people who can't hear. It was developed over 200 years ago by Thomas Gallaudet at the American School for the Deaf.

It is estimated that between 250,000 and 500,000 people use ASL to communicate.

**Can you spell your name in ASL using the chart to the left? Try it!**

**What other words can you spell?**



There are many reasons a person may not be able to hear. The most important thing to remember is to treat the person with respect while trying to communicate with them.



A statue of Thomas Gallaudet and Alice Cogswell. Gallaudet founded the American School for the Deaf on April 15, 1817. Alice was his first student and inspired him to create American Sign Language.

### American Sign Language

Words can be found in any direction (including diagonals) and can overlap each other. Use the word bank below.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | W | X | G | C | U | P | T | L | A |
| S | A | O | I | S | W | X | O | W | H |
| L | L | F | A | E | D | O | N | F | E |
| L | E | A | J | X | H | G | R | T | A |
| E | K | K | N | C | R | R | A | J | R |
| P | S | J | S | G | T | C | E | X | I |
| S | Y | H | N | K | U | G | L | Q | N |
| V | F | A | A | G | L | A | R | I | G |
| U | Y | Q | Z | R | I | A | G | C | F |
| F | V | T | A | L | E | S | T | E | B |

sign  
language  
deaf

hearing  
school  
talk

spell  
share  
learn



## Children's Speech, Occupational, and Physical Therapy Services



Local Gatesville Clinic • 4723 E. Hwy 84 Gatesville, TX 76528  
Request an appointment: (254) 399-8255 • elitetherapycenter.org



## BONNETS IN BLOOM PHOTO CONTEST WINNER - WEEK 2



COURTESY OF CHUCK BASS

Congratulations to The Gatesville Messenger's Bonnets in Bloom week 2 Bluebonnet photo contest winner, Chuck Bass. This photo, taken in Cedar Park, is a stark contrast to the week 1 winning photo. Chuck will receive a free one-year subscription to The Gatesville Messenger and a Bluebonnet contest t-shirt!

## Enter for a chance to win

The Gatesville Messenger has already had over 80 photos submitted for our Bonnets in Bloom bluebonnet photo contest. We would like to give special thanks to our sponsor, Barrett Haines of Re/Max Roy.

To enter for the grand prize of \$100, a one-year subscription to The Messenger and a 'Bonnets in Bloom' t-shirt, visit [www.gatesvillemessenger.com](http://www.gatesvillemessenger.com) and select photo galleries under the multimedia tab or scan the QR code below.



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Presents the **FIRST ANNUAL BLUEBONNET PHOTO CONTEST** 2023

**Bonnets in Bloom**

**MARCH 20 - APRIL 24**

WINNERS SELECTED WEEKLY

**GRAND PRIZE WINNER\*** receives

- \$100 Cash Prize
- Bluebonnet T-Shirt
- Year long subscription to The Gatesville Messenger
- Submitted photo on front page of the newspaper!

\*announced on April 24

All submitted photos to be featured on the Gatesville website with winners chosen every Monday! Weekly winners will receive a Bluebonnet T-Shirt, their photo featured on Gatesville social media, and a free subscription to the newspaper!

Scan the QR code to submit your photos today!

## BONNETS IN BLOOM PHOTO CONTEST WINNER - WEEK 3



COURTESY OF DOMINIQUE GRIEGO

Congratulations to The Gatesville Messenger's Bonnets in Bloom week 3 winner, Dominique Griego. This gorgeous photo was taken in Oglesby. Apparently, Oglesby has as much talent as it has beautiful landscapes because all three winners selected thus far have resided there. Dominique will receive a free one-year subscription to The Gatesville Messenger and a Bluebonnet contest t-shirt!