



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

SATURDAY | Aug. 5, 2023

Fatal stabbing investigated, Page A4

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SERVING CORYELL COUNTY SINCE 1881 | VOLUME 121, No. 37, ISSN No. 0894-4954

Preparing for the great eclipse of '24

City plans for influx of visitors

BY JEFF OSBORNE
Senior Writer & Editor

When a solar eclipse darkens the sky over Gatesville and much of Central Texas for more than four minutes on April 8, 2024, thousands of people are expected to pour into the area to view the rare event, and the city of Gatesville is preparing for it.

Cheri Shepherd, who was hired as the city's special events coordinator, is helping to oversee plans to make the influx of visitors go as smoothly as possible, and also to make the event as beneficial as possible for both visitors and local residents.

"This is going to be a pretty big deal," Shepherd told the Gatesville City Council. "In 1979, there was a total eclipse over the U.S., and in 2017 an eclipse affected other parts of the country. After 2024, it will be another 20 years before another eclipse passes over the U.S."

Gatesville is identified as a prime viewing area for the eclipse, which will not be visible in many parts of the state, including the Houston area. That means many of those located outside the eclipse zone will flock to areas in which

PLEASE SEE **ECLIPSE 1** | A4



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER
Miranda Allison wears one of the T-shirts and stands next to eclipse merchandise available at Vintage Royalty.

GISD looks at opportunities

BY JEFF OSBORNE
Senior Writer & Editor

While McKamey Stadium is best known for hosting Gatesville Independent School District sporting events, it will have a chance to host a rare occurrence on April 8, 2024, as a total eclipse blankets the area.

"Central Texas is one of the best places as far as seeing the eclipse in all its grandeur," said GISD Superintendent Barrett Pollard. "I would rather be over prepared and not taken off guard. There will be no school that day for students because streets could be clogged with visitors. It will be a staff development day."

Pollard said GISD will have a chance to reap financial rewards from the eclipse.

"We are considering fundraising opportunities," he said. "We wanted to take advantage of the fundraising nature of it. We have a new sound system (at McKamey Stadium) and we could play music while it's going on. We might be able to make some money if people are coming from out of town."

"All the hotels are booked already for \$600 a night, and it's \$1,000 a night for a B&B (bed and breakfast) with a three-

PLEASE SEE **ECLIPSE 2** | A4

Enjoying the Rodeo



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER
Sonora Weber, 3, of Crawford rides on her pony, Sidekick, in the grand entry of the 86th annual Gatesville Riding Club Rodeo, which took place July 27-29. For more photos from the event, see Page A12.

ACF to create local wildfire protection plan for county

BY JEFF OSBORNE
Senior Writer & Editor

An offer from the American Conservation Foundation (ACF) will give Coryell County a head start in applying for federal funds to implement a local wildfire protection plan.

The Coryell County Commissioners Court approved a memorandum of understanding with ACF for that organization to draft a plan for the county at no charge. Because the federal government declined a previous request by the county to receive funding to draft a plan, this offer by the ACF will meet the requirement necessary for the county to receive funds to put a plan into action.

"There is no cost to the county (from the ACF) but it does put us ahead of the game to get funding once we submit the plan," said County Judge Roger Miller. "It puts us a year ahead" (in the schedule to apply for wildfire protection funds from the federal government).

The ACF is a Texas-based nonprofit organization that focuses on conservation and protecting ecosystems.

"We do have a pre-existing agreement with ACF to look into grant funding for conservation efforts along the Leon River watershed," Miller said.

Commissioner Scott Weddle said, "The first thing that comes to mind - it sounds too good to be true."

County Attorney Brandon Belt said the federal government awards were primarily for implementation of wildfire protection procedures for areas which already had wildfire protection plans enacted.

"It involves firebreaks, managing rangeland and habitat considerations with regard to certain species in our area," he said. "All of that fits squarely in the mission of the ACF."

"I feel it would be beneficial to the county," said Commissioner Ryan Basham.

"The ACF has agreed to write the plan," Miller said. "Once submitted and approved we're eligible for up to \$10 million in funding for implementation."

"We can apply for these funds and partner with private landowners to put into practice the items of the wildfire protection plan. We're also working with Fort Cavazos to build barriers and firebreaks."

County sets sights on collecting delinquent fines, fees

BY JEFF OSBORNE
Senior Writer & Editor

Coryell County is owed thousands of dollars in unpaid fines and fees, and being able to collect that money would be a significant boost.

On July 25, the Coryell County Commissioners Court heard a request from the justices of the peace of precincts 3 and 4 to contract with Austin law firm Perdue, Brandon,

Fielder, Collins & Mott LLP to help collect those delinquent fines.

"We've got thousands of dollars that are overdue," said Pct. 4 JP Coy Latham. "We are able to get these services (for collection) at no cost to the county."

Dan Romo, director of business development for the law firm, said it has been collecting delinquent fines and fees since 2001.

"Our collection services are free to the county," he said. "Once an account becomes 60 days past due, it is eligible to be sent to collections. We've seen tickets as old as 20 years old."

"Most of the courts are really good about working with defendants. If someone is indigent and can't pay, there are

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Kenneth Riddle honored as Hornet Legend

BY JEFF OSBORNE
Senior Writer & Editor

For his strong impact as an educator at Gatesville Junior High School for more than 40 years, Kenneth Riddle was honored as a Hornet Legend during the Gatesville Independent School District Board of Trustees meeting on July 24.

"We want to thank you for all the decades of service to students and the camaraderie with the staff," said GISD Superintendent Barrett Pollard. "You were a pillar of the school, and we appreciate you."

Riddle graduated with a Bachelor of Science in vocational agriculture and a minor in biology in January 1962 from Tarleton State University and began teaching at the Gatesville State School for Boys. Riddle then earned his master's degree in vocational ag-

riculture in the summer of 1967. In the fall of 1969, Riddle started teaching eighth grade science. "He would teach generations of Gatesville youth for the next 32 years," stated a memorandum to the school board.

Those providing reviews of Riddle for GISD wrote comments including: "Works well with students and all staff members. Students are treated fairly and courteously. The classroom atmosphere is friendly."

Greg Hines complimented Riddle for, "Good teaching throughout the lesson. Several activities were used to stimulate interest and discussion."

James Baize said Riddle's lesson was interesting and presentable well.

Bobby Cole said, "Mr. Riddle has an excellent working relationship with his students."

Riddle retired in 2001 after a 40-year career in education. In his retirement letter, Riddle wrote, "I have enjoyed my 32 years at Gatesville Junior High, the administration, the faculty, and the many, many young people that have entered my classroom. I am very attached to them."

Riddle said he worked as a guard at the state school in 1961, taking care of the smallest boys there and working long hours.

After he completed his degree, the superintendent of the school offered him a teaching job and taught them skills in the school's woodshop.

Although the children attending the state school had been sent there because they broke the law, Riddle said, "You can make a pleasant experience out of anything," including working with troubled youth.



JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER
GISD Superintendent Barrett Pollard with Kenneth Riddle, his wife Velva Riddle, daughter Anne Ramminger and granddaughter Ashton Allison.

Mike Blanchard honored as Hornet Legend



Mike Blanchard

BY JEFF OSBORNE
Senior Writer & Editor

Although he was unable to attend the July 24 meeting of the Gatesville Independent School District Board of Trustees, the board honored Mike Blanchard as a Hornet Legend that evening for his long tenure of service to GISD.

Blanchard graduated from Gatesville High School in 1960. He earned a bachelor's degree in education from Tarleton State University and a master's degree in education from North Texas State University.

Blanchard began his teaching career at the Gatesville State School for Boys in 1964. He then taught at Copperas Cove ISD before coming to Gatesville ISD in 1979.

Blanchard taught social studies classes including world geography, economics, and government. He retired in 1997.

Those evaluating Blanchard's performance had good things to say about him.

"Mr. Blanchard made good use of humor and established a good rapport with his students," said Larry Anderson.

"The instruction given was precise,

clear and easy to understand," Roland Lambert said.

"You always give an interesting presentation," Bill Bradley said. "Knowledge of subject, use of time and focus are all excellent."

"Mike works well with others in the community and with other personnel," Charles Alderson said.

"We appreciate Mike Blanchard's many years of service to GISD, and wanted to honor him as a Hornet Legend," Superintendent Barrett Pollard said.

Texas Lions Camp offers 'experience of a lifetime'

BY JEFF OSBORNE
Senior Writer & Editor

Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville provides opportunities for children ages 7-16 with disabilities to leave the cares of the world behind for several days and enjoy a fun time packed with activities, great food, camaraderie and encouragement, and the Gatesville Lions Club got an overview of the camp during a presentation on July 26.

Christi Osborne, a special education teacher in Three Rivers, Texas who attended the camp both as a child and then worked there as a counselor, talked about the positive impact the camp has had on her and thousands of others, including her son, Sam, a 13-year-old who is also from Three Rivers. Sam's father, Jeff, is a member of the Gatesville Lions Club, which sponsored Sam to attend the camp this year.

Christi started the presentation with a camp cheer designed to focus everyone's attention.

"I say 'Hey Hey' and you answer 'Ho Ho'," she told the Lions, who enthusiastically participated in the cheer.

"I wanted to bring a little bit of camp spirit to you," Christi said. "Camp spirit is a big deal."

Christi and Sam were both eligible to attend the camp because of vision impairments. The Lions Club is a strong supporter of those who have limited vision, dating back to a plea from celebrity and disability rights activist Helen Keller who urged the Lions to become 'knights of the blind' back in 1925.

"I was born with congenital cataracts which goes back generations in my family," Christi said. "I had cataracts in both of my eyes and had surgery where they removed the lenses, so I was legally blind. I still need lens implant surgery, so if you



COURTESY PHOTO BY JOAN MCCARTNEY
Christi and Sam Osborne have enjoyed attending Texas Lions Camp.

know of a good doctor."

Christi's maternal grandmother, mother and three of her mother's siblings were all born with congenital cataracts.

"It was so rare for so many in the same family to have this that the Mayo Clinic did a study on my family," Christi said. "Sam was born with it as well."

"There were things I was told I could not do throughout my school career. A teacher from the Region 12 Education Service Center (based in Waco) visited my house and told me I could do anything I wanted, but that I couldn't be an airplane pilot."

"We are told so many times there are things you can't do, but at Lions Camp, the motto is, 'You can.'"

Those attending the camp have a physical disability, diabetes type I or Down's syndrome. The camp lasts a week in the summer. At age 18, people can apply to serve as a camp counselor.

"I would not be who I am today and work with the

people I help without Lions Camp," Christi said.

In addition to financial donations, Lions also participate in work days at the camp, sponsor children to attend and help provide transportation to the camp.

"When kids arrive at the camp, all the counselors are there to welcome the kids and members of different Lions Clubs are there to serve refreshments," Christi said. "When Lions walk into the camp with their yellow vest, they are celebrities. They are revered by the campers and counselors."

Applications for the camp begin in January for that year's summer sessions.

"It is a life-changing experience to attend and to work there," Christi said. "For counselors it is a two-month commitment. There are counselors from all over the United States and outside the U.S. This year, there was a counselor from Australia and another from the Dominican Republic in Sam's

PLEASE SEE **CAMP** | 3A

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

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

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

Folks around town



ALEX MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Becky Coward

Say hello to our neighbor, Becky Coward!

Becky Coward is a Coryell County Extension Agent for 4-H. She has served at the extension office for 24 years and says the best part of her job is seeing youth learn and grow through 4-H. The generosity of Gatesville's citizens is her favorite part about our town. Becky reads The Gatesville Messenger each week to see the great coverage and photos of local events.

If you happen to see Becky around town, say hello! She is one of us!

City, county meetings scheduled

The Gatesville City Council will meet at 5:30 p.m. Aug. 8.

The Coryell County Commissioners Court will meet at 9 a.m. that same day.

FROM MY FRONT PORCH

It all looks easy until you are the one doing it



BY SAM HOUSTON

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

Dad was quite a worker and made sure he instilled a work ethic in all his children. From an early age he instructed his offspring on the importance of work, the obligation of work, and the commitment to doing a job well.

One of dad's lessons was directed towards the performance of work. Dad said, "The easiest job in the world is the one you do not have." The first time I heard the statement it did not make a lot of sense to me. On its face, it seemed reasonable. If you do not have a job to do, it would be easy. Was Dad setting some sort of trap for me? From experience I had learned there was usually an explanation to go with his philosophical assertions.

He went on to explain. Someone driving down the highway who observed men out in the middle of a field throwing bales of hay into a wagon might believe all they are doing is walking along and picking up bales. What a simple, easy job!

As sure as taxes, such a statement would be terminate the speaker had never experienced "bucking" fresh cut hay. As one who has thrown more than

his fair share of bales, I should tell you hay is cut in the summertime meaning that it is never cool when bales must be picked up in the field. Usually, it is hotter than the devil! Most people bale hay tight, meaning the hay is compressed as tightly as possible. This produces less bales to pick up, but at the same time, the bales are very heavy; many times, weighing from 40 to 60 pounds. This means if there are 500 bales in a field, that is a lot of lifting! Haying is hot, dusty, dirty work and very exhausting. It is a lot harder and more taxing than the casual eye would ever know. Oh, and once it is loaded on the wagon, it must be unloaded at the barn!

If you think about it, most work is that way. Whether it be driving a truck, painting a house, or even writing a newspaper column. Some might say there is nothing hard about a job until they

are the ones who must perform it. Once they personally experience all the obstacles and troubles in getting a job done, what looked like a simple task becomes a tough undertaking.

I frequently hear folks complain about the job performance of others. They complain the waitress is too slow, the city employee was too abrupt, law enforcement too demanding, or the teacher too lackadaisical. People who have never made a difficult arrest, never taught an unruly child, nor had to make a city of thousands of people function and do so with limited financial resources, are quick to point out the perceived shortcomings of those performing the job. After all, "it is not that tough to teach school and teachers are off from work the whole summer."

Oh, to see the masses spend a day instructing a classroom of students who have received little discipline at home and bring their lack of regard for authority to the schoolhouse. To see them walk into a dark house in the middle of the night in response to an emergency call, and then arrest a violent criminal without being hurt or killed. To hear an alarm and be woken in the

middle of the night only to race at high speed to a burning house and then attempt to save lives and property. Not as easy as some believe it to be, and truth be told, not tasks most folks would want to undertake.

It would be my pleasure to follow those who loudly complain about the work of others and see how they perform their job. I wonder if day in and day out they perform their job tasks to the meticulous standards they impose on others. I wonder if their boss would hold the same high regard for their performance as they have. My guess is few would want to be judged by the same standard which they judge the performance of others.

No job is easy, which is why they call it work rather than fun. Perhaps we should all be a little less critical and a little more understanding, especially about jobs where we do not comprehend the difficulties of the task. It all looks easy until YOU are the one doing it.

Thought for the day: Before you shake your head in judgment, be sure you have one.

Until next time...I will keep ridin' the storm out.
sam@hcnews.com

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A fond farewell to Gatesville & Coryell County from Jeff & Lu

Almost two years ago, when I walked into the office of the Gatesville Messenger for a job interview, I had a feeling this is the place I wanted to work.

I had a job offer in hand from another newspaper in the area, and I was very impressed with the owners and the community there. It would take something spectacular for me to decline that offer and take the job in Gatesville. Publisher Sam Houston made his pitch, and it was one I couldn't turn down. I am very grateful to him, to coworkers and to the community for the opportunity I have had.

Likewise, in order to leave this community, which I have grown to love - I would be happy to continue to work here and eventually retire here - it would take something extraordinary, another opportunity I just couldn't refuse.

That opportunity has presented itself in the form of a job in the community where my 13-year-old

son lives - Three Rivers, Texas, halfway between San Antonio and Corpus Christi. My son will be an eighth-grader at Three Rivers Junior High, and I will be teaching for the school district he attends.

Although I have contemplated teaching for more than 30 years, I just never connected with the right opportunity until now. I have had interviews, and in one case was even offered a teaching job, but the circumstances just weren't right at the time.

I have truly enjoyed my time in Gatesville. The people in this community are wonderful and welcoming. I grew up in Central Texas, a hop, skip and a jump away in Hewitt. I have loved covering this community and having a chance to tell some of its stories - most of which are positive, good news.

That has definitely been a tremendous blessing. This is a wonderful community, and if it wasn't for the irresistible pull of family,

Jeff's Reflections & Lu's Views

By Jeff Osborne & Tallulah

Jeff Osborne is senior staff writer and editor for the Gatesville Messenger and Tallulah is his trusted border collie-Jack Russell terrier mix.



I would definitely be planning to stay.

Being able to attend outstanding churches here, interact with amaz-

ing people, and being involved with the community in 2021-2023 through the Gatesville Lions Club and from 2021-22 through the Gatesville Exchange Club has definitely been one of life's highlights.

