



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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Gatesville Police Chief Brad Hunt

DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

City to purchase additional police vehicles

BY JEFF OSBORNE
Senior Writer & Editor

After falling behind schedule in updating its police vehicle fleet because of "significant delays in receiving them," the Gatesville Police Department is anticipating getting two new vehicles "in hand prior to Sept. 30, 2023" and another three vehicles "around December 2023."

That was the news Gatesville Police Chief Brad Hunt gave to the Gatesville City Council, which approved the purchase of two Chevy Silverado "pursuit-rated and fully upfitted vehicles for \$167,556" from Caldwell Country Chevrolet.

"I have been looking for at least two months to see what dealers had on their lot that meet our requirements - better cooler systems, better brakes and a better safety system in case you're involved in a crash," Hunt said.

"I was the fleet coordinator in Temple (for the Temple Police Department), and we had 180 vehicles there. The new Chevy Silverado will meet our needs. We will not be able to take delivery of the other vehicles already ordered before the end of the year, and we're already a year behind schedule on replacing vehicles."

Those three vehicles on order cost the city \$175,306.

According to a memorandum to the Council, "Those vehicles were ordered in a timely manner, but we have experienced significant delays in receiving them."

Two approved vendors, Cap Fleet Upfitters and Caldwell Country Chevrolet "have agreed to honor the price no matter how long it takes them to deliver the vehicles," the memo stated.

Hunt said the police department has "been working to identify alternative vehicles which would be suitable to our needs, priced at a value relative to their suitability, and immediately available on a dealership lot."

The Silverados purchased by the city "are unique vehicles and, as such, are their price. These two vehicles would be issued to the patrol sergeants, acting as mobile command centers on major incidents, and are not being used in the same manner as regular marked police vehicles, in terms of acceleration/braking events when doing traffic enforcement and responding to emergencies," the memo stated.

"The four-wheel drive capabilities of the vehicles would also be a benefit to us, especially since we do, on occasion, need to traverse some rough countryside or remain mobile during freezing weather events."

Hunt added that the four-wheel drive feature "is a key component for us - you need a couple vehicles that are heavy duty."

Gatesville implements Stage 2 in Drought Contingency Plan; water restrictions now in place

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

The City of Gatesville implemented a Stage 2 Drought Contingency Plan as well as water restrictions on Friday, Aug. 4. Their goal is to achieve a 10% reduction in use of water that would have occurred in the absence of drought contingency measures, Gatesville City Manager Scott Albert told the Gatesville Messenger in an interview.

"The state requires the city to have a Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) which is a strategy on monitoring and responding to a drought or other water supply shortages that can disrupt the supply of water to customers," Albert told the Messenger.

Additional measures are to be implemented directly by the City of Gatesville to manage limited water supplies and to reduce water demand including the dis-

continued flushing of water mains and significantly reduced or discontinued irrigation of public landscaped areas.

All water supply corporations including Coryell City Water Supply, Fort Gates Water Supply Corporation, Flat Water Supply Corporation and Grove Water Supply Corporation should have received the same Brazos River Authority (BRA) notice as Gatesville.

The City of Gatesville will follow up with its regional wholesale customers to make sure they are notifying their customers regarding water restrictions and conservation methods.

The following water use restrictions for demand reduction apply to all persons:

Irrigation of landscaped areas with hose-end sprinklers or automatic irrigation systems shall be limited to Sundays and Thurs-

days for customers with a street address ending in an even number including zero, two, four, six, or eight. Saturdays and Wednesdays are for water customers with a street address ending in an odd number such as one, three, five, seven, or nine.

The irrigation of landscaped areas is further limited to the hours of 12 a.m. through 10 a.m. and be-

tween 8 p.m. and 12 a.m. on designated watering days. However, irrigation of landscaped areas is permitted at any time if it is by means of a hand-held hose, a faucet filled bucket or watering can of five gallons or less, or drip irrigation system.

Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane, or other vehicle is

PLEASE SEE **DROUGHT** | A2

City of Gatesville announces election information

Staff Reports

The City of Gatesville has recently provided information regarding the upcoming election.

The first day to file for the election began on Monday, July 24, and the last day to file will be on Monday, Aug. 21. The date of the election will be Tuesday, Nov. 7.

The Councilmember seats up for election include:

- North side of town: Ward 1 Place 1, the applicant must live on the north side of

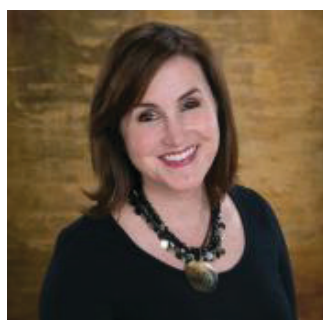
town to run in this place. The incumbent is Claude Williams. Ward 1 Place 3, the applicant must live on the north side of town to run in this place. The incumbent is Meredith Rainer.

- South side of town: Ward 2 Place 5, the applicant must live on the south side of town to run in this place. The incumbent is Greg Casey.

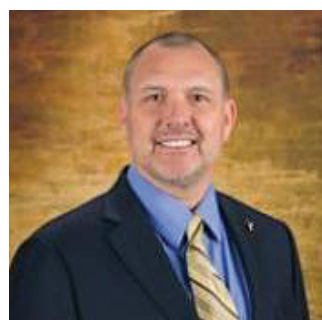
If anyone is interested in picking up an application, visit city hall located at 803 E. Main Street, anytime Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.



Ward 1, Place 1, Claude Williams



Ward 1, Place 3, Meredith Rainer



Ward 2, Place 5, Greg Casey

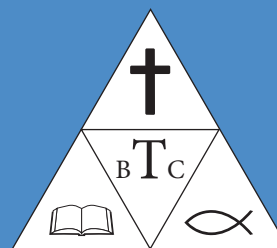


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A Church That Cares

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Worship 8:15 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Bro. Sam Crosby, Pastor
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Mission Statement:

"The family of Trinity Baptist Church exists to love God and people, teach God's Word, and to help all mankind to follow the Lord Jesus Christ in absolute obedience."

Gatesville ISD leaders get On-Ramps update

BY JEFF OSBORNE
Senior Writer & Editor

The Gatesville Independent School District's On-Ramps partnership with the University of Texas to offer Gatesville High School students college courses at GHS has been successful, said Superintendent Barret Pollard, who recently gave an update on the program during a GISD Board of Trustees meeting.

"The classes are pretty tough - students are taking the equivalent of what they'd see if they were freshmen enrolled at UT," Pollard said.

Students who receive a grade of a D or higher in the courses are eligible to receive college credit and have the option of accepting that grade or declining it in hopes of receiving a higher score later.

"The course with the lowest eligibility and acceptance rate was College Algebra," Pollard said. "This course is typically the first On-Ramps course taken by students and it is typically taken by our advanced sophomores."

To improve the success rate for those enrolled in that class, Pollard said the district will change the sequence of math courses students take to better prepare them for the college course.

"We want to give them another year of experience - an additional year of math," he said. "We will offer Algebra II Honors in 10th grade. Then, juniors can take either On-Ramps College Algebra, On-Ramps Pre-Cal, or Pre-Cal. We thought by giving them that additional year of experience, it would improve their success."

"The kids are doing really

well in these classes with the exception of the algebra class, so hopefully this change will help with that."

On-Ramps classes offered at GHS include:

- * Rhetoric in the fall taught by Robbie Finley; 100% of students enrolled were eligible for college credit, and 100% accepted it.

- * Rhetoric in the spring taught by Robbie Finley; 88% of students enrolled were eligible for college credit, and 88% accepted it.

- * U.S. History in the fall taught by Bonnie Latham; 100% of students enrolled were eligible for credit and 88% accepted it.

- * U.S. History in the spring taught by Bonnie Latham; 100% of students enrolled were eligible for college credit, and 100% accepted it.

- * Biology, yearlong, taught by Sarah Blanchard; 100% of

students enrolled were eligible for college credit, and 100% accepted it.

- * Chemistry yearlong taught by Lisa Truss; 100% of students enrolled were eligible for college credit, and 92% accepted it.

- * College Algebra yearlong taught by Jennifer Penny; 48% of students enrolled were eligible for college credit, and 31% accepted it.

- * Pre-Cal yearlong taught by Melanie Catsoris; 86% of students enrolled were eligible for college credit, and 71% accepted it.

- * Statistics yearlong taught by Venus Leung; 100% of students enrolled were eligible for college credit, and 100% accepted it.

Although it was not listed in the memorandum provided to the school board regarding On-Ramps classes, Pollard said there were



COURTESY PHOTO

also English courses offered. One hundred percent of students enrolled in the fall class were eligible for college credit, and 100% accepted it. 88% of students

enrolled in the spring class were eligible for college credit, and 88% accepted it.

DROUGHT

FROM PAGE A1

prohibited except on designated watering days between the hours of 12 a.m. and 10 a.m. and between 8 p.m. and 12 a.m. Such washing, when allowed, shall be done with a hand-held bucket or a hand-held hose equipped with a positive shutoff nozzle. Vehicle washing may be done at any time on the immediate premises of a commercial car wash or commercial service station. Further, such washing may be exempted

from these regulations if the health, safety, and welfare of the public is contingent upon frequent vehicle cleansing, such as vehicles used to transport food and perishables.

- Use of water to fill, refill, or add to any indoor or outdoor swimming pools, wading pools, spas, or hot tubs is prohibited except on designated watering days between the hours of 12 a.m. and 10 a.m. and between 8 p.m. and 12 a.m.

- Operation of any ornamental fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes is prohibited except where necessary to support aquatic life or where such fountains or ponds are equipped with a recirculation system.

Use of water for hydrants shall be limited to firefighting, related activities, or other activities necessary to maintain public health, safety, and welfare, except that use of water from designated fire hydrants for construction purposes may be allowed only under written permission from the City of Gatesville.

- Use of water for the irrigation of golf course greens, tees, and fairways is prohibited except on designated watering days between the hours 12 a.m. and 10 a.m. and between 8 p.m. and 12 a.m. However, if the golf course utilizes a water source other than that provided by the City of Gatesville, the facility shall not be subject to these regulations.

All restaurants are discouraged from serving water to patrons except upon request of the patron. The following uses of water are defined as non-essential and are prohibited:

- Wash down of any sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surfaced areas.
- Use of water to wash down buildings or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection.
- Use of water for dust control.
- Flushing gutters or permitting water to run or accumulate in any gutter or street.
- Failure to repair a controllable leak within a reasonable period after having been given notice directing the repair of such leak.

Additionally, to conclude the summer, the City of Gatesville closed the splash pad for the remainder of the season on Friday, Aug. 11 and the Gatesville City Pool was closed last Saturday, Aug. 5.

"The City of Gatesville kindly requests that our water customers remember that these extreme conditions are impacting our regional water supplies and urges all to begin implementing conservation measures," Albert said.

Prices for adult meals will increase 10 cents for breakfast and 25 cents for lunch. Breakfast will cost \$3.10 for adults and lunch will cost \$4.75.

A memorandum to the GISD Board of Trustees stated that the district "remains at least 25 cents below the federal recommended pricing. However, due to a carry-over of past subsidies to the School Nutrition Program, we are not in dan-

GISD increases meal prices

BY JEFF OSBORNE
Senior Writer & Editor

The Gatesville Independent School District has raised its student meal prices by 10 cents per meal for the 2023-24 school year after reviewing the prices and considering federal guidelines and prices being charged by other area districts.

"We had to wait until TEA (the Texas Education Agency) got their rates finalized, but we will have a 10-cent across the board raise in all prices for student lunches and breakfasts," said Darrell Frazier, chief financial officer for the district. "This is the first increase (for students) we've had in quite a few years."

That will put the cost of student meals at \$1.70 for breakfast for all ages. The cost of lunch will be \$2.60 for pre-kindergarten through third grade, and \$2.85 for grades 4-12.

