



\$1.00

Local resident shares experience after return from Israel

BY KAYLEE DUSANG Staff Writer

After Vicki Kieltyka's best friend successfully underwent an operation to receive a pacemaker, Kieltyka promised that she would help her cross an item off her bucket list: A trip to Israel.

"She said, 'Vick, if I make it through this surgery, will you go with me to Israel? That's a bucket list thing for me," Kieltyka said. "And I said, 'sure, I'll go with you.'

Kieltyka and her friend arrived in Israel on Oct. 3 with a group from her friend's North Dakotabased church. The tour was supposed to take them to various historical and cultural sites in and around Jerusalem, Nazareth, and Bethlehem.

A few days later, on Saturday, Oct. 7, war broke out

in the region after Palestinian militant group, Hamas, launched a surprise attack in Gaza, killing thousands of innocent people.

On the day of the raid, Kieltyka's group had plans to visit the Dead Sea, Jericho, and the Jordan River.

"When we got to each of those places the roads were already blocked off by military personnel," she said. "So, we knew something was going on, but we had no idea what."

The group changed courses and traveled to Bethlehem that Saturday, which is less than 50 miles northeast of Gaza City. Kieltyka said her group lodged for three nights in Bethlehem, and that she mostly received news about the conflict from family members back home.

"The tour leader said there was just a small conflict," she said.

However, during the group's final night in Bethlehem on Monday, Kieltyka said she heard planes and helicopters flying over the city. The next morning, the tour leaders told the group that they needed to evacu-

"They said that it was getting worse, and they wanted to get us to safety," she said.

Due to flights being canceled out of the Tel Aviv airport, Kieltyka said they had to make a three-hour journey across the border to Amman, Jordan.

"Our bus driver was with us, and he said, 'I will get you out safely,' and he did," she said.

Kieltyka said they went through five military

PLEASE SEE **ISRAEL** | A2



Vicki Kieltyka (left) with her best friend, Julie Fennell, on their final stretch of flights before arriving

Texas Ramps Project of Gatesville continues to prosper

home.

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH Staff Writer

Over the past two years, Gatesville has been home to a quiet, yet prosperous organization known as the Texas Ramps Project. The organization is a 501(c)(3)nonprofit that provides free wheelchair ramps to lowincome older adults and people with disabilities.

Jim Hoge, the regional manager, brought the Texas Ramps Project to Gatesville in late 2021 in hopes to expand the organization. He has been volunteering with the organization since he started in 2018.

Hoge was residing in Waco when he first became aware of the organization.

"The founder of Texas Ramps came to our church in Waco and presented a program," Hoge said. He then became inter-

ested in the cause, started volunteering, and the rest was history. "Texas Ramps started out

in the Dallas area with a Kiwanis Club when one of the members knew of somebody in need of a ramp," Hoge said.

In 1985, members of the Kiwanis Club of Richardson were asked to build a wheelchair ramp for a friend. A meeting was held to decide how to build this

Eventually, the wheelchair ramp was built and a couple members in the club began researching and noticed that wheelchair ramps are in vast demand

throughout Texas. That initial effort resulted in the Dallas Ramp Project and development of a system to provide wheelchair ramps to the community.

Twenty years later, the Dallas Ramp Project had built over 1,400 wheelchair ramps, and it became obvious that the entire state could benefit from the volunteer organization. This resulted in a new statewide nonprofit called the Texas Ramp Project, which was established in June 2006. Founder and executive director was John Laine, who had served as volunteer director of the Dallas Ramp Project.

Since 2006, the Texas Ramp Project has expanded into more than 40 Texas

regions, including our hometown of Gatesville. Across the state of Texas over 25,000 ramps have been built to date.

According to Texas-Ramps.org, "More than 1.6 million Texas men, women, and children have a disability that may require a wheelchair or walker. Many of them are veterans. With Texas' poverty rate at 14.2 percent, it is common to see many people who need safe access to their homes but lack the means to obtain it."

Hoge is very passionate about building wheelchair ramps for those in need.

"The Texas population is aging on average pretty rapidly, and there is a huge number of folks in the state who have physical disabilities that do not allow them to easily ingress or egress a structure," Hoge said.

Hoge goes out and personally meets with each client to see how they want their wheelchair ramp to be placed and built, as well as building each module himself.

"We have a barn here, and I will build the modules there," Hoge said.

Before building the wheelchair ramps, Hoge needs to get approval from each client. He will then break everything down into modules and precut materials needed for the ramp.

"We actually carry the ramp out on the designated day and assemble it on site," Hoge said.

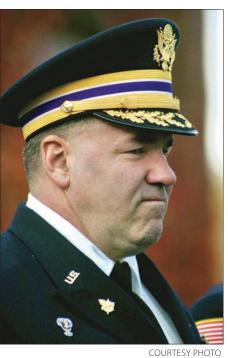
The ramps are built to

a one-inch drop per every running foot, which is the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standard. The organizations' ramps follow ADA guidelines of one foot of slope for every one inch of elevation. The ramps are built of pressuretreated lumber and are 48 inches wide, with a threeand-a-half-inch kickboard and handrails to prevent tipping.

"When I buy treated wood, it is wet as it can be and it comes straight from the treaters," Hoge said. "I will set out the wood on sawhorses at the barn, and it will sit out there for a week drying, and I do the same with plywood before I

PLEASE SEE RAMPS | A2

Lieutenant Colonel James Marques reflects on 37 years of service



LTC JAMES MARQUES

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH Staff Writer

Lieutenant Colonel James Margues served in the Army Reserve and National Guard where he dedicated 37 years of service. He joined the Army National Guard on May 23, 1983.

After hearing about the atrocities of the Iran Hostage Crisis that lasted from 1979 to 1981, Marques realized that he needed to help make a difference within the world.

When Marques joined, it was mainly to get his education paid for and to get an insight into how the Army really operates.

Marques knew that serving in the military wasn't going to be an easy career. There were many tests -

physical and mental. Before entering basic training, he needed to pass certain tests, one of which was a colors test. He explained how he failed the test and wasn't disappointed, because he knew he wouldn't quit try-

"I asked the guy in charge if I could retake the test, and he said that nobody had asked him that before, and he let me do it," Marques said. "It is all about perseverance and trying your very best.'

Marques rang in the new year during basic training, which was in Fort Dix, NJ. Later, he became an officer in the Army National Guard, and in 1992, he became a second Lieutenant.

In 2004, Marques re-

ceived a letter stating that he would be deployed to Iraq. When reading the letter, he thought to himself, "This is the moment I have been training my entire career for." He then became captain and was deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan for logistics and civil affairs. He worked on a division staff, battalions' staff, and brigade staff.

From 2004 to 2005, Marques served his country in Iraq at Camp Speicher. During the years 2007 to 2008, he was on Base Callahan. When deployed to Afghanistan, he served for his last time overseas from 2010 to 2011 on Base Bagram.

PLEASE SEE **MARQUES** | A4





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FROM PAGE A1

checkpoints before reaching Jordan.

"They closed the border right after our bus went across, and the buses behind us could not come on, so we know that there were more Americans waiting to

cross," she said.

After they reached the border, she said there were several people waiting to go through immigration, so they had to wait five hours in the heat with their luggage before they could officially cross into Jordan.

After catching four different flights, Kieltyka and her friend finally arrived home on Saturday, Oct. 14.

"I'm relieved we made it home safely, but I'm also praying for all those who were left over there, because there are still a lot there and some are held

hostage now," Kieltyka said. Amid the Israel-Hamas war, NBC News reports that

more than 5,700 people have been killed in Gaza, and more than 1.400 have been killed in Israel, including 33 Americans.

Kieltvka's family is relieved that she returned home safely and are grateful to the tour guides who helped safely evacuate the group.

"It is great having Mom back. It was very stressful while she was gone. But everyone is grateful she got home," said Kieltyka's son, Shane Kieltyka. "I'm not sure who her tour guide was, but he was definitely a blessing (getting) my mom and all those other women to safety."

Kieltyka's daughter, Heather Kieltyka, agrees. "We are very thankful that she was able to get home and thankful to her tour group," she said. "She might still be there if it wasn't for those people."



Above: Volunteers building a ramp for a local client. Below: Jim Hoge (front, second from right) with Texas Ram Project of Gatesville volunteers.



FROM PAGE A1

paint it."

Hoge uses porch paint to

pre-paint the wood. "We mix sand in with the paint so it's nonslip and paint the whole deck surface," Hoge said.

A wheelchair ramp can be an expensive proposition as well, even with material costs being lower than they have been. Overall, the wood will cost around \$24 to \$28 per foot for the way the organization builds from the materials.

"It can get awfully expensive very quickly," Hoge

The organization does not charge the client for the wheelchair ramp, neither for the materials or the labor provided.

"We have built ramps for people who have not been able to get out of their house for six to eight months, and it gives a certain amount of freedom," Hoge said.

Since Hoge has made his presence lnown with the organization in Gatesville, there have been seven wheelchair ramps built, along with a few existing ramp repairs.

"We did a couple of ramps earlier in the year, but when it got really hot, we decided to back off," Hoge said. "We are using volunteers, and through the summer they've got kids involved in sports, summer activities, and vacations, so it can be difficult to come and do things.

There are currently seven volunteers who make up the organization in Gatesville.

The volunteers are from the men's group at the Coryell Community Church. Kelly Adair, elder of the church, is the son-in-law of Hoge. Adair lets the organization use the church's trailer to haul its modules.

"They see this as a way to minister," Hoge said.

The Texas Ramp Project partners with local churches, civic organizations, businesses, military servicemen and women, students, youth groups, and many other groups, along with foundations and corporations.

"My intention is to talk to some of the churches and civic groups within Gatesville to develop a base location and future plans," Hoge said.

There is not a whole lot of labor for people; it is really just a few hours on a Saturday morning," Hoge said. "When we leave the site, people have accomplished something: They have built a ramp and can feel good about it."

Once on site the building of the ramp only takes up to three hours.

In most older houses and mobile homes, porches are lowered about three to four inches from the doorway.

"Particularly, if you are elderly and don't have a lot of strength, it is not uncommon for us to build a small ramp, along with the actual ramp itself, to help with getting out the front door," Hoge said.

To receive a wheelchair ramp, a healthcare provider will fill out the online referral form available on the Request A Ramp page of the TRP website. The form is

sent to the region's coordinator, who will then alert the regional manager.

"We ask the referring agency if there is a financial or physical need, and if they say yes, then we accept," Hoge said. "We typically try to do them in the order received.

The referral form is on the Texas Ramps Project website and can be filled out electronically and sent back through the website.

"We do not take a direct referral, and a person cannot call us and ask for a ramp," Hoge said. "The referrals are from medical professionals or social service agencies, like Meals on Wheels."

"I have had people tell me that it has been months since they've been out in their yard and in the sunshine," Hoge said. "Try to imagine if you were at home and for whatever reason you were unable to leave the home, you feel trapped in there and can't get off of the porch.

The organization is rated around 93 percent that every dollar goes into building ramps.

"We put the money where it is supposed to go and have been forever, which I think is really important," Hoge said. "The donations that the organization receive wind up being a ramp in someone's front yard."

To become a volunteer or to donate to the Texas Ramps Project, contact Jim Hoge at 254-749-3511.

For more information, visit www.TexasRamps.org.



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FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Anticipating the "Firsts" and Not Knowing the "Lasts"



BY SAM HOUSTON

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

s we ease through life, there are a vast number of "firsts," which we look forward to with keen anticipation. Right off the bat, there is the first time Junior rolls over, crawls, and then takes his first step.

This is followed by the first time to use the "potty" and speaking their first words. These are all occasions that indicate growth and a landmark in a child's development.

After infancy, the "firsts" keep coming. There is the first haircut, the first day

at school, the first time spending the night with a friend, the first sporting event, and, sometimes, the first spanking.

