



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

SATURDAY | Sept. 23, 2023

\$1.00

SERVING CORYELL COUNTY SINCE 1881 | VOLUME 121, No. 44, ISSN No. 0894-4954



SPURFEST DRAWS HUNDREDS OF VISITORS TO MUSEUM



An old boot displays one of the thousands of spurs in collection in the Mitchell Spur Room at the Coryell Museum and Historical Center. More than 300 people stopped by for a tour of the Mitchell Spur Collection, which designates Coryell County as the Spur Capital of Texas. See page A12 for more photos of the Spurfest, as well as the Cruzin Cruzers Car Show and Old Time Fiddlers Contest.

DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Rattlesnake bounty practiced in Coryell County in 1960s

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

The word "bounty" has often been described as a sum of money paid for killing or capturing a person or an animal.

Bounties were frequently paid for wildlife creatures such as wolves and coyotes who threatened livestock. In other cases, criminals who had broken the law often had a bounty hanging over their heads.

In the 1960s, an unusual bounty was put into place when the Coryell County Commissioners Court

placed a bounty on rattlesnakes. Examining the minutes from the Feb. 23, 1960 commissioners court meeting, it was found that a bounty was placed on rattlesnakes, and that rewards were to be offered to those who killed a rattlesnake with a bounty of 50 cents

on "all such reptiles."

To collect the 50-cent bounty, snake hunters were required to produce the snakes' rattles with at least one inch of "green hide" attached, have a statement signed by the landowner on whose property the snake was killed, and sign an affidavit that the snake was in fact killed in Coryell County.

Coryell County Judge Norman Storm reported that the county commissioners voted to pay the bounty after receiving requests for such action from several area ranchers.

Storm said, "We hope it will help decrease the county's rattlesnake population."

We also ask landowners to cooperate with the snake hunters by signing the certificates when rattlesnakes are killed on their land."

Coryell County rancher, L.C. Blackmon, was the first man to claim a rattlesnake bounty. His ranch, located five miles east of Evant, brought in twenty rattlesnakes he had killed on his property. It wasn't the bounty offer which sent Blackmon hunting snakes. One of his prize Angus calves had been bitten by a rattlesnake and Blackmon decided it was "time to clean house."

The biggest kills during the opening days of the 1960 bounty season were engineered by veteran snake hunters Roy Anderson and Herschel Wilhelm who brought in a total of 47 rattles. By March of that year, area snake hunters had brought in a total of 154 rattles.

An article written by Bess Brown, an Ohio-Liberty community resident and newspaper correspondent, mentioned that the folks in her community congratulated the commissioners court for offering a bounty on rattlesnakes. "The men of this area have killed hundreds and are still killing



PHOTO COURTESY OF NATURAL EXOTICS

Photo caption: Fifty-cent bounty was offered by Coryell County Commissioners Court for each rattler brought to the courthouse.

PLEASE SEE BOUNTY | A3

Commissioners Court reappoints local doctor as county health authority

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

Dr. Diedra Wuenschel, the Medical Director for the Coryell Health Medical Clinic, will continue to serve as the local health authority for Coryell County.

The Coryell County Commissioners Court voted on her reappointment at a public meeting on Sept. 12. Wuenschel was first appointed in Oct. 2020 during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. As the local health authority, she works closely with the county to help administer local policies, procedures, and responses relating to public health.

"What the local health authority does is monitor different infectious disease and public health through the



COURTESY PHOTO

Dr. Diedra Wuenschel

Coryell County to help make sure we are not seeing any trends in infectious disease, and keeping everybody safe to make sure that we are following the appropriate protocols," Wuenschel said.

PLEASE SEE HEALTH | A6

Crickets descend on Gatesville once again

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Gatesville and Coryell County residents have undoubtedly noticed the recent invasion of crickets.

Late summer and early fall often signal the beginning of cricket season in Texas. Vast swarms of the irritating insects begin to invade central Texas for their annual visit.

It has been noted that a dry spring followed by an even drier summer often increases their numbers, which can certainly easily be applied to situations in Coryell County.

Considering the fact that female crickets can lay up to 400 eggs at a time, situations can sometimes get out of hand when dealing with the annoying insects.

A female cricket, once she mates, spends most of her life laying up to 2,000 eggs.

In the past, it has been reported that some businesses in Texas have been forced to close their doors as thousands of crickets line the sidewalks and cling to the walls of buildings. Another disadvantage of the cricket invasion is the horrible smell they emit as they die, and their small carcasses begin to rot.

Crickets don't pose a threat to humans; they don't bite or sting but can cause other issues such as unsanitary situations with dead bugs littering streets, buildings, and lawns.

Seasonal crickets can

PLEASE SEE CRICKETS | A3



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

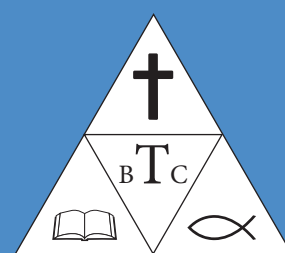
Hundreds of crickets descend on Gatesville City Hall, covering the outside walls and sidewalks.



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THEN

Hook and Ladder Company formed in 1884

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

In 1944, a reference to the Gatesville Volunteer Fire Department was made at the time of the death of firefighter Edward Aurelius Poston, stating that he was the only casualty the fire department had suffered since its inception in 1873.

It has been written that the actual founding of the Gatesville Volunteer Fire Department is not actually known due to a fire that wiped out the east side of the courthouse square where the early records were lost in the blaze.

The fire department became an official organization on Feb. 6, 1884, when a city ordinance was passed creating the fire unit.

City records from 1884 mention the organization in a document which reads, "Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Gates-

ville that a Hook and Ladder Company be organized... and that said company is hereby authorized to proceed to the election of its officers ... and they shall constitute the Fire Department of the City of Gatesville."

A group of interested men started the ball rolling a few weeks earlier on Jan. 25, 1884. The city aldermen agreed for the city to furnish uniforms and equipment for the department. In March of 1884, the city secretary was instructed to have each volunteer firefighter, fifteen in all, furnish their shirt size,



Volunteer firefighters pose on the courthouse square about 1885 wearing their new uniforms.

COURTESY PHOTO

sleeve length, and hat size.

The following year, sixteen holders and caps were ordered for The Gatesville Hook and Ladder Company from The Smith Manufacturing Company for a grand total of \$66.30.

In a history book about Gatesville by Mildred Mears, she wrote that on "July 4, 1884, the firemen decked themselves out in their new uniforms and had a street parade and grand ball."

Mears also reported that "The first fire calls answered by the newly organized Hook and Ladder outfit were to Rubarth and Wells Meat Market and to Lowe and Mings Lumber Yard. The firefighters showed

sterling work."

Another Coryell County historian, Zelma Scott, would also mention the early days of the fire department in her book. Scott wrote, "The progressive program of the Gatesville Fire Department has eliminated many of the fire hazards in the city. The local department participated in the first field club organization inspection of fire hazards ever to be held in Texas. From the findings of the investigation, hazards were identified, and the protective services of the department expanded."

The first public construction of what was called an "Engine House" was autho-

rized in August of 1885. It was described as a wooden structure constructed on Leon Street less than one block from the courthouse square. The Engine House was built for the purpose of housing fire department equipment, an office for the city tax assessor-collector, and a jail, also known as a "calaboose." Next to this building a tower was constructed which was used for draining excess water from fire hoses, and sitting on top of the tower was the fire bell which notified the town of a fire.

The fire bell, purchased in 1885 at the price of \$69.50, is now located on the lawn of the Coryell County Court-

house and was dedicated in 1984 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the formation of the fire department.

In later years, the fire department was moved a few blocks away to a newly-constructed building which housed the Gatesville Public Library, the Gatesville City Hall, and the Gatesville Volunteer Fire Department. The fire department operated from that location until 1990 when it was moved to a new location at 109 S. 23rd Street, where it remains today.

NOW

Driven to help and protect, volunteer firefighters remain the backbone of public safety

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

As a volunteer firefighter for the Gatesville Volunteer Fire Department, Carlos Campos joined with the desire to serve his community and learn something new.

Five years later, he realizes that his service is more than just responding to natural disasters and emergencies: it's a calling to help others.

"I guess it gets in your blood, and you enjoy it," Campos said. "We're all volunteers, and you do it because you want to do it and you want to help. The 'thank you's' are great, but you don't get them all the time. You have your own joy on the inside that you actually did something."

Most communities across Coryell County rely on eight volunteer fire departments as the first in line of defense for emergency response, including car wrecks, structure fires, natural disasters, medical emergencies, and more.

As one of the volunteer fire departments, Gatesville's fire department protects 287 square miles that include the city, surrounding areas, and the six Texas Department of Criminal Jus-



Gatesville Fire Department volunteer firefighters standing outside a fire truck.

KAYLEE DUSANG | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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tice prisons.

Although most of the fire departments across the United States are staffed by volunteers, the numbers are slowly declining, according to data from the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC).

Following a summer of extreme heat and more than 1,000 wildfires across Texas this year, the need for volunteers is apparent. In Gatesville, Fire Chief Billy Vaden said the fire department responded to around 102 calls in August alone, a higher average than normal.

While they are always seeking more help, Vaden admits it can be a struggle to recruit volunteers since the work requires a great amount of sacrifice.

"You get people to join but they don't want to give the time required," Vaden said. "It's a tremendous amount of time you give (away from) your family. I think it's a big thing. Some people come in here thinking it's going to be a glory job, but they find out the glory job has a lot of hours and a lot of work. And, so, they don't want to get up in the middle of the night, and they don't want to do all that is required."

Operated by 34 volunteers, the majority also have full-time day jobs and families outside of serving as a firefighter.

"To me, I think about our spouses," Campos said. "We're here a lot of times more at the fire department, depending on calls, than we are with our spouses and children sometimes."

Although the hours vary, the group can find themselves out responding to

emergencies 7-12 hours a day, on top of weekly drills and training sessions each week.

"It depends on the day. Sometimes, we love it because we have nothing for one or two days," Campos said. "And then the next day, you have eight calls and you're here for 12 hours."

For small and rural communities that depend on volunteer fire departments, transitioning to a paid fire department would be a major expense for the city and its taxpayers. For the City of Gatesville to transition to a paid department with the minimum full-time staff, Vaden said it would cost approximately \$2 million.

"If the city were to employ six people that were dedicated to the firefighters and pay all their health insurance and everything else like that, that would be a significant tax burden that many people do not realize," said Lee Walters, who has been a volunteer firefighter in Gatesville for about 15 years.

A firefighter's job is always multifaceted, especially for volunteers. Vaden, who used to work as a paid firefighter in Waco, explains that most firefighters at paid departments have an assigned job or task. For many volunteer fire departments, a firefighter becomes a jack of all trades.

"We're all firefighters, but we also got electricians, mechanics - we got everything," he said. "You take all those people's skills and that's what makes a good fire department. You can

PLEASE SEE **PROTECT** | A5

FROM MY FRONT PORCH

“I don’t need to remember...it’s saved!”



BY SAM HOUSTON

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

The telephone plays an important part in life. As a very young boy in the early 60s, I was instructed by my parents that the “telephone” was not a toy.

It was a serious device intended to be used by adults and only for emergencies, business, or to speak with family. It was not something for a child to answer when it rang, and it was not something to play with. The phone sat purposefully on its stand in the living room, much like the phone in most everyone else’s house.

Though I did not understand how or why, I soon learned there were charges when using the phone, and that somehow talking to someone “long distance” costs a significant amount of money. It was those charges that caused adults to scamper to the phone when they heard the cry, “It is the

grandparents, and they are calling long-distance!”

I learned there were also variations in phone service. When visiting my grandparents at their rural farm home, I became aware they did not have a private phone line. Instead, they were participants in a party-line. This meant there were three neighboring families sharing the same line. Each family had a distinctive ring, so they would know if an incoming call was intended for them. My grandparents’ ring was “two longs and a short,” so an incoming call intended for them would sound like this: RINGGGGGGGGG, RINGGGGGGGGG, Ring!

A party line also meant

that if you picked up the receiver and one of the other families was engaged in a call, you could hear their conversation. This led to a compilation of interesting memories of my grandmother excusing herself from her chores in the kitchen and easing into the living room to pick up the receiver of the phone and listening to a conversation not intended for her ears. Some would call her actions eavesdropping. Grandma would call it “just checking.”

I can remember my first phone number, EV5-6282. Many young people may not know that at one time phone numbers had letters and numbers. This was because the letters were a “prefix” which would take the call to a telephone exchange hub where calls would be routed to the proper place. When I was in the fourth grade and my family moved to a different house, technology had improved, and the “prefix” was eliminated. My new phone number became 993-2493.

Long distance was still a major concern for many years. Heaven only knows how much money I spent in college calling my high

school sweetheart who was not located in my calling zone. A three-minute call would cost \$1.95, and this was in 1974 dollars! Not sure if we broke up because of problems with our relationship or the size of the phone bill.

Everyone had a phone directory for frequently called numbers. This was usually a small notebook-like item, which sat under the phone or in the drawer beneath. In it was a compilation of phone numbers one was likely to call at some time in the future. As a backup, there were these humorous books called the White pages and the Yellow pages. They contained the names and addresses of every person in your town who had a phone. It was the source you went to find a phone number you did not have. Of course, most of us had significant numbers committed to memory, like the phone number of a best friend and “time and temperature.”

Now almost everyone has a cell phone, and we are free from the restraints of land lines. Does anyone remember a phone number anymore, or do they simply

have it stored in the database of their phone and hit speed dial when they want to make a call? Whenever I am filling out paperwork for the doctor, or for some other official reason, I am frequently asked for my wife’s phone number, as she is my backup contact person. It is a little embarrassing to be forced to pull out my phone and look at the number in my contacts. I call my wife for one thing or the other, two or three times a day. You would think I would know the number, but I do not. There is no reason to remember it because I use speed dial. I feel certain that if I was hurt in an accident and my phone was lost or destroyed, I would have no idea of what to tell the emergency crew when they asked whom to call or their number. I am a prisoner of technology.

Maybe the good outweighs

the worst things the technological improvements with phones have affected. It is certainly nice to be able to reach and speak to someone and not be tied to a single land line phone attached to the kitchen wall or sitting in the front room. The elimination of long-distance fees is so much more economical, as is the freedom to speak as long as you want without incurring additional costs. On the other hand, there are fond memories of the phone ringing and knowing someone wanted to speak with you so badly they were willing to bear the cost of calling “long distance.” It made you feel special.

Thought for the day: Spoken during a eulogy; “He was such an honest man a fella could shoot dice with him over the telephone.”

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

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SUDOKU

Solution for the puzzle that ran Sept. 16.

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

	1		9				4	
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Puzzle by websudoku.com

CRICKETS

FROM PAGE A1

often be prevented by controlling outdoor lighting. Outside lights should be dimmed, and blinds or curtains, when using indoor lights, should be kept closed to prevent a swarm from invading a residence. The insects are often attracted to light, food, and shelter.

Weatherstripping around doors and windows can also be a big asset in the prevention of crickets invading homes. Areas open around air vents or pipes can also allow them to gain entry.

However annoying crickets can be, it can be hard to admit they are useful insects that help to balance the ecosystem. They are considered to be omnivores that eat a variety of plants, flowers, fruits, and sometimes other insects.

However disgusting it may sound, in Cambodia and Vietnam, crickets are sometimes considered to be a delicacy. In other cultures, they are a sign of good luck.

In Coryell County, they are just considered “annoying pests.”

BOUNTY

FROM PAGE A1

more,” Brown stated. She continued, “Woodrow Parish located some dens on the Elam Ranch. He found four very large ones that were out sunning, and he killed them.”