I don't like to stretch out good-byes into lengthy missives, so I'll just say, "Thank you, Gatesville and Coryell County, for everything. I will definitely miss you, and I'm sure my furry little friend will, too."

What do you have to say, Tallulah?

Lu: This has been a great place to live, and we have had some great walks here. Whether it's around the neighborhood, to Raby Park or Faunt Le Roy Park, or to the 1904 bridge, we've had a lot of fun.

Although it's not my favorite thing to go to the vet, there are even some very nice veterinarians here. It's been great to get to visit Dr. (Brit) Clay, Dr. (Sarah) McKamey and Dr. (Doug) Mabry.

I love Gatesville, and I've gotten spoiled here. Getting to see family (both the humans and animals) more often will really be special. It was always hard to say goodbye. That four-hour ride between Gatesville and Three Rivers got a little old sometimes. After five minutes, I was ready to get out of the van!

I hope everyone in Gatesville realizes what a special community you have and how fortunate you are to be a part of it.

Jeff: Well said, Lu. I've lived in several different communities over the past 35 years, and this is one of the best. While the pretty countryside is a big plus, it's the people that make it incredible.

We wish you all the best, and we will be keeping up with you through the Gatesville Messenger online. Instead of goodbye, an old Spanish phrase seems more appropriate - "Vaya con Dios" (go with God).

CAMP

FROM PAGE A2

unit, and many others from other countries. You bring that many with international experience to one place at one time and amazing things can happen."

At Lions Camp, children who are sometimes considered different get to meet and interact with other children experiencing similar challenges.

"The takeaway for Sam and the other kids at camp - in life they are part of the 0.1% of the population (with a certain disability). At camp you meet other people like you."

Texas Lions Camp - or TLC - began in 1949 and needed \$100,000 to start. After getting \$72,000 through fundraising, Lions attended a convention in Dallas and were able to get the remaining money needed to start the camp.

In fact, the Lions got more than enough in donations, so that they still have a \$20,000 check from those early days which still hasn't been cashed.

It costs about \$1,850 for a child to attend the camp, all of which is covered by Lions Clubs. Each of the bunkhouses are now air conditioned, which was not the case even as late as the 1980s, "thanks to generous donations," Christi said.

When she attended camp as a child in the 1980s, Christi said there was a local woman who inspired her and would read stories to the kids.

"She is still active and going to the camp in her 90s and she remembered me," Christi said. "She is still bringing kids to camp. I thought it was pretty cool to see her."

Those attending the camp have an action-

packed and adventurous time, and also get plenty to eat in order to keep up their busy schedule.

"The food is phenomenal," Christi said. "There are water sports, horseback riding, ziplines - nothing is off limits. Kids in wheelchairs can still zipline. The swimming pool is incredible. It's made where you can go right in with a wheelchair or a walker."

"There are plenty of animals, including farm animals and reptiles, rabbits, tarantulas and snakes for the kids to see. Sam discovered that he enjoys archery - something he had never done before going to the camp. There is also an arts and crafts building and kids learn to hammer stuff in the workshop."

Asked his favorite part of the camp, Sam said it was "the pool."

In 2021, TLC began offering a two-day family camp that allows parents to enjoy the activities as well, one of the changes that occurred in the aftermath of COVID-19.

Christi and Sam attended family camp in 2022 and "we did all the activities we could fit in during the two days," Christi said. "We were given a map and I told Sam to find things. Building independence is a really important part of the camp."

"There's nothing more humbling than sitting around with a group of 7-year-olds (with diabetes) giving themselves shots and pricking their fingers (to test blood sugar)."

The Spirit of the Coup is an important part of the camp.

"One the first night of camp, kids have a stick ceremony," Christi said. "You put your wish into the stick and throw it into the fire. The smoke drifts over the camp and distributes their wishes for the week over the camp."



COURTESY PHOTO

Sam Osborne enjoys some of the great food at Texas Lions Camp.

"If a child does something nice, goes out of their way to help someone, they might find a feather on their bed."

The camp ends with an awards ceremony often attended by parents who get to enjoy

"the beautiful scenery" of the Texas Hill Country.

More information can be found at www.lionscamp.com and on the Texas Lions Camp Facebook page.

Man dies after being stabbed at Gatesville RV park

From the Gatesville Police Department

Gatesville Police responded to a call on Sunday, July 30, at about 10:30 p.m., at Coryell Health regarding an adult male being treated for a stab wound.

The man, later died from his injuries. His identity is being withheld until relatives can be notified.

The incident took place at Hidden Valley RV Park in the 200 block of FM 116 in Gatesville. According to a witness at the scene, the man had been taken to the hospital by friends after he was stabbed. Officers immediately proceeded to the RV park to investigate further and gather more information. Based on statements from witnesses, it was revealed

that the man had arrived at the RV park in the company of friends.

The man reportedly exited the vehicle and pursued his ex-girlfriend, holding a gas can with gasoline inside. During the confrontation, he reportedly doused the woman with gasoline while pinning her down. However, another individual intervened to protect the woman and stabbed the man in the chest with a knife. This action caused the wounded man to cease his assault and flee to the vehicle, which then transported him to the hospital.

Officers processing the crime scene at the RV park found the weapon used in the stabbing and the gas can. Witness

statements were also collected to aid in the investigation.

Authorities have identified the man who stabbed the other as Kenneth Wayne Zahirniak, a 31-year-old resident of Gatesville. It was discovered that Zahirniak had an unrelated warrant for his arrest, leading to his apprehension. He was taken into custody without incident and transported to the Coryell County Jail.

Detectives are actively working on this case, and further details are yet to be released to the public.

Questions or concerns may be directed to Chief Brad Hunt at 254-865-2226, or bhunt@gatesvilletx.com.

ECLIPSE 1

FROM PAGE A1

the eclipse will be prominent.

"Texas will have a tremendous amount of tourism because of this," Shepherd said. "We can't predict if Gatesville will have 10,000 or 20,000 extra people on the day of the eclipse, but we know people are coming, and we want to prepare for it.

"The number one thing is public safety. We want to keep our residents safe and our visitors safe - we don't want to make national headlines for being the biggest (eclipse-related) disaster in the U.S. My focus will also be on helping businesses prepare. We'll probably do a townhall meeting.

"We will start to promote general public awareness so people know what impact this will have for the community and down the road. There's a great opportunity, and we can't let it slip by."

Because traffic is expected to significantly increase in the days leading up to the eclipse, the police department's resources will be stretched, and Shepherd said having local events to promote the eclipse will help to offset those costs.

"There is a possibility of offering camping at Faunt Le Roy Park at a reasonable rate. We can possibly have a downtown event Saturday and Sunday (the eclipse will be on a Monday)," Shepherd said. "People are going to be here and looking around for something to do. We could have a downtown festival kind of event with food trucks and music and provide something for people to do.

"This is not really a city event, it's an event for the community, as we want to work together as a community."

Shepherd said she is exploring the possibility of offering something at the civic center that could be catered.

"Our local restaurants are probably going to be strained by this," she said. "We need to look at what's open and identify needs."

She referred to plans by the Gatesville Independent School District to have a special viewing event at McKamie Stadium (see related story).

"That's going to be a great thing to have," Shepherd said. "It will have a lot of people in one place with proper parking. The school district will benefit financially - it will be a positive for the school

district."

Shepherd said a NASA ambassador is planning to be in Gatesville and will bring telescopes and a crew of people to educate people on the eclipse the Saturday before the event.

"We need to do some marketing and merchandising," she said. "Everything we do will pay for itself. A lot of people will be interested in buying a shirt or something related to the eclipse. We are working with a local artist. Vintage Royalty (a local boutique) has the first Gatesville eclipse T-shirt, and there will also be other items."

Gatesville Police Chief Brad Hunt said it's important to provide a safe place for people to congregate and park, instead of having them park on streets or up and down the highway.

"The more we can have a focus on things, the better," he said. "It's all public safety oriented. We are already hearing reports of people opening their pastures to campers. We'll help those within the community promote what they're doing."

He also referred to the movie National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation in which Cousin Eddie emptied his camper's waste disposal



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER
A variety of eclipse-related items are available at Vintage Royalty.

system into a sewer line, resulting in disaster, and said it's important to avoid such occurrences.

Mayor Gary Chumley noted, "There's only one RV cleanout (in the city) other than those owned by private entities, and it is sorely lacking. We need to look at adding something because people are going to dump (RV waste)."

Hunt said what keeps him up at

night is thinking about the 2017 eclipse's impact in Illinois "when the whole state was a traffic jam for 12 hours. Even if we did nothing, we know we'll have traffic coming through. We will have police substations on different sides of town. There could be two million people visiting Texas for the eclipse."

ECLIPSE 2

FROM PAGE A1

day minimum. We want to make sure we're prepared. Not having the kids here is a nice safety thing. We might also tell most of the staff to stay home. Hopefully as the months go by, we'll flesh more of this out."

Pollard said in addition to charging admission to McKamie Stadium, visitors will have access to plentiful parking, restrooms and concession stands.

"Utilizing the stadium could make some money," he said. "It will also help control traffic."

The GISD Board of Trustees voted in favor of Pollard's plan to use the stadium and sell tickets as a fundraiser for the school district.

FINES

FROM PAGE A1

community service options and credit for jail service. A big part of collections involves sending our notices. JP courts are understaffed so (notices for unpaid fines and fees) sit in a filing cabinet.

"If a defendant cannot pay, they can always have their day in court, but many of them can pay."

Through an agreement with the county, the law firm is able to add a 30% fee of the delinquent fine/fee in order to be compensated.

"Do you have a success rate?" asked Commissioner Keith Taylor.

"Generally what we're seeing is anywhere from 25 to 40% cash (payments) and overall, 40 to 60% including community service to help close the case," Romo said.

Latham said the amount of unpaid fines is surprising. "It's a big eye-opener," he said. "We're in the process of digitizing our cases. It's crazy what's still out there."

Latham said unless the county is paid, the law firm isn't paid for the collection service.

"Unless we get a dollar, they don't get 30 cents," he said. County Judge Roger Miller asked how many unresolved cases are open.

"Thousands," Latham said.

The law firm represents 112 counties and several cities - a total of more than 400 courts, Romo said.

"I certainly think it's worthy of review," said Commissioner Scott Weddle.

"I think it'd be a good tool," said Commissioner Ryan Basham.

Miller asked why precincts 1 and 2 weren't lined up to also possibly use the service.

Latham said they use a different program.

Miller said the request would be placed on the Aug. 8 commissioners court agenda.

Spurfest raffle to be held by Coryell County Museum

From Staff Reports

With Spurfest just about a month away, the Coryell County Museum and Historical Center has begun selling raffle tickets for a Spur motif quilt and two courthouse prints. The spur motif quilt was created by Grace Dallimore and the matted and framed pointillism prints of the courthouse were created by local artist, Jon Brown.

Tickets will be sold for \$20 (three chances to win) and can be purchased from museum board members or at the museum's gift shop.

The drawing for the quilt and courthouse prints will be held during Spurfest on Saturday, Sept. 16, at the museum.

Volunteers interested in selling tickets can contact Catherine Fulton at 254-223-0014.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER
Pictured are Grace Dallimore and Jon Brown with items they donated for the Spurfest raffle at the Coryell Museum and Historical Center.

Texas Sales Tax Holiday is coming up soon

From Staff Reports

Shoppers will be able to save money on clothes and school supplies during the state's sales tax holiday taking place on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, Aug. 11 to 13.

State law exempts sales tax on qualified items — such as clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks — priced below \$100, saving shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend. The dates of the sales tax

holiday and list of tax-exempt items are set by the Texas Legislature.

"As Texans prepare for the back-to-school bell, this is the perfect time to take advantage of the opportunity to save money on everything from blue jeans to ballpoint pens," Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar said. "As the father of three, I know how these expenses can add up."

The Comptroller's office estimates that

shoppers will save \$136 million in state and local sales tax during this sales tax holiday.

Apparel and school supplies that may be purchased tax free are listed on the Comptroller's website at TexasTaxHoliday.org.

During the annual sales tax holiday, qualifying items can be purchased tax free online or by telephone, mail, custom order or any other means (including in-store purchases) when either:

* The item is both delivered to, and paid for by, the customer during the exemption period; or,

* The customer orders and pays for the item, and the seller accepts the order during the exemption period for immediate shipment, even if delivery is made after the exemption period ends.

Texas' sales tax holiday weekend has been an annual event since 1999.

City announces changes in recycling services

Submitted by City of Gatesville

Earlier this year the City of Gatesville implemented a residential curbside recycling program through Waste Management. With this new program in place, the city will discontinue the provision of the recycling compactor at the public service center located at 106 S. 23rd Street. However, it is essential to note that certain recycling services will still be available at the public works service center.

The city will continue to accept and collect used cooking oil, motor oil, antifreeze, and metal at the public works service center from Monday to Friday, operating between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for City of Gatesville residents. This service remains unaf-

ected by the curbside recycling program.

Additionally, for the disposal of bulk items, the public works service center will be open on the second (2nd) and fourth (4th) Saturday of each month, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. This schedule allows Gatesville residents to dispose of larger items in an environmentally friendly manner.

Residents will be required to provide Driver's License and a recent City of Gatesville Utility bill to utilize these services. For any inquiries or concerns regarding recycling services in the City of Gatesville, we encourage you to contact city hall at 254-865-8951. Thank you for your cooperation in making Gatesville a greener and more sustainable community through recycling efforts.

Wages increased at Fort Cavazos

Fort Cavazos Public Affairs

FORT CAVAZOS, Texas — Federal wage grade employees at Fort Cavazos, and all federal agencies located in the Waco wage area, will officially see a 4.75 percent increase in their paychecks in the coming weeks. "If the weapons could speak," shared Oscar Medina, a small arms mechanic with the Army Field Support Battalion-Cavazos

Maintenance Division, "they'd actually tell you how happy I am (about the increase)."

The increase is a result of a Department of Defense-conducted Federal Wage System wage survey.

"It's the largest pay increase we could have received for our Federal Wage System employees," said Catherine Levandovsky, advisory director.

Gatesville ISD announces school board election information

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Independent School District School Board has recently provided

election information.

The first day to file for the election began on Monday, July 24, and the last day to file will be on Monday, Au-

gust 21.

The date of the election will be Tuesday, November 7. The seats that are up for re-election are Charles

Ament, Jimmie Ferguson, and Calvin Ford, and all three have filed.

Candidates are able to pick up a candidate packet

at the Gatesville ISD Administration Office or visit www.gatesvilleisd.org to obtain your packet.

The Gatesville Administra-

tion Office is located at 401-561 S. Lovers Lane.

Annual Marshall Day Benefit Baseball Tournament to be held Aug. 12

Staff Reports

Gatesville Parks and Recreation announced that the 2023 Marshall Day Benefit Tournament will be held on Saturday, Aug. 12 at 4:30 p.m. and will take place at Lions Club Park. Registration will begin at 3 p.m.

This event raises money

for improvements at Gatesville's sports complex. Marshall Day, longtime publisher of The Gatesville Messenger, was a major supporter of the youth sports programs offered in Gatesville and now continues to give to the youth in this way.

The team entry fee will cost \$50, the homerun derby will

cost \$20, and the closest to the pin competition will cost \$10. There will be a men's division double elimination tournament at 6 p.m., and only registered City League teams may participate.

The games will be played into the night until the winner is declared.

Playing rules are posted

at www.teamsideline.com/GatesvilleTX under the Documents tab.

Lions Club Park is located at 301 Veteran's Memorial Loop in Gatesville. For more information contact Gatesville Parks and Recreation at 254-865-4012.



COURTESY PHOTO BY DEBBIE DAY

Longtime Gatesville Messenger Publisher Marshall Day

Back to School Bash is scheduled for Aug. 5 at Gatesville Elementary School

Staff Reports

Gatesville Elementary School will host its annual Back to School bash on Saturday, August 5 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The Back to School Bash will include free backpacks, school supplies, haircuts, along with hearing and vision screenings.

There will be a chance to visit with community partners including Acre Wood Dental, Community Counseling, Texas AgriLife 4-H, Freedom Reins Counseling, Baylor Scott & White Clinic,

Coryell Health Clinic, Gatesville Fire Department, Gatesville Police Department, Gatesville Public Library, Gatesville Fitness Center, Walmart, H-E-B, service clubs, local churches, county legal and social services, WIC, General Educational Development, Righteous Roots, and Hidden Gem Family Center.

Gatesville Elementary School is located at 2537 E. Main Street. For more information on the Back-to-School Bash contact 254-865-7262.