We celebrate the first day of being able to drive, the first day to vote, the first day to drink, and the first day we are living on our

Each one of these watershed moments takes us one step further on the ladder of life. It is an evolution: an indication of growth, maturing, and moving on to a better, fuller, well-rounded life.

Funny how we do not seem to think about the "lasts" until we are old and look back at our journey through life.

I do not specifically recall the last time my childhood friends and I played stickball, and I did not know that when we walked off the field that day, we would never play another game together.

I have no recollection of the last day my sisters and I all shared the same roof with our mother and father, and now understanding that day changed my relationship with all of them.

After many late nights of shooting the bull, horsing around, fighting, and partying, I never appreciated the night before graduation would be the last time my fraternity brothers and I would all be together.

I remember those times when my children were small and would get in bed with me on Sunday morning, and we would scuffle and play under the covers. When was the last time that happened?

The last time my grandfather and I were together, we both knew it was the last time. He was 95 and failing quickly. It was a very special meeting, because, deep in both our hearts, we both knew we would never see each other again in this life. We hugged and stared deep into each other's eves and said everything that could be said without the

necessity of speaking. It was joyful to know it was the "last," and we celebrated the event by accepting the reality of death and acknowledging what we meant to each other.

I do not know when my last day of work will be. nor do I know when the last time I will speak to my wife, converse with my children and grandchildren, nor simply enjoy a wonderful meal with good friends. I hope I can appreciate each event and value them for one day they will all

be gone. I will never know when that day will happen. Be thankful for what we have and what is to come. Life is a certain mystery.

Thought for the day: We have time machines in our brain. Sometimes, they take us back and they're called memories. Some take us forward - they're called dreams.

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

Sponsored by



Hudson deployed to the Middle East on the USS Eisenhower



COURTESY PHOTO

Operations Specialist Zachary T. Hudson (center)

BY DAVID SCOTT Staff Writer

On October 14, the Department of Defense issued a statement that the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower Carrier began moving to the Eastern Mediterranean as an effort to deter hostile actions against Israel following Hamas's attack on the country. The original plans were for the carrier to join

the USS Gerald Ford, which is currently located in the Eastern Mediterranean.

A week after deployment, while en route in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, the Department of Defense redirected the movement of the USS Eisenhower, issuing a statement that amid growing fears of a bigger war in the Middle East, "the ship is now headed to the Middle East instead.'

Among the more than 5,000 sailors aboard the USS Eisenhower is former graduate, Zach Hudson, who is in his ninth year of service with the U.S. Navy. Hudson joined the Navy in 2014 and underwent his basic training at the Great where he was trained to be

2012 Gatesville High School Lakes Naval Training Center an Operations Specialist.

His duties aboard the USS

Eisenhower will be working in the combat information center where he will be responsible for the organized collection, processing, display, evaluation, and rapid dissemination of pertinent tactical combat information.

Zach Hudson, the son of Roy and Julie Hudson of Gatesville, was first stationed in Yokosuka City, Japan. While there, he served on the USS John S. McCain and was aboard the ship when, in 2017, a crash off the Singapore Coast cost

the lives of ten sailors. Growing up, Hudson was aware of various family members who had served in the military - both of his grandfathers served in Vietnam, About joining the service, his mother, Julie Hudson, said, "I think he was actually inspired by his uncle. James 'Jimmy' Weaver, who was in the Navy and died in a car accident while stationed in Guam. He also wanted to travel and see the world."

When his mother was asked if she was surprised about the recent deployment, she said, "No, they have been preparing for this deployment all year, because it was planned for training. I was surprised that there was a change of plans, and they were sending him to the Mediterranean.'

Zach Hudson, age 29, grew up in Gatesville and has three sisters and a brother, Sarah, Allysen, Grace, and Brent, who all reside in Gatesville along with his parents.

While in high school, he was active in 4-H, tennis, and choir. "He has always had a great love for birds, the Peregrine Falcon being his favorite. He spent many hours drawing birds and reading in high school," Julie Hudson said.

Hudson is married to the former Kerri Oechsle of Gatesville. The couple currently call Virginia their home.

Concerning his deployment, his mother stated, "We want to show him support as he represents his country. He was really excited about this deploy-

Proposition A explained

DR. BARRETT POLLARD GISD Superintendent

Despite having up to \$5.5 billion earmarked for public education, the 88th legislative session in Texas allocated next to no additional dollars to public schools. In addition, the federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) money (which totaled \$3,815,791 for GISD) that was allocated from 2021 to 2024 has also ended.

Now, GISD is set to see the largest school tax rate compression ever totaling 19 cents. The school is asking voters on Tuesday, Nov. 7 to give three of those cents (golden pennies) back to the district for a net decrease of 16 cents for taxpayers. Taxpayers will see other benefits with the homestead exemption up for vote to be increased from \$40,000 to \$100,000.

The tax rate (even with

the district getting the three pennies) will effectively be decreased by 10.85% and will decrease taxes for maintenance and operations on a \$100,000 home by approximately \$118.35.

For every one dollar that goes to GISD from local taxpayers, the state will give three dollars. In all, the three pennies equate to \$1,344,097 in additional funding each year from now on. If it passes, the district will use this money for many different items in year one. Examples include:

- · A one-time December bonus for all full-time employees
- · New intercom systems at three of the campuses (safety concern)
- · Add new, or replace broken air conditioning on school buses
- Repair or replace HVAC systems at the campuses

- · Add new or replace Chromebooks for general education and special edu-
- cation students · Band instruments
- · Maintenance vehicles · The special education
- department

· Professional development Get portable restrooms by the baseball field func-

In year two, the money would go toward pay raises (especially for those positions below the TASB average), not losing positions through attrition,

and gaining back some

positions the district lost through attrition. If you are for this proposition, you would vote for it. The wording below is exactly how it should read

on the ballot on Nov. 7.

PROPOSITION A Ratifying the ad valorem tax rate of \$0.8992 per \$100 valuation in the Gatesville Independent



COURTESY PHOTO

Gatesville ISD Superintendent Dr. Barrett Pollard

School District for the current year, a rate that is lower than last year, but will allow the district to receive state aid and local tax revenue it otherwise would not have received and a rate that will result in an increase of 0% in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the District for the current year as compared to the preceding year, which is an additional \$0.

General Manager





COURTESY PHOTO BY BRAD HUNT

Say hello to our neighbor,

Brad Hunt! Brad Hunt is the Chief of Police at the Gatesville Police Department. He has been with the Gatesville PD for about nine months. He says that his favorite part about

his job is having the chance to build something great on the solid foundation laid by his predecessor. "I've truly enjoyed working with and for our officers, dispatchers, animal control, and code enforcement to bring the Gatesville Police Department toward our goals of improved service and organizational pride," Hunt said. "There are great people here, and we have some rare opportunities to achieve accredited status for our department, mentor continuing leadership within our ranks, host a safe and happy Eclipse 2024 event, and

work toward modernizing our building facilities." He has lived in Gatesville for the same amount of time he has been serving as police chief and enjoys being able to shop and eat locally, as well as seeing friendly people everywhere he goes.

Brad reads The Gatesville Messenger, and says, "It's nice to have a local paper that doesn't cater to a negative view on society, and I appreciate the efforts to sup-

port our community while keeping us informed."

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



Publisher **SAM HOUSTON**

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JANICE VELASQUEZ

DEADLINES:

Submit all news articles, classifieds and display advertising by Oam Tuesday for the Saturday issue. Articles about events that have

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

must meet our standards and

omission, typographical error or any

The Gatesville Messenger

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.

Meals on Wheels in need of volunteer drivers

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH Staff Writer

Meals on Wheels is currently in need of local volunteer drivers. Meals on Wheels is a federally-funded program for older adults who are homebound, unable to prepare a meal, don't drive and have no one to

cook for them.

The Meals on Wheels program provides home-delivered nutritious meals that provide seniors in the community with support, which allows them to remain living in their own homes. This typically involves delivering

a nutritious meal, a friendly visit, or a quick safety check.

The volunteers are expected to deliver a meal while generally checking in with the clients to make sure they are doing well through a friendly greeting or small talk

Gatesville needs volunteer drivers Monday through Friday with meals picked up at the Senior Center. Drivers are needed for four different routes. There are four different routes in Gatesville, and each Wednesday a route to Hamilton is taken.

Anywhere from 10 to 14 clients are seen each day per route.

At the end of last year, the Meals on Wheels program stopped reimbursing volunteers for their mileage driven. Vehicles need to be provided by the volunteers as wel

To volunteer, contact the Senior Center Director Pam Rudolph at 254-865-8234.

The Gatesville Senior Center is located at 208 North Lutterloh Ave. in Gatesville.



Jennifer Considine (left) and Tasha McGehee are bringing a bakery and coffee shop to Gatesville.

Little House Bakery and Coffee Saloon to open bakery, coffee shop

BY KAYLEE DUSANGStaff Writer

A locally-owned bakery and coffee shop serving breakfast and lunch options will soon open in Gatesville, another win for the city's small, local businesses.

The Coffee Saloon and Little House Bakery, formerly known as Little House Cakes, will open a joint bakery at 1306 E. Main Street across from the Gatesville HEB. The establishment will provide coffee from Coffee Saloon, pastries, and to-go food items such as breakfast sandwiches, soups, salads, and bagels.

"We came together hoping that we could bring more opportunity into Gatesville, something that nobody has had here before," said Tasha McGehee, owner of Little House Bakery. "Somewhere they can come in and

grab something that they can't get anywhere else in

This will be the first brick and mortar location for the two businesses. Little House Cakes opened in 2020 and has been operating out of McGehee's house, while Coffee Saloon has operated out of a concession trailer since launching in 2022.

"We are super excited to see where it goes, and we hope that the community is excited, and that it's only up from here," said Jennifer Considine, owner of Coffee Saloon.

After officially announcing it on their Facebook page last week, members of the community were quick to respond with their support.

"I've said it over and over that is just what the small town needs," wrote one user on Coffee Saloon's Facebook page.

While it is not set in stone yet, McGehee and Considine hope to officially open the bakery by Halloween.

"We hope to enhance the community as well and give back and, hopefully, do as much for the community as they have done for both of

us, so far," Considine said.

McGehee said the new
hours are subject to change,
but as of right now they
plan to be open from 6:30
a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday
through Saturday.

"Coffee and pastries in the morning are just the perfect marriage," McGehee said. "Hopefully, we can bring something new to the community that everyone will enjoy."

Corona announces candidacy

Leo Corona has authorized The Gatesville Messager to announce his candidacy for the office of City Council Ward 1, Place 1, in the upcoming Oct. 23 through Nov. 7 election.

I am currently retired from the United States Army with over 20 years of experience in personnel management and career development, where I demonstrated the ability to train and lead others to perform productively. I am comfortable in fast-paced, high-stress environments requiring attention to detail, and I have the ability to meet deadlines within changing priorities.

My wife, Dana Corona, and I have made Gatesville our home among a great community of hard-working volunteers and professional emergency service departments, along with educators. This town has several non-profit organizations that complement the city of Gatesville.

I decided to announce my candidacy for the office of City Council Ward 1, Place 1, to be your voice at the City Council while ensuring that local government maintains infrastructure and maintains a budget to safeguard our tax dollars.

My goal is to bring

transparency, so you are informed and see the good work that city employees are doing for you. I will address your concerns diligently, serve as a role model for the



COURTESY PHOT

Leo Corona

youth of our community, and continue to engage with the community. I encourage everyone to be involved in the community.

Our town deserves what is best for the people and representation they can count on.

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 Monday, Nov. 6, 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.

On Monday, Nov. 6, the program will focus on mindful working and thought surfing. Benefits of the program include:

Learning about the benefits of mindfulnessbased 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.