Gatesville resident, Stan Esparza, remembered hunting rattlesnakes when the bounty was still being offered. He was about 14 or 15 years old at the time. When asked if there were a lot of kids snake hunting for the bounty money, Esparza said, “Not a lot. A few

friends of mine would go out and do it all the time.” He continued, “We would go in caves and outcroppings to find snakes. On the Charley Liljebald Ranch there was Goat Cave where we would hunt.”

When asked about how many he would kill on a hunt, he said, “Eight or 10 maybe.” Esparza admitted that this was spending money for young folks his age. “It wasn’t a lot then you know.”

Esparza, like others during that time, often used gas fumes to coax the snakes out of their cracks and crevices.

“I had a quarter-inch piece of copper tubing, because you could bend it and roll it up, and we’d take a chicken sprayer and put gas in it and pump it up and stick it in the caves and spray gas in it. With the gas fumes, the snakes would come out because they didn’t like the gas fumes. We had one pole about eight feet long with a hook on the end of it, and we would grab them with it, and we had a 410 or .22 rifle to kill them with,” he said.

The rattlesnake bounty was offered during the first few months of the year when the weather was cooler and when snakes would be found in a den. “At that time of year, they [the snakes] sunned to warm up, and cows would step on them and get bit and that would either make a cow real sick or kill it, depending on how bad it was bitten,” Esparza said.

An article appeared in The Gatesville Messenger in April of 1960 about Luther Mensch, a deaf snake hunter from Flat. At 60 years old, Mensch showed up at the Coryell County Courthouse where he presented four rattles and collected his money from the county judge’s office. Being deaf, he was asked how he located snakes. He replied, “I feel the vibration of their rattlers and have no trouble finding them.”

In 1961, F.O. Mitchell, a farmer living in the Harmon community, killed a batch of 37 rattlesnakes in a den on his property. Mitchell was assisted by

Z.O. Robinett on the snake hunt. They sprayed gasoline into the den, and then shot the snakes with .22 rifles as they came slithering into the open. According to a newspaper account, it was Mitchell’s first snake hunt, and he was quick to admit, “I was scared.”

The following year, C.E. (Smokey) Moore of Gatesville, whose hobby was snake hunting, turned in the rattlers from 71 slain rattlesnakes at the courthouse where he collected \$31.50 in bounty.

In January of 1964, it was reported that Bill Jones and O.B. Jones hauled a load of 377 rattlers to the county courthouse where they collected \$188.50 in bounty money. They told Judge Storm they had killed most of the rattlesnakes in a stretch of rough country in the northeastern part of the county.

Between 1960 and 1962, the county paid a total of \$4,100 in snake bounty. Paying \$1,650 in 1960, \$1,850 in 1961, and \$600 as of January 1962.

An article addressing the rattlesnake bounty appeared in the Gatesville newspaper in 1971. James C. Kroll, a wildlife biologist and editor of ENVIRON at College Station, said that the rattlesnake bounty contributed to the lethal invasion of wolves in these parts.

Kroll reasoned that, “Rattlesnakes are competitors of coyotes (wolves); that is, rattlesnakes and coyotes feed on the same prey. Reductions in rattlesnake populations ultimately result in the increased rabbit and rodent populations.”

Kroll said that the wolves and coyotes turn to domestic stock such as sheep and goats, and he said that Gatesville area ranchers were experiencing a predator problem.

As compared to the 1960s when the county was attempting to rid the area of rattlesnakes due to the loss of livestock, today, with rattlesnake hunts and shows, Esparza noted, “Today, the hunters are interested in hunting them for the rattles, the meat, and the skin.”

Folks around town



COURTESY PHOTO

Damian White

Say hello to our neighbor, Damian White!

Damian is a Sergeant for the Gatesville Independent School District Police Department and is assigned to Gatesville High School. He has lived in Gatesville for over 30 years and has worked within the community for 10 years. His favorite part about his job is being able to interact with students and staff each day. He says that he enjoys the overall size of the community but recently has taken an interest in learning the rich history of our town. Damian reads The Gatesville Messenger each week.

“I think the paper does a fantastic job of spotlighting the students and their achievements,” White said. “I also enjoy the articles about the history of the town.”

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

TPA MEMBER 2023
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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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.

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

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

Coryell County

DEVOTIONAL PAGE



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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.
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KING
Charles W. McKamie, pastor; 6730 FM 1783, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
LIBERTY
Royse T. Cockrell, DMin., Pastor; Corner of FM 107 & HWY 36, Gatesville; Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Sunday Service 11 a.m. & 1 p.m., Family Bible Study Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.
LIVE OAK
David Crosby, Interim Pastor; 113 FM 107, Gatesville; Sunday School 9:15 a.m., Sunday worship 10:30 a.m., Wednesday evening Youth & Children's Bible Study 6 p.m.

MOUNTAIN
Rev. Kurt Fuessel, pastor; 6319 US-84, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. Prayer meeting 7 p.m. Wednesday.
OSAGE
Chris Thomas, pastor; 7505 FM 185, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.
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Donald McConaughay, pastor; 11125 FM 116, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday service 11 a.m.
PLEASANT VALLEY
Chris Post, Pastor; CR 301, Jonesboro; Sunday school 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.
PRIMERO IGLESIA EMANUEL
One mile north of Evant, Hwy. 281; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.
PURMELA BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor: Brenden Hough; 875 FM 932, Purmela, TX 76566; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
SWEET HOME
511 N. 14th, Gatesville; Sunday school 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship 11 a.m.; Wednesday worship 7 p.m.
SPANISH
Ezequiel Casas, pastor; 113 Zeazy Dr., Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m., Wednesday Prayer Meeting 6 p.m.
TRINITY
Bro. Sam Crosby, Pastor; 1506 W. Main, Gatesville; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday worship 8:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Wednesday - activities for adults, youth, & children 6:30 p.m.; 254-865-8495 or Pre-school: 254-248-0041.
TURNERSVILLE
Jon Crosby, Pastor; 8120 FM 182, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m., Wednesday night Bible study, 6 p.m.
WESTVIEW
Interim Pastor: Eddie Taylor; 1102 W. Main St., Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.
WHITE HALL
Mike Barron, pastor; 2040 CR 238, Gatesville; Sunday school 10 a.m.; Sunday worship 11 a.m.; 254-679-3200.
WHITE MOUND
Bruce Cox, pastor; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.; 642 CR 320; mailing address: P.O. Box 103, Mound, TX 76558.
MOUND COWBOY CHURCH
Bruce Cox, pastor; Sunday worship 9 a.m., Sunday school 9:30 a.m. Men's breakfast every third Saturday at 8 a.m. Inside: 3075 FM 931, outside: 2000 CR 321. Mailing address: P.O. Box 103, Mound, TX 76558. For more info. & location, call 254-865-5908.
CATHOLIC
OUR LADY OF LOURDES
Rev. Jayaraju Polishetty; 1108 W. Main, Gatesville; Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m. (English) & 12 p.m. (Spanish Mass), Tuesdays at 12:15 p.m. & Wednesday-Friday at 7 a.m.
CHURCH OF CHRIST
CEDAR RIDGE
Deral McWhorter, minister; 104 Cedar Ridge, Gatesville; Sunday worship 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.
EVANT
Will Vann, Preacher; 310 W. Brooks Dr., Evant; Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m.,

Sunday worship 10:20 a.m. & 12:30 p.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.
FORT GATES
4605 St. Hwy. 36 S., Gatesville; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.
GATESVILLE
Justin Hall, minister; 2417 E. Main, Gatesville; Sunday Bible class 9:30 a.m., Sunday service 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Bible classes 6:30 p.m.
LA IGLESIA DE CRISTO
2413 E. Main, Gatesville; clases y servicios en Español, 10-11:30 a.m., Solamente en domingos.
MIDWAY
1955 CR 3640, Copperas Cove; Sundays - worship 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays - Bible Study 5:30 p.m.; Royce 512-734-5390 or Steve 254-865-3559.
PEARL
6790 FM 183; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.
CHURCH OF GOD CORNERSTONE
Greg Demmitt, pastor; 338 State School Rd., Gatesville; Sunday worship 11 a.m.
LUTHERAN IMMANUEL
David Reedy, International Interim Pastor; 922 Lutheran Church Rd., Copperas Cove; Sunday Bible Study 9:15 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.
ST. JOHN
Rev. Christopher Richman, PhD; 10801 FM 929, Coryell City; Sunday worship 9 a.m., Sunday School 10:15 a.m.
ST. PAUL
Rev. John Heckmann, pastor; Hwy. 36 & FM 1114, The Grove; Sunday School 9 a.m., Sunday worship 10:15 a.m.
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
6735 FM 183, Pearl; Sunday Services 9 a.m.
THE HOUSE THAT GOD BUILT
Bill Trotter, pastor; 3412 E. Main St., Gatesville; Sunday service 11 a.m., Wednesday service 7 p.m.
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-IN-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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GIVING BACK

Rudolph delivers breakfast baskets to local first responders

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

Local first responders in Gatesville were treated to breakfast baskets courtesy of Pamela Rudolph, Director at the Senior Center, to honor those who serve the community and in remembrance of the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

“Since it was Monday, Sept. 11 and our first responders have been working overtime this summer with fires, a lot of wrecks, and there is just a lot going on in the community, I wanted to do something to say thank you and that we appreciate them,” Rudolph said.

The fire that took place on State School Road a few weeks back made Rudolph ponder on the thought of doing something special for the first responders.

“The fire on State School Road really hit home, and it was getting close to this building, I felt like,” Rudolph said. “I was worried

about this building, and if it were to burn down, where would everybody go and what would everybody do.”

Rudolph first had the inkling to hold First Responders Friday each week, whether that be handing out waters, providing a meal, or giving out a treat bag with help from the community.

Without a response from the community, Rudolph took it upon herself to ask the congregation of the Senior Center for a donation of funds.

Rudolph then asked her son, Mason, to help her do something special for the local first responders.



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured left to right, Pamela Rudolph, Director of Gatesville Senior Center; Dep. Michael Winans, Dep. Edward Meza, and Lt. Scott Conrad from the Coryell County Sheriff's Department.

“I took him to Walmart with me that Sunday and I explained to him what Sept. 11 was, what we were going to do, what a first responder was and what they do for the community, and that I needed his help,” Rudolph said.

Rudolph explained that Mason loved the idea and how he proceeded to ask her if they could give the first responders doughnuts for

breakfast, and that is what sparked the idea to donate breakfast baskets.

“I’m trying to teach him early to serve the greater good,” Rudolph said.

The breakfast baskets included items such as assorted pastries, fruits, orange juice, lemonade, and a handwritten thank you note, along with a case of water.

Four breakfast baskets total were delivered to first

responders in the community, including the Gatesville Volunteer Fire Department, the Gatesville Police Department, Coryell County Emergency Medical Services, and the Coryell County Sheriff's Office.

Most of the first responders asked Pam if she wanted her basket back and when she told them no, they were excited to keep the free basket as well, which Rudolph

thought was comical.

“It is important to me because these folks risk their lives every day. Some do this for a career, but for some it is just volunteer work,” Rudolph said. “The first responders have done so much for our community.”

Gatesville's National Night Out set for Oct. 3

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Police Department recently announced that National Night Out will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 3, at the Sports Complex from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

National Night Out is designed to heighten drug and crime awareness, strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partners, and send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

This event will be fun for all ages. There will be free food, vehicle and aircraft displays, safety demonstrations, educational materials, fun games, music, local city/county information, free giveaways, and a chance to visit with your local first responders. Don't forget to bring your lawn chairs.

For more information, please contact the Gatesville Police Department at 254-865-2226.



Senior Center to hold Stress Less with Mindfulness program

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Senior Center is partnering with the Texas AgriLife Extension Office to bring the community a Stress Less with Mindfulness program on Mon., Oct. 2, at 10 a.m. The program will be held at the Senior Center located at 208 Lutterloh Ave. in Gatesville.

This program introduces participants to the experience and practice of mindfulness to reduce stress. Successful stress management has been found to be effective in reducing related symptoms such as worry, depression, and physical tension.

The program will focus on mindful eating. Benefits of the program include:

- Learning about the benefits of mindfulness-based approaches to stress reduction.
- Understanding how to recognize your personal stressors.
- Experiencing mindful movement, mindful breathing, and other mindfulness skills as ways to relax and manage stress.

To register for the program, contact the Senior Center Director at 254-865-8234 or Donna Schwausch, Coryell County Extension Agent at 254-865-2414, or by email at donna.schwausch@ag.tamu.edu.

PROTECT

FROM PAGE A2

pull from a lot of experience.”

Vaden said there is no exact assignment when it comes to responding to emergency calls. When the team's pagers alarm, they count on whoever is available to get out and on the truck.

“When something like a construction fire comes in or a major accident comes in, you'll get 25 or 30 people up here at one time,” he said.

Phil Gregory, who worked as a paid firefighter in Fort Worth before volunteering in Gatesville, also notes the higher chances of re-

sponding to an emergency involving a family member or friend when serving in a smaller community.

“In Fort Worth, I never knew anybody that I worked on. Well, it's a lot different here,” Gregory said. “We pulled up at a wreck one night and I said, ‘hey that looks like my wife's car and my kids sitting on the curb. That was my kids sitting on the curb, because it was my wife's car.’”

As the first in line for public safety, firefighters often respond to devastating car wrecks, severe injuries, and death.

“Some people just can't handle the trauma that comes along with it,” Vaden said.

According to the NVFC,

most volunteer fire departments struggle to recruit younger members. Wyatt Faulkner, 20, is one of the youngest volunteers who recently joined the fire department just under a month ago.

While becoming a volunteer might not be for every person, he encourages people to consider volunteering to see if they will enjoy the work.

“The fires are fun, but sometimes you pull up on a car wreck, and you have somebody that's deceased,” Faulkner said. “Sometimes, that messes with people, and they can't handle that, and, sometimes, it's best for those people to stay out of it or stick to the fire calls. It's just something that every-

body has to try. If they do good in it, keep doing it, unless they decide it's not for them.”

Despite the long hours and unpaid work, the volunteer firefighters are driven by the support of their community and the bond they have created with one another. At the fire station, people can often find stacks of water bottles and Gatorade donated by local citizens. “This is just a good community, and it supports us,” Vaden said.

“It's kind of like a family. We get upset at each other every now and then, but when it comes out at the very end that person next to you is going to give their life,” Campos said.

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HEALTH

FROM PAGE A1

Although the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) officially declared the end of the COVID-19 pandemic in May of this year, Wuenschel adds that there is still a need to monitor trends and ensure the proper protocols are in place if an infectious disease outbreak occurs.

"If we start to see trends

of things, we look at different sources and where that may be coming from," she said. "Just helping both here, Copperas Cove, and throughout the county to help ensure that we are keeping everybody healthy."

Wuenschel said she was led to accept the position following the impact of quarantine and COVID-19 on the community.

"I wanted to help ensure that we got back to normalcy in a healthy way and a

safe way," she said. "I wanted to ensure that I was there to help and to make protocols so that we could get back to school faster and get back to living our lives the way we had prior to the COVID-19 outbreak."

While there are public health policies at the state level, she emphasizes the importance of having a health authority that can provide guidance at the local level and for specific communities within the

county.

"I think it's important to have somebody in each individual area, because things affect everybody differently," she said.

Originally from Houston, she moved to Gatesville in 2011 with the goal of helping patients in smaller communities. As a family medicine physician and medical director at Coryell Health, she has a first-hand perspective of how a policy or procedure might affect her

patients.

"Those are people that I am seeing every day," she said. "I am also able to see how any type of policy that we put down can truly affect everybody within the community."

The county health authority serves a two-year term. Wuenschel is scheduled to be officially reappointed and sworn in by Coryell County Judge Roger Miller next week.