Prices for adult meals will increase 10 cents for breakfast and 25 cents for lunch. Breakfast will cost \$3.10 for adults and lunch will cost \$4.75.

A memorandum to the GISD Board of Trustees stated that the district "remains at least 25 cents below the federal recommended pricing. However, due to a carry-over of past subsidies to the School Nutrition Program, we are not in dan-

ger of having to increase general fund subsidies as a result."

Frazier said despite the increases, GISD has reasonably priced meals.

"Compared to other school districts in the area we're usually in the middle of the pack," he said. "On elementary and secondary school lunches, we're actually quite low compared to other districts in our area."

Board member Linda Maxwell said, "I'm surprised that's all it costs."

Board member Mary Anne Leib asked if Frazier thought the price increases "will make a difference in our food service."

"Not really," Frazier said. Many of the meals are free anyway (based on students qualifying for free and reduced-price lunches because of family income). "Ten cents is the most you can go up in a year. Since we haven't increased rates in years, we've fallen behind what we should be charging. If we don't raise them, we'll get in trouble with TEA."

"It's all very regulated. They give you little leeway in terms of food service. They give you money, so they get to decide how you use it. The TEA answers to the federal government."

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FROM A

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NEWSPAPER**



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DEADLINES:

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

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

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

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

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

Folks around town



ALEX MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Sandra Brown

Say hello to our neighbor, Sandra Brown!

Sandra is beginning her 32nd year as the Secretary at Gatesville Primary School. She enjoys meeting new students and their families each school year. She has always loved everything about Gatesville, including the locals. Sandra reads The Gatesville Messenger to receive her hometown news each week!

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

FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Old Memories Make a Wonderful Gift



BY SAM HOUSTON

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

This past week my friend Neva Sundvahl brought me a package. She had been going through things which her mother Rosanne had passed on to her and found some old notes.

Neva knows and appreciates that I like a good story and she thought I would enjoy some of the clippings she had recently uncovered. I was in a meeting when she came by the newspaper office, but when I returned to my desk there was a folder full of anecdotes and quaint little stories. Here is one I wanted to share with you:

Things We Can Learn from a Dog

Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in your face to be pure ecstasy. When loved ones come home, always run to greet them. Let others know when they have invaded your territory. Take naps and stretch when rising. Eat with gusto and enthusiasm. Run, romp, and play daily. Never pretend to be some-

thing you are not.

Thrive on attention and let people touch you.

When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by and nuzzle them gently.

Avoid biting when a simple growl will do.

On hot days, drink lots of water and lay under a shade tree.

When you are happy, dance around and wag your entire body.

No matter how often you are scolded, don't buy into the guilt thing and pout.

Delight in the simple joy of a long walk.

Be loyal.

Sounds to me like we all have a lot to learn from dogs. I want to thank Neva for bringing me the treat-

ures which her mother had so copiously collected over her life. It is my loss that I never got to meet Ms. Sundvahl. I am sure she and I would have been friends and would have enjoyed sitting on her front porch, regaling each other with story after story.

This week let's all try and be a little more "dog like" and enjoy the wonderful life which God has given us.

Thought for the day: A woman marries a man thinking she will change him, and he never does. A man marries a woman thinking she will never change, and she always does.

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

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

CORRECTION

In the Aug. 5 edition of The Gatesville Messenger, McKamie Stadium was misspelled and not corrected before sending to press. We regret the error.

2023 Coryell Senior Expo set for Aug. 24 at Civic Center

Highest temperatures still to come

BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY

Triple-digit weather temperatures and a cracked landscape remind us of the drought conditions that persist in areas of the Brazos River basin. In stark contrast, the wetter-than-normal weather in June and early July and full reservoirs in the upper basin make us think drought conditions no longer exist.

On June 8, 2023, the National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration's (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center (CPC) issued an El Niño advisory. El Niño is the warming of the ocean's surface and increased rainfall over the tropical Pacific Ocean.

NOAA predicts that El Niño could form during the summer of 2023 and persist through the winter of 2023-24, a good change as El Niño oftentimes brings rain during the fall and winter months. However, not all of the Brazos River basin is experiencing the positives from El Niño conditions. The Brazos River Basin has been experiencing drought conditions in 50% or more of the

basin's 42,000 square miles since Nov. 4, 2021. The last time the basin had zero drought was July 9, 2021.

According to NOAA data, the July-August-September (JAS) 2023 temperature outlook favors above-normal seasonal temperatures across most of the U.S., and precipitation probabilities are showing below-normal rainfall.

Following several extremely dry months, on Aug. 17, 2022, a Stage 1 Drought Watch was declared for the entire BRA Water Supply System. It currently remains in a Stage 1 drought watch, which calls for a 5% reduction in water use. Lake Proctor is currently in a Stage 3 Drought Emergency which calls for a 20% reduction in water use.

Unlike 2022, the upper basin received an unusual amount of rain in June and early July, and the lower basin received significant rain in April and May. Meanwhile, the central basin has continued to see much less rain than normal and continued low lake levels.

Aaron Abel, BRA water services manager, warns, "If the central basin doesn't receive significant rain soon, Lake Proctor could move to Stage 4."

Though areas of the upper basin are doing well for this time of year, their positive status may not last.

"Possum Kingdom Lake and Lake Granbury reached full status for the first time since early fall of 2021," Abel explained.

John Nielsen-Gammon, Texas State Climatologist and director of the Southern Regional Climate Center at Texas A&M University commented, "Texas weather is difficult to predict, but summer months in Texas typically contain three ingredients: high pressure, hot temperatures, and dry conditions."

"Long-term, we don't know what's going to happen with the rainfall amounts, but higher temperatures and greater intensity mean more runoff and less water soaking into the soil, so we'll have drier soils going forward," explains Nielsen-

Gammon.

Most of the state has already recorded multiple days over 100 degrees. Nielsen-Gammon said he expected "the extreme heat to continue in the coming months and noted that the highest temperatures typically come in late July and August."

Nielsen-Gammon said high humidity and temperatures contributed to heat indexes well beyond 100 degrees. The dew point, the temperature at which dew forms, was around 70-75 degrees in Central Texas, which translates into an "icky" heat.

But the heat wave has also included a dry spell for much of the state, Nielsen-Gammon said. The same high-pressure system that kept the weather hot also kept thunderstorms away from most of the state. The heat quickly sapped topsoil moisture from previous rains in some areas of the state.

This drying down puts many areas at risk of returning to drought condi-

tions following the earlier rains that had significantly reduced the amount of severely dry conditions, Nielsen-Gammon said. Dry conditions also contribute to higher temperatures because there is no evaporative cooling in the air.

"If we don't get a decent amount of rain in the next few weeks, we will see more vegetation turning brown and crops suffering," he said. "The Panhandle and East Texas have gotten enough rain, but the areas that are marginally out of drought are definitely at risk of slipping back."

What does this mean for the upper basin's now-full reservoirs? They won't stay full for long. "With higher-than-normal temperatures, increased water use, and evaporation rates, water storage will continue to decline," Abel said.

The recent heat wave produced "all-time" high temperatures and heat index records. NOAA recently declared that Earth had its hottest June on record. Since July is typically the hottest

and driest month of the year in Texas, water conservation continues to be vitally important.

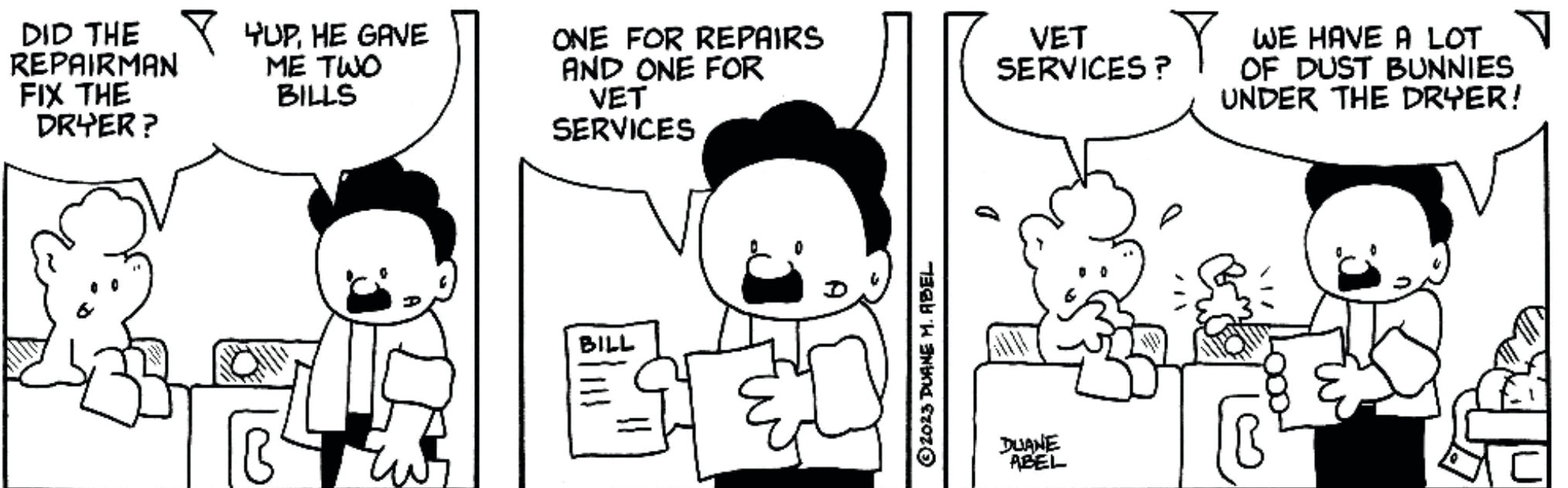
Simple water conservation efforts can be taken around the home by doing the following:

- Check toilets and faucets for leaks
- Turn the water off when brushing your teeth
- Take shorter showers
- Use high-efficiency appliances
- Follow local watering restrictions in your area
- Make sure sprinkler systems heads are watering the lawn and not the driveway or sidewalk
- Never water in the heat of the day when evaporation rates are highest

Currently, the Brazos River basin is experiencing 76% drought, and the water supply reservoirs within the BRA water supply system are at 79% full.

Whether the Brazos River basin ever sees El Niño conditions remains to be seen, so it's encouraged to remain diligent with water conservation efforts.

ZED by Duane M. Abel



CHILDREN LEARN ABOUT RECYCLING AT GATESVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY'S STORYTIME



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Children who attended story time at the Gatesville Public Library, recently learned about recycling. Kim Chumley with Keep Gatesville Beautiful read the children a few books on the subject of waste and how to recycle. One of the books she read to them was "What's So Special About Planet Earth" by Robert Wells.

Albert and Florence White Hill family reunion slated Aug. 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.

PEARL NEWS

Despite the heat, Pearl Book Cottage had a great day



BY BETSY CLARK

Pearl News Correspondent

The Pearl Cottage Bookstore ladies reported a great day on Saturday, Aug. 5, despite the heat!

They were able to say hello to many old friends and a big "welcome" to new ones, too! I remember long ago that Clyde Wilson always said to newcomers at Pearl Church of Christ, "Visit once and you're a friend, but visit twice and you're family." That's the way it is at the Pearl Cottage Bookstore and Retail Shop, too. The ladies also said to tell everyone that they greatly appreciate your patronage! Every penny collected at the bookstore goes to the local charities that the store supports! Be sure and visit next month! You never know what—or who—you might find!

The next Pearl Bluegrass and Pearl Cottage Bookstore day will be Sept. 9 (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 Aug. 21; the next Pearl Cemetery workday will be Oct. 14 with a reschedule date if necessary due to inclement weather of Oct. 21; and the Pearl Church of Christ 128th Reunion will be Oct. 15. Mark your calendars, and please know that everyone is cordially invited to attend any and all of these events!