Hearts Making Hearts Warmer second annual coat drive

Staff Reports

This year Pennoli Bed and Breakfast will join Righteous Roots to bring the community its second annual Hearts Making Hearts Wamer coat drive.

Hearts Making Hearts Warmer will be held from Saturday, Oct. 28 through Thursday, Nov. 30. Coats and jackets are to be dropped off at Pennoli Bed and Breakfast located at 1009 E. Main Street in Gatesville or Righteous Roots located at 904 E. Leon St. in Gatesville.

Drop-off times include Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Donations are for children and adults, and clothing must be in good condition.

There will be a giveaway event held in December after the coat drive is finished.

MARQUES FROM PAGE A1

One of Marques' most memorable deployments was during 2008 in Al Shaab in Baghdad, Iraq. He was on the humanitarian mission as the civil team leader. There were many relationships made by handing out children's books and crayons, giving

financial support to people who had damaged homes caused by Americans, and checking on families on a regular basis.

As memories were made, friendships were as well. Marques keeps in touch with people back from Al Shaab to this very day.

The mission influenced Marques' perspective on the Iraqi people, and he came to realize that they are the same as Americans, trying to make a living to support their families.

"They were really just trying to live their lives, and we came in and disturbed that," Marques said.

Marques has been on various missions, which have led him to what he is doing today.

Following retirement, Marques continued to serve in the military as a contractor. Today, he is a Simulations Officer at Fort Cavazos, while still going overseas to places like England.

"I support staff on their decision-making and help with simulated war fighters," Marques said.

While serving overseas, he also contributes his time to local schools such as Gatesville Independent School District. He will give speeches, demonstrations, and answer questions for students. Awards are a big part of what he does, because he feels that it is important for people to feel appreciated. Marques said, "Who wouldn't want to get an award?"

Marques has also spoken in his hometown of Somerville, MA and held many conferences over zoom calls during the rise of COVID-19.

As Marques reflects on his past military days, he has no regrets, only positive effects from his time serving

"It is an honor to serve your nation and to be part of something that is bigger than yourself," Marques said.

Whatever happened to...

20 YEARS AGO (2003)

Girl Scouts began their annual nut sale.

Mound Volunteer Fire Department held their Fifth Annual Haunted House. Work continued on South

23rd Street between Business 36 and Bridge Street. The Gatesville Church of Christ began an expansion

project to add additional classrooms and space to the fellowship hall. Jennifer Botkin was revealed as the 2003 Gatesville High School Homecoming Queen.

30 YEARS AGO (1993)

Charlie's Place advertised their baby registry. Senior Julie Dixon was crowned as the 1993 Gates-

ville Band Sweetheart.
Gatesville residents
began preparing for the annual Food for Families food

drive. Jimmy Wood decided to seek re-election as Precinct 4 Justice of the Peace. Sonic was selling an 89cent burger.

40 YEARS AGO (1983)

Mike Blanchard, a member of the Gatesville High School faculty and former city councilman, was elected president of the Gatesville Country Club.

Gatesville's city cemetery had an undetermined number of plots that had been sold over the years and had no records of lot sales.

no records of lot sales.
Jennifer Dyer was named
1983's Gatesville Band
Sweetheart.

Gatesville High School senior and star quarterback Roger Miller was named Youth of the Month by the local Exchange Club.

Gatesville Hornets beat the Groesbeck Goats 14-0 at that Friday night's varsity football game.

50 YEARS AGO (1973)

Coryell County Sheriff's Department put its Bloodhound program into operation. The hounds had already been used to track down reform school runaways.

An increased accident rate had local law officers stepping up enforcement of

all city traffic laws. Mrs. R.W. Ward, of Gatesville, was surprised to learn her brother-in-law, Leon Javorski, had been appointed the new Watergate prosecutor. Gatesville High School

senior Debbie Magee was chosen by the drill team as Stingette of the Week.

Leaird's celebrated 75 years in business with a 75th Anniversary Sale.

COUNTYWIDE NEWS

Coryell County briefly lifts burn ban after vote to extend it at commissioners court

BY KAYLEE DUSANG Staff Writer

Shortly after voting on a new order to extend the ban on outdoor burning at commissioners' court on Tuesday, Coryell County commissioners issued a temporary four-day lift of the restrictions.

On Wednesday, Commissioner Kyle Matthews and the Gatesville Volunteer Fire Department announced on their Facebook pages that the burn ban will be lifted beginning on Thursday, Oct. 26 at 7 a.m. and

ending on Sunday Oct. 30 at those conditions don't

Despite the lift, County Judge Roger Miller said the countywide burn ban will go back into effect on Sunday evening. He said during the commissioners' court meeting that he is coordinating with local fire departments for the temporary lift of the ban.

"If the weather conditions change to such a degree that there is no longer a public safety hazard, then I have the authority to lift the burn ban provided that

change significantly enough that there is still a public safety hazard," Miller said.

Miller estimates that about 25% of the county is still experiencing dry condi-

While parts of Coryell County have received inches of rainfall over the past week, Gatesville Fire Chief Billy Vaden said some areas such as Copperas Cove and Evant have received less rain. Burn bans are issued across the county for public safety and to avoid

the spread of a damaging wildfire if one occurs.

"Just because it has rained and it is wet doesn't mean that there are not any dead grass piles underneath the green grass," Vaden

Commissioner Ryan Basham recommended that the court lift the burn ban this week following recent heavy rainfall.

"In my area last night, I talked to several people, and [we got] anywhere from an inch to a quarter of an inch," Basham said. "I don't

know if maybe this weekend we can temporarily lift

County Attorney Brandon Belt also voiced his concern to the court about extending the burn ban. He said current rain conditions provide an opportunity for ranchers and farmers who need to do outdoor burnings on their property.

"I have brush piles that need to be burned," Belt said. "It's raining, the ground is wet, and there's a chance of rain the rest of the week."

Because of severe drought conditions and the threat of wildfires, Coryell County has remained under a burn ban since July.

According to a map by Texas A&M Forest Services, nearby counties including Bell, Hamilton, and Lampasas are still under burn bans.

Last year, the commissioners court voted to lift the burn ban in early November.

Turnersville Cemetery to participate in Wreaths Across America

Submitted Item

Turnersville Community Cemetery announces it will become an official location for the 2023 National Wreaths Across America

The cemetery will join the more than 3,700 participating locations across the country to Remember, Honor, and Teach on Saturday, Dec. 16, 2023.

National nonprofit Wreaths Across America (WAA) announced that Turnersville Community Cemetery in Turnersville will be joining in the mission to "Remember, Honor, Teach" as an official location for 2023. This is the first year that the cemetery will participate in this national program.

Wreaths Across America started as a simple gesture

of thanks that has grown into a national, year-long movement of dedicated volunteers and communities coming together to not only remember the nation's fallen and honor their service, but to also teach the next generation about the value of freedom. This year, there will be more than 3,700 participating locations placing veterans' wreaths on National Wreaths Across America Day - Saturday, Dec. 16. 2023 - with more than two million volunteers coming together.

The goal for Turnersville Community Cemetery is to raise enough funds to place 250 sponsored veterans' wreaths on the headstones of all the local heroes laid to rest there, to ensure that the individuals who served to protect the freedoms of our country are never

forgotten, and to bring the community together in patriotic commemoration.

"We are forever grateful for the thousands of supporters who dedicate their time, energy, and resources to fulfilling our mission all year long," said Karen Worcester, executive director of Wreaths Across America. "These individuals and their communities know the value of remembering the fallen, honoring those who currently serve, and teaching the next generation about the sacrifices made for our freedom every day. Because of their continued support, Wreaths Across America continues to grow and touch new people each year."

Those interested in volunteering for Wreaths Across America, or sponsoring a wreath for Turnersville

Community Cemetery, are invited to visit www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/TX1302 to learn more. National Wreaths Across America Day is a free community event open to all people.

About Wreaths Across America

Wreaths Across America is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded to continue and expand the annual wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery begun by Maine businessman Morrill Worcester in 1992. The organization's mission - Remember, Honor, Teach

- is carried out in part each year by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies in December at Arlington, as well as at thousands of veterans' cemeteries and other locations in all 50 states and beyond.

All Wreaths Across America Day events are non-political/religious events, open to all people. For more information, to

donate, or to sign up to volunteer, please visit www. WreathsAcrossAmerica.org/ TXTVCC.



Turnersville VFD presents National Night Out Oct. 28

Staff Reports

The Turnersville Volunteer Fire Department will hold its National Night Out on Saturday, Oct. 28 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The event is completely free and is open to the bounce house, bingo, goody bags for kids, hamburgers, hot dogs, and more.

Coryell Health Emergency Medical Services (EMS), the Texas A&M Forest Service, and the Corvell County Sheriff's Office will attend

trucks, an ambulance, an air medical helicopter, and law enforcement vehicles.

National Night Out will be located at 8200 FM 182 in Gatesville.

Oglesby presents communitywide fall garage sale Oct. 28

Staff Reports

The town of Oglesby will hold a community-wide fall garage sale on Saturday, Oct. 28 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., unless otherwise

The sale will be held at individual houses and within the Oglesby Community Center. A garage sale map munity center on the morning of the sale.

The Oglesby Community Center is located at 118

orks Gatesville PRESENTED BY: Join us for our annual Corks & Kegs festival! Enjoy Gatesville's historical downtown courthouse for local food, shopping, winery and breweries! 620 E Main Street, Gatesville, TX 76528 SAIT, NOV 411111 CPM-10PM PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS NOW! MUST BE 21+ BRING ID TO EVENT Each ticket will get you a custom wine cup, with a wrist band for 5 wine tastings!

HONORARY FIREFIGHTERS



The Evant Volunteer Fire Department had volunteer firefighters travel to Evant Independent School District to give demonstrations on fire safety, utilizing the water hose, and using the fire truck itself. Each of the students got a fire hat to take home and got to take turns using the fire hose with the help

Cast your vote for 2023 Citizen of the Year!

The winner will be recognized at the annual Chamber Banquet on January 20, 2024.

Vote at www.gatesvillechamber.com



2307 HWY. 36 SOUTH, GATESVILLE, TX 76528 254-865-2617

Levita VFD to host BBQ Nov. 3 & 4

Staff Reports

The Levita Volunteer Fire Department will hold a barbeque fundraiser and gun raffle on Nov. 3 and 4. The event will be held at Ideal Self Storage, 1611 E. Main St. in Gatesville, from 7 a.m. until all the food is sold out.

The gun raffle will cost \$20 a ticket, with only 200 tickets available. The raffle will feature a Ruger 450 Bushmaster. Tickets can be purchased on the day of the event or by contacting Jason Shepard at 254-223-2126.

MOUND NEWS

Kelli Ann McPherson packpacks in Oregon with sister, friend



BY BARBARA HOPSON

Mound News Correspondent

elli Ann McPherson, of Mound, went backpacking in Oregon with her sisterin-law Suzanne McPherson and family friend, Megan Nightingale. The trio circumnavigated Mt. Hood using the Timberline Trail over the course of four days and three nights.

Sherry Hopson celebrated her birthday with a trip this vear and spent eight days visiting with her daughter, Lanelle Lemons. They spent time in Carrizozo, Ruidoso, and Cloudcroft. The Lodge at Cloudcroft was quite an adventure, and the meals were awesome.

Mr. Noah Truett Hopson's fire prevention poster won first in the state of Texas for the Kindergarten division in 2022. He received his trophy at the Gatesville Fire Station during their Open House Thursday evening. Noah is the greatnephew of Barbara Hopson.

Katie Hopson performed the National Anthem prior

to the Varsity Volleyball game last Friday evening in Gatesville.