"We are very fortunate as

a county to have a local and rural hospital that we work closely with in matters of public health," Miller said. "With the recommendation from Dr. Jeff Bates, the Coryell Health Chief Medical Officer, we have reappointed Dr. Wuenschel as local health authority."

Kelly's collection of marbles



BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH

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

Kelly Draper, of Llano, is a retired professor of puppetry at Lamar University in Beaumont. He performed with his puppets at symphony orchestra concerts all over the country, illustrating the music to children.

He did a puppet show several years ago at "Dickens on the Strand" in Galveston. Now, he collects marbles.

"They're like little works of art," says Kelly. "And they're all different."

He knows about marbles.

"There are two types of marbles: handmade and machine made. Machine made marbles were made after World War II. Most of the handmade marbles were made before that time and came to the United States by the doughboys from World War I. Marbles made by machine are just as collectible as those made by hand. There are people now who make handmade marbles, so

they're like the new contemporary things to invest in. Some go for thousands of dollars. I don't get those. Handmade are the more expensive ones."

He says marbles have been made from stone, clay, glass, and steel, even paper mâché. They've been around for a long time.

"They've even found them in the pyramids. The things that make marbles expensive are the colors, the design, and the clarity, kind of like what you look for in jewelry. Some are really shiny, and those are the ones you really look for."

Kelly explains the game of marbles:

"There are several dif-

ferent games. Perhaps this one is the most well-known: You put a group of marbles in the center of a circle, and you have a larger marble called a shooter or taw, and you try to hit the marbles out of the circle. There is a national marbles competition that draws entrants from all over the world."

Some players carry their marbles in little bags. Kelly says even the bags are collectible, and some people pay more attention to the bags than the marbles. Sometimes, he goes to a gathering of the Texas Marble Collectors Association.

"They have two shows a year in April and October. It's a nice organization."

Kelly started collecting marbles when a friend of his started collecting and told Kelly he should check it out.

"I didn't realize what a hornet's nest he was opening up. Now, I have like a wall in the house full of marbles. Sometimes, I'll buy a tubful at a garage or estate sale, and it's fun to see what's there. Put a black light to them, and it's surprising what you see."

Kelly doesn't carry marbles in his pocket.

"You might put a scratch on them, and that lowers the value."

VOLUNTEER RETURNS TO SPURFEST



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Former Gatesville resident, Alta Lee, was recently on hand at the Coryell Museum to volunteer at the annual Spurfest. Lee, age 95, volunteered at the first Spurfest held 22 years ago. Lee, now a resident of Woodway, made the pilgrimage back to her hometown of Gatesville to volunteer this year with the festivities held at the museum. She even wore the name badge that she wore 22 years ago at the first celebration. Lee is a 1947 graduate of Gatesville High School where she served as a drummer in the high school band. She later attended Baylor University in Waco where she graduated. Lee is proud to be a native of Gatesville and greatly enjoyed being a part of the Spurfest celebration this year.

The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of Sept. 13 – Sept. 19. While there were many calls to the dispatcher, this is a partial list of more significant activity. Persons are reminded that only emergency calls should be made to 9-1-1, while all other calls to the police department should be made to 865-2226 or to the Sheriff's office at 865-7201.

CITY OF GATESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Sept. 13

1:10 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 200 block of Hamilton Drive.

2:51 p.m., a theft was reported in the 1200 block of E. Main Street.

6:54 p.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 2600 block of E. Main Street.

10:59 p.m., a gas leak/

fire was reported in the 500 block of N. Lovers Lane.

Sept. 14

7:11 a.m., a theft was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Highway 36.

11:54 a.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 200 block of FM 116.

12:01 p.m., a gas leak/fire was reported in the 2900 block of S. State Highway 36.

12:32 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1000 block of E. Leon Street.

Sept. 15

3:23 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2200 block of W. Main Street.

2:38 p.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 7300 block of S. State Highway 36.

2:49 p.m., a brush/grass fire was reported in the 12000 block of FM 107.

6 p.m., criminal trespass

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

Sept. 16

2:11 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2200 block of W. Main Street.

6:15 a.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 200 block of FM 116.

1:40 p.m., a theft was reported in the 200 block of N. 8th Street.

10:23 p.m., a domestic disturbance was reported in the 1200 block of E. Main Street.

Sept. 17

8:59 a.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 100 block of FM 116.

1:53 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 1600 block of W. Main Street.

8:31 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the

3300 block of E. Main Street.

9:14 p.m., a theft was reported in the 100 block of Mulberry Avenue.

Sept. 18

12:55 a.m., a noise disturbance was reported in the 2200 block of Coryell City Road.

1:56 a.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 4000 block of S. State Highway 36.

10:34 a.m., a brush/grass fire was reported on FM 182.

3:27 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 200 block of Dodds Creek Drive.

Sept. 19

1:11 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2000 block of E. Main Street.

9:22 a.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 300 block of S. State Highway 36 Bypass.

11:52 a.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Highway 36.

12:17 p.m., a criminal trespass was reported in the 100 block of N. 8th Street.

CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sept. 13

3:52 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 100 block of FM 116 and N.

Cowhouse Creek.

7:24 a.m., a reckless driver was reported on FM 116.

1:35 p.m., a major accident was reported in the 2400 block of FM 116.

8:45 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 2200 block of FM 580.

Sept. 14

3:15 a.m., a major accident was reported in the 1600 block of County Road 322.

9:34 a.m., a theft was reported in the 100 block of Hollis Lane.

11 a.m., a vehicle was reported stolen in the 100 block of Doras Lane.

4:23 p.m., a domestic disturbance was reported in the 200 block of Jack Butler Road.

Sept. 15

10:40 a.m., a major accident was reported in the 100 block of Old Georgetown Road.

2:41 p.m., a reckless driver was reported on North Bound S. Highway 36.

7:40 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 300 block of FM 116.

10:03 p.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 9800 block of FM 116.

Sept. 16

12:15 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 2200 block of FM 850.

8:08 a.m., a reckless driver was reported North Bound on Highway 84.

2:18 p.m., a theft was reported in the 9700 block of FM 929.

7:30 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported on FM 106 and Old Pidcoke Road.

Sept. 17

1:44 a.m., a major accident was reported on W. Highway 84 and County Road 161.

10:20 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 2300 block of FM 1241.

11:27 a.m., a reckless driver was reported on Highway 36 East Bound.

1:53 p.m., a neighbor dispute was reported in the 500 block of Cromans Road.

Sept. 18

12:48 a.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 200 block of Wurts Drive.

9:14 a.m., a major accident was reported in the 400 block of Old Osage Road.

10:29 a.m., a grass fire was reported on FM 182 and Hog Creek Crossing.

2:35 p.m., a reckless driver was reported on Highway 84.

Sept. 19

8:29 a.m., a stolen vehicle was reported in the 600 block of Stringer Road.

8:42 a.m., a medical emergency was reported in the 100 block of Oak Grove Road.

1:19 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 15000 block of County Road 274.

5:43 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported on Old Georgetown Road and FM 116.

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300-400 lb.	265-330
400-500 lb.	260-290
500-600 lb.	235-280
600-700 lb.	220-255
700-800 lb.	210-225
No. 1 Heifers	
under 300 lb.	250-310
300-400 lb.	250-290
400-500 lb.	220-265
500-600 lb.	215-245
600-700 lb.	200-235
700-800 lb.	185-215
Slaughter Cows	
High Yielding	105-117
Low Yielding	85-99
Fats	100-114
Thin & Shelly	65-80
Packer Bulls (1250-2075 lb.)	
Yield Grade 1&2	105-133
Cow & Calf Pairs	
Young Choice	1850-2400
Young Fair	1400-1850
Aged Pairs	Split & weighed
Young Pregnancy Test Stocker	
Replacement Cow	1100-1850
Number of Head	462

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Lam family to hold garage sale fundraiser for medical bills

Staff Reports

The Lam family will hold a garage sale on Friday, Sept. 29 and Saturday, Sept. 30 to raise funds regarding unexpected medical bills. The garage sale will begin at 8 a.m. each morning and will be held across from Bar-N Vet Clinic located at 4705 State Hwy. 36 in Gatesville.

The idea for the sale came around over this past summer when baby Snider, granddaughter of Jayson and Laura Lam and daughter of Ryan and Shelbi Snider, had to make two urgent trips to McLane Children's Hospital in Temple with one ending up with emergency surgery.

About 10 days before baby

Snider was born, the parents were notified of a fast-growing cyst on the baby's abdomen at approximately five centimeters. After tests were conducted on baby Snider, it was determined that while the cyst was large, it was not life-threatening to her. That is when she was sent by ambulance to McLane Children's Hospital in Temple for doctors to assess the cyst, as it had grown up to seven centimeters.

The doctors concluded that baby Snider needed to be hospitalized for three days to monitor the cyst to see if it would shrink on its own. At two weeks old, the cyst had grown up to eight centimeters, but doctors insisted to continue monitor-

ing as she grew.

When baby Snider was only three months old, she became ill and lethargic which sent her to the emergency room. After running tests, the doctors confirmed that the cyst may be compromising her small intestine, and she was rushed to McLane Children's Hospital in Temple to remove the cyst.

The surgery was successful, and baby Snider spent only four days recovering in the hospital.

The public is encouraged to attend the garage sale on Friday, Sept. 29 and Saturday, Sept. 30 to support the Lam family and baby Snider.



Baby Snider has undergone surgery due to a cyst compromising her small intestine.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LAURA LAM

PEARL NEWS

The teeny-weeny, turquoise greeny, stringy bikini is still missing!



BY **BETSY CLARK**

Pearl News Correspondent

I'm sad to report that there's no new news on the whereabouts of the missing teeny-weeny, turquoise greeny, stringy bikini.

Alas, the girls at the Pearl Cottage Bookstore have decided the tiny thingy is gone forever. At first, the suspicion fell on poor Kay Dean-

ie. However, she seems to be the saddest member of the crew as she mourns the loss of the terrible two-piece. Whatever will she wear

to the Cowhouse Creek? (Thankfully, I learned just this past week that Mrs. Pruett perused the local ads for a hit man and found out that the price of one is beyond her budget. Whew, my life has been spared for at least another week ... I hope.) Therefore, amidst all of the hoop-la over the missing miscreant, it has been decided that Linda G. Ray will be the designated shopper for all things turquoise, greeny, and stringy. Don't be surprised if you see Mrs. Ray in the swimsuit section of any local store scoping out the possibilities for replacement. Who knows, she might find a bodacious bikini that actually behaves itself. But ... what fun will

that be? Stay tuned.

The Pearl Church of Christ will have their 128th Homecoming and Reunion on Oct. 15th. Remember, church begins at 10:30 a.m., and dinner on the grounds will follow. Plaques will be given to the youngest attending, oldest attending, longest attending member, couple married the longest, and for the person who traveled the longest distance. Drive your vintage cars if you have one and join the fellowship, fun, and good preaching in Pearl. Everyone is invited.

The next Pearl Cemetery workday is set for Saturday, Oct. 14, at 9 a.m., weather permitting. If the weather does not cooperate, it will be rescheduled for Oct. 21.

The next Pearl Cottage Bookstore Day and Bluegrass event will be Oct. 7. Be there or be square! You don't want to miss the awesome music, wonderful shopping, and the most fun of all—visiting with friends old and new.

Okay, fair warning—this is a proud Grandmother moment: My two oldest granddaughters had very successful weekends last week. My Nacogdoches granddaughter placed 3rd in the Breakaway roping event at the Winnsboro rodeo, and my Temple granddaughter placed third and fourth in her swim meet events. Of course, my other two grands are just as talented, but they just aren't old enough to

compete in anything ... yet. They win prizes for being just so darned adorable in my book. (Told ya—I'm not above bragging about those grands.)

This week's Bible verse comes from Ephesians 5:1—Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children. NIV

Please pray for rain and cooler weather, our country, and our schools.

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.

Cover2Cover Ministries fundraiser Sept. 23

Staff Reports

Cover2Cover Ministries will hold a church auction and fundraiser on Saturday, Sept. 23. The event will

begin at 11 a.m. and will be located at 405 S. Hwy. 36, suite 5 in Gatesville. There will be live music, food, and fun for all ages to attend.

There will be raffle tick-

ets sold for \$10 each to win a \$500 Walmart gift card, as well as various auction items.

A hamburger meal will be available with chips, a

drink, and dessert for \$10 a plate.

For more information contact Cover2Cover Ministries at 254-392-9472.

T-ville meeting Oct. 2

Staff Reports

The Turnersville Community Center will hold its quarterly meeting on Monday, Oct. 2 at 6 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Turnersville Community Center and is open to the public.

Following the meeting, a

Buffalo Stampede meeting will commence.

The Turnersville Community Center serves residents of the rural community of Turnersville.

The Turnersville Community Center is located at 8115 FM 182.

Hidden Gem to host workshop Sept. 27

Staff Reports

Hidden Gem Family Center will host a free job skills workshop for the community to attend on Wednesday, Sept. 27 at 2 p.m. There will be one more workshop held on Wednesday, Oct. 4.

The workshop will provide you with skills needed to obtain a job, such as basic resume-writing skills, interview skills, and job readiness. Guests attending the workshop will be able to work with individuals or in small groups.

Be sure to RSVP by con-

tacting the Hidden Gem Family Center at 254-206-3003, or Jenny Featherston at 254-216-3160.

Hidden Gem Family Center is a faith-based nonprofit organization with the mission to focus on families, victims of crime, and those who are in dire

need of assistance through intervention, advocacy, empowerment, and social change with opportunities for wholeness, improvement, and self-sufficiency.

Hidden Gem Family Center is located at 115 S. 7th St. in Gatesville.

17th annual Fall Chill Car Show held Sept. 30

Staff Reports

The Evant Municipal Development District presents its 17th annual Fall Chill Car Show on Saturday, Sept. 30. The car show will begin at 9 a.m. and will be

located on the square in Evant.

The Evant Volunteer Fire Department will host a barbecue fundraiser during the car show for the community to enjoy.

Participants of the car

show will receive free breakfast tacos, one ticket for lunch, and one free T-shirt.

There will be live music at Evant Municipal Park the evening before Friday, Sept. 29 with performances

by Clayton Landua, Buzz Hicks, and Dirt and the Fat Boys.

For more information, or to enter the car show, contact Natalie Hall at 254-248-4012.

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601-700 lb. 210-255	600-700 lb. 195-220

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Coryell Health to host Medicare seminar Oct. 3

Staff Reports

Coryell Health will host a seminar to explain Medicare benefits on Tuesday, Oct. 3. The seminar will be held at the Gatesville Civic Center at 11:30 a.m.

The seminar will include a free lunch, Medicare basics, and facts from the

Area Agency on Aging of Central Texas. When choosing healthcare coverage, understanding the hidden costs and who directs your care makes a difference in your care and out-of-pocket costs.

To attend the seminar, you will need to register online at www.coryell-health.org/medicare101 or by calling 254-248-6380.

Coryell Health is a community-owned healthcare organization located in Gatesville. Patients have access to a wide range of health services, including a Level IV Trauma Center emergency room with primary and specialty care

providers, an advanced wound care center, a skilled nursing facility with long-term care and inpatient rehabilitation, and assisted living and independent living apartments. The Gatesville Civic Center is located at 301 Veteran's Memorial Loop.

MOUND NEWS

Hopson family attends The Big Sting



BY BARBARA HOPSON

Mound News Correspondent

Mrs. John Stephens spent last week in Kentucky visiting the Ark Encounter and Creation Museum with Ray Stephen's sister, Melba Stephens from South Lake.