Kay, Linda, and Karon got to enjoy a wonderful visit with Betty Jo Wilson on her 95th birthday on July 31! I wish I could post pictures here because everyone looked absolutely fabulous, and Betty Jo still has skin like alabaster! Betty Jo had received a visit from the Ballards the day before, too, so she got to enjoy lots of cake, flowers, friends, and family! She and Clyde were treasured Pearl residents for many years, and Betty

Jo had grown up in Pearl. So many of us have memories, pieces of advice, and lots of love stored in our hearts because of this precious couple. Clyde went to be with the Lord on Jan. 19, 2008. We miss him still as does Betty Jo. If you can, be sure and send a note to Betty Jo c/o The Meadows, 110 Chicktown Road, Gatesville, TX 76528. She will love hearing from you!!

This week's Bible verse comes from John 1:1-5. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made. In Him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." NIV

Please pray for rain and cooler weather, our country, and our schools!! (James 5:16b-The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.) Be sure and check out the Pearl Church of Christ Facebook page, too. There are a number of urgent prayer needs that you can add to your prayer list.

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.

The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of August 2 - 8. 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

August 2
4:07 a.m., an assault was reported in the 200 block of N. 10th Street.
1:41 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 2400 block of E. Main Street.
10:26 p.m., a theft was reported in the 100 block of S. 23rd Street.
10:59 p.m., a fight was reported in the 1300 block of Westview Drive.

August 3
5:23 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 400 block of Pidcoke Street.
10:15 a.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 800 block of S. 7th Street.

6:11 p.m., harassment was reported in the 300 block of S. 5th Street.

7:43 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 200 block of S. 3rd Street.

August 4
8:24 a.m., illegal dumping was reported in the 1700 block of E. Main Street.

9:20 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 2500 block of Lowrey Drive.

1:38 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.

9:49 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2300 block of Business Hwy. 36.

August 5
3:59 a.m., a missing person was reported in the 3300 block of E. Main Street.

10:44 a.m., animal cruelty was reported in the 2300 block of Business Hwy. 36.

2:42 p.m., a threat was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.

7:37 p.m., harassment was reported in the 3400 block of Empress Drive.

August 6
12:04 a.m., a burglary was reported in the 100 block of Mulberry Avenue.

11:26 a.m., a vehicle fire was reported in the 400 block of N. State Hwy. 36.

11:29 a.m., a theft was reported in the 100 block of Elm Street.

7:49 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 800 block of River Road.

August 7
8:47 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2200 block of Bridge Street.

4:44 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2600 block of Powell Drive.

6:10 p.m., a theft was reported in the 1200 block of Golf Course Road.

9:34 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2300 block of Business Hwy. 36.

August 8
9:56 a.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of Carroll Drive.

6:07 a.m., a threat was reported in the 1200 block of Straws Mill Road.

7:30 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 4500 block of S. State Hwy. 36.

10:39 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 1300 block of N. State Hwy. 36.

5:56 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 400 block of CR 339.

11:04 a.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 100 block of Rainer Road.

5:12 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 400 block of CR 339.

5:52 p.m., animal neglect was reported in the 1700 block of Fort Panic Road.

August 4
8:13 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 600 block of CR 355.

1:19 p.m., a theft was reported in the 700 block of Straws Mill Road.

6:48 p.m., animal cruelty was reported in the 200 block of Coletton Drive.

10:54 p.m., a neighbor dispute was reported in the 300 block of Cattle Drive.

August 5
2:43 a.m., trespassing was reported in the 300 block of Navajo.

4:06 a.m., a missing person was reported in the 6800 block of E. Hwy. 84.

4:16 p.m., stolen property was reported in the 600 block of Barton Lane.

10:18 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of Julia.

August 6
9:25 a.m., a minor accident was reported on S. FM 116.

3:16 p.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 500 block of E. Leon Street.

5:39 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of Julia Drive.

9:41 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported on Oak Springs Road at FM 1113.

August 7
5:58 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported on FM 1113.

7:44 a.m., a stolen vehicle was recovered in the 2700 block of Trimmer Road.

3:10 p.m., a theft was reported in the 900 block of CR 247.

8:04 p.m., harassment was reported in the 300 block of FM 107.

August 8
9:19 a.m., a minor accident was reported on Mountain Road at Hwy. 84.

10:04 a.m., an injured animal was reported in the 100 block of Linda's Lane.

9:25 p.m., a major accident was reported on CR 318 and CR 317.

10:21 p.m., a welfare concern was reported at Mother Neff State Park.

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Coryell County 4-H Highlights from the month of July

SUBMITTED BY BECKY COWARD

July was another extremely busy month for 4-H members in Coryell County. From international travel to awarding our members for their hard work this past year, we've been on the move! The county 4-H awards celebration was held at Raby Park and the Gatesville City Pool on July 19th.

Each year our 4-H members come together to celebrate and honor our high achieving youth. Earning the Gold Star Award, the highest achievement award given by the Texas 4-H Youth and Development Program through the County 4-H program were Kinlee Gardner and Chase Janke.



COURTESY PHOTO

Kinlee Gardner

Kinlee, a junior at Gatesville High School, has been active in 4-H since the third grade. Her primary projects include Health and Personal Safety, Swine, and Leadership. Kinlee has participated in major livestock shows in Texas and at the National Junior Swine Expo. She has been an active participant at the Coryell County Youth Fair since becoming a 4-H member. She is involved in the Coryell City 4-H club where she has served as health and safety officer, treasurer, president, and is currently serving as vice president. Kinlee also represents Coryell County 4-H as a county ambassador where she promotes, advocates, and educates others about the 4-H programs and its ability to build critical life skills.

Recently, Kinlee was elected Vice Chairman for District 8 4-H. In this role, she will serve alongside others from Central Texas and coordinate events and activities benefiting the more than 5,600 4-H members in the district. In addition, she has attended many district leadership events and activities. Kinlee is also serving in her third year as a state Healthy Texas Youth Ambassador, a position in which she provides education to communities and schools related to nutrition, physical activity, distracted driving, and general healthy habits. She recently returned from an international Healthy Texas Youth Ambassador trip to Ecuador where she was able to view firsthand cultural, health, and safety differences from a global level. Kinlee is the daughter of Julie and Jim Gardner.



COURTESY PHOTO

Chase Janke

Chase, a junior at Jonesboro High School, has been active since he was a 4-H Clover kid. His primary projects include Consumer Education, Dairy Goats, Public Speaking, Range Science, Swine, and Leadership. As a Jonesboro 4-H Club member, Chase has held almost every officer position in his club. He has participated in major livestock shows and youth contests throughout his career and qualified to represent Coryell County and District 8 as a high individual at this year's State 4-H Roundup in the Consumer Decision Making contest. Chase also competed in the Plant ID contest and Senior Open Educational Presentation at State Roundup. He earned a scholarship by placing second high individual at the MJ Hanna Ranch Range Evaluation Invitational. Chase has earned several showmanship buckles throughout his show career and is very helpful in teaching younger members showmanship skills. He is great at making sure everyone feels included at 4-H events.

As a Coryell County and State 4-H Water Ambassador, Chase recruits new members and provides water conservation and education information at various events including Copperas Cove Eco Harvest, the Cove Summer Library program, and Earth Day for fifth graders at Gatesville. On the state level, Chase served as a delegate to Texas 4-H Congress and attended the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Day at Texas A&M University where he plans to attend when he graduates. Chase enjoys working on and teaching others about classic car restoration. He is the son of Greg and Tina Janke.



COURTESY PHOTO

Cayleigh Coursey

This year's Outstanding Community Service award was earned by Cayleigh Coursey. She is a senior at Gatesville High School. Cayleigh's extensive 4-H career began in the third grade. She has emerged as not only a leader in her local Club, Hornet GOLD 4-H, but also as an ambassador, officer and teen leader at the County, District, and State 4-H levels. Recently Cayleigh was elected to represent District 8 4-H on the State 4-H Council. Her major projects include Photography, Health and Personal Safety, Rabbits, Public Speaking, Fashion & Interior Design, Leadership, and Community Service. Cayleigh is a Texas 4-H Master Photographer, serves as a member of the State 4-H Rabbit Advisory Board, is a Healthy Texas Youth Ambassador and recently returned from five countries in Europe where she spent time touring with other elite 4-Hers capturing fantastic photographs. Cayleigh enjoys helping others and can be frequently found leading and guiding younger

members as their mentor in 4-H project areas. Cayleigh enjoys leading community service projects at various levels and has a heart for her community. She is the daughter of Chris and Tracy Coursey.

Other senior 4-H members recognized at the awards program were Danforth Leadership award winners: Caleb Mannix and Lane Kinsey; Super Star winners: Zoe Gribble, Matti Mann, Zakary Huckabee, Kinsley McPherson, Jeret Burks, Lane Brookshire, Charles Belt, and Hunter Beaty.

The Silver Star award, given to two outstanding youth in the Intermediate age category was awarded to Lilly Kinsey and Lillie Mann. Other youth recognized as 4-H All-Stars were Anna McPherson, Clancy Archie, Makaylie Williams, Allie McPherson, Thomas Belt, Kace Laster, Bailey Wolff, and Jozie Wolff.

Receiving the Bronze Star award as the top juniors this year were Eve Fulton and Mary Mitchell. Colt Brookshire and Pete Wallace were recognized and 4-H Rising Stars. Samantha Hadley and Hagen Milam were awarded Outstanding 4-H Rookies. We look forward to watching these young leaders continue to grow in their skills as they learn to lead through service. Congratulations to all our outstanding youth in the county 4-H program!

Also, during the month of July, three of our young leaders, Matti Mann, Kinsley McPherson, and Kinlee Gardner, traveled to Ecuador as part of the Healthy Texas Youth Ambassador Team. The group toured the capitol city of Quito where they visited Independence Plaza and the Government Palace. From there, they traveled to the Equatorial Line and Intinan Museum to discover the history of the country. Other stops included the cities of Banos, Riobamba, Cuenca, and Guayaquil.

The group participated in several cultural immersion and farming activities including the harvest of potatoes, a traditional Ecuadorian lunch, a taste test of roasted llama, and preparation of traditional foods. In Banos, the group took part in a cooking class where they prepared churrasco, a dish of beef, egg, potatoes, salad, and avocado. A culinary highlight was in Cuenca where the group prepared and tasted roasted Cuy; otherwise known as Guinea Pig. These activities allowed the group to learn how food in Ecuador travels from farm to table. The trip also included hiking, playing of traditional Ecuadorian games, a visit to a cocoa plantation, learning how traditional straw hats are made, and exploring one of the major waterfalls. In addition, ambassadors were able to observe many health and safety differences from the United States related to transportation, food, water,



COURTESY PHOTO

County 4-H Ambassadors helping out in the Concession Stand at the Gatesville Rodeo.

and environment.

In mid-July four Coryell County ambassadors: Lane Brookshire, Allie McPherson, Chase Janke, and Zakary Huckabee spent three days with 4-H agent Becky Coward touring agriculture enterprises within Coryell, McLennan, and Bosque counties. Stops included Hopson Ranch, CB Feedlot, MJ Hanna Ranch, Coryell Feed 7 Supply, Waco Wetlands, Texas Farm Bureau Headquarters, West Auction Barn, MLS Livestock Supply, Hargrove Family Hay Operation, Dorward Farms, and Hamilton Beekeeping.

July 7th-9th youth enjoyed recreation, educational sessions, the drum café, and dancing at District 8 County 4-H camp at Palestine. Those attending were Thomas Belt, Lilly Kinsey, Lillie Mann, Chelsea Johnson, Mary Mitchell, Tucker Frederick, and Colt Brookshire while Cayleigh Coursey and Lane Brookshire served as teen leaders. The youth were accompanied by Agents Robert Ferguson and Becky

Coward as well as 4-H Adult Leader Brandi Mitchell.



COURTESY PHOTO

Youth Ag Tour- David Hopson explains weaning calves.



COURTESY PHOTO

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OBITUARIES

Cleddy Baize

July 5, 1985 - August 4, 2023

Cleddy Baize, age 38, of Gatesville, passed away on Friday, August 4, 2023.