Holly Jones, Opal Smith, Cindi McDonald, Karen George, Linda Barnett, and Sue Jones attended Joyce Meyers Conference over the weekend.

Bobby and Nelda Carothers traveled to Arlington to watch the Texas Rangers play games three, four and five against the Houston Astros. On Friday, Game 5 of the series, Betty Wills joined us.

Kinsley and Anna McPherson participated in the Hill Country Youth Commercial Heifer Show and sale. They did a great job and won

the following: Kinsley-4th overall Senior, 1st place Record book, 5th place on pen of Cattle, 6th place on an Interview. Anna-Highest selling pen of Cattle.

Delecia Reynolds visited Tuesday afternoon with Barbara Hopson.

Summer, Lillian, and Max McClellan of Fort Worth spent last weekend with Frank and Susie Hopson. While here they visited with their relatives in Gatesville and Mound.

Those who had birthdays in this month were Elizabeth McCorkle, Torrey Boyd, Carol Jones, Amie Gowen, Dylan Cobb, Olivia Long, Chrissy Franks, Kathryn

Warren, Amanda Long, Allie McPherson, Chelsea Ayers, Daniel Wood, Sherry Hopson, Desiree Dixon, Richard Mitchell, Bailey Barnard, Grace Tennison, Sherrie Sheets, Lizzi Howell, Debbie Dyer, Rose McCorkle, Kathi Taylor, Macy Winters, Natasha Dahl, Brooke Dixon, Raymie Moore, Frank Hopson, Nathaniel Eberlein, Chase McGhee, Henry Brim, Brooke Dixon, Frank Hopson, and Phillip Winters.

Barbara's Notes: It's time to set your clocks back one hour on Sunday, Nov. 5, 2023, at 2 a.m., or set them Saturday evening, Nov. 4. Happy Halloween every-

RehabLiving at the Meadows asking for donations of various Christmas lights for project

Staff Reports

RehabLiving at the Meadows wants to make Christmas special for their residents this year by participating in a Christmas project that will involve various Christmas lights to be donated.

The project will consist of filling the entire courtyard with lots of Christmas lights and outdoor decorations for residents,

families, and staff to enjoy throughout the season.

Items to be donated include electric and solar outdoor string or stake lights, standing yard décor, inflatables, wreaths, indoor décor, Christmas trees, ornaments, garland with or without lights, and indoor Christmas village pieces with accessories.

RehabLiving at the Meadows would appreciate all donations to be in good working condition with all parts accessible.

Donations are to be dropped off by Wednesday, Nov. 15, at the RehabLiving at the Meadows facility. For more information, contact 254-404-2500.

The RehabLiving at the Meadows is located at 110 Chicktown Road in Gates-



Pictured at the Feed Mill are members of the Men's Prayer Group being instructed how to use the QR code on their phones. Left to right, John Tombaugh, Sam Rhudy, Ed Leach, Tom Creek, and Charles

Morris Federation to meet Nov. 4 at the Coryell Museum

Staff Reports

The next meeting of the Morris Federation will be on Saturday, Nov. 4, at 10 a.m., in the James Coryell Room at the Corvell County Museum and Historical Center.

dues to Sue Vernon, our treasurer. Yearbooks for 2023-2024 may also be picked up from Marsha

The program entitled "Making Lace," will be presented by Susan Merritt

in lace-making back in the '90s, when t-shirts with there was a mall nearby that had several specialty shops, which required that vendors sell only items that were at least 75% handmade. Sue became interested in lace-making, and a lady who worked

there started teaching her. She enrolled in classes and learned new styles of lacemaking. There are different characterized by the region from which they originate. will bring some samples of various laces and some items, such as pillows, on which the lace is used.

of Aquilla, Texas. She says that she has been making lace for 30 years, mostly just because she enjoys it. She became interested kinds of lace, which are Battenburg lace on the tops Her personal preference were popular. At that time, became "Buckspoint," a Members may still pay she lived in Dallas where style from England. She



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Gatesville Salvation Army Bell Ringer Campaign kicks off

Submitted Item

The local Gatesville Salvation Army Unit is kicking off their Bell Ringer campaign.



Use the QR code or URL address https://signup. com/go/GxatyWD to go online to sign-up.

"It's easy. Even a grinch can register and ring the bell," says Joyce Talbott.

You will receive an email reminder of your time to

Saturday, Oct. 21, 2023 lody & Robin Thomas (254)223-2958 No. 1 Steers

275-335

265-325

94-106

70-85

Under 300 lb.

High Yielding

Low Yielding

300-400 lb.

400-500 lb. 260-310 500-600 lb. 240-280 600-700 lb. 225-255 700-800 lb. 210-235 No. 1 Heifers under 300 lb. 250-310 260-315 300-400 lb. 400-500 lb. 245-265 500-600 lb. 220-240 600-700 lb. 195-235 700-800 lb. 185-215 Slaughter Cows

90-97 Fats Thin & Shelly 45-65 Packer Bulls (1250-2075 lb.) Yield Grade 1&2 95-118

Cow & Calf Pairs Young Choice 1850-2350 Young Fair 1500-1850

Aged Pairs Split & weighed Young Pregnancy Test Stocker Replacement Cow 1150-2000 Number of Head 659

> Hwy. 36, Gatesville (254) 865-9121

"It's easy. Even a grinch can register and ring the bell!"

ring. You will be able to alter, or cancel your time, if your plans change. Starting Nov. 24 and

ending on Dec. 23, the Red Kettles will be stationed at both entrances of Wal Mart, 2805 S. State Highway 36, Gatesville, on Monday through Saturday from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m., 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., and 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

All donations made in Gatesville stay here, going to Coryell County residents (excluding Copperas Cove and prisons). Volunteer time equals donations, which go to meeting the needs of struggling families and individuals in Coryell County. No funds donated here go to the Texas Salvation Army, and we do not receive funding from that supervising body. In 2022, we fell short on filling volunteer bell ringing slots, and it has

been reflected in limited funds to disburse.

Taking time to volunteer is very rewarding and, like the Grinch, you may find your heart grows three sizes as you ring the bell It really is easy, as that is all you have to do: Register, Show Up, Ring the Bell, say, "Merry Christmas and Thank you," and let the Red Kettle do the work of collecting funds for those in need.

Anyone, at any time, can donate to our local Salvation Army fund (which is separate from the Texas Salvation Army). Individual or corporate contributions that are made as individual or monthly donations can be addressed to: Gatesville Salvation Army, P. O. Box 213, Gatesville, TX 76528.

The Salvation Army addresses Financial Emergencies of Coryell County residents by providing assistance for Utilities and other needs. Applications and Interviews are given at the Senior Citizen Center on Lutterloh on Mondays (and Wednesdays) from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.





OBITUARIES

Aerial Davis

May 6, 1991 - Oct. 18, 2023

Aerial Davis, age 32, of Gatesville, passed away on Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2023. Memorial services will be held at 12 p.m. on Satur-

day, Oct. 28, at Ireland

Church of Christ. Aerial Lynn Davis was born on May 6, 1991, to Melinda Rogers of Evant. She grew up and attended school in Evant. She enjoyed spending time with family and friends, and more than anything, loved being with her two children, Madison and Bentley, as they were the love of

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Joyce and James Hopkins.

her life.



She is survived by her mother, Melinda Rogers; brother, Michael Rogers; and her children, Madison and Bentley Davis.

Bennie Hansson March 7, 1933 - Oct. 18, 2023

Bennie Hansson, age 90,

of Gatesville, passed away on Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2023.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 23, at Scott's Funeral Home with Pastor Matt Dossey officiating. Interment followed at Jonesboro Cemetery.

Bennie Belle Smith Hansson was born March 7, 1933, in Jonesboro, to the late Lucile Pittman and Homer Avent Smith. Her primary story about her very early life was that the house where she was born was mostly a log house without running water or electricity. Needless to say, this did not stop her from exceeding in life. She enjoyed family life, including being with her younger brothers "Bud" and Jerry. She grew up in Jonesboro and graduated from Jonesboro Public School, where she excelled in sports, math, and sciences. She graduated as valedictorian of her class at the age of 17 in 1950.

In the fall of 1950, Bennie enrolled in Baylor University in Waco, majoring in science and home economics. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in home economics in May 1953. While this was a major achievement, her greatest pleasure that year was the acquisition of a brand new 1953 black Chevrolet

She interviewed and was hired to teach home economics at Grandfalls Independent School District, where she taught for several years. Subsequently, she taught multiple subjects in Bastrop, San Antonio, Dallas, and Grand Prairie. While she taught in Bastrop, she met the love of her life, William Free Hansson. They were married in the Methodist Church in Jonesboro on July 7, 1956.

During their years in San Antonio, the Hanssons had two wonderful children, Lucile Ann and Shawn Hilding. When Bill Hansson was transferred to Waco, the



family moved to Gatesville. Bennie taught reading at Gatesville ISD until she accepted a position as the Administrative Assistant to the Director of the Reading Program at the Gatesville State School for Boys. She later returned to Gatesville ISD, where she taught reading until she retired in 1995. She was recognized with the Hornet Legend Certificate of Recognition in Aug. 2019.

Bennie enjoyed life in retirement, especially with her friends and family. She was a big supporter of community activities, but she became bored with her hobbies of cooking, traveling, entertaining, and playing duplicate bridge. She accepted a position as an administrator at Let's Grow Learning Center in Gatesville, which specializes in programs for preschoolers.

Bennie was preceded in death by her wonderful husband, Bill, on April 17, 1987; her mother, on May 7, 1991; her father, on Sept. 6, 2001; and her brother, "Bud."

She is survived by her family, Luci Zahray, Shawn, Carla, and Hayley Hansson, brother, Jerry Smith, brother-in-law, James Young, and sister-in-law, Judy Smith.

In lieu of flowers, Bennie requested that her friends make contributions to the Coryell Museum and Historical Center, P.O. Box 24, Gatesville, TX 76528, or to the Gatesville Public Library, 111 N. 8th Street, Gatesville, TX 76528.

Stanley D. Jones Oct. 28, 1935 - Oct. 19, 2023

It is with incredible sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved father, Stanley D. Jones, on Oct. 19, 2023. He was a wonderful dad, husband, son, brother, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 26, 2023, at Scott's Funeral Home with Pastor Stephen Schmidt officiating. Interment followed at Davidson Cem-

Stanley was born on Oct. 28, 1935, in Limeton, Virginia, to Charlie B. and Irma Kathelle Jones. He loved his younger brother, Doug, and sister, Connie, and would positively beam with pride when discussing all their accomplishments.

A fortunate Army posting in Texas changed his life forever when he met Ruth Gilbreath in 1960. They quickly knew that their futures were intertwined and married that same year. After returning briefly to Virginia with his new bride, they determined Gatesville would be their permanent home, where he founded Gatesville Masonry. Stanley's love for cars and masonry came early, but his expertise is still visible throughout the community.

Stanley and Ruth had three daughters, Melanie, Holly, and Heather, which they were exceptionally proud of. Stanley took a special interest in each of their activities, sports, and always had time to teach them something new.

Later in life, Stanley found a passion for music and joined Mike Kuzenka and The Country Sounds band. Some of Stanley's happiest memories were playing the drums and singing in their monthly



Country Shows. Stanley was a righteous man and showed his love of God through acts of service both at church and in the community. He was a devout member of the First United Methodist Church in Gatesville. Stanley's affable disposition, humility, desire to entertain those around him, and his willingness to selflessly help others won't soon be forgotten.

Stanley was preceded in death by his parents, Charlie B. and Kathelle Jones, his wife, Ruth Gilbreath Jones, and his grandson, Mitchel Harper.