Jackie and Jannetta Spencer had their 50th wedding anniversary on August 23 at Texas Station, and Ed Leonard played all their favorite country songs. Even his two daughters sang - such a talented family. They had lots of friends

and family. There was plenty of food that the kids and grandkids prepared for them.

Bobby and Nelda Carothers attended the Dallas Cowboy vs New York Jets game on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 17, the guest of Lori

D'Arpa of Las Vegas ... Cowboys won. They also attended a Texas Rangers baseball game Monday evening, Sept. 18, guests of Jason and Jamie Carothers.

Several people of Mound attended the 22nd Annual 2023 Spurfest at the Coryell Museum and Historical Center, the 37th annual Cruzin Cruzers Car Show on the Courthouse square, and the Texas Old Time Fiddlers Association Annual Old Time Fiddlers Contest at the Gatesville City Auditorium Saturday afternoon.

Several people from Mound attended a funeral service for Mrs. Joyce Ann McDonald Thursday afternoon at Scott's Funeral Home in Gatesville. A private interment was held at the McDonald's family Cemetery.

The Hopson family and

friends attended the 2023 Annual Hornets Big Sting in honor of Mrs. Kari Dunn Hopson Friday evening at the McKamie Stadium in Gatesville.

Those who had birthdays this month were Pat Fry, Chris McHargue, Mistie Madrid, Kathy Smith, Billie Wallace, Barbara Hopson, Teristan Byrd, Lyle Bomar, Billy Martin, Diane Stovall, Cindi McDonald, Opal Smith, LeAnn Webb, DeDe Grubb, Miles Dahl, Mitch Dahl, Amber Tippit, Lisa Barnard, Jaryn Poynter, Mason Jones, Judy Belt, David Wassermann, Randy Belt, Jackie Pate, Diane Heavin, Courtney Shoaf, Patrick Hopson, Margaret Hopson, Harrison Crum, Donna Smith, Caleb Magee and Lindy Miller.

OBITUARIES

Duayne Smith

June 7, 1934 - September 14, 2023

Duayne Smith, age 89, passed away on Thursday, Sept. 14, 2023, in Temple.

Funeral services were held at 1 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 21, at Scott's Funeral Home Chapel, with Donald Fleming officiating. Interment, with full military honors, followed at Pearl Cemetery.

Oscar Duayne Smith was born on June 7, 1934, to the late Albert Oscar and Anna Murrah Smith in Pearl, Texas. He graduated from Pearl High School in 1953. Soon after graduation, he entered the United States Air Force in 1953. He served one tour of duty in Vietnam and retired in 1973, with 20 years of service. He married Patricia Shaw on Dec. 17, 1958. After his retirement, they resided in San Antonio, where he was a member of St. Andrews Episcopal Church. His wife preceded him in death in 2013 and Duayne moved to Gatesville in 2014. He was preceded in death



by his parents; wife, Patricia Smith; sisters, Carolyn Brooks, Cynthia Neatherlin; brothers, Gervase Smith and Bryan Smith.

Oscar is survived by his children, Danny Smith, Donald Smith, Michael Smith, and Laura Smith; sister, Gwen Fleming; brothers, F.B. Smith and wife, JaQue, James Smith and wife, Lynn.

Joby Tatum

July 21, 1939 - September 17, 2023



Joby Tatum, age 84, of Gatesville, went to be with her Lord and Savior on Sunday, Sept. 17, 2023.

Graveside services were held at 10 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 20, at Rocking T Cemetery, with Pastor Ken Laney officiating.

Andra Jean Tatum "Joby" was born on July 21, 1939, in San Marcos to the late Andrew and Bernagene "Dixie" de'Steiguer Tiner. She grew up and attended school in San Marcos, graduating high school in 1957. She married Rudy Tatum on August 28, 1959, and the two moved to Gatesville in 1964. Joby was an accomplished barrel racer and horse person who had a special love for both horses and dogs.

Joby was preceded in death by her husband of 57 years, Rudy.

She is survived by her daughter, Juli Rhodes and husband, Jeff; son, Preston Tatum and wife, Sarah; grandchildren, Kasey Sutton and wife, Ariel, Callie Pfaff and husband, Matt, Kirby Tatum and wife, Andrea, and Kendle Rhodes; and great-grandchildren, Shepherd, Southern, Emie Jo, and Shiloh.

The Tatum family would like to give special thanks to the staff at Mercy House and Amedisys Hospice Care.

In lieu of flowers, Joby's family requests memorials be made to the Boys and Girls Club, 2533 E. Main Street, Gatesville, TX 76528.

THE MORRIS FEDERATION



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured are officers selected for The Morris Federation for 2023 to 2024. Left to right includes Marcelle Parrish-Russel, Historian; Sue Vernon, Treasurer; Velva Riddle, President; and Marsha Lee, Vice President. Officers that were not pictured include Yvonne Dutschmann, Secretary; and Joann White, Parliamentarian.



COURTESY PHOTO

In the celebration of the 110th anniversary of The Morris Federation, Grace Dallimore brought three handmade lap quilts to offer as door prizes. The winners of the quilts were Linda Davis, Betty Bartlett, and Anita Carter. Pictured left to right includes Linda Davis, Grace Dallimore, Betty Bartlett, and Anita Carter.



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Texas Trappers and Fur Hunters Association to meet Oct. 6-7

A gathering of landowners, wildlife managers, trappers, and fur harvesters will be held on Oct. 6 - 7 at the Gatesville Civic Center. This event is sponsored by



the Texas Trappers and Fur Hunters Association and the Gatesville Civic Center.

Everyone is welcome to attend as instructors from across the nation will offer, free of charge to the public, a diversified program of wildlife management techniques. Instructors will demonstrate effective methods to minimize damage from feral hogs, coyotes, bobcats, beavers, and more. Included will be a field trip to a nearby ranch to demonstrate some of these techniques applied in a natural

setting, weather permitting. This seminar will be held in conjunction with the Texas Trappers and Fur Hunters Association's Fall Rendezvous.

CEU's for pesticide applicators will be awarded for General and IPM credits. Fur harvesting and predator control supplies, along with wildlife-related crafts, will be available throughout the convention. A live fundraising auction will take place Friday evening with auction items on display throughout the day. There

will be ladies and youth crafts sessions, along with youth trap-setting sessions. Also on Saturday, there will be trap-setting and skillet-tossing contests for all ages with winners receiving trophies. Concessions will be available throughout both days. Activities will begin at 1 p.m. Friday and 7:30 a.m. Saturday.

Make plans to attend and learn more about how trapping and fur harvesting help our environment and economy. The TTFHA is a 501c3 non-profit organiza-

tion committed to public education, to the conservation of the natural resources of Texas, and to the responsibility to co-exist with the wildlife of Texas. All hunting and trapping activities are regulated by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to ensure a continued, thriving population of all wildlife species. Harvesting excess wildlife insures a stable and sustainable balance of wildlife to habitat ratio. It also reduces wildlife conflicts with humans. Wildlife is a renewable resource. Nat-

ural fur is an environmentally-friendly alternative to man-made products that are made from synthetic products based on petroleum. Most harvested furs are sold to international buyers. These sales help to lower our nation's foreign trade deficit.

For more information, visit www.TTFHA.com, or contact Matt Carter at 830-505-0033 or Bill Applegate at 432-729-3349.

The Gatesville Civic Center is located at 301 Veterans Memorial Drive.

Ogletree Gap Festival to be held Oct. 14

Staff Reports

The Ogletree Gap Heritage Festival will be held on Saturday, Oct. 14 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The festival is free to enter, and Ogletree Gap Park is in Coryell County near Copperas Cove.

Visitors will be treated to

buggy rides around the park along with music, food, pioneer demonstrations, arts and crafts, and storytelling.

The festival, which began in 1984, was presented by the Copperas Cove Chamber of Commerce until 2008. The Copperas Cove Historical Society brought back

the festival in 2022, which included historical demonstrations in and around the old stagecoach stop and post office located in the park.

The stagecoach stop, which is honored with a state historical marker, is noted as one of the oldest

buildings in the area around Copperas Cove. The solitary two-room structure was built of stone by Marsden Ogletree in 1878.

For more information on the Ogletree Gap Festival, email ogletreegapfestival@gmail.com.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Stagecoach stop at Ogletree Gap.

ZED by Duane M. Abel



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Whatever happened to ...

20 YEARS AGO (2003)

Gatesville ISD's football stadium was renamed Pruitt Field to honor long-time coach, Larry Pruitt.

Gatesville ISD students were invited to the 5th Quarter Fellowship held at the Gatesville Church of Christ Youth Building.

An "Old-Fashioned Heavenly Highways Homecoming Revival" was set to be held at the First Baptist Church in Flat. It featured Foster Wilcox, of Hamilton, as the accompanist.

The Constanta, Romania

Lions Club gave a flag to Coryell County District Attorney, Riley Simpson, who delivered the flag to the Gatesville Lions Club.

Lalla Rookh Ward was the winner of a drawing for an out-of-print family history book on Coryell County. The book was valued at more than \$200.

30 YEARS AGO (1993)

The Evant Elks beat Waco Parkview Christian 27-14 in a junior varsity football game.

The Gatesville Country

Club was set to hold its final golf tournament of that year called the Guys & Dolls tourney.

The Triple L. Club of the First Baptist Church held their September luncheon/play day in the Fellowship Hall.

The Gatesville PTA scheduled a meeting on occult awareness for parents.

Sisters Beverly and Rebecca Blankenship, granddaughters of Hortense Blankenship, of Gatesville, continued prominent international stage careers.

40 YEARS AGO (1983)

Floyd Leo and Pauline Sutton returned from a 2-week vacation in Europe, where they met their son, Glen Sutton, and family, who were Baptist missionaries in Tours, France.

The Gatesville Volunteer Fire Department held their Seventh Annual GVFD Barbecue in conjunction with the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce's Harvest Festival.

Jonesboro's role in the history of Coryell County's Red

Cross chapter was reviewed in a speech by the chapter's executive secretary, Mrs. Antonee Rogers.

Members of the Senior High MYF at Gatesville's First United Methodist Church elected Anne Riddle as their president for 1983-1984.

50 YEARS AGO

Oscar Latham was appointed as the assistant superintendent of the Mountain View School for Boys.

Girl Scout Troop 98 named their Patrol No. 2 the

Spelunkers.

The Battle for the Planet of the Apes was showing at the drive-in theater.

The Gatesville Volunteer Fire Department was set to host a week-long open house during Fire Prevention Week.

Cora Blacklock Snowden was honored on her 87th birthday with a family dinner at the Gatesville Community Center.

Oktoberfest 2023 to be held on Oct. 14

Staff Reports

The annual Oktoberfest 2023 will be held on Saturday, Oct. 14 at Tonkawa Falls Events Center located at 8540 E. 4th St. in Crawford.

Doors will open at 5 p.m. and tickets will cost \$20 per person. Be sure to bring your own alcohol.

The festival will provide a German meal at 6 p.m., a silent auction, and live music featuring Enzian Buam from 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

The band performs Austrian/German Folk Music with a mix of Classic Country and other styles. Alpine Yodeling is a featured part of many of the band's songs.

Over the years, Enzian

Buam has performed at many Festivals and German/Austrian restaurants, as well as casinos and weddings. Some of these include Oktoberfest in Round Top Texas, the Crawford Oktoberfest, Baca's 159, The Texas Independence Day celebration, Brenham Maifest, Washington County Fair, the Texas

Czech Heritage and Cultural Center, Oktoberfest Houston, Tomball German Festival, King's Biergarten, and many more locations around Texas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma.

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact 254-486-2366 or 254-749-4878.

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060
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099
PUBLIC NOTICES

099
PUBLIC NOTICES

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS County of Coryell

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days after the date this citation was issued, a default judgment may be taken against you."

To: UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF JEFFREY SCOTT OWEN, DECEASED

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the 52nd Judicial District Court of Coryell County, Texas in the Courthouse in the City of Coryell, Texas at or before 10:00 o'clock A.M. Monday, the 9th day of October, 2023, being the Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days after this citation is issued, and you are hereby required then and there to appear and file written answer to the First Amended Petition, filed in said Court on May 3, 2023, in suit numbered DC-23-54419 on the docket of said court, wherein The Veterans Land Board of the State of Texas, Plaintiff, v. Jeffrey Scott Owen and The Heirs at Law of Jeffrey Scott Owen, Deceased, Defendants.

The Petition seeks an order to foreclose the lien on the property and assert a claim to the property located at 1204 Jonathan Lane, Copperas Cove, TX 76522 and legally described as: Lot 17, Block 4, Thousand Oaks Addition Iii, Copperas Cove, Coryell County, Texas, Recorded In Cabinet B, Slide 665, Plat Records Of Coryell County, Texas.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT at Coryell, Texas this 21 st day of August, 2023.

Issued at the request of: Renee Casas
Address: 13105 Northwest Freeway, Suite 960, Houston, TX 77040
(Clerk info.)

Witness, Becky Moore District Clerk of the 52ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT of Coryell County, Texas.

Issued and given under my hand a seal of said Court at office, the 21st day of August, 2023.

Becky Moore, District Clerk Coryell County, Texas
P.O. Box 4, Gatesville, Texas 76528

By Kiesha Gajdica, Deputy
00030367

099
PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, Ideal Self Storage-Gatesville, located at 1611 E. Main St., Gatesville TX 76528, is having an online auction. The property is being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. The sale will be held at storageauctions.com beginning Monday, October 9, 2023 at 11A.M. Seller reserves the right to withdraw any property from the sale upon payment in full. Bidding sale will end on Monday, October 16, 2023 at 11A.M. Units to be sold: SHARON GIBSON, VIRGINIA MANN, TRAVIS COX, ELBERT COOPER, RICKI ELLISON, MARIAH HARRISON, TINA SONES, GEORGE HOGUE. Inventory: Household goods, clothing, tools and misc.

00030368

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099
PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City Council of the City of Gatesville, in the Regular Meeting held on September 12, 2023 did pass and approve on the third and final reading the following ordinances:

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2023-03:

AN ORDINANCE MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE CITY OF GATESVILLE, TEXAS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 1, 2023, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2024. APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO A SINKING FUND TO PAY INTEREST AND PRINCIPAL ON THE CITY'S INDEBTEDNESS; ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE CITY OF GATESVILLE, TEXAS, FOR THE 2023-24 FISCAL YEAR; AND RATIFYING THE PROPERTY TAX INCREASE REFLECTED IN THE FY 2023-24 BUDGET

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2023-04:

AN ORDINANCE LEVYING A TAX RATE FOR THE CITY OF GATESVILLE, TEXAS FOR THE TAX YEAR 2023: \$0.56/\$100 TOTAL TAX RATE

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2023-05:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GATESVILLE, TEXAS REPEALING CHAPTER 18, FEES OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GATESVILLE; ADOPTING A NEW FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE CITY OF GATESVILLE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Complete text of these ordinances are available for inspection during regular business hours, at City Hall, 803 E. Main Street.

Wendy Cole
City Secretary
00030366

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverages Commission for a private club registration permit of the Gatesville Country Club, 1308 Golf Course Road, one mile off Hwy. 36, Gatesville, Coryell County, Texas.

Officers of the corporation are Bobby Joe Carothers, President; Randy Cole, Vice President; Wendell Zacha, Secretary; and Jaydie Dixon, Treasurer.

00030369

To: UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF JEFFREY SCOTT OWEN, DECEASED

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the 52nd Judicial District Court of Coryell County, Texas in the Courthouse in the City of Coryell, Texas at or before 10:00 o'clock A.M. Monday, the 9th day of October, 2023, being the Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days after this citation is issued, and you are hereby required then and there to appear and file written answer to the First Amended Petition, filed in said Court on May 3, 2023, in suit numbered DC-23-54419 on the docket of said court, wherein The Veterans Land Board of the State of Texas, Plaintiff, v. Jeffrey Scott Owen and The Heirs at Law of Jeffrey Scott Owen, Deceased, Defendants.