Joseph Cleddy Craig Baize was born on July 5, 1985, in Clifton to Bobby Craig Baize and Pamela Stevens. He grew up in Gatesville and graduated from Gatesville High School in 2003. Cleddy was always very outgoing and always ready for life's next big adventure. He loved being on the river; fishing, hunting, and collecting arrowheads. If you asked him, he would tell you that he could live right on the banks of the river and be perfectly content.

Cleddy will be remembered by everyone for his contagious smile and upbeat attitude that could

turn anyone's day around for the better. He never met a stranger and always left a life-long lasting impression on all that knew him. Cleddy was a beloved son, father, brother, and friend and will be dearly missed.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Pamela Stevens.

Cleddy is survived by his daughter, Josie C. Baize; father, Bobby Craig Baize and wife, Elizabeth; brothers, David Baize and wife, Heather, Ryan Baize and wife, Ashley, Patrick Redding, Ryan Redding and wife, Kala; grandparents, James Cleddy and Nita Baize; Dixie Perryman and Wayne Mitchel; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews.



Cleddy's family is grateful beyond words for the outpouring of love and support during this difficult time. Private family services will be scheduled at a later date.

Paul Bundrant

June 25, 1944 - August 1, 2023

Paul Lindon Bundrant was born to Webster and Rachel Bundrant of Purmela on June 25, 1944. He passed away at the age of 79.

Paul was a country man through and through. He was a loving father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He loved to talk about old times and told stories about when he was driving a truck. From hauling his oldest daughter to rodeos, attending his youngest daughter's sporting events and school functions, to hauling his grandsons to rodeos, he loved anything that had to do with his children and grandchildren, and cherished the time he

spent with his family. Paul also cherished the relationship with his nephew, Jesse, who was by his side his whole life.

Paul was preceded in death by his father, Webster Bundrant; brother, Raymond Bundrant; and daughter, Paula Manning.

Paul is survived by his mother, Rachel Bundrant; daughter, Nicole Stidham and husband, Dalton; stepson, Brandon Murphy; son-in-law, Craig Manning; grandson, Cole Wright and his wife, Ashley, and their children great-grandson Jaxon, and great-granddaughter Claire; grandson Blake Wright, and his wife, Samantha, and their chil-



dren, great-grandson Zaden, and great-grandson Bennett.

Memorial services will be announced at a later date.

MOUND NEWS

Kinsley McPherson and two 4-H members took a trip to Ecuador



BY BARBARA HOPSON

Mound News Correspondent

Kinsley McPherson along with two other 4H members and two chaperones from Coryell County made a trip to Ecuador as part of the Healthy Texas Youth Ambassadors.

They enjoyed learning about specialty foods, seeing the beautiful countryside and explored the marketplace while learning about the South American country.

BJ and Camdyn Carothers celebrated their birthday with a dinner at the home of Bobby and Nelda Carothers.

Ruby, Truett and Jacklyn Pullen of Rock Wall spent a week in Mound with Kinsley, Anna, and Allie McPherson. While here they have been visiting with their relatives and cousins.

Mrs. Eric (Liz) McCorkle

and Sue Jones had lunch and went shopping in Waco last Monday.

Kathi Taylor had Sunday lunch in Gatesville with her mother, Mrs. Sue Magee.

Carolyn Blakley, Jerry and Brenda Helms went shopping Saturday in Temple.

Barbara's Notes: Next Tuesday, Aug. 15, will mark my 40th year for writing my column, the Mound News, for the Gatesville Messenger & Star Forum.

Turnersville Cemetery Association meeting slated September 5

Staff Reports

The Turnersville Cemetery Association will conduct its third quarterly meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 5. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. and will be held at the Turnersville Community Center.

The Turnersville Community Center serves residents of the rural community of Turnersville (originally Buchanan Springs). Those interred at the cemetery include many past residents, with ranchers, farmers,

merchants, physicians, teachers, ministers, and military veterans among them.

A cemetery association was formed in 1900 but disbanded in the 1930s. The Turnersville Cemetery Association reorganized in 1953 and continues to care for the burial ground. Today, the cemetery is one of the few remaining vestiges of the Turnersville community.

The community center is located at 8115 FM 182 in Turnersville.

Central Texas Travel Club to hold monthly meeting August 15

Staff Reports


The August meeting of the Central Texas Travel Club will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 15 at Johnny's Steaks and Barbeque in Salado. The gathering will begin at 11 a.m. with the meeting beginning at 11:30 a.m.

The meeting is open to anyone who is interested


in travel, without any dues or membership requirements.

The club will discuss upcoming trips to Waco, the Painted Churches, and Colorado Springs.

For more information visit Central Texas Travel Club on Facebook or contact centraltexastravelclub@outlook.com.



CORYELL CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON BUDGET

The Coryell Central Appraisal District will hold a public hearing on the proposed budget for the 2024 fiscal year. The public hearing will be held on August 16, 2023 at 9:00am at 705 E. Main Street, Gatesville, Texas 76528.

A summary of the appraisal district budget follows:

The total amount of the proposed budget:	\$1,279,730
The total amount of increase over the current year's budget.	\$117,556
The number of employees compensated under the proposed budget.	12
The number of employees compensated under the current budget.	11

The appraisal district is supported solely by payments from the local taxing units served by the appraisal district.

If approved by the appraisal district board of directors at the public hearing, this proposed budget will take effect automatically unless disapproved by the governing bodies of the county, school districts, cities and towns served by the appraisal district.

A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection in the office of each of those governing bodies. A copy is also available for public inspection at the appraisal district office.

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- Best Mechanic
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- Best Real Estate Agent
- Best Teacher/Educator
- Best Veterinarian
- Best Waitstaff (Entire Staff)



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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.)



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Thursday, August 31, 2023**

Coryell County

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912 E. Main St.; Sunday
School 9:30 a.m., morning
worship 10:45 a.m.

FIRST BAPTIST OGLESBY
Jeremy Sanders, Pastor;
120 College Ave.;
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday worship 11 am;
Wednesdays - supper at
5:40 p.m., Kids & Youth
Group 6 p.m., Prayer
meeting 6 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST PURMELA
875 FM 932, Purmela;
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday worship 11 a.m.

GATEWAY
Michael Bragdon, Pastor;
2819 S. Hwy. 36, Gatesville;
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday worship 11 a.m. &
1:30 p.m.; Wednesday
Service 7 p.m.

HARMONY
A.C. Painter, pastor; 1750
FM 215, Gatesville; Sunday
School 10 a.m., Sunday
worship 11 a.m. & 6:30
p.m.; Wednesday evening
worship 6:30 p.m.

HAY VALLEY
3110 Hay Valley Road;
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday worship 11 a.m.
AWANA children's ministry
Sundays 5-7 p.m. Bible
Study for men & women on
Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

JONESBORO
Matt Dossey, pastor; 11420
N. State Hwy. S; Sunday
School 10 a.m., Sunday
worship 10:50 a.m.

KING
Charles W. McKamie,
pastor; 6730 FM 1783,
Gatesville; Sunday School
10 a.m., Sunday worship
11 a.m. & 6 p.m.

LIBERTY
Royce T. Cockrell, DMin.,
Pastor; Corner of FM 107 &
HWY 36, Gatesville; Sunday
School 10:00 a.m., Sunday
Service 11 a.m. & 1 p.m.,
Family Bible Study Wednes-
days 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.

Eastwood Baptist Church
"Sharing, caring & inspiring for Jesus"

**SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 AM
SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:50 AM
WEDNESDAY SERVICES 6:00 PM**

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First Baptist Church
— GATESVILLE, TEXAS —

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.
SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:45 A.M.

912 E. Main St. | 254.865.2014
www.fbcgatesville.com

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.

METHODIST BETHEL UNITED
2 miles north of Irel & on
FM 932; 11 a.m. 2nd & 4th
Sundays.

EVANT
235 US-281, Evant; Dennis
Dutton, Pastor; Sunday
worship 10 a.m.

FIRST METHODIST GATESVILLE
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.

MORMON CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LATTER-DAY SAINTS
206 S. 26th St., Gatesville;
Sacrament services
Sundays 10 a.m., Sunday
School 10 a.m.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL CHRISTIAN LIFE
Frank Rosenstern, pastor;
Hwy. 84 W.; Sunday
services 10:30 a.m.;
Thursday services, 7 p.m.

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.

COVER2COVER MINISTRIES
Pastor: Rev. Brandy Spiker,
Sunday service 10 a.m.
& 6 p.m., Wednesdays 6
p.m. 407 SH-36, Ste. 4 & 5,
Gatesville.

GATESVILLE REVIVAL CENTER
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.

HARVESTING SOULS INTERNATIONAL
Mike & Martha Johnson
pastors, 503 N. 11th St.,
Gatesville; 865-6222.
Sunday worship 11
a.m. Wednesday Bible
Study Ministries (Men,
Women, children) 6 p.m.
"Overcomers" a TDC &
state approved 12-step
recovery program meets
Tuesday 6 p.m.

JOHNNY WATKIN'S MEN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS
Sundays, 8:30-9 a.m. aqui
se reune La Iglesia de
Cristo, in the 2400 Block of
E. Main St., Gatesville.

LEVITA BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
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-
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.

PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE OF PRAISE
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
Rev. Lee O. Ford, pastor;
514 N. 13th St., Gatesville;
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.,
Sunday worship 11 a.m.,
Wednesdays Bible Study
6:30-7:30 p.m., Wednesday
service, 7:30 p.m.

PRESBYTERIAN THE PRESBYTERIAN
Rev. Dr. Buddy Wheat,
pastor; 1110 E. Main,
Gatesville; Sunday School
9:45 a.m., Sunday worship
11 a.m.

REFORMED GRACE BIBLE
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.,
Sunday services 10:45
a.m.; 4012 US Hwy. 84,
Gatesville.

SPANISH BIENVENIDOS AL HOGAR DE DIOS
Domingos a partir de las
2:00 p.m. Te esperamos!
6226 E. Hwy. 84, Gatesville.

WESLEYAN CORYELL VALLEY
Worship Saturdays 5 p.m.,
Bible fellowship Sundays 10
a.m.; 4995 FM 929

INTER-DENOMINATIONAL BOOTS-N-SADDLE COWBOY CHURCH
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.

HIGHWAY 2 HEAVEN BIKER CHURCH
Monty & Tammy VanHorn,
pastors; 1608 W. Main
St., Gatesville; Sunday
Praise & Worship 11 am,
Wednesday Bible Study
Rally-6 p.m.; 254-865-4076.

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CLASSIFIEDS

001 AUTOS FOR SALE

2005 Dodge Ram quad-cab, 6 1/4 bed, goose neck ball, 2-wheel drive, 5.9 diesel, manual doors&windows, cold A/C, 299,000+, minor dents. \$6,000 OBO, 254-223-1943. 00030297

001 AUTOS FOR SALE

(Empty ad space)

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 ano 2023-2024. Head Start es una escuela para ninos de edad 3-5 años que califican. Head Start ofrece oportunidades excelentes para educacion y tambien beneficios de medico, dental, desarrollo, y de alimento. Head Start ofrece mucha ayuda para ninos y familias. No cuesta nada para que su nino atienda el programa de Head Start. Puede usted recoger ahora una aplicacion para solicitar un puesto en Head Start. Para mas informacion llame a la Head Start, 1105 Saunders Street, o del telefono: 254-865-5423, or Hill Country Community Action at 325-372-5167.

037 HELP WANTED

NOW HIRING

ch Coryell HEALTH REHABILITATING
 AT THE MEADOWS

- 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

*\$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. eoe.