He is survived by his brother and sister-in-law, Doug and Mary Jones; his sister, Connie Wakefield; his daughters, Melanie Jones and partner John Patric, Holly Robles and husband, Pete, and Heather Blair and husband, Kevin; his grandchildren, Rachel Harper, George and Whitney Kinyaevskaya, Carson Russell, Peter and Shelby Robles, Mason Russell, and Reagan Johnson; and greatgrandchildren, Aurora and August Kinyaevskaya.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the First United Methodist Church, 2600 East Main Street, Gatesville, Texas 76528.

Hemmeline Cemetery

meeting set for Nov. 5

Staff Reports

The Hemmeline Cemetery Association will hold their annual meeting on Sunday, Nov. 5th at 2 p.m. The meeting will be held at Bethel Heights Baptist Church, located on CR 127 just down the road from the Hemmeline Cemetery. All interested people are encouraged to attend.

There was no scheduled workday called for this year. A few volunteers have done what was needed to be done, and the cemetery looks great.

Memorials or donations for upkeep of cemetery may be mailed to the Hemmeline Cemetery Association, in care of Sheila Necessary, 1050 FM 1783,

Gatesville, TX 76528.

In 1895, members of the German Bethel Baptist Church (now Bethel Heights Baptist Church) established this graveyard as the German Baptist Cemetery. A.T. Voss deeded two acres of land to the deacons of the church to be used as a cemetery. The property was located approximately one mile east of the former church site and was located across the road from the Hemmeline School, which was named for a family living nearby. The small community, originally settled by German immigrants, is now known as the Plainview/ Bethel Heights community.

Ronnie Russell July 29,1949 - Oct. 23, 2023

Ronnie Russell, age 74, of Gatesville, passed away on Monday, Oct. 23, 2023. Funeral services will be

held at 1 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 30, 2023, at Scott's Funeral Home. The family will receive visitors one hour prior to the service. Interment will follow at Ater Cemetery. Ronald Thomas Rus-

sell was born on July 29, 1949, to the late Paul and Laura Hampton Russell in Gatesville. He grew up and attended school in Jonesboro, graduating in 1967. After high school, he attended Howard Payne University on a baseball scholarship. After college, Ronnie played baseball, traveling around the state as part of a semi-pro baseball league, and continued to play for local teams afterwards. He met Sonja Nelson while attending Tarleton State University, and the two were married in 1976, having two children together. They made their home in Levita. Ronnie taught school at the State School for Boys before accepting a position at Gatesville ISD as a coach and teacher in 1973. He remarried in 1994 and had three children. He continued to work at Gatesville I.S.D. as a teacher, teaching students in the 6th through 8th grades until



his retirement in 2013. Even after his retirement, he remained at Gatesville I.S.D. as a school bus driver and was recognized for having 50 years of service in 2023. He enjoyed farming and watching his cows from the back porch.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Sonja; and a brother, Jackie Russell.

Ronnie is survived by his children, Mandy Zbranek and husband, Josh, Jimbo Russell and wife, Stacy, Whitney Kinyaevskaya and husband, George, Carson Russell, and Mason Russell; sister, Jane Slemmons and husband, Alan; sister-inlaw, Barbara Russell; and grandchildren, Lila Russell, Tucker Russell, Aurora Kinyaevskaya, and August Kinyaevskaya.

Vaul ByrdNov. 21, 1941 - Oct. 20, 2023

Vaul Byrd, age 81, of Gatesville, passed away on Friday, Oct. 20, 2023.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 25, at Scott's Funeral Home, with Pastor Sam Crosby officiating. Interment followed at Restland Cemetery.

Valeria Vaul Byrd was born on Nov. 21, 1941, to the late John Dock and Letha Ray Cobb Rogers in O'Donnell. She grew up in O'Donnell moving to Gatesville later in her teenage years. On March 9, 1959, she married Robert Carl "R.C." Byrd, and the two made their home in Gatesville. She worked in the family business, specializing in both painting and hanging wallpaper. She also worked as a "Construction Boss" for the Texas Department of Corrections, and later in life worked as a receptionist for TTG Electric. Vaul enjoyed reading and spending time outside with her husband. She loved feeding and watching all of the wildlife around their home. She was an active member at Trinity Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, J.D. Rogers, Lucky Rogers, and Elmer Rogers; and sisters, Irene



Rogers, and Flo Rogers. Vaul is survived by her husband of 64 years, R.C.; sister, Ruth Waldemarsen and husband, Don; daughters, Diana Hydrick and husband. Mike: Debra Isaacks and husband, Paul; sons, Carl Byrd and wife, Penny; Johnny Byrd and wife, Michelle; grandchildren, Justin Branham, Sarah Hukel, Tasha LeBlanc, Sean Hydrick, Brent Isaacks, Brandon Isaacks, Teristin Byrd, Amanda Simpson, Brandy Featherston, Brittany Underwood, Courtney Bernard, and Delaney Byrd; numerous great-grandchildren; and her "baby," Nala.

In lieu of flowers, Vaul's family requests that memorials be made to Trinity Baptist Church, 1506 W. Main Street, Gatesville, TX 76528.

Celebrating Texas Innovators in Aging

BY CAMDEN FROST

HHSC ASC Project Mgr.

Developing programs, resources, and services for older adults is necessary to ensure Texas communities can meet the needs of this growing demographic. Doing this requires a unique vision, creativity, and innovation.

The 2021 Profile of Older Americans reports that in 2020, 3.9 million Texans were 65 years of age or older. The Texas Demographic Center estimates this population will grow to 9.4 million by 2050.

Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) launched the Innovators in Aging awards in 2018. This recognition

aligns with the longstanding statewide healthy aging campaign, Age Well Live Well (AWLW), which promotes three focus areas: Be Healthy, Be Connected, and Be Informed. This simple messaging continues to help shape and deliver statewide aging and living well resources.

The Innovators in Aging Awards provide annual state-level recognition for trailblazers serving older Texans. HHSC hopes to foster inspiration and innovative solutions that serve Texans for generations to come.

Award nominees must serve older adults in Texas. Examples of innovations

· Developing partnerships to improve older adult services.

· Researching new methodologies to treat chronic conditions.

efforts to promote positive aging messages.

· Creating recent programs designed to engage older adults.

Be Healthy Award Category

Be Healthy highlights innovative efforts of a person, program, organization, community, or technology creating opportunities for improved physical and mental health for older adults.

2022 winners included: · An innovative technol-

ogy platform designed for family members and friends to connect with key

care and safety. · A new product development transforming Fostering community incontinence care and the prevention of urinary tract

infections, pressure ulcers and pain for older adults.

Be Connected Award Category

professionals to manage

Be Connected highlights innovative efforts of a person, program, organization, community, or technology creating ways for older adults to initiate and maintain community engagement.

2022 winners included: · A patent-pending

website design to secure personal histories, stories, and memories in partnership with multiple groups serving older adults.

· A virtual collective laboratory research partnership involving the expertise of multiple entities to improve the quality of products and services for older adults.

Be Informed Award Cat-

Be Informed highlights innovative efforts of a person, program, organization, community, or technology, creating opportunities for older adults to learn about the services and resources

available in their commu-

2022 winners included:

· The executive director of a volunteer-operated nonprofit helping to educate the public about endof-life planning.

· A state partnership improving the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, caregivers, partners, and community providers through regional coordination of information, resources, and events.

information, email Aging-TexasWell@hhs.texas.gov.

For questions or more

Note: HHS employees may be nominated if their work is done outside the scope of their position.

PEARL NEWS

The Pearl Cottage Bookstore is full of items including Afghans



BY BETSY CLARK

Pearl News Correspondent

The remaining Pearl Cottage Bookstore days and Pearl Bluegrass events are Nov. 4 and Dec. 2. The bookstore is full of all sorts of new items including afghans, books, dishes, appliances, very nice old books, jewelry, and men's and women's clothes. Be sure and visit Pearl on those dates and bring friends. Everyone is welcome. There's no place like Pearl!

Two interesting entries in The Pleasure and Profit Club minutes compilation (re-typed by Linda Ray) were from Oct. 16, 1941, and Nov. 11, 1943:

The club met with Selma Lacy. The working period was spent in piecing quilts. The president called the house to order for the business session. The roll call was answered by 18 members. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The president stated that the "Stamps Baxter Song Fellows" would put on a concert sponsored by the club on Nov. 14. Plans were made for the club to put on a stunt for the Halloween Carnival. \$.25 in dues

was paid, making \$19.68 in the treasury. The club adjourned to meet with Bessie Smith on Oct. 30. Cookies and punch were served.

Mrs. Whitt and Bessie Earle entertained the club. The work for the afternoon was sewing buttons on Red Cross garments. The president called the house to order at the usual time. Nine members answered the roll call. The minutes of the two previous meetings were read and approved. No business was discussed as there was not a quorum present. \$1.35 was paid making a total of \$3.53. Two cents was paid for stamps, leaving \$3.51 in the treasury.

The club adjourned to meet with Vera Whitt on Nov. 25. Refreshments of sandwiches, celery, and cocoa were served to all present.

As you can see, these ladies were always doing something that benefited the community even during a world war. Patriotic, enterprising, dedicated, industrious, loving-these are only a few of the words describing the ladies of The Pleasure and Profit Club. These are our ancestors from which so many in Pearl are honored to have descended. Be sure and stop by the Pearl Cottage Bookstore on Nov. 4, and pick up your copy of The Pleasure and Profit Club for only \$15. You'll be so glad

This week's Bible verse comes from Romans 1:17-For in the Gospel the righteousness of God is revealed--a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith." NIV

Please pray for rain, our country, Israel, and our

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 betsyclark47@yahoo.com.

Daily exercise, healthy habits can help avoid Type-2 diabetes

Staff Reports

Small Changes Could Help Prevent Type-2 Diabetes.

Over 30 million Americans have Type-2 diabetes. If left untreated or unmanaged, the disease

can damage all aspects of the cardiovascular system, cause blindness, heart

disease, loss of limbs, and



other serious conditions.

While Type-2 diabetes is most often diagnosed in adults 45 and older with a family history of the disease or in those who are overweight or obese, the condition is now becoming more prevalent in children, teens, and young adults. Fortunately, there are small lifestyle changes and habits that can help prevent this chronic condition in people of all ages while also improving overall health.

As the most common type of diabetes, Type-2 diabetes is when the body creates too much insulin or resists

it, which causes blood sugar levels to rise. There is no cure for Type-2 diabetes, so taking steps to prevent this disease is

the best course of action.

Small changes in lifestyle like taking a daily walk or drinking water instead of juice can help ward off a diagnosis and make a big impact on your health.

Four suggested ways to prevent Type-2 diabetes:

 Manage weight and belly fat: Excess weight in the abdomen and obesity are main causes of Type-2 diabetes. Experts recommend maintaining a BMI between 18.5 and 24.9 and a waistline of less than 35 inches for women and less than 40 inches for men.

 Exercise regularly: Daily exercise can help avoid heart disease, reduce stress, and Type-2 diabetes. The American Heart Association recommends 150 minutes of moderate aerobic exercise, like walking or biking,

and two strength workouts each week.

· Move more: Additional movement beyond exercise can also help keep off weight. Consider taking the stairs rather than an elevator or standing during work meetings to add more movement into daily life.

·Eat fresh food: Avoid overly-processed foods like chips, candy, and deli meats, and focus on foods rich in fiber and nutrients like fruits, vegetables, and lean protein.

Unfortunately, Type-2 diabetes could take years to develop, and symptoms are often hard to detect. If you experience extreme fatigue, numbness or tingling in the hands or feet, or blurred vision, it is important to get

The DISPATCH

The following is a partial breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of Oct. 18 - Oct. 24. 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 Oct. 18

3:08 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2200 block of East Main Street.

10:36 a.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 1600 block of West Main

1:03 p.m., a theft was reported in the 600 block of East Leon Street.

2 p.m., a burglary was County Road 385.

Oct. 19

12:19 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2500 block of East Main St.