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00030371

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Bailey Shea Dickie

COURTESY PHOTO

BEHIND THE BEAT

I've always wanted to be a musician

BY BAILEY SHEA DICKIE
Contributing Writer

Hello readers! I've been working with The Gatesville Messenger for just over four years as the Marketing Consultant, but I'm also a local musician, and I am thrilled to announce I will be writing a music column for the newspaper discussing news, stories, and my own personal experiences in the music industry.

For as long as I can remember, I've wanted to be a musician. I grew up listening to my dad playing his guitar or fiddle and singing the songs of Merle Haggard, Don Williams, George Jones, and so many other classic artists from a young age. My first heartbreak was the day I heard Earl Thomas Conley's "Holding Her and Loving You" on the radio and realized it wasn't my dad who had written it, because he had sung it so

many times for me as a child. Similarly, I'll never forget the day my mom introduced me to Kenny Loggins and Dan Fogelberg on our way to Belton Lake for the weekend, or the day she showed me "Bohemian Rhapsody" as we watched the sun setting over the lake. I especially remember one night when my softball game got rained out, and on our way to the lake in the dark, a hailstorm knocked out our radio signal in the middle

of Hinder's "Better Than Me." We were both so desperate to finish the song, we stopped at the Belton Wal-Mart, running through the parking lot, battling golf-ball-sized hail just to pick up a copy of the CD for one song. Between my parents, I don't think I stood a chance: a passion for music was always a certainty.

I used to attend a two-week music camp every summer in Corsicana between the ages of 12 and 19. I learned about sight-reading, music theory, harmony, and how to read shape notes. I made amazing friends and further embraced my love for singing. After high school, I attended the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor for two years, pursuing a degree in Vocal Track Music Education, where I did not fit in as a musician, which I learned relatively soon. In 2016, I was accepted into Berklee College of Music. I attended online

classes on and off for several years, and I am proud to say I recently received my Bachelor of Arts degree in Music Business through Berklee.

Since finishing at Berklee, my dad and I have been performing regularly at a few places in town, and I've been learning and writing more music that I hope to release within the next few months. I'm excited to start writing about different topics in the music industry, including some of our recent gigs, the process of writing, recording, and releasing new music, personal experiences, and even discussing upcoming events for our local musicians. I'm looking forward to informing our wonderful community about current news in the music industry, as well as showcasing all the local talent Gatesville and the surrounding areas have to offer!



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FUN-FILLED WEEKEND IN DOWNTOWN GATESVILLE



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

The annual Spurfest hosted by Coryell Museum and Historical Center was held last weekend. Despite the much-needed rain, over 300 guests stopped by for a tour. In conjunction with the Spurfest, the Cruzin Cru-zers held their annual car show around the courthouse square and the Old Time Fiddler's Contest took place in the Gatesville City Auditorium.

Team Dylan 2023 annual golf tournament to be held Oct. 7

Staff Reports

The annual Team Dylan 2023 Golf Tournament in honor of Dylan Blanchard will be held on Oct. 7, and will take place at the Gatesville Country Club. Tee time

will begin at 9 a.m.

The tournament will be a four-person scramble at the cost of \$400 per team. To rent a golf cart it will cost an additional \$50 per cart.

To obtain a \$100 hole sponsorship or to donate

auction items contact Cassie Perez at 254-223-3017.

Silent auction and raffle items are needed for the tournament. Donation ideas include autographed sports memorabilia, exclusive or unique items, retail dona-

tions, restaurant donations, services, themed baskets, tickets to social or sporting events, vacation or travel getaways, a fishing charter, or a hunting trip.

Team Dylan is an IRS-designated 501(C)3 charitable

organization so donations can be tax deductible. All of the proceeds will go directly to Team Dylan for the annual Gatesville High School scholarship, along with donations to appendix cancer research.

To register visit teamdylan.org or email teamdylanorg@gmail.com.

The Gatesville Country Club is located at 1308 Golf Course Road.

Defense shines late, leads Hornets to 44-16 win over Mexia

BY CHRIS ALLMAN

Contributing Writer

Rayshon Smith ran for 160 yards and a touchdown, and Logan Biggs, Sean Aguilar, and the Gatesville defense sparked a fourth quarter ex-

plosion as the Hornets beat Mexia 44-16 on Sept. 15.

For the fourth time in four games, Gatesville found themselves in a late-game dogfight. Gatesville led

23-16 early in the fourth quarter, but the Hornets slammed the door shut down the stretch - something they didn't do in their previous two games.

"I like finishing the game. We hadn't done that in two weeks," said head coach Aaron Hunter. "I've told them this since March, that every game should be like

that. Be in every game in the fourth quarter and give yourself a chance to go win in it. I tell our kids to embrace that moment. Don't panic. Get comfortable in those moments."

After the Black Cats scored to make it 23-16, they attempted an inside kick that was smothered by linebacker Logan Morgan. Eight plays later, Brayden Saunders punched in his second touchdown of the night to extend the lead to 30-16.

After Mexia turned the ball over on downs on their next possession, the Hornets extended the lead to 37-16 on

Smith's three-yard run.

Their final score of the night came when Biggs delivered a punishing hit on a receiver that knocked the ball loose and allowed Aguilar to scoop it up and race 48 yards for a touchdown.

Biggs snagged his first interception of the season on Mexia's final possession, and Aguilar had a first half pick of his own. According to Hunter, the big night from his secondary was just a matter of getting comfortable doing what they are supposed to do. Biggs was playing just his fifth varsity

PLEASE SEE **HORNETS** | B6



PHOTO BY CHRIS ALLMAN
Rayshon Smith



PHOTO BY CHRIS ALLMAN
Lawson Mooney



PHOTO BY CHRIS ALLMAN
Corey Burns

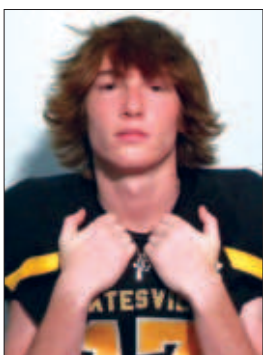


PHOTO BY CHRIS ALLMAN
Logan Biggs



PHOTO BY CHRIS ALLMAN
Sean Aguilar

Lady Hornets wrap non-district slate with win over Marble Falls

BY CHRIS ALLMAN

Contributing Writer

A split of their final two non-district games means that the Gatesville Lady Hornets will take a 14-13 mark into district play as they look for a 21st consecutive playoff appearance.

On Sept. 15, Gatesville dropped a potential playoff preview match at 4A No. 24 Burnet 25-23, 25-18, 25-20. Gatesville's 23-4A district matches up with Burnet's 24-4A district in the bi-district playoffs.

Despite the loss, head coach Janey Weber saw more than a few positives from her young squad.

"Burnet is a very competitive team, and I thought we competed well with them. We didn't give up on plays,

we stayed scrappy, and fought hard," she said.

In their four-set win over Marble Falls - another potential bi-district matchup - Weber saw more than a few glimpses of the team she is hoping for in league play.

"The way we played last night against Marble Falls is the way we want to go into district. We played with a lot of confidence and fire from the front row and back row," she said.

From the jump, the Lady Hornets attacked the Lady Mustangs en route to a 25-18 first set win. After dropping the second set 25-23, the Lady Hornets bounced back to take sets three and four by an identical 25-18

PLEASE SEE **LADY** | B2



COURTESY PHOTO BY TOM NORRELL

Oglesby's Mason Marquez runs the ball for a touchdown during a junior high football game.

Football Contest results

Week 4, September 15-17

1. Gatesville vs. Mexia
2. Evant vs. Kopperl
3. Jonesboro vs. New-castle
4. UMHB vs. University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
5. Oglesby vs. Heritage Christian
6. Baylor vs. Long Island University
7. Howard Payne vs. Lyon College
8. Tarleton vs. Texas Tech
9. UT vs. Wyoming
10. A&M vs. Louisiana-Monroe
11. Dallas Cowboys vs. New York Jets

Tie Breaker: #1, 60 points

This week's first place winner was David White, who correctly picked all 11 games. White wins \$20. Second and third place were tied between Paul Pollard and Rancher Jef-

coat, both correctly predicting the outcome of ten games. The tiebreaker score of 60 points determined Jeffcoat, with a prediction of 52 points, the second place winner of \$10 and Pollard, with a prediction of 46 points, the third place winner of \$5.

CURRENT STANDINGS:

David White: second place, week one; first place, week two; first place, week three; first place, week 4
Rancher Jeffcoat: second place, week two; third place, week three; first place, week four
C.W. Vernon: first place, week one; second place, week three
Paul Pollard: third place, week two; third place, week three
Yvonne Dutschmann: third place, week one

BY TOM NORRELL

Contributing writer

The Oglesby Tiger junior high football A team remained undefeated as of Sept. 14, beating the Jonesboro Eagles A team, 39-20, in Jonesboro. #10 Evan Williamson took the opening kickoff 50 yards for the Tigers' first score. #44 Mason Marquez added PAT making it 7-0, Tigers. Jonesboro responded with a 20-yard run and PAT making the score 7-7, with 45 seconds in the first quarter. Tigers #44 Mason Marquez took his first handoff up the middle for a 45-yard touchdown run, dragging and running over defenders in the end zone. The Tigers missed the PAT, leading 13-7. Next series #32 Holdyn Goff hit #33

Jayce Aaron on a 30-yard touchdown strike, making the score 20-7/3:35 in the second quarter. #32 Holdyn Goff added three more touchdown runs of 25 yards, 10 yards, and 20 yards and one PAT in the second half. Jonesboro added a couple of late touchdowns, but not enough as the Tigers ended the game, 39-20.

Offensively for Tigers:

#32 Holdyn Goff had 11 carries for 141 yards rushing and 65 yards passing for a total of 206 total yards. He also had three rushing touchdowns of 25, 10, and 20 yards and one 30-yard touchdown pass and one PAT.

#44 Mason Marquez had four carries, 66 yards rush-

ing, one 45-yard touchdown run, and three receptions for 57 yards for a total of 109 yards.

#10 Evan Williamson opened the game on a 50-yard touchdown kickoff return.

#33 Jayce Aaron had one reception for a 30-yard catch and touchdown run.

#25 Blayze Fisher had a good night at quarterback and had a 25-yard kickoff return.

#20 Logan Ewing, #35 Caden Brinkley, #2 Couper Wulfkhule, and #82 Ranger Dalton all did a great job of blocking.

Defensively for Tigers:

#32 Holdyn led all tacklers with seven solo tackles, two sacks for a 20-yard loss

and 5 assists for a total of 12 tackles and a fumble recovery.

#44 Mason Marquez had four solo tackles, four assists, and eight tackles.

#33 Jayce Aaron had five solo tackles and three assists for eight tackles.

#82 Ranger Dalton had two solo tackles and an assist.

#35 Caden Brinkley had four solo tackles and a fumble recovery.

#25 Blayze Fisher had one solo tackle and three assists.

#20 Logan Ewing had two assists.

#4 Evan Williamson had one solo tackle but was injured on the play and did not return.

The Tigers hosted Gholson Junior High on Sept. 21.

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GJHS Football Scores and Stats

8A vs. McGregor

	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Gatesville	7	9	7	14	37
McGregor	0	0	0	0	0

Leading Rushers: Grady Keeton- 14 for 157, 2 TDs (2 yard TD and 45 yard TD); Braxton Brown- 3 for 23; Eli Phillips- 4 for 12

Offensive Line standouts: Isaac Crawford, Stephen Walker

Leading Passers: Eli Phillips- 2/5, 56 yards, 2 TD

Leading Receivers: Kaydon Buster- 2 for 56 yards, 2 TDs (21 and 35 yard scores)

Leading Tacklers/Defensive players: Braxton Brown- 5 tackles, 1 blocked punt; Eli Phillips- 4 tackles; Austyn Pickle- 3 tackles, 1 PBU, 1 INT for a TD (25 yards); Draven Henderson- 2 tackles, 1 sack, 1 pressure passer; Camden Webb- 3 tackles; Stefan Boyd- 2 tackles, 1 TFL

Special Teams- Leo Leon- 4/4 on XPs, and hit a 30 yard FG

Season Record: 1-0

Leading Rushers: Grady Keeton- 12 for 109, 2 TDs (2 yard TD and 28 yard TD); Braxton Brown- 5 for 28 (6 yard TD); Eli Phillips- 10 for 57 (10 yard TD)

Offensive Line standouts: Stephen Walker, Joey Lonzetta

Leading Passers: Grady Keeton- 5/6, 81 yards, 1 TD

Leading Receivers: Draven Henderson- 4 for 90, 1 TD; Kaydon Buster- 2 for 11 yards

Leading Tacklers/Defensive players: Braxton Brown- 4 tackles; Austyn Pickle- 6 tackles, 1 INT; Grady Keeton- 5 tackles, 1 PBU; Jaycob Webb- 7 tackles; Kaydon Buster- 2 tackles, 1 INT, 1 PBU; Callen Webb- 1 tackle, 1 INT for a 26 yard TD

Special Teams- Leo Leon- 7/7 on XPs

Season Record: 2-0

Leading Rushers: Bennett Egging- 7 for 39, 1 TD (2 yard TD); Theo Williams- 1 for 12

Offensive Line/ TE standouts: Tight End- Jaxson Franks, Copen Hartley

Leading Passers: Sebastian Hubik- 4/6- 87 yards, 2 TD, Preston Barron - 1/1, 26 yards

Leading Receivers: Theo Williams- 4 for 87 yards, 2 TDs, Jaxson Franks- 1 for 26

Leading Tacklers/Defensive players: Bennett Egging- 8 tackles, 3 TFL, 1 sack; TaShawn Evans- 4 tackles, 2 TFL; Theo Williams- 2 tackles, 1 forced fumble, 1 fumble recovery, 1 sack, 1 pressure passer; Sebastian Hubik- 4 tackles, 3 TFL; Max Jacobs- 3 tackles

Season Record: 1-1

Leading Rushers: Keegan Redford- 7 for 100, 2 TDs and a 2 pt conversion (TD runs of 4 and 47); Brensyn Pope- 2 for 24, 1 TD (11 yard TD); Cash Heath- 2 for 21 yards; Hayden Kirby- 2 for 6, 1 TD (3 yards TD run)

Offensive Line standouts: Connor Rodarte

Leading Passers: N/A

Leading Receivers: N/A

Leading Tacklers/Defen-

sive players: Keegan Redford- 6 tackles, 2 TFL, 1 fumble recovery; Memphis Salas- 4 tackles, 1 TFL, 1 fumble recovery; Pate Foster- 4 tackles; Jacob Taylor- 2 tackles, 1 TFL

Season Record: 1-0

Leading Rushers: Keegan Redford- 9 for 28; Brensyn Pope- 3 for 10; Cash Heath- 2 for 8

Offensive Line/ TE standouts: Kaiden Gibson

Leading Passers: Cash Heath- 2/3, 17 yards

Leading Receivers: Jacob Taylor - for 17 yards

Leading Tacklers/Defensive players: Cash Heath- 6 tackles, 1 PBU, Memphis Salas- 4 tackles, 2 TFL; Keegan Redford- 4 tackles, 2 TFL; Jacob Taylor, 4 tackles, 1 INT

Season Record: 1-1

Leading Rushers: Damian Millan- 12 for 91; Micah Olvera- 4 for 17, 1 TD (3 yard score on a QB keeper)