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

037 HELP WANTED

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

045 SERVICES

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

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

037 HELP WANTED

Well-established transmission shop in Temple, TX looking for experienced technician to remove and install transmissions, front-wheel drive&rear wheel drive, some computer diagnostic skills preferred-not required. Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-5pm. Call 254-778-4901 to schedule an interview. 00030298

037 HELP WANTED

(Empty ad space)

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

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

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

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

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R&M FENCING & DOZING: barbed wire, custom pipe, entryways, corrals, barns, fence row clearing, metal buildings, residential & game fencing, solar gate openers, dozer work. Free estimates. **Larry Riddle, 254-248-2205; Joyce McAdams, 254-248-4318.** 00030287

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

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060 GARAGE SALE

Weekly Feature Tues., 08/15 - Sat., 08/19: JEWELRY! The Boys & Girls Club Resale Shop, 1706 E. Main. Tuesday-Friday, 8a.m.-5p.m. & Saturday, 9a.m.-3p.m. 00030261

099 PUBLIC NOTICES

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with Chapter 152 SubChapter D, Section 152.905 of the Texas local government.

In accordance with Chapter 152 SubChapter D, Section 152.905 of the Texas Local Government Code, the District Judges of Coryell County hereby notify the public that a meeting is to be held Thursday, August 29, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. at the location of the 52nd District Court Room, on the second floor of the Coryell County Courthouse, 620 East Main Street, Gatesville, Texas. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of setting the annual compensation of the County Auditor, Assistant Auditors, Court Coordinators, and Court Reporters.

Trent D. Farrell
 Local Administrative District Judge

52nd Judicial District
 00030300

099 PUBLIC NOTICES

Request for Proposal (RFP)
 Development of Coryell County Land Use Plan

August 8, 2023

Re: Development of Land Use Plan
 Project Overview:

Coryell County is requesting proposals to produce a Land Use Plan (LUP). The County has received approval for funds from the General Land Office to produce a LUP as indicated in the attached Scope of Work.

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
Specs:
 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@jonesboroid.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

Coryell County LUP shall be developed in accordance with guidelines contained in the Texas General Land Office Guide:
<https://recovery.texas.gov/documents/mitigation/programs/resilient-communities/rcp-application-guide.pdf>

Service providers should submit proposals for the completion of all the activities listed in the attached Scope of Work. The County will, in its sole discretion, determine the contract awarded, and may decide not to award any contract.

The submission requirements for this proposal are included in the published RFP, which can be accessed on the Coryell County Website at:

<https://www.coryellcounty.org/page/coryell.Bids.RFQ>

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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HAMILTON HOSPITAL

- Radiology Technologist – FT
- EVS Team Lead – FT
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- 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

SOLUTIONS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- Licenses Professional Counselor (\$5,000 sign on bonus) – FT
- PMHNP (\$5,000 Sign on bonus) – FT

CENTRAL TEXAS EYE CARE

- Optometry Assistant – PRN

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

- Registered Nurse – PRN

HAMILTON RHC

- LVN or CMA – FT

We Offer:

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HAMILTON HEALTHCARE SYSTEM



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102 REAL ESTATE

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3 Br, 2 Ba Home, 1601 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 place, 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 north of Evant, TX. Good tree cover, nice home site, need to be fenced on the east boundary. MCWSC may be available. \$179,500
44.64 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
41.047 acres, Hamilton, TX, CR 404 in Hamilton County. Rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, approx. 25 acres farmland, 2 stock tanks, & good fences. \$449,000
47.382 acres 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
60.22 acres, CR 288 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, Purnela, 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, Purnela, 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

Grace Assembly to serve King's Table meal Aug. 12

Staff Reports

Grace Assembly Christian Church invites the community to dine at the King's Table on Saturday, Aug. 12. The meal will begin at 1 p.m. and will continue through 3 p.m. There will be fellowship, fun, song, and plenty of food.

The King's cooks will prepare a back-to-school meal which will include summertime salads, fresh desserts, main entrees, sides, and beverages. The King's guests will receive

adult and child appreciation backpacks.

Grace Assembly Christian Church has a long, proud history of serving the people of Gatesville. Through the dedication of leadership, staff members, and volunteers, and impact in worship are committed to the teachings of Jesus Christ and are here to spread his message.

Grace Assembly Christian Church is located at 1408 Waco Street in Gatesville. For further information on this event call 254-865-6949.

SUDOKU

Solution for the puzzle that ran Aug. 5.

Sudoku grid with numbers in a 9x9 pattern.

Empty 9x9 Sudoku grid for solving.

Puzzle by websudoku.com

Quilt raffle underway for Spurfest

Staff Reports

With Spurfest just a few months 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

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

Mother Neff's seeking donations to allow trail access to 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 experi-

ence 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 Mother Neff State Park at 254-853-2389.

A house full of little houses



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

When I stepped onto the porch of Nancy Lane's house in Brady, I knew it was going to be an interesting visit. The porch was decorated with flags, windmills, signs, and comfortable furniture that provided a warm and welcoming atmosphere. I was there to interview her about her dollhouses. She makes them.

"I live with them," she says. "They're all over my house. I build them from scratch." This clever woman, an accomplished artist, makes items for inside the houses. "This chandelier is made from a ladies' sandal. I use a dental floss box to act as a water container for the commode. I took a bird cage and turned it into a gazebo." She has dollhouses that are log cabins, farmhouses, even recreational vehicles. Nancy has 15 dollhouses inside her house and more in a barn outside. They're large. Most are four feet long with two or three stories. One is six feet long. They all have several rooms, all complete-

ly furnished. She took the roof off one to show me the inside. "Over here is the music room. There's a bedroom, and this one has a game room with a pool table. I'll put the roof back on so you can see the rooftop patio." Some houses are on turntables so when you turn them around you have a completely different view. She showed me one that was just a regular house on one side but when you turned it around you noticed it is decorated for Christmas. "That's my Christmas house. At Christmas time I just turn it around." Almost all the houses have wrap-around porches.

The upstairs ones have balconies. In building her houses, she uses a scale of one inch representing one foot. She took me into a room so she could show me what she calls a room box. "This little room on the shelf here is a representation of this room that we're in. I don't know why I did it, ideas just pop into my head. I just go with it. When I get an idea if I don't do something with it right then I lose it. Use it or lose it." She is serious about building dollhouses and attends workshops and showcases. "Doll houses are big in the northeast but not so much in Texas. I'm working on one right now called the Glan-

ville. The designer of this dollhouse used the design of the Rosemont mansion in Waxahachie." She buys some items for her dollhouses. She showed me a rug. "This is an actual dollhouse vintage rug. It cost nearly a hundred dollars. Doll housing is not cheap." Growing up, Nancy had 100 dolls. Her daddy built her a big dollhouse that she played with in the garage. She still has it.

Whatever happened to...

20 YEARS AGO (2003)

Members of the Jonesboro Baptist Church were erecting a new building for their youth along with a basketball court for teens. Coryell Memorial Healthcare System received a new \$80,000 ambulance which boosted the local ambulance service. Harry Grmela, agriculture science teacher at Gatesville High School, received the 30-year tenure award at a conference for Agriculture Science and Technology Teachers of Texas. Chance Lee, who was a junior at Gatesville High School, was named to the

Wrangler High School All-Star Rodeo Team. The Gatesville High School varsity cheerleading crew participated in a summer camp held at Texas A&M University.

30 YEARS AGO (1993)

Members of the Gatesville High School graduating Class of 1968 were making plans for a 25-year reunion which was to be held at Faunt Le Roy Park. Bolton-McClaren had acquired six acres of land on the loop and planned to begin construction on a new 20,000 square foot facility. Members of the Maples

Masonic Lodge in Flat were gathering to present a 50-year pin and also a Golden Trowel Award. Members of the Oglesby Methodist Church were celebrating the dedication of the Texas State Historical Marker that was placed in front of the sanctuary. Elzie and Faynell Clay of Gatesville were celebrating their 49th wedding anniversary. Elzie Clay and the former Faynell Fullwood were married on Aug. 12, 1944, in the Coryell County courthouse.

40 YEARS AGO (1983)

Rev. and Mrs. Lonnie Hay-

ter of Gatesville both received doctorate degrees during commencement exercises at Baylor University. Mrs. Otha (Lila) Moreland was named the Citizen of the Week for her contributions as a member of the Coryell Memorial Hospital Auxiliary. Wilma Kilpatrick, daughter of Ethel Swain of Gatesville, was elected Princess Badoura in Tabeel Temple, Daughters of the Nile, in Houston. Gatesville Cub Scout Pack 272 was having a swimming party at the Gatesville City Swimming Pool. Bill Perkins of Evant had

graduated from combination welding class at Texas State Technical Institute in Waco. 50 YEARS AGO (1973) Gary Beasley had graduated from the Dallas Institute of Mortuary Science and was doing his internship with Scott's Funeral Home in Gatesville. After selling off the College Hill campus site, Gatesville Independent School District was selling the furnishings, equipment, and contents of the buildings. Coryell's cotton harvest, which always gets its start in the Oglesby blackland belt, was prepared to get un-

derway for 1973. Rev. Richard Worley, who had pastored the Church of God for two years, was moving to Tipp City, Ohio where he planned to serve as the pastor of the Brush Creek Church. Jo Ann Barnard, a school bus driver, had her nine-year-old daughter, Sherri, as one of her passengers. Sherri was in fourth grade.

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Prepare yourself for an evening of rock and gospel classics! See you there!

COURTESY PHOTO
Concert poster for Gatesville Country Music Hall of Fame free show performed by Tri-Rivers Duo.

Tri-Rivers Duo to perform at city auditorium

Submitted item

The Gatesville Country Music Hall of Fame is proud to welcome the "Tri-Rivers Duo" to the Gatesville City Auditorium stage on Friday,

Aug. 18, for a free concert. The doors will open at 6:45 p.m. and the concert will begin at 7 p.m.

Richard Ray and Talon Keeney will be performing

Rock 'n' Roll Classics and gospel music.

The Gatesville Country Music Hall of Fame seeks to provide good, wholesome music with a family-oriented

flavor. Concerts are held at the Gatesville City Auditorium located at 110 N. 8th St. in Gatesville on the third Friday each month.

Elvis show set for 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, 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

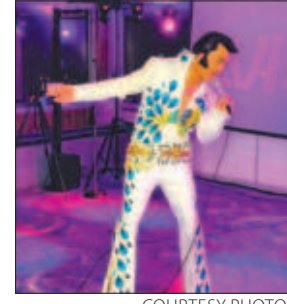
if someone has autism, they can still achieve their dreams.

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



Hunter Cole



Travis Hudson



John Cobb

performed at Graceland, competed in many contests across the United States, and was featured in the Wacoan Magazine. He specializes 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 682-268-0269.

Business Directory

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Cone with a Cop event held Aug. 2

PHOTOS BY DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

The Gatesville Police Department partnered with Studebakers Pizza for their annual free ice cream event. The event was open to the public and all children received a free ice cream, a kiddo identification card, and a chance to meet with our local police officers.



2023 Coryell SENIOR EXPO

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8:00am - 12:00pm
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GHS Varsity Volleyball team introduction during season opener.

SE'VETTE EARLY | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Gatesville volleyball team looks to 2023

BY CHRIS ALLMAN
Contributing Writer

The questions and the narratives surrounding the Gatesville Volleyball team as they head into the 2023 season are ones that could also be asked and applied to several Hornet and Lady Hornet programs over the next nine months.

How do you replace a stellar senior class, replicate the previous season's success, and re-build for another playoff run?

For Janey Weber and the Lady Hornet Volleyball team - fresh off of a 20th consecutive playoff berth and Regional Quarterfinal appearance - the answer is that they don't necessarily re-build. They re-load.

In 2022, they finished the year 24-20 and endured an uneven regular season before peaking in the second half of district. After a 2-3 record in the first half of district, they went 4-1 in the second half. They dealt district champ Salado their only league loss then topped Robinson in a tiebreaker to

secure the district's No. 3 seed.

The late-season charge continued in the playoffs as they took down Georgetown Gateway in five games in bi-district, swept Caldwell in the area round, then lost a five-set heartbreaker to Lago Vista in the regional-quarterfinals. It was Gatesville's deepest playoff run since a similar third round appearance in 2012 and was led largely by seniors Kayleigh Haywood, Lola Barron, Charlee Barron, Chloe Matthews, and Rachel Garrett.