7:24 a.m., a burglary was reported in the 1400 block of West Main Street.

9:50 a.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 600 block of Golf Course

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COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL

11:07 a.m., a gas leak/ reported in the 100 block of fire was reported in the 100 block of Sunny Lane.

11:27 a.m., a theft was reported in the 4600 block of South State Highway 36.

5:09 p.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 3300 block of East Main

7:37 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2500 block of Powell Drive.

11:47 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 300 block of North 11th

Oct. 21

1:53 a.m., a gas leak/fire was reported in the 1500 block of West Main Street.

12:06 p.m., a brush/grass fire was reported in the 700 block of Barton Lane.

2:02 p.m., a theft was reported in the 1300 block

of St. Louis Street. 5:29 p.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 3700 block of East Main

Oct. 22

1:31 a.m., a theft was reported in the 300 block of Baize Drive.

2:59 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 800 block of Buffalo Creek

10:38 a.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 15000 block of East Highway 84.

1:31 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 1200 block of East Main Street. Oct. 23

5:15 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 200 block of Linda's Lane.

8:15 a.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 200 block of North Lutterloh Avenue.

11:41 a.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 200 block of South 3rd

4:49 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of North 27th

Oct. 24

2:24 a.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 1000 block of West Main Street.

4:09 a.m., a gas leak/fire was reported in the 400

block of North 14th Street. 10:11 a.m., a theft was reported in the 2500 block

of Business Highway 36. 3:29 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 300 block of Hornet Way.

CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE Oct. 18

8:13 a.m., a stolen vehicle was recovered in the 2700 block of South 5th Street. 8:30 a.m., a major ac-

cident was reported in the 3500 block of FM 1113.

8:41 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 200 block of Cattle Drive.

11:14 a.m., animal neglect was reported in the 1500 block of Quail Point Drive. Oct. 19

10:19 a.m., animal neglect was reported in the 1500 block of Quail Point Drive.

11:52 a.m., a theft was reported in the 400 block of

County Road 366. 1:28 p.m., property found was reported in the 1200

block of FM 2412. 5:03 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 1100 block of Indian Creek

Oct. 20

5:17 a.m., a major accident was reported on North Highway 36 and FM 182.

9:54 a.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 2800 block of Mulberry 11:40 a.m., a theft was

reported in the 1200 block of County Road 355. 10:26 p.m., a disturbance/

noise complaint was reported in the 500 block of County Road 242. Oct. 21

2:37 p.m., a grass fire was reported at FM 116 and Bald Knob Road.

3:37 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 500 block of County Road 5:58 p.m., a major ac-

cident was reported in the

9000 block of FM 215. 9:33 p.m., a noise complaint was reported in the 4300 block of FM 1113. Oct. 22

3:01 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 800 block of Buffalo Creek

10:51 a.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 100 block of Harell

Drive. 2:32 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 900 block of Greystone

6:06 p.m., a theft was reported in the 100 block of Skyline Drive.

Oct. 23

8:16 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 9700 block of FM 116.

2:30 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 1600 block of FM 2412. 8:14 p.m., shots fired

were reported in the 2200 block of Bridge Street. 10:05 p.m., a major ac-

cident was reported in the 7500 block of FM 107 and County Road 301.

Oct. 24 7:36 a.m., a minor ac-

cident was reported in the 6000 block of FM 116.

7:38 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported on FM 183 and County Road 153.



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Operation Christmas Child announces box drop-off

What is Operation Christmas Child?

The Samaritan's Purse project Operation Christmas Child collects shoebox gifts filled with fun toys, school supplies, and personal care items—and delivers them to children in need around the world to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way. For many of these children, the gift-filled shoebox is the first gift they have ever received.

Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child, the world's largest Christmas project of its kind, has collected and delivered more than 209 million shoebox gifts to children in more than 170 countries and territories. In 2023, Operation Christmas Child hopes to collect enough shoebox gifts to reach another 11 million children. This year, Operation Christmas Child will celebrate its 30th year of ministry.

Process

Anyone can pack a shoebox. Individuals, families, churches, and groups fill empty shoeboxes with school supplies, personal care items, and fun toys, such as dolls or soccer

During National Collection Week (Nov. 13-20, 2023), Samaritan's Purse will collect the gift-filled shoeboxes at more than 4,500 drop off locations in all 50 states and Puerto

Learn how to pack a shoebox, view gift suggestions, find the nearest drop-off location, and Follow Your Box at samaritanspurse.org/occ.

Do not include candy; toothpaste; used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns,

knives, or military figures; seeds; chocolate, or food; liquids, or lotions; medications, or vitamins; breakable items, such as snow globes, or glass containers; or aerosol cans.

Participants can donate \$10 per shoebox gift online through Follow Your Box and receive a tracking label to discover its destination.

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

Shoebox gifts are prepared for overseas shipment at eight major processing centers across the U.S.—Atlanta; Baltimore/Washington; Boone, North Carolina; Charlotte, North Carolina; Dallas/Fort Worth; Denver; Chicago; and Fullerton, California.

Scope

Shoebox gifts are collected in Australia, Austria, Canada, Finland, Germany, New Zealand, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and the United

More than 10.5 million shoebox gifts were collected globally in 2022, 9.3 million from the U.S. alone. In 2023, Operation Christmas Child hopes to collect enough shoeboxes to reach another 11 million children.

Nearly 540,000 volunteers worldwide-with more than 220,000 of those in the U.S.—are involved in collecting. shipping, and distributing shoebox gifts.

Operation Christmas Child is a project of

Samaritan's Purse, an international Christian relief and evangelism organization headed by Franklin Graham. Samaritan's Purse currently works in more than 100 countries to provide aid to victims of war, disease, disaster, poverty,

and famine. **Eternal Impact**

Delivered into the hands of children through local churches, every shoebox gift is an opportunity to share about Jesus Christ and God's love.

Since 2009, 35.4 million shoebox recipients have participated in our 12-lesson discipleship course, The Greatest Journey. More than 24.9 million children have graduated from this program with over 17.4 million boys and girls making decisions for Christ.

In 2023, Operation Christmas Child is celebrating 50 million children discipled.

For the Gatesville area, the local drop off location will be Coryell Community Church, which is located at 115 N Levita Road in Gatesville.

Drop off dates and times will be:

Mon. Nov. 13: 11 a.m. - 1

Tue, Nov. 14: 4 p.m. - 6

Wed, Nov. 15: 11 a.m. - 1

p.m. Thu, Nov. 16: 4 p.m. - 6

Fri, Nov. 17: 11 a.m. - 1

Sat, Nov. 18: 1 p.m. - 3

Sun, Nov. 19: 1 p.m. - 3

Mon, Nov. 20: 9 a.m. - 11

O'BRIENS CELEBRATE 55TH ANNIVERSARY



Lt. Col. James J. and Linda O'Brien

Lt. Col. And Mrs. James J. O'Brien III marked their 55th wedding anniversary on Thursday, Oct. 26.

James and Linda were married at Live Oak Baptist Church by Rev. Royce Christmas. Maxine Fry, the bride's mother, was the wedding planner, and K.R. Fry sold one cow to cover the cost of the wedding.

Following graduation from Southwest Texas State College in San Marcus, James entered the Air Force where he served for 22 years. Together, the couple lived in many places and returned to Gatesville upon their retirement where James worked at Central Texas College as Director of Facilities. Linda

worked for the Windham School District as a vocational teacher.

They are the parents of two sons and have six grandchildren.

"The steadfast love we share and our commitment to God has given us a joyful life together."

Corks and Kegs is Nov. 4

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce will host its annual Corks and Kegs event on Saturday, Nov. 4. The event will take place on the Coryell County Courthouse square from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

The event will feature Gatesville's historical downtown courthouse with local food, shopping, wineries, and breweries, as well as live music by local

musician Tyler Layne. Tickets will cost \$25 each and will include a custom wine cup, along with a wristband for five wine tastings. To purchase

tickets online, visit www. eventbrite.com and search "Corks and Kegs," or buy them on the day of the event. The first 200 people to purchase a ticket will receive a free chamber T-

shirt, and a wine tumbler. Individuals must be 21 years or older to attend the event and must have an ID to enter.

To become a vendor at the event, email the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce at gatesvillecoc@ gmail.com.

For more information, the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce can be reached at 254-865-2617.

The Coryell County Courthouse square is located at 620 E. Main Street in Gatesville.

The business of haunted houses



BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH

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

'e used to haunt our house on Halloween night," says Joey Adams of Amarillo. "It's just hard to get your fill of it in just one night." Joe and his wife, Vona, have two buildings in Amarillo that are designed to scare people. One building is a series of escape rooms.

"Basically, you put a group of people in a room that has been themed out. They get clues and solve puzzles and work their way through the room and have an hour to escape. If they don't make it, we may have

to go find them." Their other building has four haunted areas.

"We call it the Scaregrounds. We're the largest haunted attraction in town. It's more of a scream park. We have The Insanitarium.

We have Terror. We have the B Trail, which used to be the Blackout Maze that now has things that reach out and grab you. We also have The Basement that includes a Coffin Ride. People actually get in a coffin and ride on a little rail system that takes them to a haunted house."

They've been in the business of scaring people for 20 years.

"The first year we married, Joey told me he wanted to haunt the front of the house," says Vona. "All the little neighborhood kids would come out there and watch, and we'd put all kinds of scary things out front, and soon we had everybody watching. You couldn't go up and down our street; it was full of cars. That's when we decided we needed to get into the business of haunted houses."

Their haunted house

had a fire-spitting dragon. When their son was in high school, Joey and Vona used to have dinners for athletes in a building they had purchased.

"Then afterwards we'd run them through a little haunted house," says Joey. "We had a blast doing that, so next year we had a haunted house in that building and opened it to the public. People lined up to get in, and it got so crowded we eventually moved into this bigger building."

The haunted building is open on weekends in October.

"The first night is sort of a practice night for us and is a fund raiser for the Student Crime Stoppers."

In addition to Crime Stoppers, a portion of the proceeds from the Scaregounds goes to a food bank. Joey and Vona are

GATESVILLE

serious about the haunted house business.

"We went off on a haunted house convention, and we brought all kinds of ideas back that we put into operation. We attend those conventions and workshops every year now and always

meet people who are in the same business. All of us just love haunting things, and we always come back with a bunch of new ideas. It's really fun to scare people."





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BAPTIST BETHEL HEIGHTS

3835 CR 127, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday worship 11 a.m. BETHLEHEM PRIMITIVE Elder Hugh Montgomery, pastor; 4555 FM 1690. Gatesville; Worship 4th Sunday of each month at 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.

Steven L. Bogan, pastor; Hwy. 84 & FM 116; Sunday Bible study 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

CANAAN Jim Keever, senior pastor; 177 Coryell City Road, Crawford; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday worship 10:30 a.m., Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 p.m. COLD SPRINGS Bob Phillips, pastor; Sundays - Sunday School 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m. &

5:30 p.m. EASTWOOD

Lynn Parks, pastor; 2518 East Main, Gatesville; Sundays - Sunday School 9:45 a.m., worship 10:50 a.m. & 6 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST EVANT Dane Barron, pastor; 200 Live Oak Street, Evant; Sundays - Sunday School 9:45 a.m., worship 11 a.m., adult Bible study 6 p.m.; Wednesday services - kids' & youth Bible study 6 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST FLAT 9775 TX-36, Gatesville; Sunday School 9 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.; Wednesdays – Prayer & Bible Study 7 p.m.; Youth Group & Kid Knights 7 p.m.; Supper first Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m.; Men's Breakfast second Saturday of each month at 7:30 a.m.