Offensive Line standouts: Jackson Gauden at center

Leading Tacklers/Defensive players: Channing Hardcastle- 4 tackles, 1 Forced Fumble; Braylon Brown- 2 tackles, 1 fumble recovery; Zachary Poliquin- 2 tackles; Kaidyn Vargas- 1 tackle, 1 pressure passer, 1 fumble recovery

Season Record: 2-0

Leading Rushers: Keegan Redford- 7 for 100, 2 TDs and a 2 pt conversion (TD runs of 4 and 47); Brensyn Pope- 2 for 24, 1 TD (11 yard TD); Cash Heath- 2 for 21 yards; Hayden Kirby- 2 for 6, 1 TD (3 yards TD run)

Offensive Line standouts: Connor Rodarte

Leading Passers: N/A

Leading Receivers: N/A

Leading Tacklers/Defen-

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Season Record: 1-0

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Offensive Line standouts: Connor Rodarte

Leading Passers: N/A

Leading Receivers: N/A

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Leading Passers: N/A

Leading Receivers: N/A

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Season Record: 1-0

Leading Rushers: Keegan Redford- 7 for 100, 2 TDs and a 2 pt conversion (TD runs of 4 and 47); Brensyn Pope- 2 for 24, 1 TD (11 yard TD); Cash Heath- 2 for 21 yards; Hayden Kirby- 2 for 6, 1 TD (3 yards TD run)

Offensive Line standouts: Connor Rodarte

Leading Passers: N/A

Leading Receivers: N/A

Leading Tacklers/Defen-

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Season Record: 1-0

Leading Rushers: Keegan Redford- 9 for 28; Brensyn Pope- 3 for 10; Cash Heath- 2 for 8

Offensive Line/ TE standouts: Kaiden Gibson

Leading Passers: Cash Heath- 2/3, 17 yards

Leading Receivers: Jacob Taylor - for 17 yards

Leading Tacklers/Defensive players: Cash Heath- 6 tackles, 1 PBU, Memphis Salas- 4 tackles, 2 TFL; Keegan Redford- 4 tackles, 2 TFL; Jacob Taylor, 4 tackles, 1 INT

Season Record: 1-1

Leading Rushers: Damian Millan- 12 for 91; Micah Olvera- 4 for 17, 1 TD (3 yard score on a QB keeper)

Offensive Line standouts: Jackson Gauden at center

Leading Tacklers/Defensive players: Channing Hardcastle- 4 tackles, 1 Forced Fumble; Braylon Brown- 2 tackles, 1 fumble recovery; Zachary Poliquin- 2 tackles; Kaidyn Vargas- 1 tackle, 1 pressure passer, 1 fumble recovery

Season Record: 2-0

Leading Rushers: Keegan Redford- 7 for 100, 2 TDs and a 2 pt conversion (TD runs of 4 and 47); Brensyn Pope- 2 for 24, 1 TD (11 yard TD); Cash Heath- 2 for 21 yards; Hayden Kirby- 2 for 6, 1 TD (3 yards TD run)

Offensive Line standouts: Connor Rodarte

Leading Passers: N/A

Leading Receivers: N/A

Leading Tacklers/Defen-

sive players: Keegan Redford- 6 tackles, 2 TFL, 1 fumble recovery; Memphis Salas- 4 tackles, 1 TFL, 1 fumble recovery; Pate Foster- 4 tackles; Jacob Taylor- 2 tackles, 1 TFL

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Offensive Line standouts: Connor Rodarte

Leading Passers: N/A

Leading Receivers: N/A

Leading Tacklers/Defen-

Lady Elks defeat Rochelle & Iredell

Staff Reports

The Evant Independent School District Lady Elks volleyball team played against Rochelle ISD on Saturday, Sept. 16. The Lady Elks defeated Rochelle ISD 25-23, 25-18, 25-21.

The stats include:
- Harley Weeks - 20 assists, 2 kills, 2 saves, 2 aces, 6 digs.
- Hailey Neri - 1 ace, 2 saves, 9 digs.
- Molly Waldrum - 2

aces, 2 digs, 7 kills, 4 blocks.
- Bree Ramirez - 7 aces, 14 digs, 2 saves, 2 assists, 4 kills.
- Luwi Rodriguez - 1 ace, 8 digs, 6 kills, 1 save.
- Izzy Grandy - 4 kills, 1 ace, 7 digs.
- Jolyce Acosta - 6 digs.

The Evant ISD Lady Elks competed against Iredell ISD on Tuesday, Sept. 19. The Lady Elks defeated Iredell ISD 25-4, 25-9, 25-19.

The stats include:

- Harley Weeks - 16 assists, 8 aces, 3 digs.

- Hailey Neri - 5 aces, 1 save, 4 digs.

- Molly Waldrum - 6 aces, 8 kills, 1 block.

- Bree Ramirez - 2 aces, 2 digs, 5 assists, 3 kills.

- Luwi Rodriguez - 1 ace, 2 digs, 6 kills, 1 save.

- Izzy Grandy - 3 kills, 1 block, 3 digs, 3 aces.

- Jolyce Acosta - 1 dig.

Evant ISD is located at 339 Memory Lane in Evant.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

<p>GATESVILLE HORNETS Gabe Charles Center instrumental in offensive play, achieving a total of 369 yds and the win over Mexia</p>	<p>JONESBORO EAGLES Jacob Cisneros 38-yr interception return for a two-point conversion, 76 total rusing yds, 7 receiving yds, 1 TD</p>
<p>EVANT ELKS Hunter White 112 rushing yds, 119 receiving yds, 3 TDs, 9 tackles and 1 assist</p>	<p>OGLESBY TIGERS Landon Williamson 28 receiving yds, 5 tackles, 1 TD</p>

***** PLAYERS OF THE WEEK BROUGHT TO YOU BY *****

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LADY

FROM PAGE B1

score.

Most of the offensive attack came from sophomore Emma Pollard and freshman Anna McPherson. Pollard tallied 22 kills in the game, while McPherson picked up 14. Pollard has consistently been Gatesville's most dominant force thus far this season, while McPherson's impact has grown with each game.

"Anna is really starting to come on and take charge at the net. Her progress, along with many others, has been fun to watch. A lot of things are starting to click for our team, making us more cohesive," Weber said.

Weber was also quick to

point out that hitters don't kill balls that aren't in the right spot, and that starts with how her team has improved on the back row and her setter.

Sanderson had 39 assists in the win over Marble Falls, and the Lady Hornets committed just six errors on serve receives. Senior Laura Trejo and freshman Charlee Ferris stood out on the back row with Ferris receiving 17 serves without an error.

"It's easy for hitters to stand out, but our back row and setter have been doing a great job as well. Everything starts with a pass, and without that you can't do much," she said. "Our back row has progressed from the beginning of the season, and Taylor Sanderson has done a great job of setting her hit-

ters up for success."

Barrett Boyd had 13 digs in the win over Marble Falls to go along with six kills. Ferris had eight digs in the win, while Trejo had seven. As a team, Gatesville had 15 aces and were paced by McPherson who had five.

It all adds up to a team peaking at the right time. The Lady Hornets opened district play at Robinson on Sept. 22, and their district home opener is Sept. 26 against China Spring.

"As we head into district on Friday, I believe our team is ready. Are there things to improve? Always," Weber said. "But we are starting to play as one and improving with each rep. This is what the girls work for each day."

NEW BRANCH!

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WHEN: Tuesday, October 3rd, 2023 at 11:30 A.M.

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OFFICIAL RULES

There are 6 games listed in advertisements on this page. To enter, pick the winner and write the name of that team in the appropriate blank on the official entry form.

Deliver the form to: The Gatesville Messenger, 116 S. 6th Street, Gatesville, TX 76528, by **12:00 PM FRIDAY**. (Limit one entry per person).

Entries will be tabulated weekly and the results published in the next issue of The Gatesville Messenger. The first place winner each week will receive \$20, the second place winner \$10 and the third place winner \$5. The tie breaker will be used to determine placings. In case of a tie, the money will be divided equally. To pick the tie breaker, predict the total number of points in the selected game and enter in the appropriate space on the official entry form. All entries become the property of The Gatesville Messenger. Please write clearly and be sure to enter your pick in the correct blank.

GATESVILLE OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Deadline for entries
12 p.m. Friday!

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____

TieBreaker: 1 Score _____


Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Phone: _____

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#1 Fan

1. Gatesville vs. Mineral Wells

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2. Evant vs. Blanket

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3. Jonesboro vs. Hill Country Christian School of Austin

4. Copperas Cove vs. Bryan



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7. Howard Payne vs. Hardin-Simmons



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8. Tarleton vs. Southeastern Louisiana

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9. University of Texas vs. Kansas



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10. Texas Tech vs. Houston

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11. A&M vs. Arkansas



TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Texan Volleyball ends Dr. Pam Littleton Classic 3-0

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Tarleton State University Volleyball takes down Texas Southern and UMES to complete their time in the Dr. Pam Littleton Classic Sept 15-Sept 16.

After a win over UC Riverside to finish out day one of tournament play, the Texans sweep the Tigers of Texas Southern and defeat the Hawks from UMES to complete the weekend's action.

TARLETON 3 TEXAS SOUTHERN 0

In set one, the Texans saw the first two points on the board after an error from the Texans followed by a service ace from Dallas Balanay-Flores. A kill from Breanna McDonough put up the first point for Tarleton State. Rajini Fitzmaurice responded with a kill to tally point two for the Purple and White and another kill from McDonough gave the Texans the lead, 3-2. A kill from Chenise Cook and a few errors from Tarleton State gave Texas Southern a three-point lead. An error from the Tigers followed by back-to-back kills from Fitzmaurice put the Texans ahead 11-8. The Purple and White held the lead for the remainder of the set. A kill from Allison Bryant followed by two errors from Texas Southern put up the final points for Tarleton State ending the set, 25-18.

The second stanza began with a kill from Amber Johnson to put the Tigers on the board first. Texas Southern was up 3-2 until a kill from McDonough sent Tarleton State on an eight-score run with two kills from McDonough, two kills from Madison Frank, and a kill from Bryant to put the Purple and White up 9-3. The Texans kept the fire burning and held the lead for the rest of the frame. Another four-score run saw Tarleton State put up the 22nd point making the score 22-15. A kill from Fitzmaurice followed by a block from Emma Burke and Grayson Schirpik tallied the next two points for the Texans. The set point for the Purple and White came from a service error on Texas Southern.

The third and final set of

the match saw a kill from Fitzmaurice claim the first point for Tarleton State. An error from the Tigers put the Texans up 2-0. A kill from Kennedy Reed tallied point one for TSU. Burke responded with a kill to put up another point for the Purple and White. An error from Tarleton State and a kill from Johnson tied the set at three. Bryant took back the lead for the Texans, but Johnson added another point to the board for Texas Southern with a kill to even the score. A kill from Schirpik put Tarleton State ahead, where they stayed for the remainder of the frame. Reed and Kourtnei Collier took turns adding points to the board for TSU, but the Texans held their own. Schirpik put down another kill beginning a five-score run for the Purple and White making the score 22-11. Fitzmaurice and Burke both added kills to see the 23rd and 24th point for Tarleton State and an error from the Tigers put up the set point for the Texans with a 25-16 final.

Tarleton State tallied 43 kills, 38 digs, eight blocks and seven aces on the match. Fitzmaurice led the Texans with 13 kills. Bryant and Burke tied in second for kills with seven each. Fitzmaurice and Burke saw three aces each and Matti Theurer tallied an ace as well. Burke led the Purple and White with five blocks while Fitzmaurice and Frank compiled three apiece. Hodges led in assists with 20 and Melina Maldonado Ortiz racked up 14. Fitzmaurice and Theurer tied for most digs with eight each and Hodges saw six of her own.

TARLETON STATE 3 UMES 1

In set one, the UMES Hawks came out strong with three kills and an error from Tarleton State to put the Texans down 4-0. An error from the Hawks gave the Purple and White their first point of the stanza and a kill from Bryant tallied point two. The Texans were down by seven but some fight from



STEPHENVILLE — Tarleton State University Volleyball takes down Texas Southern and UMES to complete their time in the Dr. Pam Littleton Classic Sept. 15 and 16.

Tarleton State and a kill from Bryant began a six-score run to put the Texans up 16-15. In a back-and-forth battle, each team took turns putting down kills and collecting errors until two kills from Anjola Omolewa and an error from Tarleton State put the Hawks up 23-20. The Purple and White replied with a four-score run to take the lead. A kill from Nkemjika Ikemefuna tied the set 24-24. Frank put down a kill for the Texans and an error from UMES saw the set end 26-24 with Tarleton State on top.

The Purple and White claimed the first point of the second set with a kill from Fitzmaurice. An error from the Texans added a point for the Hawks. Tarleton State quickly responded with a kill from Fitzmaurice to begin a six-point score run with a kill and an ace from Fitzmaurice, two kills from Bryant, a kill from Burke and a block from Burke and McDonough to put Tarleton State in the lead 7-1. After a kill from Bryant, UMES put up five consecutive points with three kills from Soleil Cotton and two aces from Ikemefuna leaving UMES trailing by one point. Bryant laid down another kill making

the score 13-11, but back-to-back kills from the Hawks tied the frame. Fitzmaurice and Schirpik contributed two kills and a service ace from Theurer put the Texans ahead by three. A service ace from Ranyla Griggs followed by several errors from Tarleton State gave the lead to UMES. As the Purple and White were down 17-20, a couple of errors from the Hawks and back-to-back service aces from Fitzmaurice put the Texans ahead, 21-20. A kill from McDonough tied the set at the 22nd point but Ikemefuna responded with a kill to regain the lead for UMES. An error from Tarleton State followed by a service ace from Ikemefuna finalized the second stanza with a score of 25-23 for the Hawks.

In the third set, a kill from Griggs tallied the first point for UMES. The Texans responded with a kill and service ace from Fitzmaurice followed by an attack error from the Hawks and another kill from Bryant to make the score 4-1. Several errors from the Purple and White accompanied by a service ace and two kills from UMES put the Hawks up, 8-5. Tarleton State battled back with a kill from Fitzmaurice tying the set 12-

12. Both teams took turns laying down kills until a kill from McDonough followed by an error from UMES and a kill from Frank claimed the lead for the Purple and White, 20-18. Omolewa and Griggs put down several kills for the Hawks, but it wasn't enough to take down the Texans. Two kills from Fitzmaurice and a kill from Frank tallied the final points for Tarleton State ending the set, 25-22.

The fourth and final stanza began with a kill from Cotton to tally point one for UMES. McDonough responded with a kill for Tarleton State. A kill and service ace from Burke followed by two attack errors from the Hawks put the Purple and White up, 6-2. Although UMES fought back, the Texans held the lead for the rest of the frame. Schirpik, Burke and Fitzmaurice each put down a kill and Burke tallied a block for a four-score run for the Purple and White, putting the Texans ahead, 16-7. The Hawks added a couple kills and service aces in an effort to close the gap but the fight from Tarleton State was unmatched. The Purple and White raced to the finish line with a seven-score run made up of three aces from Burke,

kills from Burke, Frank and Bryant as well as a block from McDonough and Frank for the addition of the 24th point for the Texans. McDonough claimed the match point for Tarleton State with a kill finalizing set four, 25-13.

The Purple and White racked up 52 kills, 46 digs, 11 blocks and a new season-high of 12 service aces on the match. Fitzmaurice and Bryant tied for most kills with 13 each and Schirpik compiled eight on the nightcap. Burke led the team with six aces, while Fitzmaurice racked up four and Theurer two. Burke, Fitzmaurice and Theurer each reached a new season high in aces in the match against UMES. Burke and McDonough tied with five blocks to lead the Texans followed closely by Frank with four of her own. Maldonado Ortiz led Tarleton State with 22 assists and Hodges sat in second with 21. Theurer had 11 digs on the night, Hodges finished with nine and Fitzmaurice with five.