Staff Reports

The American Legion will be donating backpacks with school supplies to residents of Coryell County on Saturday, Aug. 5. Back-

packs will be available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for prekindergarten through eighth grade only.

Be sure to bring proof of residency such as a bill showing your name and

current address.

The American Legion, which also operates under the name Post 42, was founded in 2010 and has been operating for over 12 years.

The American Legion is located at 214 Watts Lane in Gatesville. For more information contact 254-865-4134.

2023 Coryell Senior Expo set for Aug. 24

Staff Reports

The 2023 Coryell Senior Expo will be held at the Gatesville Civic Center on Thursday, August 24. The event will be from 8 a.m. to noon and the vendor area will open at 9 a.m. There

will be door prizes as well.

This will be a chance for local seniors to get free screenings and information on cholesterol, blood pressure, diabetes, assisted living, independent living, long-term care, home health, hospice, and fall

prevention.

Hourly Information sessions will include:

- Estate Planning at 8 a.m.
- Advanced Directives at 9 a.m.
- Medicare at 10 a.m.
- Medicaid at 11 a.m.
- The Gatesville Civic Cen-

ter is located at 301 Veterans Memorial Loop. For more information contact 254-248-6380 or by email at becky.terrell@coryell-health.org.

The First National Bank of Central Texas to open its banking center in Gatesville later this year or early 2024



COURTESY PHOTO

Will Coward
FNBCT Gatesville Banking Center President

Submitted Item

"We are very excited to be expanding to Gatesville and Coryell County," said Joe Barrow, FNBCT Chairman and CEO. "The market absolutely fits with our culture and values."

Will Coward will serve as the Gatesville Banking Center President. Coward is an experienced community banker who is very familiar with the Gatesville community.

"Will is the perfect person to head up our Banking Center as a fourth generation Coryell County resident and banker for over twenty years," Barrow said. "Will and his staff will do an excellent job serving the people of the area."

Coward has hit the ground running. He has spent the past few weeks letting people know about our locally owned bank.

"I am very happy to be working for a bank like FNBCT," Coward said. "I have personally experienced their commitment to relationship banking and am glad to be part of a bank

that makes that a priority."

A new facility is currently under construction at the convenient location of 2908 E. Main St. It is expected to open sometime in late 2023 or early 2024. Currently, the bank is operating out of a temporary location at 1400 E. Main St.

"I am very excited about the new banking center that is under construction in Gatesville," Coward said. "It is going to be a nice addition to Gatesville's business community, and we look forward to serving the banking needs of Gatesville and surrounding areas."

Coward recently hired Alicia Schaaf as an Assistant Vice President. Schaaf is an experienced banker who will serve as a lending assistant in the Gatesville Banking Center.

The First National Bank of Central Texas is a full-service bank with locations in Waco, Woodway-Hewitt, College Station, China Spring, Gatesville, Hillsboro, and Mart.



COURTESY PHOTO

Alicia Schaaf
FNBCT Gatesville Banking Center Assistant Vice President

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COURTESY PHOTO

Ray Young (pictured left) presents a 75-year pin and certificate to James Dixon.

Dixon honored for his 75-year membership with the Masons

Submitted Item

On Saturday, July 29, James Dixon received his 75-year pin for being a member in the Masonic Lodge. Dixon is a member of the Maples Lodge #791 in Flat where he was a past

master.

Dixon, who is 99 years of age, will celebrate his 100th birthday on October 2. He and his wife Allene currently reside in the Welcome Program at Coryell Health.

Dixon was presented with his 75-year pin and

certificate by District Deputy Grand Master for the Masonic District #69, Ray Young.

Approximately fifty-two people were in attendance for the presentation including members of the Gatesville Masonic Lodge #197.

Albert and Florence White Hill family reunion slated August 12

Staff Reports

The Albert and Florence White Hill family reunion will be held on Saturday, Aug. 12 at the Jonesboro Community Center. The doors should be open by 10

a.m.

There will be brisket, chicken, and tea provided along with plates, cups, silverware, and napkins. Be sure to bring your favorite side dish and dessert.

There will be a raffle to

participate in for one dollar per ticket.

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

For more information contact Elizabeth Hill Lord at 254-679-1090.

Veterans get max PACT Act benefits; file before August 9

BY JIM HALBROOK

Public Affairs Officer
Texas Veterans Commission

Press Release - For veterans to get their maximum PACT Act benefits, they must file their PACT Act Claim or at least submit Intent to File a claim by August 9, 2023, for benefits backdated to August 10, 2022.

The PACT Act greatly expanded the eligibility of various toxic exposures for VA disability compensation claims, healthcare and benefits for veterans exposed to toxic substances.

To submit an Intent to File, complete VA Form 21-0966 (<https://www.va.gov/find-forms/about-form-21-0966/>) and either:

Mail it to: (Postmarked by August 9th, 2023)

Department of Veterans Affairs

Evidence Intake Center
PO Box 4444, Janesville, WI 53547-4444

Fax: 844-531-7818
Call VA at 800-827-1000

& notify intent to file

Email to: PactAct@tvc.texas.gov (note: email must be received by August 8, 2023; 4 p.m.)

Contact your local Veterans County Service Officer.

Veterans should note that submitting an Intent to File is not a Claim. It establishes a date to be used for determining retroactive pay if any. You still need to file a claim and submit supporting documentation.

There's no deadline to apply for PACT Act benefits. However, to receive benefits backdated to August 10, 2022, PACT Act claims or Intent to File must be submitted by August 9, 2023. Further information about the PACT Act can be found online at <https://www.va.gov/resources/the-pact-act-and-your-va-benefits/> or call the VA Pact Act Line 1-800-698-2411 option 8 (TTY:711).

Texas leads the nation in veterans filing disability claims associated with the

PACT Act, at over 90,000, since it was enacted in August 2022. In that time, the Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) has experienced a 25% increase in VA disability Claims assistance.

Veterans can get assistance filing their PACT Act and other disability compensation Claims at no cost from the Texas Veterans Commission by contacting <https://www.tvc.texas.gov/claims/appointments/>.

Helping veterans starts here. The Texas Veterans Commission advocates for and provides superior service to veterans that will significantly improve the quality of life for all Texas veterans, their families, and survivors. The TVC assists veterans with receiving their benefits, provides funding to agencies which provide direct services to veterans and administers the Hazlewood Act education benefits. Learn more at www.tvc.texas.gov.

MOUND NEWS

Mound families are gearing up for back-to-school



BY BARBARA HOPSON

Mound News Correspondent

Little Miss Emma Beth Hopson will be starting her very first year in Trinity Baptist Preschool for the 2023-24 school year.

Emma is the daughter of Paul and Rachel Hopson and the granddaughter of DeElva Grubb, and David and Pam Hopson.

Miss Olivia Lois Long will be starting her very first year in Kindergarten at Gatesville Primary School. Olivia is the daughter of Zach and Amanda Long and the granddaughter of Melton and Cindy Long, and David and Pam Hopson.

Mr. Noah Truett Hopson will be starting first grade at the Gatesville Elementary School for the 2023-24 school year. Noah is the son of Paul and Rachel Hopson and the grandson of DeElva Grubb, and David and Pam Hopson.

Miss Emily Rose Cupps will be starting her first year in first grade at the Academy Elementary School for the 2023-24 school year. Emily is the daughter of Angie Cupps and the granddaughter of Margaret Hopson.

Danijo Wood went along with the Flat Baptist Church Kids Group to summer camp from July 24 thru the 27 held at the Big Country Baptist Assembly Retreat Center Kids Camp at Shackelford in Lueders.

Mark, Kelli, Kinsley, Anna and Allie McPherson, Sophie Kelley, Zach, Amanda, Aubree and Olivia Long, Paul, Rachel, Noah, Benjamin and Emma Hopson enjoyed a family Beach vacation to Destin, FL. Zach celebrated his 40th birthday and Emma Beth celebrated her 1st birthday while they were gone. They enjoyed fishing, parasailing, and good food while at Miramar Beach.

Amanda Long, Megan Lynch, Cassie Perez, Chelsi Hall, and Mikka Pavilka spent the weekend together in Wimberly.

Danijo Wood attended Quinlyn and Adi Woodson's birthday party bash Saturday afternoon at the home of Cecil and Morgan Woodson.

Tammy Roe of Nemo and her granddaughter, Brooklyn Oh, of Lewisville visited last Monday with David and Pam Hopson.

Brooklyn Oh spent last Monday night with Aubree and Olivia Long.

Miss Anna Grace McPherson was honored on her 15th birthday on Sunday afternoon with a pool party bash at the home of her grandparents, David and Pam Hopson. The party was given by her parents and sisters Mark, Kelli, Kinsley and Allie McPherson.

Nick, Liz, Jewell, Noah and Moses Martineau of Wichita,

KS spent Saturday night with Don and Sue Jones.

Bruce and Suzy Cox, the Martineau family, Kelby and Sterlin Shults had lunch Sunday with Don and Sue Jones.

Jenson Kinnear participated in the mutton busting event at the Gatesville rodeo Thursday and Friday evening.

Elli Kinnear participated in the mutton busting event at the Gatesville rodeo Friday evening.

Carolyn and Emma Blakley went to the Gatesville Rodeo Thursday evening.

Robert and Carolyn Blakley went shopping in Temple Sunday. Robert, Carolyn and Emma Blakley had dinner with Jerry and Brenda Helms on Sunday.

Truett Pullen of Rock Wall spent a week in Mound with Kinsley, Anna and Allie McPherson. While here she visited with other relatives and cousins.

Several people of Mound attended the 86th Annual Gatesville Riding Club Rodeo Thursday Through Saturday evening held July 27-29.

Several people of Mound attended the annual "Meet the Hornets" program.

Friday evening at Tommy Davidson Field at McKamie Stadium on Aug. 4.

Several people from Mound will attend the Back to School Bash held at Gatesville Elementary on Saturday, Aug. 5.

Several children of Mound will attend the Meet the Teachers event held Monday Aug. 7 through Tuesday Aug. 8.

Several people from Mound attended the Gatesville ISD and the Hornet Band Program who was having their Alumni Band Outreach program in Gatesville.

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PEARL NEWS

Pearl's own Trent Ray competes at State



BY BETSY CLARK

Pearl News Correspondent

Congratulations to Trent Ray for his outstanding showing in the state meet in Brownsville last week!! Trent placed 5th in Discus and 7th in Shotput in his division!!

He battled heat, humidity, and a lightning storm during the meet and still accomplished this huge feat!! Trent is the son of Misti and Chris Ray, the grandson of Ronald and Linda Ray, and the nephew of Ryan and Laredo Ray. There are some mighty proud cousins and extended family and church family in Pearl, too!! Awesome, Trent!!

The next Pearl Bluegrass and Pearl Cottage Bookstore day will be September 9th (it's always the second Saturday in September due to a long-standing first Saturday family reunion); the Pearl Church of Christ Atchley Fish Fry and Silent Auction for His Kids will be the 3rd of September with items set up to view by August 21st; the next Pearl Cemetery workday will be October 14th with a reschedule date if necessary

due to inclement weather of October 21st; and the Pearl Church of Christ 128th Reunion will be October 15th. Mark your calendars, and please know that everyone is cordially invited to attend any and all of these events!

I have a confession to make: last week, I noted that the price of The Pleasure and Profit Club book is \$150. Well, no, it is \$15! My fingers just got carried away, I guess. So, if that huge price scared you away from purchasing this treasure of Pearl, fear not! It really is only \$15, and what a bargain that is! Any of the history books of Pearl happenings that are available for purchase at the Pearl Cottage Bookstore would make wonderful Christmas gifts for any Pearl history buffs! They are as follows:

- *The Gasoway Cabin \$5
- *The Little Girl from Pearl (Doris Queener) \$5
- *The Boys from Pearl \$10
- *The 1955 Pearl Annual \$10
- *The Pearl Cemetery \$10

- *100 Years Ago in Pearl \$10
- *The Houses of Pearl \$15
- *The Pleasure and Profit Club \$15
- *The Early Pioneers of Pearl by Bobby Manning \$15
- *The Pictures of Pearl \$10

This week's Bible verse comes from Romans 12:12—Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. NIV

Pray for rain, our country, and our schools!! (James 5:16b-The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.) Be sure and like the Pearl Community Center, Texas Facebook page and the Pearl Cottage Bookstore and Resale Shop Facebook page! Please submit any Pearl news to betsyclarck47@yahoo.com.

Mother Neff's seeking donations to provide park access for all

Staff Reports

Throughout 2023, Mother Neff State Park has been in the process of raising money for much needed projects at all Texas State Parks. Access for All Hiking is a favorite activity at Mother Neff, but not everyone can hit the trail. Mother Neff State Park wants to

enhance the visitor experience for those with mobility issues.

To do so, Mother Neff State Park would like to purchase two all-terrain wheelchairs that visitors can use for free.

The park has about two miles of trail that would be suitable for access by those with mobility issues if the

right equipment is made available.

With the community's help, the park will receive two all-terrain wheelchairs, one suitable for adults and one for kids. These specialized wheelchairs will give all visitors the freedom to experience the natural wonders of the park with family and friends.

Centennial Champions, a group of Texas philanthropic leaders who understand the enduring significance of our state parks, will match all gifts dollar for dollar. To donate to the cause visit <https://texas-parks100.org/mother-neff-state-park/>.

For more information contact 254-853-2389.

Central Texas Roots to meet Aug. 12

Staff Reports

Central Texas Roots will hold its monthly meeting on Saturday, August 12 from 11 a.m. to noon. The meeting will be held at Junction on Route 36 located at 1216 TX-36 N. in Gatesville. There will be plant swaps, seed swaps,

light refreshments, and a door prize.

The meeting will consist of a two-minute tutorial regarding easy plant identification, a local educational speaker with hands on experience, a drawing for a door prize, and a preorder sign up for t-shirts.

Central Texas Roots

meets on the second Saturday of each month. Meetings have included educational speakers, Dutch treat meals, sharing of seeds and plant ideas, door prizes, refreshments, and conversation.

Each meeting is free for the public to attend, and everyone is encouraged to

bring family and friends who have a passion for gardening.

Be sure to join the Central Texas Roots Facebook page for updates and information on future meetings and events.

For more information contact Celia Schultz-Sellers at 254-206-6355.

Whatever happened to...

20 YEARS AGO (2003)

Coryell County Court-at-law Judge Susan Stephens was holding court in the newly renovated courtroom. Commissioners had authorized financing of the \$65,000 project.

Former residents of the Ewing community were meeting for a reunion at Faunt Le Roy Park. Residents of the community were forced to move in 1942 with the creation of Camp Hood.

A concert was scheduled to take place at the First Baptist Church in Gatesville featuring Dove and Grammy Award winner Cynthia Clawson.

National Bank recognized employee Eva Jacobsen who had been working as a lobby teller for four months.

Meagan Williamson, Shanna Burt, Zeb Burt, and J.P. Massingill of Jonesboro were scheduled to showcase their talents in the Texas Six-man all-star games.

30 YEARS AGO (1993)

Disney's Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs was playing at the Cinema in Gatesville. All seats were priced at \$2.60 before 6 p.m.

Kenneth Smith and Ronnie Smith were top winners in the Central Texas Angora Goat Raiser's Association's 37th Annual Show held in Goldthwaite.

Paul and Byrd Ann Bromser were getting ready to

celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on August 8, 1943, in Houston.

Chan Priest, head football coach at Gatesville High School was busy preparing for the arrival of more than 90 candidates coming to the Hornet football camp.

Jerry Barton and Wilbert Pietsch were being honored as the two were retiring as long-time employees of MATES.

40 YEARS AGO (1983)

In 20 years of growing cantaloupes in the garden of his Fort Gates home, Esteen Williams was surprised when he harvested a 9-pound cantaloupe.

Wyllis Ament, age 45, took the oath of office filling the council post formerly held by Gary Davis. The oath of office was administered by Mayor Creston Brazzil.

Return of the Jedi in the Star Wars series was showing at the Cinema. Bargain Night tickets were selling for \$1.50.

A 24-unit Gatesville Housing Authority low-rent housing project was nearing completion. The new units were located on Old Pidcoke Road in West Gatesville.

Fifty-nine "Sunshine Girls" were participating in a Girl Scout Day Camp being held at Faunt Le Roy Park. The camp was directed by Judy Sayre.

50 YEARS AGO (1973)

Diane Post, a former

Gatesville resident, was elected to the position of trust administration officer of the Austin National Bank.

At the Town and Country indoor/outdoor theatre, Walt Disney's Song of the South and The Aristocats was showing. Tickets were priced at \$1.25.

Army Private Michael D. Mathews, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mathews of Gatesville, had completed an eight-week mechanic

course in the training center at Fort Polk.

Gulf-States-United Telephone Company had produced its new 1973 telephone directory. 5,775 directories were distributed in Gatesville, Flat, Jonesboro, and Purnela.