"We struggled and struggled and then at the end, I think our kids just decided they weren't going to lose. They were just ready to go," said Weber. "We got more cohesive, but I think it was that (Salado) game that really flipped it for everybody. That kind of showed them we can be pretty good whenever we go put everything together and go play."

Arguably, no program at Gatesville High School has had more sustained success over the last two decades

than the Lady Hornets volleyball team. Former head coach and current Athletic Director Rickey Phillips led the Lady Hornets to 17 straight berths before handing the reins to Weber, whose teams advanced to the bi-district round in her first two seasons.

Weber more than contributed to Gatesville's success as a star on three of Phillips' best teams from 2008 to 2010. The Lady Hornets advanced to the third round of the playoffs in 2009 and to the regional tournament in 2010 - a season in which she tallied 317 kills and 92 aces and was named to the All-State team.

Now in her fourth season as head coach, Weber has high hopes for a 21st straight playoff appearance despite returning just three healthy starters. She draws from recent experience when it comes to the re-loading process. In 2022, they were faced with replacing Tasha Thoms and were also without Haywood for a large stretch of the season.

RELOAD

"It's exciting to see who's going to fill the shoes of those previous years' kids that you lost. We had quite a few kids who stepped up, just jumped at those roles (last year)," Weber said. "You lose people every year. It happens every year. You kind of get used to it, but you say 'okay who wants to be the bread and butter?' That go-to person."

Fortunately for Weber, she will build around an experienced and decorated group of returning players.

Sophomore Emma Pollard was named the District 23-4A Newcomer of the Year in 2022 and returns to handle the middle for the Lady Hornets. Senior outside hitter Barrett Boyd was an honorable mention all-district selection last season as was junior Tamiah Miller, who will miss the 2023 season due to injury. Senior outside hitter Laura Trejo rounds out the group of returners.

Weber also expressed enthusiasm for her potential varsity newcomers but was

intent on keeping those names close to her vest.

"There are a few. I won't give names but there are a few," she said.

Practices officially began on July 31 and Weber said she felt like her roster would start to take shape near the end of the first week in time for their first scrimmage of the season against Killeen, Troy, and West on Aug. 4.

Their regular season opens at home against Waco University on Aug. 7 and begins a daunting non-district slate. The Lady Hornets will travel to Austin for the always-difficult Jason Landers Invitational in Austin on Aug. 10 and other non-district opponents this season include Belton, Lake Belton, Fairfield, and a Georgetown Gateway team surely intent on exacting some measure of revenge.

"I try and make a very competitive schedule. And to me, I think it helps, it helps show us as coaches and players our flaws and what we need to work on. I want to see that kind of

fight in them," Weber said.

The fight Weber is looking for will be necessary as the 23-4A will be another doozy.

"Some of the teams in our district may have lost a couple of people but they're all still going to be very, very competitive," Weber said. "Our district is going to be really, really tough."

Robinson and China Spring lost in the bi-district round in 2022 while Salado advanced to the regional tournament. The Lady Eagles fell in four games to state semi-finalist Huffman Hargrave and are the likely favorites in the district again in 2023.

Weber's team may gel immediately or make another late season charge. But it's not a matter of if but when.

"Sometimes it's in spring and sometimes it's in August. But sometimes it might be district or playoffs. But I think they get it too. They're like, 'okay, we got shoes to fill, right? We just have to go work,'" Weber added.

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.team-sideline.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 mbailey@gatesvilletx.com.

Gatesville Country Club to host Dirty Birdies 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 Sat-

urday, 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 veri-

fied 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 more information, contact the clubhouse at 254-865-6917 or Ray Feight at 254-236-2760.

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SE'VETTE EARLY | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Anna McPherson makes a block against Waco University at GHS' Varsity Volleyball season opener Aug. 7. Varsity won 3-1, JV won 2-0 and the GHS freshman team fell short, 0-2.



SE'VETTE EARLY | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Gatesville's Emma Pollard sets the ball in Monday night's season opener against Waco University.



SE'VETTE EARLY | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

GHS' Bella Bartlett gets play action at Monday night's varsity volleyball game against Waco University.



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TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Tarleton State Soccer announces Education Day to be held on September 1 against Grambling State



COURTESY PHOTO

In an effort to bring Texan soccer into the youth around Stephenville, Tarleton State has added an education day allowing elementary schools to come and take in a game during the school on the first Friday of September.

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — The Tarleton State Women's Soccer team will host Education Day on Sept. 1 against Grambling State changing the game time from 6 p.m. to 11 a.m. head coach Pete Cuadrado announced on Friday.

In an effort to bring Texan soccer into the youth around Stephenville, Tarleton State has added an education day allowing elementary schools to come and take in a game during the school on the first Friday of September.

Before the match, students from reserved schools will be encouraged to take part in poster making and other fun "kid-tailgating" games. Each student and staff member attending will be provided with free lunch. For more information

or to reserve a spot for your school please contact Tarleton State director of marketing, Tanner Verplancke at a tverplancke@tarleton.edu. Tarleton State will kick off its season on Aug. 10 against Baylor for an

exhibition at 7 p.m. in Stephenville. The season opener is set for Aug. 17 at home against Louisiana-Monroe at 7 p.m. at the Tarleton Soccer Complex.

Tarleton State Women's Soccer releases 2023 Promotional Schedule

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — The Tarleton State women's soccer team has released its promotional schedule for the 2023 season.

The schedule features six promotional games among the 11 regular season home contests at the Tarleton Soccer Complex this season.

Kicking off the season, a postgame autograph session with the players will be featured on opening night, Aug. 17, against ULM. Schedule

posters will be provided to be signed by the players.

On Aug. 25, the team will hold Rootin' Tootin' Texans Day featuring a vuvuzela giveaway to fans arriving early for the contest. Education Day as previously released, will be held on Sept. 1 featuring a draw to elementary-aged students with poster-making and a provided lunch.

One of the highlights of the year will be the first edition of Soctoberfest on Oct. 5. Soctoberfest will feature a mug giveaway for early-arriv-



COURTESY PHOTO

The 2023 Tarleton State women's soccer schedule features six promotional games among the 11 regular season home contests at the Tarleton Soccer Complex this season.

ing fans. Greek night will also take place on the fifth, with the opportunity to tailgate prior to the match.

On Oct. 19, a fan-favorite returns from last season, Pups at the Pitch Night. All dogs will receive Tarleton-

branded frisbees upon arrival. Dogs will be judged for the best dressed Tarleton spirit with the best going home with a Tarleton goodie bag. Senior Day will be held in the Texans final home regular season match of the season

on Oct. 22 against Grand Canyon. A special presentation will be held for the lone player graduating out of the program, Macie Witter.

The Texans open their slate with four-straight home games starting with

an exhibition game against Baylor on Aug. 10 at 7 p.m. Tarleton State will then open the regular season with a 7 p.m. contest against ULM on Thursday, Aug. 17 at the Tarleton Soccer Complex.



COURTESY PHOTO

Tarleton State Men's Golf team will be competing in 11 total tournaments across the fall and spring, beginning Sept. 6-7.

Tarleton State Men's Golf announces 2023-24 schedule

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Tarleton State Men's Golf completed a successful first season of competition in 2022-23 after nearly 30 years without a program, and now the second year is just around the corner.

Head coach Chance Cain announced the full 2023-24 schedule on Monday, with the Texans competing in 11 total tournaments across the fall and spring.

The fall competition kicks off from Sept. 6-7 in Fort Collins, Colorado, for the Ram Masters Invitational,

hosted by Colorado State. Other fall action includes the UAB Graeme McDowell Invitational in Oneonta, Alabama, at Limestone Springs Golf Course on Sept. 24-26. A trip to the pacific northwest in Corvallis, Oregon, for the Oregon State Invitational is set for Oct. 9-10. The last competition of the fall is the Monterrey International Invitational, a tournament in Monterrey, Mexico, hosted by George Washington at Club Campestre Golf Course from Oct. 27-28.

The spring slate gets started on Feb. 12-13

at Bentwater Yacht and Country Club with the Bentwater Intercollegiate hosted by Rice. Next up for the Texans in the month of February is the Wyoming Desert intercollegiate in Palm Desert, California, at Classic Club hosted by Wyoming from Feb. 20-22. From March to April Tarleton will travel to Sugar Land, Texas, for the Colin Montgomerie Invitational, Kerrville, Texas, for The Big Texan, University Place, Washington, for the Seattle U Redhawk Invitational and Carrollton, Texas, for the North Texas Intercollegiate.

The WAC Championship is slated for April 26-28 at Chapparral Pines in Payson, Arizona.

Tarleton will be traveling to play in the Graeme McDowell Intercollegiate, Oregon State Invitational, Wyoming Desert Intercollegiate, Colin Montgomerie Invitational and The Big Texan for a second consecutive season.

All in all, the Texans will play in seven different U.S. states as well as having their first international experience with one tournament in Mexico.

EDUCATION

GATESVILLE ★ EVANT ★ JONESBORO ★ OGLESBY

Lower campus and district accountability ratings all but certain

BY DR. BARRETT POLLARD
GISD Superintendent

Despite all of the hard work and effort by public school teachers and students last year, lower campus and district accountability ratings are all but certain come September.

The state of Texas has ushered in a revamped and more rigorous accountability rating system. If you were to enter the same student scores that resulted in a campus rating of A two years ago, under the new system those same student scores would likely fetch a B or possibly even a C.

This more difficult grading system is coupled with a redesigned STAAR test that is definitely trickier than previous versions. House Bill 3906 established a "multiple choice cap," meaning that no more than 75% of points on a STAAR test can be based on multiple choice questions. These new types

of questions include multi-part questions, graphing, number lines, fractions, short answer responses, extended in-depth responses, selecting multiple correct responses, and highlighting areas on the test just to name a few.

If that was not difficult enough, House Bill (HB) 3261, enacted by the 87th Texas Legislature in 2021, required state assessments to be administered online by the 2022-2023 school year. This transition required nearly all students to be assessed online, with the exceptions of students taking the STAAR Alternate 2 assessment and students who require accommoda-

tions that cannot be provided online. Although most young people enjoy and are proficient with playing on an iPad, the skills necessary to type responses, navigate the exam, highlight areas, and drag and drop answers on a Chromebook are much different. These skills are especially difficult for the youngest STAAR test-takers who are typically only nine years old in 3rd grade.

So, why would the state implement a more stringent grading system, more difficult tests with trickier types of questions, and mandatory online testing that many students will not fare as well on as a traditional paper test? Many believe it's



Dr. Barrett Pollard

COURTESY PHOTO

PLEASE SEE RATINGS | B5

GISD and Hornet Band Program presents Alumni Band Outreach

Gatesville Independent School District and the Hornet Band Program have announced their first Alumni Band Outreach program. This program will give Gatesville High School band alumni the chance to perform with current students at certain specified events throughout the upcoming football season.

The first Alumni Band event will be on Friday, September 8 at the Homecoming game. The due date for registration is Friday, August 25.

If you are a proud alum of the Gatesville High School Hornet Band Program and would like to give another hoorah in the stands on a Friday night be sure to fill out a form by the link provided at <https://forms.gle/hyFSKXwURuwmMdk16>.

hyFSKXwURuwmMdk16.

The lead band director, principal, or superintendent have the right to limit the number of alumni participating in these events due to space constraints, safety issues, weather, or any other reason they deem necessary.

For more information contact Gatesville High School at 254-865-8281.

Deadline to file for Gatesville ISD school board election is Aug. 21

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, August 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 Administration Office is located at 401-561 S. Lovers Lane.

Jonesboro ISD: Where every student has a place

Staff Reports

Jonesboro Superintendent Matt Dossey understands that not every student matches well with each and every school.