Tarleton State completed the second annual Dr. Pam Littleton Classic 3-0 and the team added new season-highs in several categories

Red Raiders take advantage of early Texan miscues

Tarleton State University

LUBBOCK — All eyes were on the highly anticipated Tarleton State-Texas Tech matchup in Lubbock, Texas on Sept 16, as the 2-0 Texans tried to send the 0-2 Red Raiders to their first 0-3 start in over 50 years.

But the Red Raiders took advantage of early Texan miscues to jump out to a hot start and never looked back, upending Tarleton State 41-3 at Jones AT&T Stadium Saturday night.

The Texans (2-1, 1-0 UAC) were facing their second ever Power Five conference opponent, a year after taking on TCU in Fort Worth, a Horned Frog team that eventually played in the College Football Playoff national championship game. The Red Raiders (1-2, 0-0 Big 12) had suffered close losses in 2023 before beating the Texans, dropping a road contest at Wyoming 35-33 in double overtime, then a 38-30 defeat in their home opener against No. 13 Oregon.

It was a sellout crowd of 56,200 in Lubbock for the Tarleton State-Texas Tech game Saturday, and the energy was palpable throughout all 60 minutes.



The 2-0 Texans tried to send the 0-2 Red Raiders to their first 0-3 start in over 50 years, but the Red Raiders took advantage of early Texan miscues to jump out to a hot start and never looked back.

The Texans made an impression right out of the gate, as Josh Griffis sacked Texas Tech QB Tyler Shough on their first play of the game. Tarleton forced a three-and-out on their first defensive series.

On the ensuing drive, however, Texan quarterback Victor Gabalis was

intercepted on 3rd and 7 by Malik Dunlap, his first of two interceptions in the game, and returned it 54 yards for a touchdown to put the Red Raiders ahead 7-0 about two-and-a-half minutes in.

After the Red Raiders forced a three-and-out on Tarleton's next possession, Texas Tech put together a 64-

yard scoring drive to go up 14-0 nearly seven minutes in on a Shough two-yard rush.

Again, the Red Raiders, and again struck on their ensuing drive, this time a 68-yard march capped off by a Shough 28-yard throw to Mason Tharp with 4:36 to play in the first. Texas Tech

led 21-0 after one.

The Texan defense limited the Red Raiders from there, allowing just a field goal through the rest of the half, as the teams entered the locker rooms with the score 24-0.

Tarleton got things moving more in the second half, but drives just stalled at the end. Texas Tech added a field goal and a 15-yard touchdown, Behren Morton to Myles Price, in the third quarter to lead 34-0. In the fourth, Morton found Jordan Brown from five yards out to go up 41-0. Tarleton kicker/punter Adrian Guzman made a 21-yard field goal with five minutes to play to avoid the shutout.

Gabalis completed 21-of-40 passes for 182 yards, with three interceptions on the night. Tarleton's third running back Caleb Lewis ended up leading the backs with 67 yards on 11 carries (6.1 yards per rush), with Derrel Kelley III adding 45 yards on 10 attempts, and Kayvon Britten 40 yards on nine attempts.

Benjamin Omayebu set a new career-high in receptions with 12, going for 76 yards. Jaden Smith had four receptions for 62 yards.

Smith had to leave the game in the fourth quarter, just a

couple of plays after making a spectacular one-handed grab. He was transported to the hospital for further evaluation on a neck injury, and as of this publication, he was undergoing testing but had full neurological function.

Defensively, the Texans had three sacks on the night, one each by Griffis, Kyle Taylor and Ahmir Crowder. Les Odimara had a late fourth quarter interception. Blake Smith had a tied-team-high seven tackles to go with a pass breakup. Patrick Jones also had seven tackles, six in solo fashion. Griffis added another tackle for loss to his sack to finish with 2.0 TFL.

Tarleton ended up with more passing yards than Tech, 197 to 195, but the Red Raiders had the ground game going, rushing for 221 (5.7 YPC) compared to the Texans' 145 (4.0 YPC).

Tarleton State now returns to non-Power Five conference play for the rest of the season, where they're 2-0 and had the most average points across all of the FCS (52.0 PPG) entering Week 3. The Texans will host Southwest Baptist on Family Weekend, with kickoff set for 6 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 23 at Memorial Stadium.

EDUCATION

Gatesville ★ Evant ★ Jonesboro ★ Oglesby



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Back row, standing, Dr. Barrett Pollard; front row, left to right, GJHS principal, Suzy Penrod, Denise Jones, Stephanie Streetman, Staci Pruitt, Shelby Fulton, and Morgan Harman; not pictured, Ericha Stephens.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

The original Care Closet located at the Gatesville Junior High became a little bit cramped on space, so a second Care Closet was created at the school.

CRSP to meet Sept. 28

Submitted Item

The first meeting for Coryell Retired School Personnel (CRSP) will be Thursday, Sept. 28 at Eastwood Baptist Church, 2518 E. Main Street, Gatesville. This meeting will be their traditional "indoor picnic," and members are asked to bring a favorite dish along with them - sandwiches, casseroles, salads, chips and dips, fruit or vegetable plates, desserts, and/or anything else you wish to bring. Coffee and tea will be provided.

Social time will begin at 5:30 p.m. During this time, members may pay dues to treasurer, Anne Byrom, if they have not yet done so. Dues are \$45 (\$35 goes to our state organization and \$10 goes to the local chapter). Members who have already paid their dues may pick up their 2023-2024 Chapter Yearbook. At 6 p.m., these activities will be followed by their program, meal, and a short business meeting.

The program will begin with a message from Dr. Barrett Pollard, GISD Superintendent.

Following Dr. Pollard, the group will be entertained by a newly formed group called "The Leading Ladies." The group is under the leadership of Rosemary Whittle and is accompanied by Charles Ament.

A short business meeting will follow the meal.

All members are invited to come. Retirees who have not yet joined CRSP are invited to attend the meeting.

GISD Staff Spotlight shines on GJHS staff members

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

At a recent meeting, the Gatesville Independent School District Board of Directors recently honored six staff members from Gatesville Junior High who are making a difference in the lives of students and bringing awareness to their needs with the creation of a "Care Closet."

Suzy Penrod, Principal of Gatesville Junior High School, had the following

to say about her staff members, "Staci Pruitt, Stephanie Streetman, Ericha Stephens, Morgan Harman, Shelby Fulton, and Denise Jones had a vision to establish a Care Closet on our campus that addresses the immediate clothing needs of the junior high students. Staci, Stephanie, Morgan, Shelby, Ericha, and Denise's dedication to our students embodies a deeper commitment that is more than just an extension

of the academic mission of the junior high."

According to GJHS counselor, Staci Pruitt, the Care Closet started out in one small room, but with the continued donation of clothing, shoes, and toiletry items, the closet had to expand. A reading room that was used for storage became the second room to be turned into a Care Closet.

Pruitt said that they are still in need of donations

- especially toiletry items, such as deodorant, toothpaste, body wash, shampoo, etc.

"They want to ensure every child has access to the dignity, confidence, and sense of belonging that comes with junior high students having appropriate attire. Their efforts reach beyond curriculum, touching on the broader perspective of holistic care and inclusivity. I wholeheartedly believe

these ladies deserve recognition for their work," Penrod said.

GISD Superintendent Dr. Barrett Pollard said, "We are very proud of these caring and considerate staff members and want to honor them."



Have you ever heard of the autumnal equinox? It's like a magical day when the sun gives a high-five to the Earth!

Imagine you have a special friend who lives up in the sky, and that's the sun. During the year, the sun moves around and some-

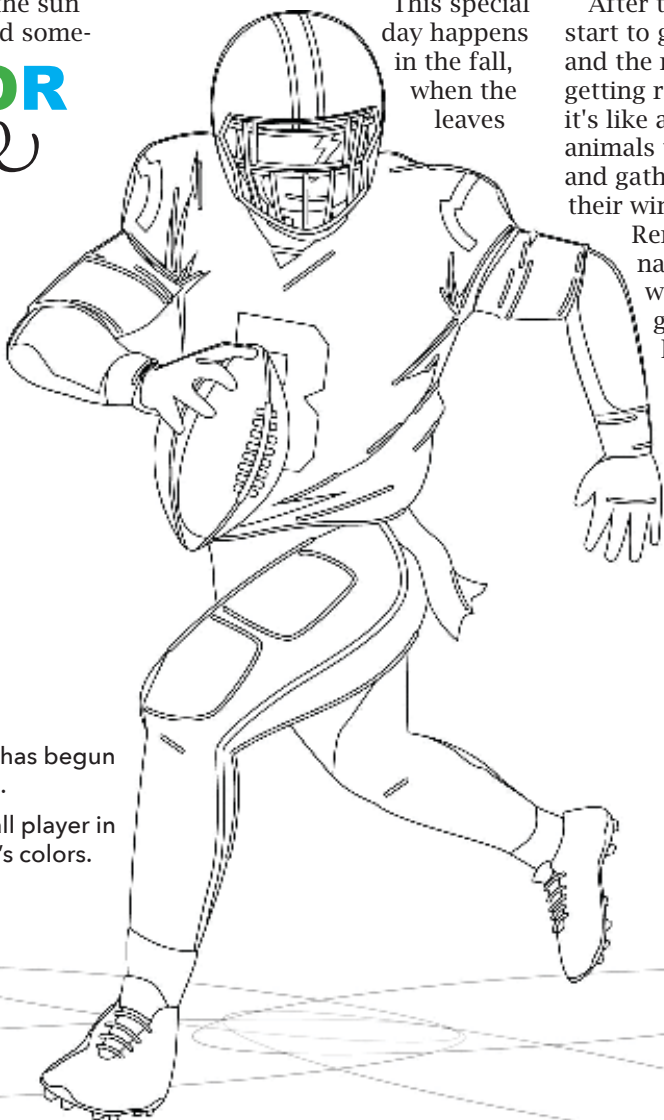
times it's closer to you, and sometimes it's farther away. But on the autumnal equinox, something super cool happens. The sun stands right in the middle, like a perfect balance!

This special day happens in the fall, when the leaves

on the trees turn all sorts of amazing colors. On the equinox, day and night are almost the same length. It's like a giant seesaw with day and night sharing equal time to play.

After the equinox, the days start to get a little shorter and the nights a bit longer, getting ready for winter. So, it's like a signal for all the animals to start getting cozy and gather some nuts for their winter nap.

Remember, the autumnal equinox is nature's way of saying, "Hey, get ready for pumpkin pies and warm sweaters!" It's a time of year full of wonders and changes.



FOOTBALL

Football season has begun and is in full-swing.

Color the football player in your favorite team's colors.

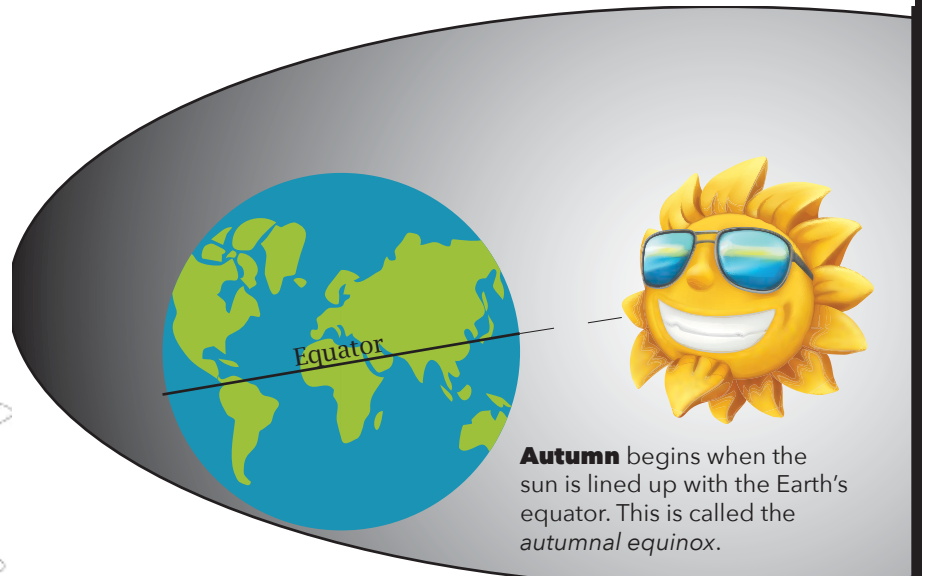
Autumn

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

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

Word Bank

- 1. cool
- 2. leaves
- 3. football
- 4. pumpkin
- 5. school
- 6. fall
- 7. colors
- 8. spice
- 9. halloween
- 10. basketball



Autumn begins when the sun is lined up with the Earth's equator. This is called the autumnal equinox.

Would you like to sponsor the Coryell Kids page?
 Call The Gatesville Messenger at 254-865-5212.



The Elk Call

BY DR. JENNIFER INGRAM
Evant ISD Superintendent

It's Homecoming Week at Evant ISD! There is just something about homecoming week in a small town that is so exciting. It is a time for our community to come together to show that Elk Pride, reunite with old friends, and relive cherished memories in a wonderfully unique, small-town fashion. Homecoming is always a time to rekindle those old friendships and reminisce about school days gone by. It is a time for Elk Alumni to share stories and updates on all that has happened in each other's lives over the years. It is time to be present with each other and honor our Evant Elk legacy.

This year, to celebrate homecoming, we have a full schedule of events that will include current students, as well as graduates and the entire Evant Community. Homecoming week kicks off with Evant Junior High Volleyball on Monday night followed by our Evant High School Lady Elk Volleyball Team on Tuesday

afternoon. Both games will take place in Evant. Our 11th ranked Lady Elks are quite an impressive group to watch so you won't want to miss catching them in action any chance you get.

On Wednesday, we will continue our homecoming celebrations with a Prayer Circle on the Square beginning at 6:15 p.m. Following the Prayer Circle, the Evant Volunteer Fire Department will lead our students through town for the ever-popular Honk Line. The Honk Line has historically included only student drivers. This year, however, we will have a trailer for high school athletes that don't yet drive, one for junior high athletes, and yet another for younger students. The Honk Line will run throughout the community and end up at the stadium for even more fun.

The Evant Athletic Booster Club will be serving a Community Dinner complete with BBQ sandwiches and all the fixings for \$8 a plate. They will begin serving at 6:30 p.m. at the stadium concession stand. Following the meal, our EHS Cheerleaders will bring it all together at 7 p.m. for the Community Pep Rally at the stadium. We have a couple of fun surprises in store, so everyone will want to be there to join the fun and festivities as we celebrate our Evant Elks.

Homecoming is not complete without the much-anticipated football game.

Following the EHS football game at Rochelle on Thursday night, our EHS Elks will host the Rochelle Hornets at 7:30 p.m. on Friday night at Elk Stadium. Our boys have been putting in hours of work and have shown so much heart on the field in recent weeks, so I could not be prouder of this team. Thus, in true small-town fashion, we expect that the stands will be filled with fans clad in the gold and black and cheering the famous chant... "EEEVA... AAANT... EVA... ANT... Evant, Evant, Evant..."

It is important to note that Homecoming is more than just a series of events as I have described, though it is a celebration of our community's history, the people, and the bonds that tie the two together. Without those that came before us, we would not be where we are today, so it is always important to honor our past, embrace our present, and look forward to our future. Great things are happening at Evant ISD, and our future is bright, but our history has undoubtedly played a significant role in developing the Elk Pride and Spirit that runs deep. I am so proud to be part of this school district, as well as this community and I look forward to seeing you all decked out in black and gold, cheering from the bleachers. Elk Strong...all day long!