OBITUARIES

Sarah Ortunio Gomez

December 10, 1921 - July 29, 2023



Sarah Ortunio Gomez passed to eternal life on Saturday, July 29, 2023. God blessed her with 101 years on earth. Sarah was a wonderful mother, wife, and devoted Christian. Psalms 23 was one of her favorite Bible passages.

A service to honor Sarah's life will be held Saturday, October 7, 2023, at 11 a.m. at the Coryell Valley Church, 4995 FM 929 in Gatesville.

Sarah was born at home in Kyle, Texas on December 10, 1921, the youngest child of Francisco and Elisa Ortunio. She was close with her sister Adelina and brothers Abel and Frank.

Sarah attended public schools in Kyle and was the first Hispanic student to graduate from high school there. Her teachers encouraged her to go to college and she attended Southwest Texas State Teachers College (now known as Texas State University) in San Marcos, where she earned her bachelor's and master's degrees. One of Sarah's early jobs was as a teacher in a rural school in Guadalupe County where she lived in a house next to the school during the week and where students had to hand pump water from a well. She said her 34 students were respectful, and she rarely had to discipline them.

Sarah's commitment to God and her faith in Christ was nurtured by her Spanish-language church, El Buen Pastor (The Good Shepherd) Methodist Church in San Marcos. It was through the ministry of that church that she met her husband, Sotero Gomez of Carrizo Springs. She and Sotero were married on a snowy, February 2, 1951, at the First Methodist Church in Kyle by Reverend Carlos Garcia. In 1952, she

and Sotero were hired by Charles Reeve to teach at the State School for Boys in Gatesville, where she taught reading. She would later teach women at the Texas Department of Corrections Mountain View Unit. Sarah was always a positive and optimistic teacher. Sarah and Sotero made Coryell County their home for the remainder of their lives. She and Sotero were married for 65 years and raised three sons; Oscar, Victor, and Andy, in their Jackson Drive neighborhood. She and her family were also active in the First United Methodist Church.

Sarah stayed busy in her retirement, taking care of her husband, visiting shut-ins and others who were in nursing homes, walking several miles daily, singing gospel songs, and attending church activities.

In 2013, Sarah and Sotero moved to family-owned land on Coryell Creek. The Gomez family had restored an abandoned church on their property and deeded it to the Wesleyan Church, a denomination started from the Methodist tradition. Sarah was a faithful member of the Coryell Valley Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents, siblings, and in 2016, her husband, Sotero.

Sarah is survived by her three sons, several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and nieces and nephews.

Sarah spent her final years cared for and loved by family, church friends, and caregivers. She will be laid to rest beside her beloved husband Sotero on their land in Coryell Valley. Memorials may be made to Coryell Valley Church, 4995 FM 929, Gatesville, Texas 76528.

Shops • Garages • Houses • Agriculture • Commercial
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30'x40'x10'...\$28,400
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 JARED HUNT 254 223 2486

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Weigh Bulls	125-129	Cow Calf Pairs	925-1875
Weigh Cows	85-111	Bred Cows	No Test
		Replacement Bulls	No Test

#1 Type Steers		#1 Type Heifers	
200-300 lb.	250-305	200-300 lb.	No Test
301-400 lb.	230-317	301-400 lb.	230-265
401-500 lb.	230-271	401-500 lb.	215-243
501-600 lb.	210-259	501-600 lb.	210-243
601-700 lb.	195-243	600-700 lb.	185-211

ANDY'S SALE BARN CAFE
 WEDNESDAYS @ 11 AM - BUFFET • BURGERS • SANDWICHES

CORYELL COUNTY COMMISSION

Sale Every Saturday • Cattle at Noon
Saturday, July 15, 2023
 Jody & Robin Thomas (254)223-2958

No. 1 Steers	
Under 300 lb.	265-320
300-400 lb.	265-315
400-500 lb.	250-290
500-600 lb.	225-260
600-700 lb.	220-240
700-800 lb.	195-225

No. 1 Heifers	
under 300 lb.	250-310
300-400 lb.	250-285
400-500 lb.	225-265
500-600 lb.	210-245
600-700 lb.	195-225
700-800 lb.	180-205

Slaughter Cows	
High Yielding	100-120
Low Yielding	85-95
Fats	100-112
Thin & Shelly	65-80

Packer Bulls (1250-2075 lb.)	
Yield Grade 1&2	105-132

Cow & Calf Pairs	
Young Choice	1850-2450
Young Fair	1450-1850
Aged Pairs	Split & weighed

Young Pregnancy Test Stocker	
Replacement Cow	1000-1850
Number of Head	1013

Hwy. 36, Gatesville
 (254) 865-9121
www.coryellcommission.com

My salute to summer



BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH

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

I was born ten days before the official start of summer but have always considered myself to have a summer birthday. Anyway, I consider it the best season. It is a season of joy. It really is when the living is easy.

You set a golf ball in motion and hope for a hole in one.

You cast a line and hope to get a record catch.

The warm season is full of activities: baseball, swimming, travel, long walks.

You enjoy the rich dark green of grass and leaves.

Texas mornings and late evenings are exquisite in June, July, and August.

You hear the sound of cicadas and birds sing their summertime sonatas.

In the bright sun you seek shade and cool lemonade.

You relax.

Late afternoon sunlight creates log shadows on the lawn, and you hear the pulsating sound of a sprinkler rotating its spray.

It is a special time: a time to sit and think or just sit and stare at your shoes. Maybe even watch a buzzard gracefully sail effortlessly in the big sky.

It's when you imagine the pure white clouds are paints that create soft designs in the huge canvas of perfect blue.

An afternoon shower and

a gentle breeze are welcome events.

And summer fruit is a special treat with its plums, apricots, grapes, and berries.

Is anything sweeter than pleasuring yourself with a freshly picked peach with a slight trail of juice running down your arm while you savor the taste?

On moonless nights the stars are bright. Is that a satellite streaking across the darkness? Maybe a meteor.

Seeing a falling star is good luck and might even earn a kiss from someone special.

Summer is a time of simple joys: poolside, the beach, hot dogs, popsicles, sitting in a theater with popcorn and a coke, cookouts, sandwiches, iced tea, the smell of new mown hay, firecrackers, flags, parades, and rodeo.

In summer the light is different and has a special magic that makes you want the season to never end.

Summer is a happy time. Please enjoy it. It doesn't last very long.

Jonesboro ISD to hold Meet the Teacher August 16

Staff Reports

Jonesboro Independent School District will hold its Meet the Teacher on Wednesday, August 16. Meet the Teacher will begin at 6 p.m. and continue through 8 p.m.

Meet the Teacher will be a time for students to meet their new teachers, gather schedules, set up lockers, and explore all the clubs and extracurricular activities that Jonesboro ISD has to offer.

Jonesboro ISD is located at 14909 E. State Hwy. 36 in Jonesboro. For more information contact the school at 254-463-2111.

Jonesboro ISD presents Meet the Eagles on Aug. 10

Staff Reports

Jonesboro Independent School District will hold their annual Meet the Eagles on Thursday, August 10. Meet the Eagles will be held on Pruitt Field at 6 p.m.

Staff of Jonesboro ISD will recognize and introduce the volleyball, football, cheerleading, and cross-country teams for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year.

Pruitt Field is located at 14909 TX-36 in Jonesboro. For more information contact Jonesboro ISD at 254-463-2111.

Oglesby ISD presents Meet the Teacher August 14

Staff Reports

Oglesby Independent School District will hold its Meet the Teacher on Monday, August 14 at 6 p.m.

This is a time for students to meet their teachers, visit with peers, gather information on classes, and to tour the school.

Following Meet the Teacher, a watermelon festival will begin at 7 p.m. held at the Oglesby Community Center located at 118 Main Street.

Oglesby ISD is located at 125 College Avenue. For more information contact 254-456-2271.

Flag football & volleyball registration open through August 31

Staff Reports

Gatesville Parks and Recreation has opened registration for youth flag football and volleyball. Registration for both leagues opened on

Friday, July 21 and will close on Thursday, Aug. 31 and will cost \$50 per participant.

To register visit www.teamsideline.com/GatesvilleTX.

Flag football divisions will

include five years old and kindergarten, first and second grade, third and fourth grade, and fifth and sixth grade. Skills day will be Saturday, Sept. 2, and the draft will be during the week of

Wednesday, Sept. 6.

The flag football season will begin on Monday, Oct. 2 with a game each Monday or Tuesday.

Youth volleyball divisions will include third and fourth

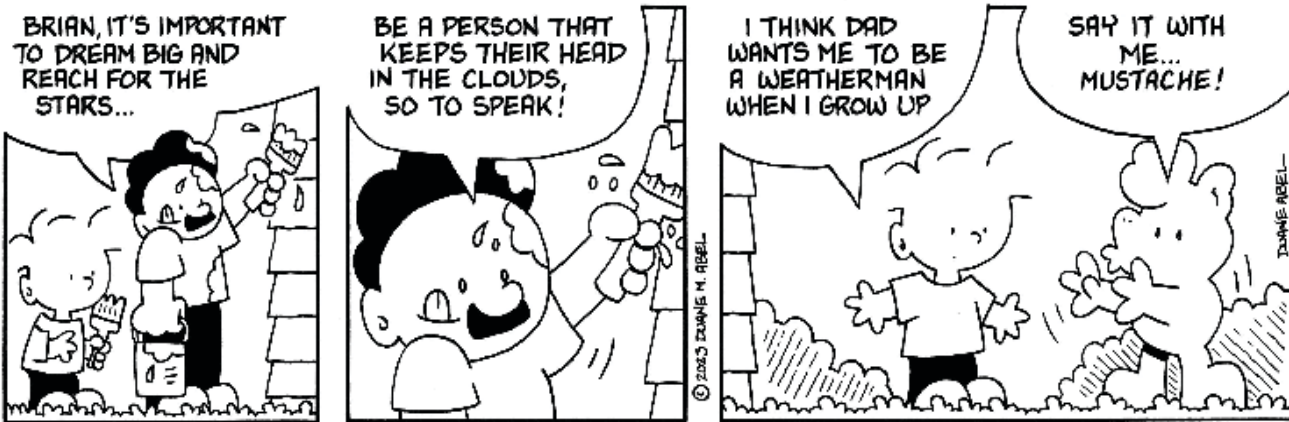
grade, along with fifth and sixth grade. There will be a draft during the week of Wednesday, Sept. 6.

The volleyball season will commence on Saturday, Oct. 7 with a game each week on

Saturday.

For more information contact 254-499-1015 or email mabaily@gatesvilletx.com.

ZED by Duane M. Abel



www.corkeycomics.com

Dirty Birdies golf scramble August 26 & 27

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Country Club presents a Dirty Birdies three-person scramble and shamble on Saturday, Aug. 26 and Sunday, Aug. 27. The entry fee will cost \$180 per player and \$540 per team.

The three-person scramble will be on Saturday, Aug. 26 and the three-person shamble will be on Sunday, Aug. 27. The tournament tee times will be 8 a.m. and

1 p.m. with a shotgun start both days.

Private golf carts are welcome, and golf carts will be available to rent for the tournaments.

Handicaps will be verified by their home course and home course number.

There will be a business meeting on Saturday, Aug. 26, that will start shortly after the afternoon round.

For information, call 254-865-6917 or 254-236-2760.

The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of July 26 - August 1. While there were many calls to the dispatcher, this is a partial list of more significant activity. People 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

July 26
12:55 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 9600 block of S. Hwy. 36.
4:33 p.m., a burglary was reported in the 700 block of College Street.

5:00 p.m. animal cruelty was reported in the 300 block of Park Street.

10:00 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 1300 block of Westview Drive.

July 27
7:18 a.m., a burglary was reported in the 1100 block of Westview Drive.

2:26 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of S. 23rd Street.

5:27 p.m., a theft was reported in the 500 block of E. Main Street.

9:58 p.m., an assault was reported in the 300 block of Veteran's Memorial Loop.

July 28
9:21 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 400 block of CR 339.

11:35 a.m., a burglary was

reported in the 3200 block of S. State Hwy. 36.

3:27 p.m., a theft was reported in the 1200 block of W. Main Street.

5:53 p.m., an accident was reported in the 2300 block of Business Hwy. 36.

July 29
9:15 a.m., harassment was reported in the 1300 block of Mills Street.

1:22 p.m., animal cruelty was reported in the 1500 block of Waco Street.

2:43 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2400 block of Business Hwy. 36.

10:31 p.m., a hit and run accident was reported in the 400 block of S. 14th Street.

July 30
8:36 a.m., a burglary was reported in the 2500 block of Business Hwy. 36.

9:47 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 1900 block of St. Louis Street.

2:38 p.m., an armed suspect was reported in the 300 block of Fennimore Street.

9:44 p.m., a threat was reported in the 300 block of

Baize Street.

July 31
3:51 a.m., a prowler was reported in the 1300 block of St. Louis Street.

9:37 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1000 block of Twin Mountain.

4:03 p.m., a threat was reported in the 1600 block of Saunders Street.

9:54 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 1200 block of N. State Hwy. 36.

August 1
12:07 p.m., a theft was reported in the 300 block of N. 8th Street.

2:55 p.m., harassment was reported in the 3300 block of Royal Drive.

4:45 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 2300 block of Business Hwy. 36.

6:23 p.m., reckless conduct was reported in the 2800 block of N. State Hwy. 36.

CORYELL COUNTY

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

July 26
4:53 a.m., harassment was reported in the 5100 block of FM 1829.

10:35 a.m., stolen property was reported in the 6800 block of FM 932.

11:22 a.m., a missing person was reported in the 2900 block of Mimosa Drive.

2:33 p.m., animal cruelty was reported in the 2900 block of Grimes Crossing.

July 27
6:52 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported on FM 929.

1:58 p.m., an explosion was reported in the 9100 block of FM 116.

4:31 p.m., a grass fire was reported in the 9900 block of FM 215.

11:58 p.m., property damage was reported in the 3200 block of FM 1113.

July 28
2:00 p.m., animal neglect was reported in the 2600 block of E. FM 932.

4:13 p.m., a major accident was reported on FM

116 at CR 142.

7:06 p.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported in the 600 block of Moccasin Bend Road.

10:31 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 900 block of CR 148.

July 29
2:18 a.m., an assault was reported in the 4400 block of FM 1783.

8:49 a.m., mailbox damage was reported in the 400 block of Coryell City Road.

4:22 p.m., a major accident was reported in the 1400 block of FM 215.

4:44 p.m., the burglary of a habitation was reported in the 900 block of CR 148.

July 30
2:40 p.m., animal neglect was reported in the 100 block of Baird Street.

5:13 p.m., a reckless driver was reported on S. Hwy. 36 at Fort Gates.

7:08 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported on N. FM 116.

11:07 p.m., aggravated assault with a deadly weapon

was reported in the 5000 block of FM 215.

July 31
8:51 a.m., a theft was reported in the 900 block of Greenleaf Drive.

2:00 p.m., a neighbor dispute was reported in the 500 block of Cromians.

2:06 p.m., a stolen vehicle was recovered in the 500 block of E. Leon Street.

9:21 p.m., the burglary of a habitation was reported in the 900 block of CR 148.

August 1
1:00 p.m., a theft was reported in the 300 block of Cattle Drive.

6:41 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the Jonesboro area.

9:30 p.m., harassment was reported in the 1600 block of CR 341.

11:51 p.m., vandalism was reported in the 100 block of Julia Drive.