"Every school has its strengths and weaknesses. Some kids do better in a small school and others do better in a large school environment. I think it is important to find the right fit for your student; the place where they will thrive."

Thriving is exactly what Jonesboro ISD is doing. With

a student population of just slightly more than 300, Jonesboro had a 100% graduation rate this past year.

"Jonesboro itself is unique from the standpoint we are more than a school; we are a family. Every student has a name, and every kid has a place. That in and of itself is unique," said Dossey.



This year Jonesboro will be participating in UIL Volleyball for the very first time. There is excitement in the air as new Coach Amanda LeCroy and her assistant coach/husband, Cody LeCroy hope to set a standard of excellence for future generations of Jonesboro students.

Besides the coaching duo of Amanda and Cody LeCroy, JISD has added Cassandra Berg to their staff, and welcomes back Amanda Martin who joined the Jonesboro teaching staff in mid-year of 22-23.

Teachers and staff will be conducting in-service days from Aug. 14 to Aug. 18 with the first day of school at Jonesboro ISD is Aug. 21.

Jonesboro ISD FCA to hold meeting August 20

Staff Reports

Jonesboro Independent School District will hold a Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) back to school prayer meeting and worship night for students on Sunday, Aug. 20. The meeting will be held in the Jonesboro ISD gym at 6:30 p.m.

Jonesboro ISD FCA has presented their 21 days of prayer which includes prayers for the school board, administration, teachers, students, the

school year, all athletics programs, coaches, the playground, support staff, cafeteria staff, physical safety, the school to fulfill the Lord's purpose, friends, Jonesboro, caring teachers, new teachers, the lunchroom, technology protection, gym fellowship, spiritual growth that leads to revival, and to give the school year to the Lord.

Since 1954, FCA has been challenging coaches and athletes on the professional, college, high

school, junior high, and youth levels to use the powerful medium of athletics to impact the world for Jesus Christ.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes focuses on serving local communities by equipping, empowering, and encouraging people to make a difference for Christ.

Jonesboro ISD is located at 14909 Hwy 36 in Jonesboro. For further information contact Jonesboro ISD at 254-463-2111.

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 in-

formation contact 254-463-2111.

Giving multiplied with school supplies for children overseas

Staff Reports

As the school year approaches, shoebox packers are making use of back-to-school prices to purchase gifts and essential items for children in need around the world. Residents in Gatesville are collecting school supplies, along with personal care items and fun toys, to pack in shoeboxes. Operation Christmas Child,

a project of Samaritan's Purse, will deliver these gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 100 countries.

For many children, access to these simple items is essential to an education. This was the case for Justin Thomas, a shoebox recipient in Southeast Asia whose parents could not afford the supplies needed for school. Thomas remembers the specific day he received

a gift-filled shoebox from Operation Christmas Child and found it filled with toys and most exciting to him—school supplies!

Growing up with hand-me-down clothes and used items, Thomas used to write with a pencil so short that he held it using a pen cap. Heaving an entire packet of new pencils and a pencil sharpener all his own was a treasure to him. This simple

gift had a life-changing impact for Thomas because it opened the doors for him to receive an education.

For more information, visit samaritanspurse.org/occ. National Collection Week is Nov. 13-20. Participants can donate \$10 per shoebox gift online through "Follow Your Box" and receive a tracking label to discover its destination. Those who prefer the convenience of online shop-

ping can browse samaritanspurse.org/buildonline to select gifts matched to a child's specific age and gender, then finish packing the virtual shoebox by adding a photo and personal note of encouragement.

Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse, seeks to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world

and, together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 209 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 170 countries and territories. This year, Operation Christmas Child will celebrate its 30th year of ministry!

Gatesville ISD convocation energizes staff

Submitted by GISD

The annual Gatesville Independent School District benefits fair started early on Aug. 2 to mark the return of staff from summer break. Local vendors had tables set up throughout the hallways of Gatesville High School to showcase their merchandise and services along with lots of free goodies. As the crowd transitioned into the auditorium for convocation,

the Fighting Hornet Band energized the crowd with the GHS Fight Song, while the cheerleaders and dazzlers also looked sharp in their performances. Drum Major Alex Johnson gave the invocation and led the staff in reciting the pledges. A trio of choir students consisting of Anna Phillips, Memphis Wells, and Paisley Wells sang an excellent rendition of the National Anthem.

Retired GHS teacher and

familiar speaker at convocation, Jo Ann Sugg, gave an encouraging message to the staff. Sugg provided the audience with important educational updates from the recent legislative session, and her trademark humor was much appreciated by the staff. Amy Dodson, a senior director with Raise Your Hand Texas (an advocacy group for public schools in Texas), implored the staff to stay involved

in the political process that shapes public education.

Finally, Dr. Barrett Pollard, GISD Superintendent, rounded out the trio of speakers. He encouraged the staff to care about, stand up for, and advocate for the students of GISD much like several of the Hornet Legends who have been honored in recent years. Pollard noted the recent passing of long-time GISD educator Linda Graham and how her

years of service had such a profound impact on the youth of Gatesville.

He then gave a brief history lesson on former educator, George Winfield Harris, who served as superintendent of Gatesville public schools from 1909 to 1919. Harris did much to improve the educational system at Gatesville. Pollard concluded the session by noting that more than ¼ of the 400 staff members

at GISD actually graduated from GHS themselves. The audience was then shown a video consisting of the senior pictures of the staff members who graduated from GHS.



RATINGS

FROM PAGE B4

a strategic move to make the public schools of Texas look bad in September, right before the Governor calls a special session in October to once again push for school choice. House Republicans who are still loyal to public school repelled the Governor's attempt at school choice during the regular 88th legislative session. Frustrated by multiple failed attempts to pass school choice, state politicians decided not to allocate any of the \$33 billion surplus toward public school or teacher pay raises. The Governor may use additional funding for teacher raises as an incentive for House Republicans to pass school choice in October.

Public school proponents point to school

choice already available to parents. Currently, a parent can homeschool their student or transfer to any number of public, charter, or private schools. Public school advocates point rather to the unfairness of tax dollars going to private entities not subject to the litany of academic and financial accountability hoops that public schools must endure. Additionally, public schools vow to educate all students, while these private entities are much more likely to turn away students based on factors they deem undesirable.

So, before you believe your local public school system is doing a poor job based on the campus and district ratings that go out in the fall, be aware that they may simply be a pawn in the political maneuvering of state politicians.

MEET THE TEACHER



SE'VETTE EARLY | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Gatesville High School students gather information on Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes at Meet the Teacher.



Can you spot the differences in these two pictures? Look closely! (the answers are down below)



Let's Bowl

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

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

Word Bank

- 1. gutter
- 2. frame
- 3. pin
- 4. split
- 5. ball
- 6. spare
- 7. throw
- 8. score
- 9. strike
- 10. pinsetter

Bowling is a fun game that people have been playing for a really long time. It all started a loooong time ago, even before there were computers or smartphones! People used to play a game called "bowls," where they would roll a ball as close as possible to a target.

In ancient Egypt, there were special bowling-like games with stones and balls. Then, in the Middle Ages, people in Europe played a game called "skittles," which is like bowling with pins.

But the modern game of bowling that we know today started in the United States. Back in the 1800s, people would bowl outside on grass. They soon realized it was more fun to play indoors on wooden lanes, so they built special bowling alleys.

Over time, bowling became really popular all around the world. People would gather with their friends and family to have a great time knocking down pins. Nowadays, we have cool bowling balls, fancy shoes, and automatic pinsetters to make the game even more fun! So next time you go bowling, remember that you're part of a game with a long and fascinating history!

PICTURE ANSWERS

- 1. The bowling ball is a different color.
- 2. The picture on the wall is new.
- 3. The boy's shorts changed color.
- 4. The boy in the background wasn't there before.



Children's Speech, Occupational, and Physical Therapy Services



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

Heading back to school can be stressful for many of our children

SUBMITTED BY THE JASON FOUNDATION

As the summer winds down, schools prepare to welcome their students back for the new school year. For most young people, the start of school is an exciting time. It is the opportunity to see their favorite teachers and catch up with friends they haven't seen as much over the summer.

For some students, however, the beginning of school can cause stress, depression, and anxiety. According to an article published in 2022 by Scientific American, a child's risk of suicide increases on school days compared to the summer. Psychiatrist Dr. Tyler Black, who works at a prominent children's hospital, says that one of the main stressors that his patients discuss is school.

By using the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's WONDER database to find information on pediatric (17 years of age or younger) deaths by suicide, Dr. Black has created a "heat map" of youth suicide. On weekdays and during school months, there is a significant elevation of suicide deaths in children. The suicide rates of children ages 8 - 17 were documented from 2000 - 2020.

During school months, the increase in pediatric suicide ranges between 30 and 43 percent. Academic burden, bullying, discrimination, and lack of sleep are only some contributing factors to stress among some students. Dr. Black mentions in the article ways to reduce

this stress. Some of them include reducing homework, adding a mental health curriculum, restoring funding for extracurricular activities, ending perfect attendance awards, and taking bullying seriously.

It is also paramount for parents and teachers to recognize some of these out-of-character behaviors. Some behaviors include abrupt changes in attendance, deteriorating academic performance, lack of interest in things that the child is involved in, and sudden changes in appearance.

The Jason Foundation, Inc. (JFI) is also a valuable resource for parents and educators. JFI is dedicated to the prevention of youth suicide through educational and awareness programs that equip young people, educators/youth workers, and parents with the tools and resources to help identify and assist at-risk youth.

For more information on the Jason Foundation's programs and materials, please visit www.jasonfoundation.com. All the programs and materials are free of charge.

Parents, you can educate yourselves by visiting The Jason Foundations Parent Resource Program. The website provides valuable information for parents who feel their child struggles with depression, anxiety, or their mental health. Encourage your school to link this web page to their school web page.



COURTESY PHOTO BY CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE

A student in a previous Central Texas College Licensed Massage Therapy class prepares another student for a skin detoxing seaweed wrap treatment under the watchful eye of the instructor.

Open house set for CTC massage therapy program

Staff Reports

Central Texas College presents open house orientations that will benefit anyone looking to start a career in massage therapy. Participants can meet the staff, tour the classrooms, and will have an opportunity to ask questions about the program.

Initially offered as a non-credit certificate program, CTC's massage therapy curriculum was approved two years ago by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating

Board as a certificate of completion for college credit.

Each open house session is free and will be held at the CTC Department of Health Sciences building, located on Central Texas College Drive in classroom B203 on the second floor. The next session will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 6, at 2 p.m.

If anyone is interested in attending one of the open house orientations, contact CTC by calling the Licensed Massage Therapy department at 254-526-1890 to RSVP with the session of your choice.



50-280 (Rev. 4-22/6)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The **EVANT ISD** will hold a public meeting at **06:00 PM (CT) 08/28/2023** in **EISD School Library**, **Evant, TX**. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$ <u>0.669200</u> /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	\$ <u>0.000000</u> /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)
Approved by Local Voters	\$ <u>0.000000</u> /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	<u>0</u> % increase or _____ % (decrease)
Debt service	<u>0</u> % increase or _____ % (decrease)
Total expenditures	<u>0</u> % increase or _____ % (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ <u>216,466,971</u>	\$ <u>230,667,473</u>
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ <u>8,843,730</u>	\$ <u>8,851,250</u>
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ <u>170,002,774</u>	\$ <u>180,306,525</u>
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ <u>8,391,891</u>	\$ <u>7,951,465</u>

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8).
** "New property" is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17).
*** "Taxable value" is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 0

* Outstanding principal.