Gatesville ISD spotlight shines on Alex Johnson

Staff Reports

On Sept. 18, Gatesville Independent School District Board of Trustees placed the Student Spotlight on Gatesville High School student Alex Johnson, who was recognized for his academic achievements and his hard work.

Johnson was honored last April for being named All Star Cast during the One Act Play competition. Recently, the College Board designated him with the National Rural and Small Town Award (NRSTA). Since the start of the school year, the high school has already recognized him twice with a "shout out."

GHS teacher, Jeannie Collins, noted that Alex is always available to help others. He is the Vice President of the junior class and is the Drum Major in the Fighting Hornet Band. He is highly ranked in his class and takes very tough, advanced courses. He also participates in Debate, Academic UIL, Student Council, and the PALS program.

Recently, Johnson began working at Taco Bell. GHS teacher, Bonnie Latham, commented about her recent trip to Taco Bell. "Alex diligently swept, cleaned off tables, and took orders.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Pictured left to right is Gatesville ISD superintendent, Dr. Barrett Polard, Alex Johnson, and Gatesville High School principal, Liz Shoaf.

This was at 8:15 in the evening, but Alex comes in every day ready for class. I am always so proud to see students working, but I also know how difficult it can be to juggle it all. Alex does so

with wisdom and time management skills a lot of adults don't even exemplify."

Latham continued, "I'm very proud of him and blessed to be his teacher."

SPORTS STORIES CONTINUED

HORNETS

FROM PAGE B1

game in the secondary, and Aguilar, arguably the most competitive athlete on campus, plays every down like his life depends on it.

"Our def staff does a great job challenging those guys each week," Hunter said. "Biggs is constantly getting better. He's getting comfortable. (Aguilar) is harder on himself than anyone else. I think he's starting to realize that he can just go play."

Joining the defensive standouts were Corey Burns, Amos Phillips, and the ever-present Lawson Mooney.

Burns had eight tackles and two sacks, while Phillips had 12 tackles. Mooney paced the defense with 16 tackles.

"Our guys are showing some athleticism and getting after the quarterback. Corey had two big sacks, and that was massive," Hunter said. "Another guy who's figuring it out quick is Amos. Every week he shows progress. He's quickly not becoming a sophomore."

Mooney - a four-year letterman and all-state safety - had a dramatic impact on both sides of the ball against Mexia. He had 16 tackles on the defensive side, but he also opened Gatesville's scoring when he

caught a 46-yard strike from Jacob Newkirk. In the fourth quarter, he had two carries at running back - one of which was a 21 yard tackle-breaking run on third down.

"He has a different gear than everyone else on the team. He hits that whole so hard," Hunter said.

Mooney also performed a bit of improv in disguising coverages against the Black Cats.

"Lawson would go show double coverage on his own then roll back into the middle of the field. He did that on his own. We didn't work that. That's just him being him. That's big-time football," Hunter said.

Perhaps lost in the mix of a stellar defensive night was another dominant night from Smith, Hall, and the Hornet running game. Gatesville picked up 261 yards rushing on 48 carries - good for 5.4 yards per rush.

Smith turned in his third 100-yard effort in four games. He has hit the century mark seven times in 15 varsity games, and his 160-yard performance was the second-highest single game total of his career. Against Mexia, LJ Hall added 43 yards rushing on eight carries.

"Mexia is a good team with some really good play-

ers. We ran the ball well. We manhandled them up front," Hunter said.

Newkirk was 4 for 6 passing for 108 yards and a touchdown. Mooney and Saunders had one catch apiece, and senior Scout Hall had two catches for 48 yards. Hall's first catch was a tip-toe effort on the sidelines that kept a Hornet scoring drive alive.

"That was a huge catch. He had two really huge catches," Hunter said.

The Hornets allowed just 49 passing yards against Mexia. Biggs and Adrian had two pass break-ups apiece. Aguilar had 11 tackles in the game, and Tommy Aaron

had seven tackles while Zavier Clater, Gage Ford, and Dutch Nielsen had six tackles apiece.

Gatesville traveled to Godley for a rematch of their shootout from 2022. Gatesville won that game 56-42 and will face a Wildcats team that was ranked in the Top 25 prior to the season. Hunter sees it as one more chance to improve.

"Winning isn't a habit yet for us," Hunter said. "There is a lot of football left to be played. We have to go get better."

Gatesville High School annual Hall of Fame Banquet slated Sept. 30



Staff Reports

The annual Gatesville High School Athletics Hall of Fame Banquet will be held on Saturday, Sept. 30 at the Gatesville Civic Center. Doors will open at 1 p.m.

Tickets will cost \$15 each and children ages five and under will get in free. Tickets are available online at https://gatesvilleisd.revtrak.net/HS/?fbclid=IwAR2jQYC4GpD5TT3oy1VW5vOg10JOhMJ-y_ml2KAXcfnG-pRNzbHcVvk7-eDqc#/f/hall-of-fame-. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door on the day of the event.

Lunch will be provided by the Gatesville High School Culinary Department at 1:30 p.m.

The Class of 2023 inductees include:
- Keith Clarke is a Gatesville High School boys' track standout and state-meet champion, who later ran collegiately for the University of Houston.

- Brian Edwards is a

Gatesville High School boys' basketball standout and later became an all-conference player at Hardin Simmons University. Edwards also served as the Gatesville High School boys basketball head coach from 2002 to 2010.

- Johnny Jones is a Gatesville High School boys' golf standout and state-tournament champion, who later played collegiately at the University of Houston, Temple Junior College, and North Texas State University.

- Gatesville High School girls track 1965 state champions were a seven-member squad who captured the University Interscholastic League's first-ever Texas Division A state title.

The Gatesville Civic Center is located at 301 Veteran's Memorial Loop.

For more information, contact Gatesville Independent School District at 254-865-7251.

Oglesby Jr. High B Team defeated by Jonesboro

BY TOM NORRELL
Contributing writer

The Oglesby Tiger Junior High Football B team lost to the Jonesboro's 7th grade team, 51-7, in Jonesboro. The young Tigers managed only 52 yards offense. The one bright spot for the Tigers was #7 Rancher Jeffcoat's 40-yard touchdown run for the only score for Oglesby. The young Tigers, which are mostly 6th graders, found it difficult to move the ball on the 7th grade Eagles.

Defensively for Tigers:

AJ Marfa had three solo tackles, one assist, and one

sack for a 3-yard loss.

Rancher Jeffcoat also had three solo tackles and one sack for an eight-yard loss.

Liam Ammerman had one solo tackle and two assists.

Brody Martinez had one solo tackle and one assist. Landry Riley had one solo tackle.

Hunter Insall made three assists.

Ashton Thompson, Aiden Aviles, Chayson Leverett, and Caden Bagley all saw playing time for the Tigers.



Oglesby Tigers compete in cross country race

Submitted item by
Coach Segundo

Oglesby High School boys ran in the junior varsity division. David Mejia placed second with a time of 19 minutes and 20 seconds and received a silver medal. Gunnar Riley placed 17th, and Ashton Hooker took 18th. Oglesby High School girls also competed in JV

division. Maddie Smith placed second with a time of 15:54. Allison Uribe placed fourth with a time of 16:30. Both young ladies received a medal.

Oglesby Junior High boys' division - Couper Wulfkuhle placed eighth overall with a time of 12:30 and received a medal. Holdyn Goff placed 41st with a time of 14:07.

Oglesby Junior High football teams defeat opponents

BY TOM NORRELL
Contributing Writer

The Oglesby Junior High Football A team continued their undefeated season at 3-0, defeating the Mullin Bulldogs at home Sep. 19, 39-0.

Offensively for the Tigers, Holdyn Goff, continued to lead all rushers with 120 yards, two touchdown runs of 25 and 40 yards, and two runs of 20 yards and 40 yards that ended on a fumble on the 3-yard line. Goff scored a pair of rushing Points After Touchdown and threw for one more to Evan Williamson for the conversion.

Right on the heels of Goff was Mason Marquez, who rushed for 111 yards, including two touchdown runs of 45 and 16 yards. Marquez also scored a PAT run. Blayze Fisher had 15 yards on two carries from quarterback position. Couper Wulfkuhle was 1 for 3 on PAT conversions.

Defensively for the Tigers:

Jayce Aaron led all tacklers with five solo tackles and two assists. Evan Williamson had three solo tackles, one assist, and one 35-yard pick 6 for a touchdown. Mason Marquez had two solo tackles, two assists, and one fumble recovery.

Couper Wulfkuhle had two solo tackles, one assist, and one interception. Holdyn Goff had one solo tackle, one assist, and one 30-yard pick 6 touchdown. Ranger Dalton had two solo tackles and two assists. Blayze Fisher had one solo tackle and one knocked down pass.

The Tiger's A team travels to Gustine next week to play the Gustine Tigers on Thursday, Sept. 28th, at 6 p.m.

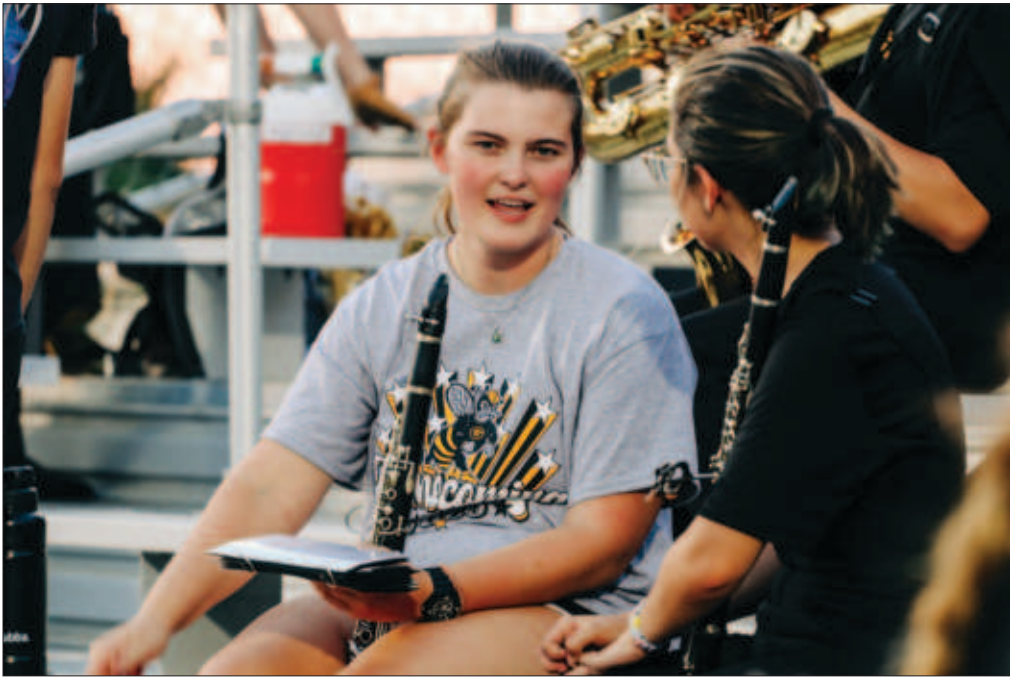
The Oglesby Tigers Junior High Football B team got back on the winning track Tuesday night at home with a 36-6 victory over the Gholson Junior High Wildcats. Liam Ammerman led all rushers with 90 yards rushing, one 25-yard touchdown run, and one 35-yard kickoff return for a touchdown.

Ammerman also scored 2 PATs. Brody Martinez had 59 yards rushing and two touchdown runs of 7 and 10 yards. AJ Marfa had one touchdown run of 15 yards. Hunter Insall had 31 yards rushing and a PAT. Ashton Thompson had 12 yards rushing and a PAT.

Defensively for the young Tigers:

Liam Ammerman led all tacklers with six solo tackles, four assists, one fumble recovery, and a tackle in the end zone for a 2-point safety. Hunter Insall had two solo tackles and one assist. Ranger Jeffcoat had two solo tackles and two fumble recoveries. Ashton Thompson had one solo tackle and an assist. AJ Marfa had four assists. Caden Bagley, Landry Riley, and Chayson Leverett all saw action tonight for the Tigers. The Tiger's B Team travels to Gustine to take on the Gustine Tigers B team Thursday, Sept. 28, at 5 p.m.

GHS HORNET ALUMNI BAND



COURTESY PHOTOS BY GLADYS WHITENBURG

Gatesville ISD and the Hornet Band Program recently held its first Alumni Band outreach. Alumni of the GHS Band program were invited to perform in the stands on homecoming night, Sept. 8th. Pictured above: top left, Ethan Arthur and Sue Vernon; top right, Colorguard alumni Mekenzie Grundy, Sydney Linthicum and Sydnie Robertson Sandell; bottom left, Lena Clawson and Rachel Holden; bottom right, Courtney Kinsey and Natalie Clawson.

SUPPORTING THOSE IN GATESVILLE

GHS supports locals through The Big Sting

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

Each year during a selected game, The Big Sting organization holds an event to honor those in the community who are battling cancer. Gatesville athletes wear jerseys with the names of those in the community who have lost their lives to cancer or who are currently battling cancer.

The Big Sting sold out of the jerseys this year, with 95 football jerseys sold for the cheerleaders, dazblers, and coaches to wear during the event.

“STING” stands for Supporting Those IN Gatesville,

which the organization has continued to do for over 11 years, while raising over \$400,000 to help over 250 people in need.

Velvet Jaynes, Gatesville Independent School District Athletic Secretary, played a major role in establishing this organization within Gatesville. “Coach Kyle Cooper and I started this in 2012,” Jaynes said. “He always said great ideas are stolen ideas, and Coach Cooper and I did a ton of research from another school that does this in Lowell, Michigan. They call theirs the Pink Arrow Project.” Jaynes and Cooper had

discussions with the organization to obtain their entire game plan on how to go about implementing the organization in Gatesville. “The Gatesville community completely embraced it,” Jaynes said.

To date, The Big Sting organization has four board members, and everything is done on a volunteer basis. The organization has several churches, businesses, and community members that make monthly donations to The Big Sting organization. “Our community has realized what a great charitable organization we are and see what we do to

help those battling cancer,” Jaynes said.

The proceeds are given back to members of the Gatesville community who have been diagnosed with cancer and are requesting help.

The Big Sting’s mission is to make an effort to provide immediate support for practical needs to members of the Gatesville community who are currently battling cancer.

For more information on The Big Sting, contact Velvet Jaynes by email at vjaynes@gatesvilleisd.org.



COURTESY PHOTO

Cancer survivor Bonnie Latham serving as honorary drum major at pep rally.



COURTESY PHOTO

A large gathering of the Hopson family attended the Big Sting in honor of family members.



COURTESY PHOTO

Cancer survivor and GISD school board member Calvin Ford (center) poses with Coach Jason Allman and Hornet LJ Hall.



COURTESY PHOTO

GHS cheerleaders show off their Big Sting uniforms honoring survivors and those who lost their lives to cancer.

BILL BRADLEY CROSS COUNTRY INVITATIONAL



COURTESY PHOTOS BY GLADYS WHITENBURG

The Bill Bradley Cross Country Invitational meet was held in Gatesville last weekend with multiple schools competing. Gatesville Varsity Boys - 1st place team; Justin Muegge (1st - 16:31), Abraham Almendariz (2nd), Cameron Thompson (4th), Asa Hardcastle (5th), Jack Armstrong (6th), Malachi Olvera (9th). Gatesville Varsity Girls - 2nd place team; Vania Martinez (1st - 11:59), Riley Higginbotham (9th). Six out of eight had a top ten finish, an almost perfect score. Gatesville JV Boys - 1st place team.

OGLESBY HOMECOMING



COURTESY PHOTOS BY GLADYS WHITENBURG

Oglesby ISD celebrated homecoming last weekend with a 54-8 win over Heritage Christian School. Matti Dixon was named Homecoming Queen.