CLASSIFIEDS

015 FARM & RANCH

Backhoe, Dozer, Maintainer, Dump Truck: brush clearing, roads, driveways, waterlines, pits, demolition, fence row clearing, culverts. Small jobs ok. Ben Roberts, 254-248-4707 or 254-865-5754. 00030286

015 FARM & RANCH

Backhoe, Dozer, Maintainer, Dump Truck: brush clearing, roads, driveways, waterlines, pits, demolition, fence row clearing, culverts. Small jobs ok. Ben Roberts, 254-248-4707 or 254-865-5754. 00030286

032 MISCELLANEOUS

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

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

032 MISCELLANEOUS

Backhoe, Dozer, Maintainer, Dump Truck: brush clearing, roads, driveways, waterlines, pits, demolition, fence row clearing, culverts. Small jobs ok. Ben Roberts, 254-248-4707 or 254-865-5754. 00030286

037 HELP WANTED

NOW HIRING

- Nursing Home Administrator – FT; License Required
- MDS Coordinator – FT
- Treatment Nurse – FT
- MDS Coordinator – FT
- Occupational Therapist – PRN
- RN – FT & PRN; All Shifts for Charge Nurse and Nursing
- LVN – FT & PRN; All Shifts for Charge Nurse and Nursing

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

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

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

037 HELP WANTED

ch Coryell HEALTH
 AT THE MEADOWS

- \$10,000 FT SIGN ON BONUS
- CNA/NA – FT, All Shifts
- \$4,000 FT SIGN ON BONUS
- CMA/CNA: FT, All Shifts
- \$4,000 FT SIGN ON BONUS

*Paid Certified Nurse Aide class with on-the-job training! Must be a Certified Medication Aide for Texas and must maintain a Certified Nurse Aide for Texas

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

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

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

Job summaries at www.CoryellHealth.org

045 SERVICES

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

FERGUSON ROOFING: Locally owned company serving all Central Texas area. Commercial and Residential. Free Estimates, 254-466-5128 00030282

099 PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF BID FOR ERECTION OF METAL SECURITY FENCE: The Board of Trustees of the Jonesboro Independent School District (“JISD”) hereby serves notice that it will accept sealed bids FOR ERECTION OF A METAL PRIVACY FENCE with the following specifications:

Distance: Approximately 5000 Linear Feet
Height: 6 Feet Tall

Specifics:
 Black R Panel
 2 3/8” pipe Every 10 Feet
 - Driven or Set 3 Feet in the ground
 Kicker Every 100 Feet
 Three (3) - 4 Inch Pearlings
 - Spaced Accordingly
 Gold J Trim on Top and Bottom
 This would include 4 gates (16 ft opening - 2 x 8 ft) that will be locked from inside.

Bids will be opened on August 15, 2023 at 7:00 PM in Board Meeting

Interested parties with questions concerning specifications of the building that may not be listed or need further explanation, may contact Mr. Matt Dossey, Superintendent of Schools, at the address below, by phone, or at matt.dossey@jonesboroisd.net. JISD reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in bids received. Bids received after the deadline or faxed and/or electronic bids will not be considered. Sealed bids will be received until: August 15, 2023 at 12:00 PM.

Address:
 Jonesboro Independent School District
 Attn: Mr. Matt Dossey
 Superintendent of Schools
 P.O. Box 125
 Mailing: 14909 E. State Hwy. 36
 Jonesboro, Texas 76538-0125
 Phone: 254-463-2111
 FAX: 254-463-2275
 00030252

PUBLIC NOTICE: Public Notice is hereby being given that the owner of Lot 17, West Moody Farms, a Subdivision in the Whitson Community, being on Farm to Market Road No. 107 approximately 1 mile East of Mother Neff Parkway, intends to sell an existing house on 1.47-Acres out of the original 25.97-Acre tract. This action requires a re-plat with Coryell County. Publication of this notice will be 3 times in the Gatesville Messenger, with a target Commissioners Court date of August 8, 2023. Respondents may reply to the Coryell County Road and Bridge Department, Mr. Justin Mannix with any comments. Comments also are allowed at the Commissioners Court. 00030253

Public Notice
 Public notice is hereby given that the owner of Lot 47, Indian Creek Ranch, a subdivision approximately 5.4 miles west of South Purnela on CR 159 intends to divide the 7.02 acre tract into one 2.07 lot and a 4.95 acre lot. This action requires a re-plat with Coryell County. Publication of this notice will be 3 times in the Gatesville Messenger, with a target Commissioners Court date of August 8, 2023. Respondents may reply to the Coryell County Road and Bridge Department, Mr. Justin Mannix with any comments. Comments also are allowed at the Commissioners Court. 00030254

Application has been made with The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit & Food and Beverage Certificate by Antonio Mendez dba La Hacienda Mexican Grill & Cantina #3 to be located at 2320 South Hwy 36, Gatesville, Coryell Co., Texas. 00030266

037 HELP WANTED

Extra! Extra!

JOB OPPORTUNITY

The Gatesville Messenger has an opening for a reporter. Responsibilities include a variety of news ranging from community events, local schools, city and county government. A successful candidate should have strong writing skills, be committed to accurate, ethical journalism and be able to work as a team member. Experience preferred but will train the right applicant. Salary is commensurate with experience. The Gatesville Messenger does offer a strong benefits package to include paid time off, 401K, medical insurance and other benefits. Submit a writing sample and resume to sam@hcnews.com. No phone calls please.



037 HELP WANTED

Backhoe, Dozer, Maintainer, Dump Truck: brush clearing, roads, driveways, waterlines, pits, demolition, fence row clearing, culverts. Small jobs ok. Ben Roberts, 254-248-4707 or 254-865-5754. 00030286

037 HELP WANTED

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Your ad should be here.....

NOW HIRING

ch Coryell HEALTH

Assisted/Independent Living:
 • CNA – FT, Night shift
 • \$4,000 SIGN ON BONUS
 • CNA-PRN all Shifts
 • CMA - PRN

Business Office:
 • Patient Account Specialist - FT

Home Health:
 • RN – FT
 • PCA PRN – for Gatesville, Copperas Cove, and Hamilton

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

Medical Clinic:
 • LVN – FT
 • Certified Medical Assistant/CCMA – FT
 • LVN, RN, or CMA – General Surgery Clinic
 • RN or LVN Cardiology Clinic
 • CMA Pain Management
 • Audiologist - FT

Culinary:
 • Chef - Cook Assistant – FT
 • Executive Chef

EMS:
 • Paramedic – FT/PRN
 • \$8,000 SIGN ON BONUS
 • EMT – PRN

Emergency Department:
 • RN – FT & PRN

LAB:
 • MLT – PRN
 • Phlebotomist Weekend Shift

Med/ Surg:
 • CNA – FT All Shifts
 • \$4,000 SIGN ON BONUS
 • RN or LVN – PRN All shifts
 • RN or LVN – FT Nightshift
 • \$10,000 SIGN ON BONUS

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

Dialysis Center:
 • Social Worker – FT/PT M-F, 8am-5pm
 • RN Charge Nurse – FT Mon, Wed & Fri, 4:45am-8:00pm
 • Home Dialysis RN

Surgery:
 • Operating Room Scrub Technician – FT
 • Surgery Housekeeper – FT
 • Certified Central Sterilization Technician – FT
 • Circulating RN
 • PACU RN - FT

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

BENEFITS OFFERED:
 • Competitive compensation • Paid Vacation & Sick Leave
 • Matching 457B investments • Tuition Reimbursement
 • Health, Dental, Life and supplemental Insurances. EOE.

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

Job summaries at www.CoryellHealth.org

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Backhoe, Dozer, Maintainer, Dump Truck: brush clearing, roads, driveways, waterlines, pits, demolition, fence row clearing, culverts. Small jobs ok. Ben Roberts, 254-248-4707 or 254-865-5754. 00030286

NOW HIRING
HAMILTON HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>HAMILTON HOSPITAL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radiology Technologist – FT • EVS Team Lead – FT • Maintenance Worker – FT • Cook – PRN • Host/Hostess – FT • Admissions Clerk – FT, PT, & PRN • Respiratory Therapist – FT • EMS Ambulance Billing Specialist – FT • RN (Cardiopulmonary) – FT • RN (\$10,000 sign on bonus) or LVN (Nights) – FT • Nurse Aid – FT • Nurse Ward – FT • Ultrasound Tech (\$10,000 Sign on Bonus) – FT | <p>SOLUTIONS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licenses Professional Counselor (\$5,000 sign on bonus) – FT • PMHNP (\$5,000 Sign on bonus) – FT <p>CENTRAL TEXAS EYE CARE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optometry Assistant – PRN <p>EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registered Nurse – PRN <p>HAMILTON RHC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LVN or CMA – FT |
|---|--|

We Offer:

- Competitive Salaries and On Demand Pay
- Paid Time Off and Holidays
- Fitness Center Membership
- Education Reimbursement and Employee Discounts
- Matching 457B Retirement Program
- Health, Dental, Vision, & Supplemental Insurance

Apply Today!

HAMILTON HEALTHCARE SYSTEM
 Send resumes to hr@hamiltonhospital.org
 Call (254) 386-1920 or visit for more info <https://hamiltonhospital.org/careers/>
 EOE, 400 North Brown, Hamilton, TX

045 SERVICES

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

GOT JUNK? Call for free estimates! Mondo's Junk Removal & Dumpster Rentals 254-223-2279 00030239

ASHLEY'S LANDSCAPING & SERVICES: Tree Trimming, Leaf/Yard Cleanup, Mowing, Landscaping, Moving Services. 254-239-8842/ Like us on Facebook/ John 3:16 00030289

TREE WORKS Tree Service: tree trimming, removal & stump grinding. Free estimates. Call Lloyd, (254)223-3287. 00030284

Schuman's HEAT & AIR Inc.
Residential & Commercial Service • Installation Refrigeration
 Servicing All Brands
 Gatesville & Surrounding Areas
Darrel Schuman - Owner
254-499-0054
 TACL27524C WWW.SCHUMANSAIR.COM

CENTRAL TEXAS REMODELING AND HANDYMAN: Tile, sheetrock, painting, decks, fences, flooring, windows, siding, roofing, texturing. Cecil Woodson, 254-216-3835. 00030288

HUNT FENCING: Farm & Ranch Fence, Residential, Corrals, Automatic Solar Gates, Custom Entryways & Gates, Welding Projects. John Hunt, Owner, (254)248-2613 00030285

Kenneth Russell Shredding Service, small or large acreage. Call 254-223-3119. 00030291

045 SERVICES

NOLTE'S CONSTRUCTION



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

Dry Creek Trash Service Weekly Pickup and Roll-off container rentals
 Ofc. (254) 463-4988
 Cell (254) 206-1512
drycreektrashservice.com

060 GARAGE SALE

Weekly Feature Tues., 08/08 - Sat., 08/12: LINENS! The Boys & Girls Club Resale Shop, 1706 E. Main. Tuesday-Friday, 8a.m.-5p.m. & Saturday, 9a.m.-3p.m. 00030260

ESTATE SALE: August 5&6, 9a.m.- 3p.m., 3657 FM 2602 Clifton-76634. We have antiques, furniture, a grandfather clock, glassware, full toolboxes, hand tools galore, metal lathes, grinders, welding machines, a Millrite milling machine, and various other items! Everything must go, so be sure to arrive early to not miss anything. 00030281

072 HOUSES FOR SALE

HOUSE FOR SALE: 205 West James St. Hamilton, TX. 2BD/1BA: New roof & paint inside & out, new kitchen cabinets. Call or text: 254-223-2177. 00030244

074 HOUSES FOR RENT

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099
PUBLIC NOTICES

Request for Proposal (RFP) for Administration Professional Services - Cover Letter

July 25, 2023

Re: Texas General Land Office ("GLO") Regional Mitigation Program Council of Governments Method of Distribution (COG-MOD)

Dear Service Providers:

Attached is a copy of Coryell County's Request for Proposals ("RFP") for professional administration services. These services are being solicited to assist the County in its application(s) for and implementation of one or more contracts, if awarded, from the GLO's COG-MOD program(s). The County is applying for such funding for hazard mitigation planning, construction, engineering, and grant administrative activities as indicated in the attached Scope of Work.

Service providers may submit proposals for any or all activities listed in the attached Scope of Work. Multiple contracts may be awarded as a result of his solicitation. The County will, in its sole discretion, determine the number of contracts awarded, and may decide not to award any contracts.

The submission requirements for his proposal are included in the attached RFP. Please submit a proposal of services and statement of qualifications to:

Coryell County Purchaser
Anne Mayberry
800 E. Main St., Suite A
Gatesville, Texas 76528
county.purchaser@coryell-countytx.gov

The RFP document, RFP updates, and additional RFP information or amendments will be posted on the Coryell County website and may be retrieved by clicking on 'Coryell County COG-MOD GA Services' at <https://www.coryellcounty.org/page/coryell>. Bids.RFQ. If you are having trouble obtaining this RFP, please request a copy via email from Anne Mayberry at county.purchaser@coryell-countytx.gov.

The deadline for submission of proposals is August 14, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. It is the responsibility of the submitting entity to ensure that the proposal is received in a timely manner. Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered for award, regardless of whether or not the delay was outside the control of the submitting provider. Coryell County reserves the right to negotiate with any and all service providers submitting timely proposals.

Coryell County is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Section 3 Residents, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises, Women Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Area firms are encouraged to submit proposals.

00030277
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON RECORDS ARCHIVE FEE PLAN

Pursuant to Local Government Code 118.025, Coryell County, hereby gives notice that a public hearing will be held at 9:00 a.m. on August 22, 2023, in the Coryell County Commissioners' Courtroom, 801 E. Leon Street, Gatesville, Texas, to receive public input on the Records Archive Fee Plan, a written plan for funding the preservation and restoration of the County Clerk's records archive in Coryell County. At the hearing, interested persons are entitled to speak and present evidence for or against the Records Archive Fee Plan. 00030280

099
PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Coryell County Commissioners Court will hold a public hearing on August 8, 2023 at Commissioners Courtroom, 800 E. Main Street, Gatesville TX 76528 at 9:00 a.m. to receive comments for or against a request by Micah Pilkey (LFG Investors, LLC) for a revision of KINGSTON'S ESTATES, PHASE II, Lot Numbers 3 & 5 in Block 1.

The subject site is located at 725 and 805 Barton Lane, Gatesville, TX.

The subject site is an 8.02-acre tract being in KINGSTON'S ESTATES, PHASE II, Lot Numbers 3 & 5 in Block 1, as recorded in Slide 1104 of the Coryell County Clerk Records.

Additional information and a map of the subject site are available upon request for review. You may contact Justin Mannix At The Coryell County Road and Bridge Department.

00030255

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Harold Richard Donelson, Jr., Deceased, were issued on July 24, 2023 in Cause No. 22-10766 pending in the County Court at Law; Coryell County, Texas, to: Mary Anthonette Donelson. All persons having claims against this Estate which is being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and manner prescribed by law: Mary Anthonette Donelson c/o Ted Smith Law Group, PLLC, 660 W. FM 2410 Harker Heights, TX 76548 DATED THE 1st day of August 2023. Ted Smith, State Bar No. 18753800.

00030278

NOTICE

Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code, Section 152.013, notice is hereby given that Coryell County is developing a proposed Budget for FY 2024. The proposed Budget will contain salary and/or allowance increases for the following elected officials, in the amounts shown:

- Salary Allowances County Judge
- \$7000.00 - Juvenile Board Compensation Commissioner Precinct 1
- \$2000.00 - Automobile Allowance Commissioner Precinct 2
- \$2000.00 - Automobile Allowance Commissioner Precinct 3
- \$2000.00 - Automobile Allowance Commissioner Precinct 4
- \$2000.00 - Automobile Allowance Justice of the Peace Pct 1 \$3000.00
- \$2000.00 - Automobile Allowance Justice of the Peace Pct 2 \$3000.00
- \$2000.00 - Automobile Allowance Justice of the Peace Pct 3 \$3000.00
- \$2000.00 - Automobile Allowance Justice of the Peace Pct 4 \$3000.00
- Constable Precinct 1 \$2000.00
- Constable Precinct 2 \$2000.00
- Constable Precinct 3 \$2000.00
- Constable Precinct 4 \$2000.00

00030279

102
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- ▶ 3 Br, 2 Ba Home, 601 Rolling Hills Rd., Gatesville, TX. Fireplace, large master bedroom with updated shower, kitchen & dining open to living room. \$239,500
- ▶ 4 Br, 3Ba Home, 201 Elm Ln., Gatesville. JUST REMODELED, open floor plan, fireplace in 3 rooms, nice backyard with swimming pool, Storage building. \$465,000
- ▶ 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, \$115,000
- ▶ 10.01 acres, Lot 20 Phase 4 Rio Escondido north of Evant, TX. Good tree cover, great views. \$150,000
- ▶ 10.01 acres east of Evant, TX in Coryell County on CR 160. Lot 39, Buffalo Creek Ranch Subdivision. Rolling terrain, good tree cover. \$150,000
- ▶ 10.01 acres, Lot 48 in Phase 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX., Dry Branch along back of the property, nice home site overlooking the branch. \$185,000
- ▶ 10.01 acres, Lot 28 Phase 4 Rio Escondido north of Evant, TX. Good tree cover, great views. \$200,000
- ▶ 11 +/- acres, Arnett, TX in Coryell County. Good tree cover, nice home site, will need to be fenced on the east boundary. MCWSC may be available. \$179,500
- ▶ 11.64 acres, 3/2 home south of Evant, TX in Coryell County. Nice porch, large master bedroom and bath, barn, workshop, seasonal creek, Hwy 281 Frontage. \$850,000
- ▶ 17.85 acres, 296 Cross Timbers Lane, Gatesville, 2 homes, main home 3 Br, 2 Ba brick home, open floor plan, second home 2 Br, 2 Ba single wide mobile home, 2 covered parking spaces, good tree cover, rolling terrain, storage building, excellent fences, 1 stock pond. \$749,500
- ▶ 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
- ▶ 38 +/- acres, south of Pearl, TX, Coryell County, FM 183 frontage, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, nice views, great home site. \$372,400
- ▶ 41.0457 acres, Hamilton, TX, CR 404 in Hamilton County. Rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, approx. 25 acres farmland, 2 stock tanks, & good fences. \$449,000
- ▶ 47.332 ac. south of Ireland, TX. Good tree cover, rolling terrain, good fencing on 3 sides, southside will need to be fenced. \$395,000
- ▶ 50.24 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.
- ▶ 58.51 acres, 3 Br, 2 Ba frame home, 6630 FM 183, Evant, TX, water well, several outbuildings, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover & 2 stock tanks. \$585,000
- ▶ 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, carpet in the bedrooms, vaulted ceiling, rock fireplace, granite countertops, breakfast bar, garden tub, metal building approx. 45 ft x 24 ft, older barn approx. 50 ft. x 30 ft., cattle pens, 1 stock tank, approx. 48 acres of coastal. \$1,249,500
- ▶ 82.43 acres west of Evant, TX, Mills County. Open pasture, scattered mesquite tree cover, native grasses, 1 stock tank, fenced on 3 sides. \$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
- ▶ 106 +/- acres, CR 180, Purlmela, TX, Coryell & Hamilton County. Good tree cover, rolling terrain, 1 tank, paved road frontage, electricity is across the road. \$832,100
- ▶ 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
- ▶ 199.86 acres, 4 BR, 2 Ba Manufactures Home, 1856 sq. ft., 1805 CR 180, Purlmela, TX in Coryell County. Front porch, fully furnished, 2 stock tanks, 8 ft. x 40 ft storage container, storage building with water storage tank, barn, cattle pens, water well 560 ft deep, rolling terrain, good tree cover and paved road frontage. \$1,568,901

RICEPE

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.