GATESVILLE Dr. Pete Keough, Pastor; 912 E. Main St., Gatesville; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10 a.m. FIRST BAPTIST OGLESBY Jeremy Sanders, Pastor; 120 College Ave.; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 am; Wednesdays - supper at

FIRST BAPTIST

Group 6 p.m., Prayer meeting 6 p.m. FIRST BAPTIST PURMELA 875 FM 932, Purmela; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.

5:40 p.m., Kids & Youth

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

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

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

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

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

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

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.

Chris Thomas, pastor; 7505 FM 185. Gatesville: Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. PEARL COUNTRY CHURCH

2082 FM 1690, Gatesville; Sunday worship 10 a.m. PECAN GROVE 6545 FM 107, Gatesville;

Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. PIDCOKE Donald McConnaughhay,

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

SWEET HOME

511 N. 14th, Gatesville; Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.; Wednesday worship 7 p.m.

Ezequiel Casas, pastor; 113 Veazy Dr., Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m., Wednesday Prayer Meeting

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-

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,

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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

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.,

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& 12:30 p.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m. **FORT GATES** 4605 St. Hwy. 36 S..

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E. Main, Gatesville; Sunday Bible class 9:30 a.m., Sunday service 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Bible classes

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

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

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

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

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Righteous Roots presents DWTS Team James

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH Staff Writer

Local couple Andy and Camri James are ready to take the dance floor in the Dancing with the Stars of Central Texas competition on Saturday, Nov. 18.

The James are residents of Gatesville and have two girls, Gemma and Jolee.

Andy serves as a range and wildlife consultant for Cross Timbers Wildlife Management Service, a real estate agent for Front Porch Realty, and a land

transaction manager for the Texas Agricultural Land Trust. Camri has worked for Stermer Law as a paralegal and office manager since

Team James still has tables available for sponsorship.

Dancing with the Stars of Central Texas is a semiformal gathering for adults aged 18 and over. The event will be held at the Gatesville Civic Center, and will commence at 5:30 p.m. Attendees will come together to enjoy an evening of delightful food, vibrant dancing, and meaningful fellowship.

The event serves as a fundraiser for Mission Righteous Roots Crisis Resource Center, with all tax-deductible donations dedicated to supporting the impactful initiatives of the organization.

To sponsor a table, donate, or to buy a ticket visit https://paybee.io/hybridevent/rrootscrisis/1.

Andy and Camri James







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SPORTS

Gatesville ★ Evant ★ Jonesboro ★ Oglesby



Hornets fall to Madisonville, in playoffs for fourth straight season

BY CHRIS ALLMAN

Contributing Writer

Despite a 46-7 road loss to Madisonville on Oct. 20, the Gatesville Hornets will play in the postseason for the fourth consecutive season.

Regardless of the outcome of their season finale, the Hornets hold the tiebreaker over Salado - whom they beat 35-7 in the second game of district play. Robinson, Gatesville's opponent in their regular season finale, also beat Salado and would hold the tiebreaker as well.

A win over Robinson coupled with a Rocket win over Connally in Week 11 could propel Gatesville into the No. 2 seed, while a win over Robinson and a Connally win over the Rockets would mean the No. 3 seed

for Gatesville.

As with most districts, the No. 4 seed is not the ideal way to head into the postseason, as it means a matchup with an opposing district champion. It is particularly daunting coming out of District 11-4A, as it would set up a first-round game against state power Cuero - currently the No. 4 ranked team in Class 4A Division II.

But, on Friday night, the Hornets needed everything to go right and, seemingly, everything went wrong almost from the get-go.

After a stop on Madisonville's first drive, Gatesville put together a signature drive. They used ten plays to go 35 yards down to the Mustang 12 before turning it over on downs.

On the sixth play of the ensuing drive, Madisonville's Lorenzo Johnson, Jr took a screen and sprinted 68 yards for a TD. From there, the Hornets simply could not get untracked.

The Mustangs would score four more touchdowns in the half to take a 36-0 lead. Two were defensive touchdowns, as they returned an interception and a fumble for a touchdown. Gatesville had committed just six turnovers in the first eight games but had four turnovers alone in the

Gatesville's lone score came on a 16-yard touchdown pass from Jacob Newkirk to Brayden Saun-

Rayshon Smith ran for 146 yards on 30 carries and

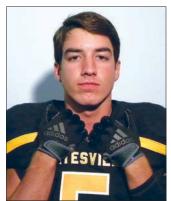


Amos Phillips

CHRIS ALLMAN

has surpassed the 1,000yard mark for the season. Smith has 1,143 yards rushing, 12 touchdowns, and is averaging 6.2 yards per carry this season.

Amos Phillips and Lawson Mooney led the Hornets



CHRIS ALLMAN

Lawson Mooney

in tackles with 15 and 12, respectively. Mooney also had a tackle for a loss and picked up his first interception of the season inside the Mustang red zone. Logan Biggs, Sean Aguilar, and Tommy Aaron had eight



CHRIS ALLMAN

Rayshon Smith

tackles apiece.

The Hornets will have a bve in Week 11 and will rest up while waiting on their final seeding and opponent. The bi-district playoffs begin on November 10 with location to be determined.

Lady Hornets finish regular season with sweep of La Vega

BY CHRIS ALLMAN Contributing Writer

Gatesville wrapped their regular season with a sweep of La Vega, and now they'll turn their attention to the bi-district playoffs where a familiar foe awaits.

The Lady Hornets will kick off the postseason in Belton on Halloween Night against Georgetown Gateway. The Gators are No. 23 in the most recent TCGA State Polls and finished the season as champions of District 24-4A with a league record of 10-0.

They'll head into the playoff's winners of 12 straight games and bent on exacting a measure of revenge after losing in the first round to Gatesville in 2022. The winner of the Gatesville/ Gateway matchup would likely face La Grange in the

area round.

The regular season-ending win over La Vega was a rout from the get-go. The Lady Hornets raced out to a 12-1 lead before La Vega scored their first offensive point. Gatesville rode the serves of Barrett Boyd and Taylor Sanderson and the right arm of Emma Pollard to a 12-1 lead that resulted in a 25-7 first set win.

The second set was tied at 5-5 early before Gatesville ripped off six straight points. An ace from Belle Bartlett capped the run and gave Gatesville an 11-5 lead. They would extend to their largest lead of the set at 23-12, thanks to a kill from Pollard and would win the set 25-15.

La Vega fought back early in the third as Gatesville trailed 9-8. But a kill from

Boyd and an ace from Anna McPherson gave them a 10-9 lead.

Tied 13-13, the Lady Hornets began to pull away. An ace from Bartlett and a trio of Lady Pirate miscues pushed the Gatesville lead to 17-13 and they extended to 18-13 when a dig from Boyd made its way to Sanderson, who set up McPherson for a quick tip and a

Pollard finished the match much like she started with a kill and a block to give Gatesville a 25-18 third set

Gatesville hosted Clifton in a playoff warmup on Oct. 27. Their bi-district matchup with Gateway will be at Belton High School on Oct. 31 with a 6:30 PM start.



GLLADYS WHITENBURG | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Pictured left to right: Emma Pollard , Laura Trejo, and Hailey Wilson

GATESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY



GLADYS WHITENBURG | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

GLADYS WHITENBURG | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER Gatesville High School Boys Cross Country: GHS finished 8th overall at the 4A-Region III meet in Huntsville. Gatesville High School Girls Cross Country: Junior Vania Martinez clocked a 12:22 to finish 3rd at the 4A-Region III meet in Huntsville. GHS finished 11th out of 22 teams.

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Oglesby Junior High A and B teams join forces to defeat the Priddy Pirates

BY TOM NORRELLContributing Writer

The Oglesby Junior High Tigers combined their Ateam and B-team Oct. 18 to play the Priddy Pirates.

The Tigers defeated the Pirates, 39 to 7, to run their record to 6 and 1, on the year.

There was plenty of playing time for all the Tigers. Mr. Outside, Holdyn Goff, and Mr. Inside, Mason Marquez continued their dominance tonight on offense.

Goff had 2 carries for 90 yards, and two rushing touchdowns. He also had a 37-yard touchdown pass to Evan Williamson, and a 35-yard kick-off return, for a total of 162 yards.

Marquez had one carry

Pictured standing, left to

tin, setter Andrea Licea-

right: Coach Amanda Mar-

Perez, middle hitters Matti

up the middle for a 25-yard touchdown run. He also caught a blocked punt and ran it in the end zone for a 20-yard touchdown, for a total of 45 yards on the night.

Evan Williamson had one catch for 37 yards and a touchdown.

Couper Wulfkuhle had one carry for 22 yards and a Point After Touchdown (PAT) run for the score.

Brody Martinez scored two PAT runs. Liam Ammerman had

four carries for 60 yards.

Defensively:

Sixth grader Caiden Brinkley lead all tacklers tonight in a dominant performance with seven solo tackles, two sacs, for a 16-yard loss, two assists for a total of 11 tackles, and one fumble recovery.

Mason Marquez had four solo tackles, and three assists, for a total of seven tackles.

Holdyn Goff had three solos, and one assist, for a total of four tackles.

Jayce Aarron had two solos, four assists, and one interception.

Evan Williamson had two solo tackles.

Ranger Dalton had one solo, three assists, and one blocked punt.

Brody Martinez had two solos, and one assist, for three tackles.

Liam Ammerman had one assist.

Couper Wulfkuhle had one solo, and one assist. Blayze Fisher had one

quarterback pressure.
Ashton Thompson had
one solo tackle.

Rancher Jeffcoat had one assist.

Aiden Aviles had one assist.

Ashton Thompson, Hunter Insall, Chayson Leverett, Landry Riley, and Caden Bagley, all saw playing time on offense and defense tonight.

The Tigers opened district play on Oct. 26, as they hosted the Calvert Trojans.

Coach Ray Martin to be honored by Oglesby ISD



COURTESY PHOTO

Ray Martin

BY DAVID SCOTT Staff Writer

Oglesby Independent School District will have a dedication ceremony to name the fieldhouse after longtime, former Coach Ray Martin, on Friday, Nov. 3. The ceremony will take place following the varsity football game, which will start at 7 p.m. The public is invited to attend. Coach Martin was the head football coach and principal for Oglesby from 1975 until 1987.

Ray Martin was born in 1953 in Gatesville. He grew up in Jonesboro, graduating from Jonesboro High School in 1971. He attended Navarro Junior College until transferring to Tarleton State University, graduating with a bachelor's and master's degree in Education.

He married Debbie Pruitt in 1977. They resided in Oglesby until moving to Belton in 1987.

Martin coached and taught history for Oglesby ISD until beginning a career at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor. It was written that a person would be hard-pressed to walk through the halls of Oglesby High School without finding a student whose life he did not

Ray Martin passed away on April 20, 2021, at the age of 67.

touch.

Dixon and Caitlyn Battreal, defensive specialist Presley Robinson, opposite setter Zarah Wisehart, outside hitters Addison Hamilton and Autumn Meyers, and coach Kara Helms. Sitting is Jayda Gonzalez, libero.

DELESEY 10 DELESEY 18 TO 13 DELESEY 18 TO 12 TO 13 DELESEY 18 TO 12 TO 15 TO 1

Oglesby volleyball secures a playoff berth as co-district champions

BY TOM NORRELLContributing Writer

The Oglesby Lady Tigers beat the Abbott Lady Panthers Oct. 20, to tie for first place at 6-1 in District 25A

and secure a playoff spot. Senior Matti Dixon led the Oglesby Lady Tigers with 23 kills, two aces, and 14 digs. Andrea Licea-Perez led the team with 33 assists and had two digs. Libero Jayda Gonzalez had 15 digs defensively, with one service ace. Freshman Caitlyn Battreal stole away with 10 kills, respectively. Addison Hamilton helped the Lady Tigers with five serving aces, one kill, and had three digs. Zarah Wisehart found

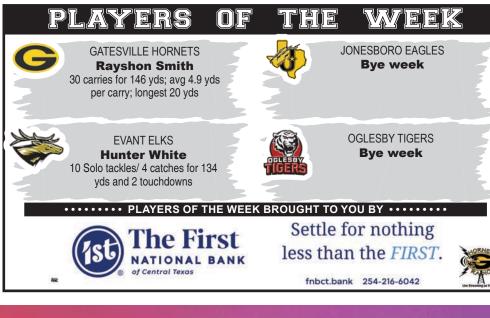
aces, one kill, and had three digs. Zarah Wisehart found herself with three acres, one

kill, and four digs. Presley Robinson contributed with one ace and four digs.