50-280 (Rev. 4-22/6) (Back)

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 0.854600	\$ 0.000000 *	\$ 0.854600	\$ 8,079	\$ 5,774
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 0.631840	\$ 0.000000 *	\$ 0.631840	\$ 6,580	\$ 7,272
Proposed Rate	\$ 0.669200	\$ 0.000000 *	\$ 0.669200	\$ 6,846	\$ 7,457

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 180,067	\$ 225,463
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 117,819	\$ 94,687
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 0.854600	\$ 0.669200
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 1,006	\$ 633
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ -373

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 0.669200. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of 0.669200.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 773,973
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 0

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

50-280 (Rev. 4-22/6)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The **JONESBORO ISD** will hold a public meeting at **06:30 PM (CT) 08/28/2023** in **JISD Room 111, 14909 S. State Hwy 36**, Jonesboro, TX.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax \$ 0.778600 /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax
Approved by Local Voters \$ 0.094600 /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	50	% increase	or	_____	% (decrease)
Debt service	0	% increase	or	_____	% (decrease)
Total expenditures	50	% increase	or	_____	% (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 161,365,370	\$ 192,517,016
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 3,944,950	\$ 4,614,970
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 151,471,598	\$ 156,034,638
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 3,804,328	\$ 4,011,864

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8).
 ** "New property" is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17).
 *** "Taxable value" is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 375,000

* Outstanding principal.

50-280 (Rev. 4-22/6) (Back)

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 0.942900	\$ 0.097000 *	\$ 1.039900	\$ 4,475	\$ 9,364
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 0.653370	\$ 0.032890 *	\$ 0.686260	\$ 3,771	\$ 9,850
Proposed Rate	\$ 0.778600	\$ 0.094600 *	\$ 0.873200	\$ 4,689	\$ 10,543

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 180,635	\$ 250,921
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 133,012	\$ 97,624
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.039900	\$ 0.873200
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 1,383	\$ 852
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ -530

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 0.873200. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of 0.873200.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 4,667,601
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 304,996

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://taxes.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Oglesby ISD presents Meet the Teacher Aug. 14

Staff Reports

Oglesby Independent School District will hold its Meet the Teacher on Monday, Aug. 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.

CTC to host new student orientation sessions

Submitted item

Central Texas College (CTC) will host the second of two new student orientations for the upcoming fall semester. Students only need to attend one of the sessions and can choose a virtual or in-person option. Each orientation will offer students an overview of policies, procedures, class delivery and other information relevant to their success during the semester.

The first orientation was held on August 2 and the second orientation will be held in the Anderson Campus Center (Bldg. 224) on August 17 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Both sessions will provide information on Blackboard - the school's online learning management system; financial aid, scholarship, and grant opportunities; academic advising; tips for being successful in class; safety and security; Title IX; and student and academic services.

A faculty panel will also be

held to give students the opportunity to ask questions and learn from instructors about classes, academic programs and more. The discussion will be followed by a general question-and-answer session to address any student concerns.

"Attending college classes can be a bit intimidating for first timers," said Mariceli Santiago-Cruz, director - CTC Student Life and Activities and host of the new student orientations. "Our orientations will offer a comfort level so new students can feel a little more at ease when they arrive on campus to attend classes or manage online courses. And for prospective students who are considering attending CTC, the sessions will prove very valuable in helping them decide CTC is a great place to start their higher education."

To sign up for the new student orientation, visit <https://ctc4.me/NSO>.

Jason Foundation presents August as Do Not Be a Bully Month

SUBMITTED BY THE JASON FOUNDATION

Do Not Be a Bully Month is celebrated in August and reminds us to address bullying prevention. The month-long event aims to promote kindness, acceptance, and inclusion. With the school year just around the corner this is the perfect time for parents to sit down with their children and discuss proper behavior and how we treat others.

According to [bullyingstatistics.org](https://www.bullyingstatistics.org) some things that parents can do to teach their children not to bully include:

- Set a good example by not bullying or intimidating others.
- Talk to your child about the fact that bullying is wrong and hurts other people.
- Make clear family rules about what bullying is and that any form of bullying is not acceptable.
- Explain the consequences if anyone bullies and be sure that you follow through on the consequences any time this rule is broken.
- Spend time with your child and ask questions about their friends and activities.
- Monitor your child's behavior, including cell phone and social media usage.
- Watch for and praise any times that they use positive social interactions.
- Contact your school and inquire about their bullying policy and how they will address bullying during the year.
- Encourage your school to post their policy on the school website if it is not there already.

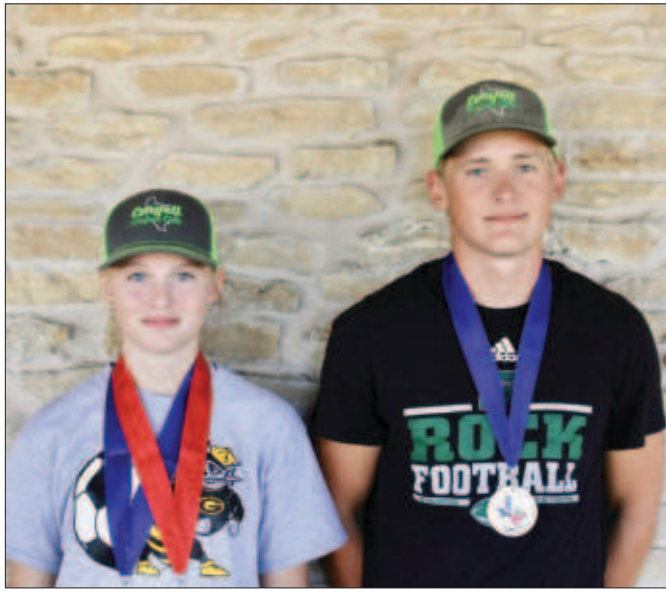
If not addressed in the proper way, bullying can aggravate depression and could be a catalyst for suicide, especially if the bullied child is already facing mental health issues.

According to a study published in February of this year by the journal PLOS ONE, being a victim of bullying can be associated with mental distress and suicide attempts in teens. School bullying is a common problem, with research estimating that as many as 30% of American youth suffer. Being bullied may have a lasting effect on students' well-being, health, and social adjustment. Examples of this may be cyberbullying, social bullying, and bullying based on race and sexual orientation. Hurtful sexual jokes and comments correlate significantly to mental distress and suicide attempts.

Are parents legally responsible if their kid is a bully? One would have to look at their state's laws. Across the country, 47 states do have some parental liability laws according to Love Our Children USA. In those states, parents may be held responsible for negligent or intentional acts as well as crimes of their children. The best way to avoid liability for your child's actions is to talk to them about the dangers of bullying.

The Jason Foundation is dedicated to the prevention of youth suicide through educational and awareness programs that equip young people, educators, and parents with the tools and resources to help identify and assist at-risk youth. The Parent Resource Program sponsored by The Jason Foundation is a valuable website for parents. The site provides information, tools, and resources to help parents identify if their child is at risk. Please visit <https://prp.jasonfoundation.com>.

Pick up a free copy of the 2023 Gatesville Hornets Football Poster starting Monday, Aug. 21!



COURTESY PHOTO

Members Lily and Dutch Nielsen of the Coryell County 4-H Gun Club took home medals on Saturday, July 22 at the 2023 4-H Shooting Sports State Games.

4-H Gun Club competes in 2023 Shooting Sports State Games

Staff Reports

The 2023 4-H Shooting Sports State Games were concluded on Saturday, July 22 and are held each year at the end of July.

Club members Lily Nielsen and Dutch Nielsen took medals during the Hunting Muzzle loading Pistol and Rifle portion. Lily Nielsen competed in the Intermediate age group and placed first

in Smallbore Pistol any sight with a score of 246/300 and placed second in Smallbore Pistol metallic sight with a score of 239/300. Dutch Nielsen competed in the Senior age group and placed first in Light Rifle any sight with a score of 374/400.

For more information on the Coryell County 4-H Gun Club email coryell.agrilife.org.

Mundkowsky receives National Academic Award from ASU

Staff Reports

Angelo State University announced Sydney Mundkowsky of Gatesville, majoring in Psychology, as one of the 87 students who earned a 2022 to 2023 Academic Achievement Award from the NCAA Division II Athletic Directors Association (D2 ADA).

To be eligible, student athletes must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.50 and have completed at least two years of college level work. The athletic director at their college or university must also be a member of D2 ADA.

Angelo State University was founded in 1928 and is a thriving four-year public school located in San Angelo, Texas.

What parents can do to be more involved at school

Staff Reports

Parents can make every effort to encourage children to make the most of the school experience, including academics and extracurricular activities. Though students' level of engagement is ultimately up to them, parental involvement at school can be crucial for students' success.

According to the National Education Council, when parents get involved in their children's education, those children are more likely to do better in school and be more positive about the school experience. They also may be more well-behaved. Parents wondering what they can do to assist at the school level can consider these possibilities:

Attend school board meetings

Many community school boards are comprised entirely of volunteers who work with superintendents and other personnel to advocate for policies and procedures for students. Decisions typically are up for vote, and parents can run for school board positions or simply attend meetings each month and let their voices be heard about various issues.

Attend open houses and conferences

Parents can make every effort to get to know teachers and other staff. Putting faces to names can help parents develop a connection to

teachers and vice versa. Most schools have back to school nights, meet the coaches opportunities, open houses, and parent-teacher conferences. Parents can take part in these events.

Open lines of communication

Parents can ask teachers and other staff how they prefer to communicate. Some teachers want students to take the lead and reach out first, with parents providing support if need be. Adults can be responsive when teachers reach out.

Attend school events

Families can make it a point to support students in all endeavors. Whenever the opportunity to visit the school comes up (whether for a concert, sports game, trivia night, or fundraiser), parents can make an effort to attend.

Volunteer

When parents want to be involved even further, they can head committees at school or volunteer with the PTA or PTO. They also can help out in the cafeteria, library or in the main office. Parents who have particular skills may volunteer to provide tutoring or mentoring as needed. Furthermore, parents can volunteer in school-sanctioned extracurriculars, such as Scouts BSA or as sports coaches.

Involvement in school is part of being an informed and supportive parent.

50-280 (Rev. 4-22/6)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The GATESVILLE ISD will hold a public meeting at 05:00 PM (CT) 08/21/2023 in Gatesville ISD Boardroom, 311 S. Lovers Ln. Gatesville, TX

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax \$ 0.6992 /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax
Approved by Local Voters \$ 0.2000 /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	7.522212	% increase	or		% (decrease)
Debt service		% increase	or	0.001873	% (decrease)
Total expenditures	7.008431	% increase	or		% (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 1,635,147,356	\$ 1,770,855,919
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 44,548,155	\$ 41,414,340
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 1,175,520,708	\$ 1,210,634,028
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 44,548,155	\$ 35,901,209

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8).
 ** "New property" is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17).
 *** "Taxable value" is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 18,920,000

* Outstanding principal.

50-280 (Rev. 4-22/6) (Back)

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 0.8546	\$ 0.2000 *	\$ 1.0546	\$ 4,784	\$ 5,817
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 0.7221	\$ 0.2030 *	\$ 0.9251	\$ 3,925	\$ 6,617
Proposed Rate	\$ 0.6992	\$ 0.2000 *	\$ 0.8992	\$ 4,088	\$ 7,303

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 196,579	\$ 247,693
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 128,206	\$ 108,335
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.0546	\$ 0.8992
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 1,352	\$ 974
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ -377

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 0.8692. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of 0.8692.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 9,560,149
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 385,466

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Snowcones with Principals

PHOTOS BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Gatesville Elementary School hosted a Snowcones with Principals event to introduce incoming students to the school principals, teachers and staff members.



Back-to-School Bash

PHOTOS BY DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

A Back-to-School Bash was held last weekend at Gatesville Elementary School. Community members and organizations worked together to provide free school supplies, vaccinations, hair cuts, hearing and vision tests and more to school-age children to prepare them for the start of school.



Will Coward
Gatesville Banking Center President

The First National Bank of Central Texas is thrilled to introduce Will Coward as the president of our new Gatesville Banking Center. Will is a fourth generation Gatesville resident who has over 20 years of banking experience. He and his wife Becky have two children, Kyle and Jenna. Welcome to the 1st Family Will!

(254) 216-6042 FNBCT.BANK