Crunch No-Fry Chicken

BY ELIZABETH BROWN

- Ingredients*
- ¾ c finely crushed cornflakes
 - 4 skinless boneless chicken breast halves
 - 1/8 tsp black pepper
 - ¼ c chicken broth
 - ½ tsp garlic powder
 - 1/8 tsp red pepper

Directions
Mix cornflakes, garlic powder, black pepper, and red pepper. Dip chicken into broth. Coat with cornflake mixture. Place on baking sheet. Bake at 400 degrees for 20 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink.



WHEN PUBLIC NOTICES REACH THE PUBLIC, EVERYONE BENEFITS.

Some officials want to move notices from newspapers to government-run websites, where they may not be easily found.

This is like putting the fox in charge of the hen house.



Keep Public Notices in Newspapers



Elvis will be in the building, August 25 at city auditorium

Submitted Item

This month a trio of talented Elvis performers will be putting on a stage show at the Gatesville City Auditorium. Hound Dog Productions, a local entertainment company based in Temple, is bringing their production of From a Jack to a King. This live music Elvis experience will feature Hunter

Cole, Travis Hudson, and John Cobb.

Hunter Cole is a 16-year-old advocate for autism. He was nonverbal for years, but his love for music and Elvis have brought him out of his shell. He has performed for over 100 total private and public events over the past two years. He won third place in the national youth competition in Tupelo, MS

at Elvis's birthplace. His goal is to show others that even if someone has autism, they can still achieve their dreams.

Travis Hudson is a crowd favorite from San Antonio that performs all decades of Elvis. He has won many awards over the last six years that he has been performing and was featured in Tex Appeal Magazine. He is

extremely talented and puts his heart and soul into every performance. He is also the official Elvis for Hard Rock Café in San Antonio.

John Cobb is a multi-award-winning tribute artist from Chilton. He has performed at Graceland, competed in many contests across the United States, and was featured in the Wacoan Magazine. He special-

izes in the concert years of 1975 to 1977. Residents of Gatesville may recognize him since he delivered to Gatesville for UPS for over 12 years. He recently traded in his uniform for a jumpsuit. He loves bringing joy to the lives of lifelong Elvis fans of all ages.

This one night only event will be on Friday, August 25, at 7 p.m. at the Gatesville

City Auditorium across from the Gatesville Public Library. There will be a party after the show for all ticket holders at Junction on Route 36, located at 1216 Hwy 36 in Gatesville. Tickets are \$20 each and can be purchased by calling 682-268-9269.



Elvis performer Hunter Cole

COURTESY PHOTO



Elvis performer Travis Hudson

COURTESY PHOTO



Elvis performer John Cobb

COURTESY PHOTO

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86th Annual Gatesville Riding Club Rodeo

PHOTOS BY DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER



Gatesville Junior High and High School gear up for 2023-2024 school year

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Anticipating the upcoming school year and with the first day of school quickly approaching, Suzy Penrod and Liz Shoaf are remaining busy tying up loose ends as the start of school looms ahead. Penrod and Shoaf recently shared their feelings about their schools and the preparations they are making for the coming year.

Gatesville Junior High School At Gatesville Junior High, principal Suzy Penrod recently completed her 26th year in the field of education. She says that she be-



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER
Gatesville High School principal Liz Shoaf

came an educator because she's always enjoyed being around and working with kids.

In addressing the upcoming 2023-2024 school year, Penrod stated "I am filled with excitement, optimism, and anticipation."

Penrod said that building upon last year, her top priorities remain the safety and well-being of students, boosting attendance and enrollment, and ensuring academic excellence for every student.

"We will also challenge our students to think critically by including more instances of higher order questioning during classroom instruction, while continuing to offer opportunities within lessons and units of study," Penrod said.

In preparation for the new school year, Penrod said "We prioritize organization to ensure a smooth transition for students at the start of every school year. Part of our organization includes reflections and insights from previous school years and focusing on what's crucial from July through August."

In addressing day to day challenges, Penrod said "Every day in education brings new challenges, particularly with the ever-changing policies resulting from state legislation. One of the primary problems is aligning our campus vision and supporting our staff with the legislative shifts, all the while keeping students' best interest at the heart of our decisions."

According to Penrod, the junior high school will be welcoming three new teachers this year, Jaelan Linville, Shawna Martin, and Madison Carpenter. Additionally, Johanna Reynolds will be teaching the Junior High Band students. Four new aides will also be joining the junior high team.

Concerning the staff at Gatesville Junior High, Penrod was quick to note "The



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Gatesville Junior High School principal Suzy Penrod

best quality of the junior high staff is their unwavering commitment to student learning and the meaningful relationships they cultivate with their students. Their dedication is not just a practice but is ingrained in our school's culture."

Penrod once stated "I believe in every child being valued and challenged to reach their full potential. With a positive mindset, we can achieve everything together."

Gatesville High School Beginning her first official year as principal at Gatesville High School, Liz Shoaf, who just completed her 20th year in education, is looking forward to the coming 2023-2024 school year.

When asked about her expectations, Shoaf said that her thoughts are centered around being a strong support system for the staff and the students. "We have identified three priorities for the school year; relationships, intentional instruction, and community service. We believe that all three will help cultivate life-long values and skills that will positively impact our students now

and in the future."

Principals often face a variety of challenges each school year, but Shoaf has her own take on the topic.

"I am new to the role so I think my biggest challenge will be finding a balance between planned tasks, projects and meetings, and those that just pop up," she said.

Shoaf continued, "I was assistant principal on the campus for the last two years, so I know there is never a day that goes exactly as planned. I am part of an exceptional team so I'm confident that our challenges will be important learning opportunities that will make us better than we were the day before."

In preparation for her new role as principal, Shoaf decided she needed to prioritize goals, projects, and tasks by level of importance and their deadlines.

"I spent the last couple of months of the previous school year and most of the summer months talking to staff and students in order to find out what their needs and goals were. Talking to them helped me see the

campus and its needs from multiple points of view."

According to Shoaf, Gatesville High School will have approximately seventy teachers and instructional aides on campus this year.

In regard to the high school staff, Shoaf is very complimentary of her co-workers.

"I am in awe of the Gatesville High School staff. They are selfless, hardworking, fun-loving, and team-oriented. The best thing about them is their dedication to the students' happiness and success. They truly want what is best for every student in the building," she said.

Shoaf said that she remains passionate about the students and their learning and is committed to supporting teachers, building relationships with students and families, and strengthening community partnerships in the upcoming school year.

"I respect and treasure the students and staff and plan to start the school year and each day focused on making a difference," she said.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Gatesville Elementary principal, Keegan Webb, oversees last minute details before the beginning of school.

Gatesville Elementary prepares for arrival of Primary School graduates

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

After leaving Gatesville Primary School, the next step for students is the Gatesville Elementary School which is a transition period for the younger students moving to a new campus.

To help the new arrivals with their change of surroundings, Gatesville Elementary recently held a "snow cone social" so that the incoming students could visit with their new principal, Keegan Webb, assistant principal, Karrie Judd, and the teachers.

Gatesville Elementary School principal Keegan Webb, who just completed her 19th year in education and fifth year as principal of Gatesville Elementary, expressed her love for her job because it allows her to work with amazing students, families, and staff each day.

"I cannot think of anything more rewarding than spending each day with our students watching them learn and grow," Webb said.

Webb remarked on one of her goals stating, "We are committed to providing a high-quality education for every student and creating a safe place for active learning and risk taking in our classrooms."

In getting organized for the upcoming academic year, Webb reflected, "I love that in education you get to have a fresh start each year. We begin preparing for the upcoming school year before

the previous year even ends. Preparing for an upcoming school year is a big job and we owe it to our students to be ready."

Webb reported that Gatesville Elementary will have an amazing group of educators joining them for the upcoming year.

"They bring with them excitement, new ideas, and experience to draw on," she said.

Webb concluded by saying, "My day is filled with smiles, laughs, and more hugs than I can count...I think that's pretty tough to beat."

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COURTESY PHOTO BY JENNIFER SMITH

Gatesville tennis season begins with competition in Robinson.

Gatesville Tennis falls to Robinson team, 3 to 16

Staff Reports

It was a pretty slow day for the start of Gatesville High School tennis action as team members warmed up in the sweltering heat.

Gatesville took on the Robinson Rockets at Robinson,

winning only three of their 19 matches.

Callie Smith & Jack Armstrong won their mixed doubles match.

The varsity team was scheduled to compete on Thursday in Temple.

SUDOKU

Solution for the puzzle that ran July 29.

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com



COURTESY PHOTO BY JENNIFER SMITH

A celebratory racket tap by Gatesville girls doubles teammates.

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

CORYELL Kids

Sandcastle Day

AUGUST 5



Sandcastles are like magical creations that can be built right on the beach! They are made by shaping and molding sand into magnificent structures. Building sandcastles is a fun and creative activity that children of all ages can enjoy.

To make a sandcastle, you need a few things. First, you need a good spot on the beach with lots of sand.

Then, you need a bucket and a shovel. The bucket is used to gather sand, and the shovel helps you dig and shape the sand.

Start by filling the bucket with wet sand. Wet sand sticks together better, so it's perfect for building strong sandcastles. Pack the sand tightly into the bucket, and then carefully turn it upside down and

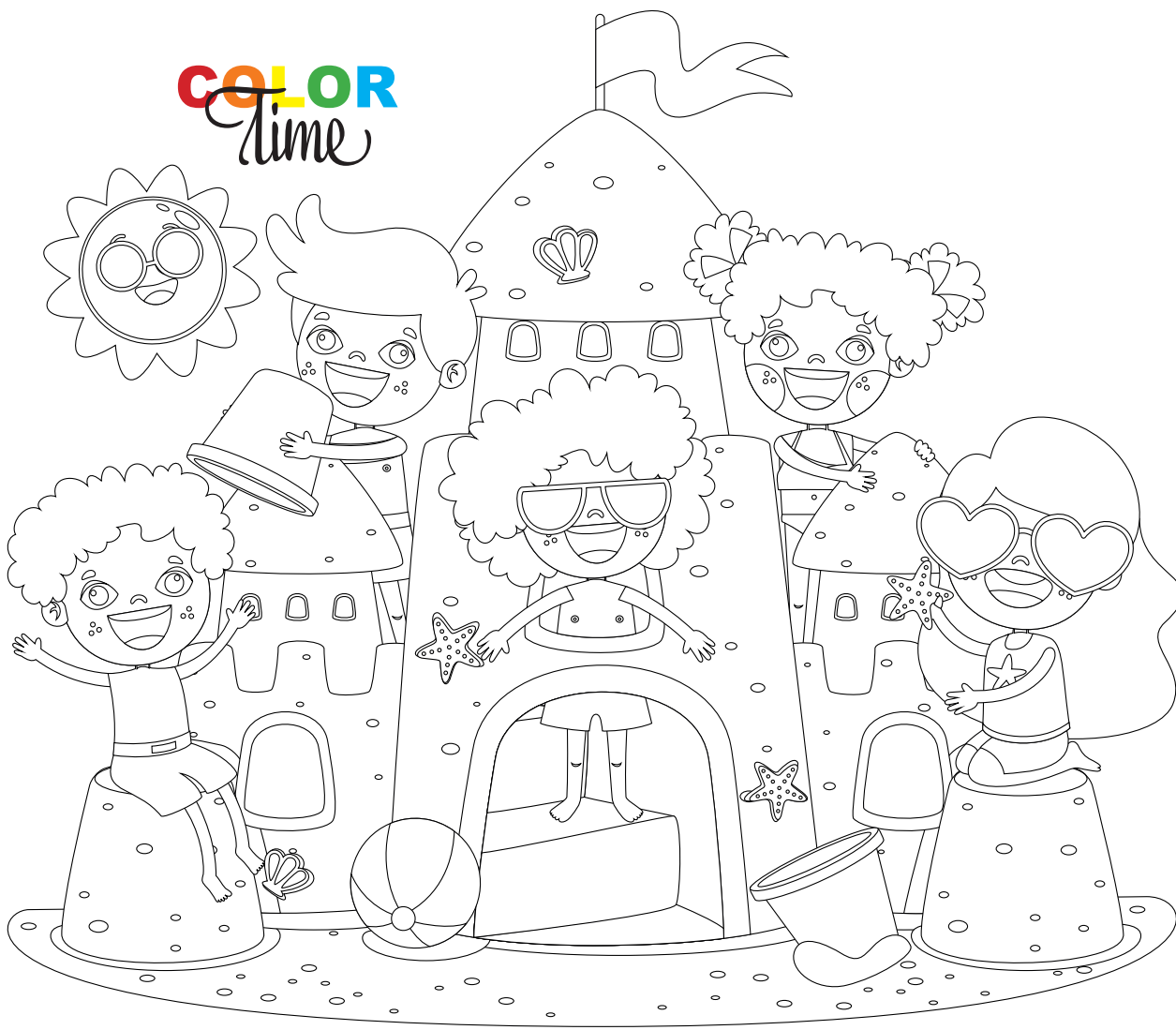
lift it off the sand. Ta-da! You have the base of your sandcastle.

Now, it's time to get creative. You can use smaller buckets, seashells, or even your hands to add more layers to your sandcastle. Build walls, towers, and even moats! You can dig a trench and fill it with water from the ocean to create a surrounding moat for your castle.

Decorating your sandcastle is the most exciting part. You can use seashells, pebbles, or seaweed to add unique features. Draw patterns in the sand, build bridges, or make flags out of sticks and leaves to give your sandcastle a personal touch.

But remember, the ocean tides are like mischievous friends. They might come and wash away your masterpiece, but that's okay! Building sandcastles is about the joy of creating something beautiful in the moment. It's a chance to let your imagination run wild and have fun with friends and family.

So, gather your friends, siblings, or parents, and head to the beach. Let the sand tickle your toes, feel the warm sun on your face, and start building your very own sandy kingdom. With a little imagination and teamwork, you'll create sandcastles that will bring smiles and memories that will last a lifetime.



Did You Know?

The world's tallest sandcastle was built in 2007 as part of the "Sun Festival" which takes place in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. The sandcastle stood approximately 50 feet high. It took ten days to create and the creators used over 300 truck loads of sand!



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- Best Photographer
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- Best Teacher/Educator
- Best Veterinarian
- Best Waitstaff (Entire Staff)



Readers choice:
The Best of Gatesville is a consumer promotion sponsored by the Gatesville Messenger. Ballots will be published until Aug. 26 for you the reader to cast your vote, telling us what you think are the "Best of" in Gatesville.
Contest Rules:
1. One entry per person. Entries must be on original newspaper ballots, no machine copies will be counted. Ballots must be at least 50% completed. Name, address and phone number must be filled in to be counted. Multiple ballots that appear to be from the same person will not be counted.
2. Final decisions on ballots, categories and winning entries will be made by the Gatesville Messenger.
3. All entries must be received by 5:00 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 31, 2023. (A random drawing of entries will determine the \$50 winner.)

Food & Drink

- Best Asian Food
- Best Bakery
- Best Bar
- Best BBQ
- Best Breakfast
- Best Burger
- Best Catering
- Best Catfish
- Best Chicken
- Best Chicken Fried Steak
- Best Cup of Coffee
- Best Donuts
- Best Happy Hour
- Best Ice Cream
- Best Italian Food
- Best Lunch Menu
- Best Margarita
- Best Mexican Food
- Best Nutrition Drinks
- Best Pizza
- Best Salad
- Best Salsa
- Best Seafood
- Best Snow Cone
- Best Steak
- Best Sushi
- Best Sweet Tea
- Best Taco
- Best Winery

Goods & Services

- Best A/C-Heating Service
- Best Accounting Service
- Best Antique Store
- Best Apartments
- Best Auto Paint & Body
- Best Auto Repair Shop
- Best Bank
- Best Barber Shop
- Best Bed and Breakfast
- Best Boutique/Retail Store
- Best Car Wash/Detail
- Best Carpet Cleaning Service
- Best Computer Repair
- Best Convenience/Gas Store
- Best Day Care
- Best Dentist Office
- Best Dry Cleaner
- Best Electrician
- Best Electric Provider
- Best Embroidery/Screen Printing
- Best Feed Store
- Best Fitness Facility
- Best Flooring Company
- Best Florist
- Best Furniture Store
- Best Grocery Store
- Best Gun Dealer
- Best Hair Salon
- Best Hardware/Building Store
- Best Home Decor
- Best Home Health Agency
- Best Retirement/Assistant Living
- Best Insurance Agency
- Best Jewelry Store
- Best Law Firm
- Best Lawn & Landscape Service
- Best Liquor Store
- Best Live Music Venue
- Best Manicure/Pedicure
- Best Mattress Store
- Best Meat Store
- Best Medical Clinic
- Best Music Lessons
- Best New Car Dealership
- Best Nursing Home
- Best Oil Change
- Best Pest Control
- Best Pet Grooming
- Best Pharmacy
- Best Physical Therapy
- Best Place of Worship
- Best Place to Buy Wine
- Best Plumbing Company
- Best Pre-Owned Car Dealership
- Best Printing
- Best Real Estate Agency
- Best Rehabilitation Center
- Best Resale Shop
- Best Roofing Company
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- Best Tanning Salon
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**Hurry, entries must be received by 5:00 p.m.
Thursday, August 31, 2023**

Coryell County

DEVOTIONAL PAGE



THIS DEVOTIONAL DIRECTORY IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES:

BAPTIST
BETHEL HEIGHTS
 3835 CR 127, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday worship 11 a.m.
BETHLEHEM PRIMITIVE
 Elder Hugh Montgomery, pastor; 4555 FM 1690, Gatesville; Worship 4th Sunday of each month at 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.
CALVARY
 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
 Royse 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.
PRIMERO IGLESIA EMANUEL
 One mile north of Evant, Hwy. 281; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.
PURMELA BAPTIST CHURCH
 Pastor: Brenden Hough; 875 FM 932, Purmela, TX 76566; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
SWEET HOME
 511 N. 14th, Gatesville; Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.; Wednesday worship 7 p.m.
SPANISH
 Ezequiel Casas, pastor; 113 Veazy Dr., Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m., Wednesday Prayer Meeting 6 p.m.
TRINITY
 Bro. Sam Crosby, Pastor; 1506 W. Main, Gatesville; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday worship 8:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Wednesday - activities for adults, youth, & children 6:30 p.m.; 254-865-8495 or Pre-school: 254-248-0041.
TURNERSVILLE
 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
 Interim Pastor: Eddie Taylor; 1102 W. Main St., Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.
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.
CATHOLIC
OUR LADY OF LOURDES
 Rev. Jayaraju Polishetty; 1108 W. Main, Gatesville; Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m. (English) & 12 p.m. (Spanish Mass), Tuesdays at 12:15 p.m. & Wednesday-Friday at 7 a.m.
CHURCH OF CHRIST
CEDAR RIDGE
 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
 2413 E. Main, Gatesville; clases y servicios en Español, 10-11:30 a.m., Solamente en domingos.
MIDWAY
 1955 CR 3640, Copperas Cove; Sundays - worship 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays - Bible Study 5:30 p.m.; Royce 512-734-5390 or Steve 254-865-3559.
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.
ST. PAUL
 Rev. John Heckmann, pastor; Hwy. 36 & FM 1114, The Grove; Sunday School 9 a.m., Sunday worship 10:15 a.m.
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 235 US-281, Evant; Dennis Dutton, Pastor; Sunday worship 10 a.m.
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 2600 E. Main St.; Stephen Schmidt, pastor; Sunday worship 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m., Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. WEDNESDAY WORD: Meal at 5:30 p.m. \$3; youth, Children & Adult Bible Studies at 6 p.m. AA meets Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 6:30 p.m.
OGLESBY UNITED
 Kent Berry, pastor; 109 College St.; Sunday worship 9 a.m.
PIDCOKE
 Bill Jones, Pastor; Hwy. 116 N., Pidcoke; Sunday worship service 10 a.m.; 254-677-6242.
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CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LATTER-DAY SAINTS
 206 S. 26th St., Gatesville; Sacrament services Sundays 10 a.m., Sunday School 10 a.m.
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CORYELL COMMUNITY
 Eric Moffett, Pastor; 115 N. Levita Rd., Gatesville, 248-0849. Sunday worship 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Wednesday services 6 p.m.; Adult Bible Study, Children's Ministry & C3 Student Ministry.
CORYELL FELLOWSHIP
 Doran Belknap III, Pastor; Sunday service 11 a.m., 8205 FM 182, Turnersville; 254-218-5901.
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MINISTRIES
 Pastor: Rev. Brandy Spiker, Sunday service 10 a.m. & 6 p.m., Wednesdays 6 p.m.
 407 SH-36, Ste. 4 & 5, Gatesville.
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 Wes Covey, Pastor; Sunday school 10 a.m., Sunday services 11 a.m. & 6 p.m., Thursdays 7 p.m.; 2518 Bridge St.; 254-392-9472.
GRACE ASSEMBLY CHRISTIAN
 Wray Nunn, pastor; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m., Wednesday worship 6:30 p.m.; Gateway Learning Center, 2315 Osage Rd., Gatesville.
GRACE BIBLE
 Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday services 10:45 a.m.; 4012 US Hwy. 84, Gatesville.
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 Peter M. Mafwal, Pastor; 4460 FM 930, Levita; Sunday Bible Study 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:45 am.
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; Sun-2 Day 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.
MOUNT CALVARY CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
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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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School supplies provided for students at Oglesby ISD

Staff Reports

Oglesby Independent School District and the community of Oglesby will provide school supplies for prekindergarten through twelfth grade for the 2023 to 2024 school year. Backpacks and

earbuds are excluded and need to be bought before the first day of school, Wednesday, August 16.

Prekindergarten nap mats will be provided.

For more information contact Oglesby ISD at 254-456-2271.

The Elk Call

BY DR. JENNIFER INGRAM
Evant ISD Superintendent

Greetings! I cannot believe we are only two weeks away from having all our Elks back in school - it is such a fun time of year as we plan for back-to-school events, fall sports, pep rallies, and all the things!

This summer has flown by, but it has certainly been a very busy summer throughout Evant ISD. Our student athletes have been putting in so much work this summer and I could not be more proud of their dedication to be the best version of themselves. In addition to our students, our teachers have spent an incredible amount of time in professional learning activities throughout the summer as well so that they can be the very best teachers for our students. Our maintenance team and student workers have put in lots of time this summer to renovate our building. We have painted and painted! In addition, we have installed new flooring throughout the main hallways and will be finishing that up over the next week to be ready to open our doors in August. We have also added several Newline TVs to our inventory so that almost every classroom will be equipped with the smart technology suited for engaging and interactive instruction.

As we enter the school year,

it is important that we recognize the work it takes to be successful. One initiative that we will begin this year is Earned Not Given. As we work to develop future leaders, it is important to teach our students that leadership is about service to others, the trust that you are given in that leadership role, and the character that you embody each and every day. There is a work ethic that comes with leadership that we want our Elks to exemplify in their efforts across campus. Therefore, as we begin our Earned Not Given campaign, we will celebrate individual and group efforts as we recognize students and teachers alike by awarding them with a newly designed ENG t-shirt. The only way to get this shirt is to EARN it by displaying the Elk core values consistently and guiding others to do the same. This will be a district-wide initiative and we cannot wait to present our first shirts very soon...watch our social media pages as we begin these celebrations!

From an academic stand-

point, this is shaping up to be a very exciting year. Region 12 has awarded EISD with a grant to participate in a pilot program with Region 12 and TEA to align instructional materials and classroom teaching and learning. In addition to that grant, EISD recently received notice that we were awarded a 2nd grant allowing us to focus on strengthening our campus and district systems and supports. Through these two grant programs, EISD will partner with Region 12 curriculum specialists as we host these specialists on-site routinely throughout the school year to provide support and curriculum expertise to our staff. These grants will assist EISD in strengthening campus systems, building capacity in teachers and leaders, and ultimately improving student outcomes.

In addition to these academic support grants, Evant ISD was awarded a 21st Century Community Learning Center grant to sustain the ACE after school program. While we have participated in this grant for the last five years, the previous cycle ended, and the future of the program was questionable without an extension of funding. Thus, for the new cycle of grants, Evant ISD partnered with Brady ISD, Walnut Springs ISD, and Morgan ISD and was awarded the most recent cycle to run over the course of the next five years. This is great news for our students and parents as we will now be able to fund the program and increase opportunities for further academic intervention and support for students as well as be able to offer varied enrichment opportunities to engage

students in activities that support their overall growth and development outside of the academic realm. We are currently putting our ACE staff together and plan to kick that program off during the 2nd week of school.

Speaking of school, our first day is just around the corner on August 8 as classes will begin at 7:45 a.m. I am very excited to be able to announce that EISD will once again be able to provide free breakfast and lunch to all students each day. In addition, we will continue to run a 4-day instructional week with Mondays off each week throughout the year. Classes will be Tuesday-Friday from 7:45 a.m. until 4:15 p.m., just like last year. On Mondays, students may be involved in extracurricular practices or specialized tutoring. However, Mondays offer a great opportunity for scheduling doctor and dental visits, trips, and other family activities that can be enjoyed together.

It is an exciting time to be an Evant Elk! Staff, teachers, and administrators have all put in a lot of time and effort this summer to ensure that our Elks get the very best from us in the coming school year. There has been a lot of work put in - but the work is worth it when our students succeed. It takes work to build programs, renovate buildings, increase technology, improve student outcomes, and maximize learning opportunities. But...at Evant ISD, we believe it is WORTH THE WORK! We are completely invested in our students, our community, and our school and I know that 2023-24 will be the best year yet! #ELKInvest

Evant ISD announces school supply list for 2023-24

Staff Reports

Pre-kindergarten

- One backpack tag with name and phone number
- One pair of headphones, no wireless
- Two boxes of tissues with lotion
- One water bottle with spill proof lid
- One nap mat, mark with student's name
- One nap blanket or pillow, mark with student's name
- Two rolls of Viva paper towels
- One picture of family, can include pets
- Two boxes of cereal for snack time
- One box of gallon sized Ziploc bags
- One box of quart sized Ziploc bags
- Two containers of bleach free disinfectant wipes

- One can of disinfectant spray
- Two changes of seasonal clothing, mark with student's name

Kindergarten

- One backpack, mark with student's name
- One pair of headphones, no earbuds or wireless
- Three boxes of tissues
- Three containers of bleach free disinfectant wipes
- Three cans of bleach free disinfectant spray
- One padded nap mat with blanket and pillow
- One package of baby wipes
- One oversized shirt for art, mark with name
- One reusable water bottle
- One box of gallon sized Ziploc bags
- One box of quart sized Ziploc bags



- Ziploc bags
- Two multi-packs of snacks
- Two changes of seasonal clothing, mark with student's name

First Grade

- One backpack
- One pair of headphones

- One large container of disinfectant wipes
- Three boxes of tissues
- One box of snack sized Ziploc bags
- One box of sandwich sized Ziploc bags
- One box of quart sized Ziploc bags

- One box of gallon sized Ziploc bags

Second Grade

- One backpack
- One reusable water bottle
- One pair of headphones, no Bluetooth or earbuds
- One box of tissues
- One box of quart sized Ziploc bags
- One box of gallon sized Ziploc bags
- One container of disinfectant wipes
- Three boxes of tissues

Third Grade

- One backpack
- One set of headphones
- Two boxes of tissues
- One container of disinfectant wipes
- One box of quart sized Ziploc bags

Fourth Grade

- One pair of earbuds or headphones
- Three boxes of tissues
- One backpack
- One box of quart sized Ziploc bags
- One container of disinfectant wipes

Fifth Grade

- One backpack
- One pair of headphones
- Four boxes of tissues
- One assignment planner

Junior High School/High School

- One pair of headphones
- One 16 count package of AA batteries
- One 16 count package of AAA batteries
- Two multi-packs of Expo markers
- Three boxes of tissues

Jonesboro ISD presents school supply list for new year

Staff Reports

Pre-kindergarten

- Twelve #2 yellow pencils
- Ten glue sticks
- One pair of Fiskars pointed scissors
- Two small crayon boxes
- Two Kleenex boxes
- Three boxes of Crayola crayons
- Two green plastic folders with pockets and brads
- One change of clothes, labeled with student's name
- Backpack, no wheels
- Two pink erasers
- Four black dry erase markers
- One nap mat
- One box of wipes
- One package of colored paper, not construction paper
- One box of gallon sized Ziploc bags, girls only
- One box of quart sized Ziploc bags, boys only

Kindergarten

- One package of 24 count Ticonderoga pencils
- Four containers of Play-Doh
- One pair of Fiskars pointed scissors
- One bottle of white Elmer's liquid glue
- Three boxes of Crayola crayons
- Two green plastic folders with brads
- Two packages of cap erasers
- Two black dry erase markers

- Backpack, no wheels
- One box of quart sized Ziploc bags
- One package of classic color Crayola markers
- Two boxes of Kleenex
- One package of baby wipes
- One nap mat
- One change of clothes, labeled with student's name

First Grade

- One package of #2 pencils
- Four pink school erasers
- One pair of Fiskars pointed scissors
- Twelve glue sticks
- Two yellow plastic folders with brads and pockets
- One red plastic folder with pockets
- One plastic folder with pockets, any color
- One small school box
- Four packages of 24 count Crayola crayons
- One package of cap erasers
- Four dry erase markers
- Two boxes of Kleenex
- Backpack, no wheels
- Two composition notebooks, no spiral notebooks
- One package of eight markers, no scents
- Two yellow highlighters

Second Grade

- One 24 count of Ticonderoga pencils
- One package of cap erasers
- One pair of Fiskars pointed scissors
- Ten glue sticks

- Two plastic red folders with pockets and brads
- Two plastic green folders with pockets and brads
- One small school box
- Three 24 count Crayola crayons
- Four dry erase markers
- One box of Kleenex
- Backpack, no wheels
- Two wide ruled spiral notebooks, 70 sheets
- Two packages of classic color Crayola markers
- Three packages of wide rule notebook paper
- One box of quart sized Ziploc bags, girls only
- One package of colored paper, girls only
- One box of gallon sized Ziploc bags, boys only
- One package of construction paper, boys only
- Two packages of Clorox wipes



- Two packages of 12 count-colored pencils
- One pair of headphones or earbuds, no wireless or Bluetooth
- One bottle of soft soap

Third Grade

- One large zipper pouch
- Two yellow highlighters
- One package of colored ink or gel pens
- Four packages of large dry erase markers
- One pair of five-inch Fiskars scissors
- One red, green, and yellow plastic folders with brads and pockets
- One package of white card stock
- Two boxes of Crayola crayons
- Two boxes of colored pencils
- Three boxes of tissues

- Two composition notebooks, no spiral notebooks
- One clean old sock
- One package of 24 count #2 pencils
- Four pink erasers
- Two boxes of Crayola markers
- Backpack, no wheels
- Ten glue sticks
- One package of pencil top erasers

Fourth and Fifth Grade

- One zippered pouch, large
- Two packages of wide ruled notebook paper
- One package of pencil top erasers
- Three wide ruled spiral notebooks
- One package of blue or black pens
- One package of 48 pencils
- One handheld pencil sharpener
- One pair of Fiskars scissors
- One green, orange, yellow, and blue plastic folder with pockets and brads
- Two 12 count packages of colored pencils
- Three glue sticks
- Four large Expo markers
- Four highlighters
- Two boxes of Kleenex
- One backpack
- Four red pens
- One black sharpie
- One box of Crayola markers
- One package of colored paper, not construction paper
- One container of Clorox

- wipes
- One two-inch three ring binder

Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Grade

- One large spiral notebook with pockets
- Two spiral notebooks with 70 pages
- Two packages of wide ruled notebook paper
- Two packages of blue or black pens
- One package of red pens
- Three boxes of Kleenex
- Four packages of pencils
- One package of pencil top erasers or one big eraser
- One package of highlighters, different colors
- One 24 count package of map colors
- One pair of scissors
- One ruler
- Four plastic folders with brads and pockets
- One four-ounce bottle of Elmer's glue
- One zippered pouch, large
- Two three ring binders
- One package of four dry erase markers
- One package of fine tip Crayola markers
- One backpack, no wheels
- One white out tape, seventh and eighth grade only

High School

- Students need standard school supplies for classroom instruction. Any special supplies will be asked for by the teachers as the need arises in class.

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Tarleton Baseball set to host 2023 Texan Prospect Camp

STEPHENVILLE, Texas – The Texans will host their first camp under new head coach Fuller Smith on Sept. 10, the team announced Thursday.

As the summer comes to a close, the Tarleton Baseball coaching staff is preparing for the 2023 Texan Prospect camp. On Sept. 10, Smith and staff will give camp at-

tendees the opportunity to show case their skill set at the Tarleton Baseball Complex.

The 2023 Texan Prospect camp will welcome athletes who will be entering the fall of 2023 as high school freshman all the way to junior college sophomores.

Camp check-in will begin at 12 p.m. and the camp will

end at 4 p.m.

Information regarding equipment requirements as well as additional camp information can be found at texanbaseballcamps.com

For any camp inquiries, please contact assistant coach Cody Semler at tarletonbaseballcamps@gmail.com



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON UNIVERSITY

Fans watch Texans baseball at the Tarleton Baseball Complex.

Texans have 96 student-athletes collect Spring Academic All-WAC awards

ARLINGTON, Texas — Adding to Tarleton State University's 41 honorees in the fall and winter, the Western Athletic Conference announced on Tuesday that 96 more Texan student-athletes have earned Academic All-WAC honors, increasing the total number to 137 selections for the 2022-23 school year.

The WAC announced its full list of 2023 Spring Academic All-WAC recipients along with transfers and freshman of all sports that have now completed two semesters of academic study at their current institution.

Honorees must have completed at least one academic year at their institution, held cumulative grade point averages of 3.2 or better, and competed in at least 50 percent of their team's contests.

Of Tarleton State's spring sports, Men's Outdoor Track and Field had the most earn the academic award, with 17 honorees. Women's Outdoor Track and Field added 16 members. Baseball totaled 14 selections and softball had 11 tabbed as honorees. Men's Golf earned four individuals honored and wom-

en's golf notched three.

Freshmen and transfers for all sports were also recognized after the spring semester if they had reached the academic and competitive parameters. Women's soccer had 12 members honored topping the non-spring sports honorees. Women's basketball added three more to its four members honored in the winter edition while men's basketball added on four to its original two. Volleyball was honored with three more selections to add to its six named after the completion of its fall season. Men's and women's cross country each added an honoree and football gained another recognition to add to the nine it received in the fall.

The full list of Tarleton State's All-WAC Spring 2023, Freshman/Transfer student-athletes is below:

BASEBALL (15)

Jordan Andrade
Zane Badmaev
Hunter Day
Grant Garza
Matt Haley
Mason Hammonds
Peyton Hutson
Ryan Jacobs
Piercen McElyea



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON UNIVERSITY

Tarleton University Boasts 96 athletes from 10 different sports who received spring academic awards.

Trace Morrison
Devon Patel
Zach Poe
Kooper Shook
Jack Wagner
Alec Williams
Men's Basketball (4)
Tydan Archibald
Coreyoun Rushin
Jakorie Smith
Lue Williams
Women's Basketball (3)
Mayra Caicedo
Viktoria Ivanova
Starr Omozee

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY (1)

Angel Contreras

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY (1)

Morgan Lamberson
Football (1)
Patrick Jones
Men's Golf (4)
Jack Anderson
Alvaro Huidobro
Cristobal Sepulveda

Masen Ward
WOMEN'S GOLF (3)
Mathilde Brogens
Rebeca Fernandez
Sofia Rodriguez

MEN'S OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD (17)

AJ Alfaro
Kevin Baez
Ethan Bratton
Cornelius Coleman
Bryson Crippen
Angel Gomez
Jaden Hall
Isaac Hutchings
Brandon McKissick
David Mvundura
Maxon Newell
Justin Raines
Kyler Seymore
Bailey Smotek
Tyler Stone
Gabriele Tosti
Reid Vincent

WOMEN'S OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD (16)

Jordan Anglin
Ashlynn Cash
Bonnie Clifton
Hailey Daniels-White
Nakia Dunn
Reagan Gallagher
Rylee Hennig
Karleigh Hill
Sage Lancaster
Aimee Landers-Wilburn
Taylor McFarland
Gentrye Munden
Jordan Rae
Rese Schoonover
Elise Smith
Danielle Thomas

WOMEN'S SOCCER (12)

Adriana Alonso-Gomez
Jaycie Bass
Kiki Baumann
Jenaya Brown
Teaghan Dodd
Nicole Fels
Kaitlyn Flanagan
Avery Harr

Rylee Low
Sydney Rouillard
Lindsey Schiller
Macie Witter

SOFTBALL (11)

Tristan Bridges
Jordan Dickerson
Grace Garcia
Austin Germain
Kelci Hill
Morgan Medford
MacKenzie Peterson
Brady Rowland
Katy Schaefer
Tristyn Trull
Kayla Wallace

WOMEN'S TENNIS (5)

Elsa Boisson
Martha Makantasi
Ximena Morales
Emma Persson
Celia Vaudiau

VOLLEYBALL (3)

Emma Burke
Megan Hodges
Grayson Schirpik

All Tarleton State fall sports 2023 season tickets now on sale

STEPHENVILLE, Texas – Summer is winding down and Tarleton State University's fall sports are beginning to ramp up. Fans can now officially get in on the action as all season tickets to the Texans' 2023 fall campaigns are now on sale.

Texan Football season tickets are live, packages that will get fans into the gates of Memorial Stadium

for all five home games in 2023, beginning Sept. 9 against North Alabama on Purple Out night. Tarleton's other home games are Sept. 23 vs. Southwest Baptist (Family Weekend), Oct. 7 vs. Southern Utah (Legends Game), Oct. 21 vs. Morehead State (Homecoming) and Nov. 4 vs. Stephen F. Austin (Military Appreciation).

Season ticket packages

start at just \$99 for general admission seating, with reserved seating packages beginning at just \$200. Donations to the Texan Club to serve all of Tarleton State's student-athletes are included in all reserved seating packages.

Texan Volleyball season tickets are now on sale, a package that grants fans access to the Wisdom Volley-

ball Gym for all 15 of Tarleton State's home matches. Tarleton's final year of reclassification begins with the Texan Invitational on Aug. 25, with the home finale set for Nov. 4 against California Baptist. There will be eight Western Athletic Conference matches played at Wisdom Volleyball Gym and two tournaments consisting of four and three Tarleton

home matches, respectively.

Season ticket packages are just \$65 per seat.

For the second time in as many seasons, Tarleton State Soccer's home matches will be free of charge for everyone in attendance. The Texans will play 11 regular season matches at the Tarleton Soccer Complex, beginning Aug. 17 against Louisiana-Monroe. Their regular

season ends at home against Grand Canyon on Oct. 22.

The Texans will also host Baylor at the Tarleton Soccer Complex on Aug. 10 for an exhibition match.

To view all of Tarleton Athletics' season ticket options, visit www.tarletonsports.com/tickets. Fans can also call the Tarleton Athletics Ticket Office to purchase packages at 254-968-1832.

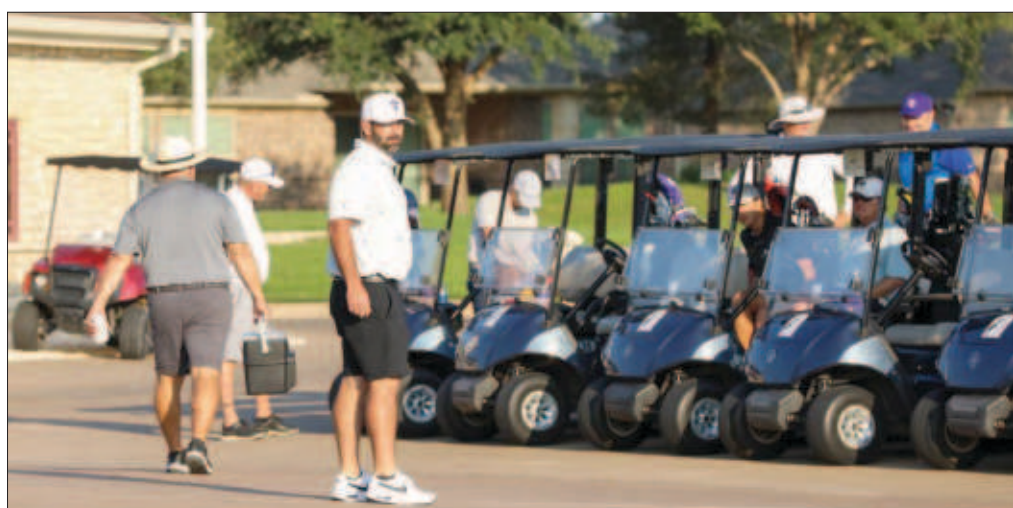


PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON UNIVERSITY

The Tarleton Men's Golf fundraiser at Harbor Lakes will benefit the Tarleton men's golf team.

Tarleton Men's Golf Fundraiser set for August 19 at Harbor Lakes

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE, Texas – After making a splash in their revival season, Tarleton State University's men's golf team will look to keep their momentum going, beginning with their fundraiser shamble set for Saturday, Aug. 19.

The Tarleton Men's Golf Fundraiser will be played at Harbor Lakes Golf Club in Granbury. It will be a four-

person shamble, with an 8:30 a.m. shotgun start. Check-in will begin at 7:30 a.m.

The four-person shamble includes breakfast, lunch, drinks (alcohol and non-alcohol), plus a custom polo and hat combo that's a \$120 value.

It is \$1,000 per team to participate, or \$250 per player. Those who signed up individually will be grouped together to form four-person teams. Team entry is included for

\$1,250 hole sponsors, otherwise it is \$500 to sponsor a hole.

All proceeds from the event, presented by Texan 18, will benefit the Tarleton men's golf program.

The deadline to sign up for the event is Aug. 12. Visit www.tarletonsports.com/tickets to sign up for the tournament or to sponsor a hole.

Gatesville Primary School named Collins as new principal

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

Gatesville Primary School announced Van Collins as the new principal for the upcoming 2023 to 2024 school year. Collins has served at Gatesville Independent School District since 2010.

He has spent 12 years at Gatesville High School donating his time to the math department as chair for two years, sponsored the National Honor Society for 10 years, and taught upper-level math courses, as well as taking the position as an assistant football coach for nine years, and a soccer coach for 12 years.

Recently, Collins served as the assistant principal at the Gatesville Intermediate School and will continue in administration as the Principal at Gatesville Primary School.

"I have taught, coached, and been a leader in Gatesville for 13 years now," Collins said.

Mathematics and coach-

ing are what brought Collins into the world of education. "I loved math and some of the most influential people in my life have been coaches," Collins said. "What has kept me here is the positive impact educators can have on their students, athletes, and the community as a whole."

It has always been Collins' goal to move into a leadership role so the transition into administration was natural for him. He explained that as a leader, you can impact more students and families due to being accessible throughout the day. Of course, there is a learning curve in any new position and with the help of colleagues, he picked up most

of the new responsibilities very quickly.

"I am a very energetic person by nature and love welcoming students and staff into the building," said Collins.

As a new leader on campus, he is going to work to build relationships and support the staff.

Collins' goal for the new school year is to immerse himself in all the academic programs and learn as much as possible.

"Educational leadership starts with building relationships and supporting your staff, both of which come naturally to me," Collins said.

"I have been in contact with some of the teachers and staff throughout the summer getting their ideas on what is working and what is not," Collins said.

He has been putting in a lot of hours getting everything just right before the first day of school and Meet the Teacher.

The Meet the Teacher event for Prekindergarten

will be held on Monday, Aug. 7 from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., and Kindergarten will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 8 from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

"I find it very important to get feedback from your staff before making the big decisions that will affect everyone," Collins said.

Gatesville Primary School has 15 teachers and another 30 staff members who support the campus in a variety of ways. Collins was impressed with how hard the teachers work and how much extra time they spend on the campus. All summer long, teachers and other staff members have been coming up to the campus to prepare for this upcoming school year to make it as special as possible for the students.

"I am constantly moving around campus giving high fives, fist bumps, and the occasional hug," Collins said.

He explained how it is important for students to feel welcomed and know they are cared for.

"Nothing makes me happi-



ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER
Van Collins, Principal of Gatesville Primary School is hard at work preparing for the upcoming school year.

er than students smiling at me when they see me in the hall, lunchroom, or classroom," Collins said.

Register continues to guide Gatesville Intermediate as Principal

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

Gatesville Intermediate School remains under the guidance of Bridget Register, Principal, who grew up in Gatesville and was an honor graduate in the class of 1985. In 1999, she taught English in Oglesby for grades six through 12.

From 2000 to 2006, she served as an English and World History teacher at Gatesville High School, in addition to coaching girls' volleyball, powerlifting, and track.

From 2006 to 2010, she was the assistant principal at Gatesville Junior High School and later served in the same capacity at Gatesville Primary School, where

she remained until 2019 when she became the principal at Gatesville Intermediate School.

To prepare for the new school year, Register has lists of tasks to oversee during the summer and plans accordingly to make sure she completes them. She expressed that it is not an exhaustive list, but she refines the master schedule, and

updates student and staff handbooks with the latest information and new rules, especially involving safety and security.

"I also delegate jobs to my assistant principals involving professional development lessons, activities, and other back-to-school topics for our staff," Register said. "We look at curriculum, lesson, and unit planning, student needs regarding class placement, update intermediate committees, interview and hire new staff, plan staff meetings and other monthly or semester activities, and try to find ideas to show our appreciation for our staff over the course of the year."

The staff at Gatesville Intermediate School is around 80 people total. Gatesville In-

termediate School has about 45 teachers, some that are shared with other campuses including band, choir, Gifted and Talented (GT), English as a Second Language (ESL), and athletics, as well as several paraprofessionals, office staff, a counselor, a law enforcement officer, Central Texas Roots to meet August 12 and custodial and cafeteria staff.

"Our staff helps to accomplish so much for so many," Register said.

The Meet the Teacher event will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 8 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

"I am proud to say that our students had over 95 percent attendance last year, and it has much to do with the teachers and activities they bring to the table as well as the willingness of our students to be present," Register said.

Register explained the best thing about the people who work at Gatesville Intermediate School is that they have big personalities and hearts. The staff are all collectively at school to work with and focus on doing what is best for the students.

"We have common expectations for our students, which aid in working together to build relationships with our students, growing them as people and educating them with strategies for lifelong learning," Register said. "The staff offer perspective, counsel, and grace in times of need, and we all need that from time to time."

Relationships and growing staff are Register's favorite parts of being a principal.

"I enjoy the growing connections I've had with the parents, students, and the staff at the school I have worked in," Register said.

She explained how she



ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER
Angie Pearson, Assistant Principal at Gatesville Intermediate (left) passes paperwork to Principal Bridget Register.

graduated and taught at Gatesville High School very early in her educational career, and some of her former students are now parents who have children coming through the district as students.

Register expressed that she enjoys watching her teachers grow in capacity and with experience.

"I had one who did not feel comfortable speaking to adults, who now offered to teach a summer professional development class on their own," she said.

As a new school year begins, you will find Register and the assistant principals outside in the mornings during bus and student drop off. Once the tardy bell rings, she will make morning announcements over the intercom. When classes begin, the administration team will walk the halls to make

sure students are in their correct areas.

"Day-to-day responsibilities include first and foremost, student safety," Register said. "We want a safe and educationally sound atmosphere where students can learn to the best of their ability."

Register's goal for the school year is always student success and growth, which comes in many forms such as behaviors, learning how to cope with different scenarios, being a better friend to academics, utilizing test taking strategies, and building confidence in certain subjects.

"I love to see our students grow in character, learning how to be appropriate, patient, respectful, and simply being an overall better human," she added.

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Coryell County 4-H Summer Awards Party July 19

PHOTOS BY ALEX MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Coryell County 4-H held their summer awards party July 19 at Raby Park followed by a swimming party at the Gatesville City Pool.



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