On Oct. 24, a victory playoff match left the Lady Tigers standing as co-district champions.

The Lady Tigers are coached by Amanda Martin and Kara Helms.

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JUNIOR HIGH FOOTBALL RESULTS

8A vs. Madisonville

3 4 FINAL 7 6 0 20 Gatesville 6 16 0 8 Madisonville 30

Leading Rushers: Grady Keeton- 18 for 117 yards, 1 TD (5 yard Run); Braxton Brown- 5 for 30; Draven Henderson- 2 for 7, TD

Offensive Line standouts: Isaac Crawford, Joey Lonzetta, Stephen Walker

Leading Passers: Grady Keeton- 5/8, 72 yards, 2

Leading Receivers: Draven Henderson- 1 for 12; Kaydon Buster- 1 for 12; Callen Webb- 2 for 32, TD; Camden Webb- 1 for 16, TD

Leading Tacklers/Defensive players: Grady Keeton- 7 tackles; Draven Henderson- 5 tackles; Stephen Walker- 4 tackles, 1 TFL; Callen Webb, 2 tackles, 1 PBU; Memphis Salas- 2 tackles, Braxton Brown- 2 tackles, Kaydon Buster- 3 tackles, Stefon Boyd- 2

Special Teams: Leo Leon- 2/2 on XPs Season Record: 6-1

7A vs. Madisonville

Gatesville 0 6 0 14 Madisonville **Leading Rushers:** Bennett Eggeling- 21 for 158 yards, 3 TD; Sebastian Hubik- 4 for 50 yards

Leading Passer: Preston Barron: 3/4, 18 yards **Leading Receiver:** Andrew Winkler- 3 for 18, a twopoint conversion

Leading Tacklers/Defensive players: Bennett Eggeling- 6 tackles; Sebastian Hubik- 3 tackles, 1 blocked punt; Theo Williams- 3 tackles Season Record: 1-5-1

8B vs. Madisonville

Gatesville 0 0 0 0 Madisonville **Leading Rushers:** Brensyn Pope- 4 for 12 Offensive Line/ TE standouts: Hayden Kirby Leading Passer: Cash Heath- 2/3 for 16 yards **Leading Receiver:** Kegan Redford- 2 catches for 20

Leading Tacklers/Defensive players: Kegan Redford- 5 tackles, 2 TFLs, 1 sack; Blake Perry- 4 tackles; Fernando Romo- 3 tackles; Paydon Garrett- 3 tackles Season Record: 3-4

7B vs. Madisonville

8 0 6 0 Gatesville 14 Madisonville 0 0 0 0

Leading Rushers: Damian Millan- 9 carries for 115 yards, 2 TD (62- and 14-yard TDs); Chayson Melton-2-point conversion run

Offensive Line/ TE standouts: Jackson Shepard, **Bentley Bates**

Leading Receiver: Zion Nunn- 36-yard reception from QB Micah Olvera

Leading Tacklers/Defensive players: Zachary Poliquin- 3 tackles; Braylen Brown- 3 tackles, 1 sack; Isaac Stafford- 3 tackles, 1 sack; Damian Millan- 4

Season Record: 5-1-1





Gatesville ISD educators (left) Robbie Finley and (right) Pattie Farley are pictured holding their trophies and \$500 cash.

Educators of the Week presented by First National Bank of Central Texas

Staff Reports

The First National Bank of Central Texas has honored two local teachers who dedicate themselves to educating the youth each day at Gatesville Independent School District. During a recent football

game, Robbie Finley and Pattie Farley both received \$500, as well as a trophy. The First National Bank

of Central Texas and

lives of others. To make a nomination,

Gatesville ISD welcome the

community to submit the

names of local educators

who have made a differ-

ence in your life or in the

visit the link www.fnbct. bank/educator-of-theweek/.

Gatesville ISD is located at 205 South Lovers Lane.

Evant Lady Elks defeat Jonesboro volleyball team

Staff Reports

The Evant Lady Elks volleyball team defeated Jonesboro Independent School District 25-23, 25-17, 25-21.

The stats include: Harley Weeks - 2 aces, 3 digs, 4 kills, 19 assists. Hailey Neri - 2 kills, 1 ace, 10 digs.

Molly Waldrum - 2

Bree Ramirez - 2 digs, 2 assists, 5 kills. Luwi Rodriguez - 7

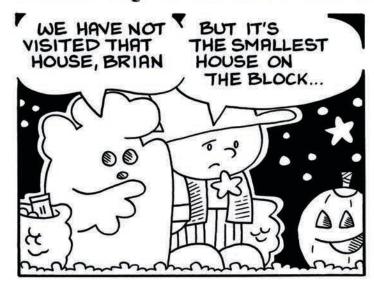
digs, 7 kills. Izzy Grandy - 16 digs, 2 assists, 4 kills.

Jolyce Acosta - 2 aces,

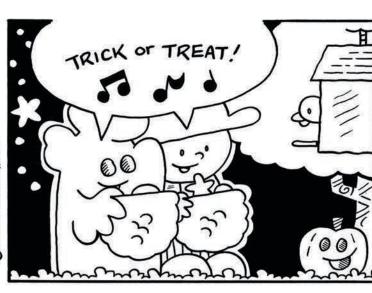
3 digs. Evant ISD is located at 339 Memory Lane.



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COLM GAME ON

There Is No Game: Wrong Dimension

This game claims not to be a game, but there's quite a lot of gaming in it anyway



BY JENNIFER HARRISON

My opinions on computer gaming and some of my favorite games. I've been playing games on the home computer since the days of the Trash 80. I love indie, open-world, unique, puzzle, and resource games. The cake is a lie.

There Is No Game: Wrong Dimension popped up in Steam as being on sale this week, so despite the fact that I have 80 games in my Steam library, including several I haven't yet installed, I went for it. It's their third anniversary of being on Steam.

There is No Game: Wrong Dimension bills itself as "A Point&Click comedy adventure. You can go ahead

and put your controller back up on the shelf." It's entirely mouse-driven. It's a deliberately chunky, retro game with pixels rather than vectors. It gets weird at the very

beginning. You're asked to select the language you want to play the game in by selecting a flag, and the caption reads, "If you can read this, leave the program!" Then the title screen comes up with, "Do not click to start."

Chapter 1 opens with a large metal plate with four screws on it. After knocking on the plate a few times, a grumpy voice tells you to hold on while he finds his speech. A large heavy-looking metal sign is lowered that reads, "There Is No Game," as the game tells you that "Actually, there is no game." You should go ahead and quit and play something that's actually a game. Go outside, read a book, but "just between you and me, avoid asking for a refund, okay?"

A few clicks around the sign, and you'll eventually knock it down enough that the exclamation point falls down and separates into

a bar and a dot, and now you're playing Breakout. The game is not impressed by this, and drops a much heavier sign with the letters bolted on. You, as the user, continue clicking on the sign, and eventually the game throws up its virtual hands and says, fine, you want to play a game? We'll play Roshambo. "You know, it's the one with rock, paper, scissors." The solution to this puzzle is not at all what you would expect, and that's true of all of the puzzles in this game. You're subverting the game to get the solution you want, even if you're using the mouse cursor to pick a lock or pausing the game to get an object out of the Pause menu. I

even had to learn how to play Sudoku to solve one puzzle. Fortunately, there's a help system included. "Solve riddles that require you to think "Outside the box." Hint system included because you can't think 'Outside the box'... " I ended up having to use the help button three times, and it was always for a solution that I was overthinking.

This game is full of sly tongue-in-cheek references to games. All the games, really, but especially early pixel games, Myst, Zelda, Breakout, and even Pong. This game was created by someone who really loves and appreciates games. It's also a subtle critique of games of all kinds.

The finale involves a

highly-entertaining segment that involves altering The Creator's temperature settings and making him awful coffee, and eventually causing his smart vacuum to chase him around the house. Puzzles at the very end include references to Pac-Man, Mr. Game And Watch, Mine Sweeper, and Tetris.

Total hours of play time is 12.4 hours. This isn't a huge game and doesn't do well on replay because of the lack of alternate solutions to puzzles. It's highly enjoyable as something to play over a weekend. From Draw Me a Pixel, There Is No Game is available on SteamOS for PC and Macintosh, \$12.99.

FOOTBALL CONTEST

• 2023 •

1st PLACE \$20



3rd PLACE

Winners can pick up their checks at The Gatesville Messenger office.

OFFICIAL RULES

There are 11 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.



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3. Jonesboro vs. Evant

GATESVILLE OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Deadline for entries 12 p.m. Friday!

·_____

4._____

6.____

7.____

9.____

11.____

TieBreaker: 1Score_____ Name:

Address:____

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No Photocopies please!



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5. Oglesby vs. Buckholts

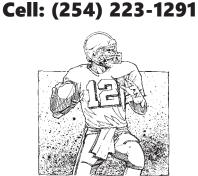
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6. Baylor vs. Houston

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7. Tarleton vs. Stephen F. Austin





8. UT vs. Kansas State

2533 S. Hwy. 36 Gatesville, TX

(254) 865-8820 Monday - Friday 7:30 am - 6:00 pm

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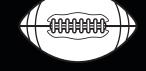
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11. Howard Payne vs. Sul Ross







TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITYTM

Texans dominate Eagles with shutout performance in front of record homecoming crowd

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE —
Homecoming week is always a little sweeter when Texan Football culminates it with a win. It's even sweeter when the win is in front of a Memorial Stadium record crowd.

Tarleton State (5-3, 1-2 UAC) dominated Morehead State (3-4, 2-2 PFL) in shutout fashion on Saturday, Oct. 21 in Stephenville 42-0. The Texans scored 21 points in the second quarter to lead 28-0 at halftime and never looked back, starting the year 5-3 for the second straight season. Tarleton improved to 3-1 at home this season, and earned its first shutout since March 27, 2021, vs. Northeastern State (38-0).

Under head coach Todd Whitten, the Texans are now 11-3 on their homecoming games.

For the third straight year, the Texans set a new attendance record at their homecoming game, this time seeing 23,042 fans through the turnstiles. They've hosted more than 20,000 fans in three of their four home games this year. And on Saturday, all 23,042 fans got a treat throughout the night, with an epic pregame, great play for four quarters, and a fun George Strait tickets giveaway that featured a

sing-off between contestants selected at random.

The night started with Sgt. Dana Bowman skying through the air after leaping from a helicopter, parachuting onto the field. Then, the Legend of the Texan Rider returned to lead the Texans onto the field. When game play started, Tarleton State immediately provided even more fireworks.

On its first drive of the game, Tarleton marched 75 yards in less than four minutes, with Kayvon Britten streaking ahead for a 22-yard score, his first of two rushing touchdowns on the night.

Leading 7-0, the Texans opened the second quarter with another touchdown, as Victor Gabalis floated a deep ball down the middle to Darius Cooper for a 50-yard score. The Texan defense then forced its fourth punt in four drives, and Patrick Jones set the offense up with great field position thanks to a 47-yard punt return. The Texans capitalized, handing it off to Derrel Kelley III four straight times, his last carry a 23-yard touchdown to put Tarleton ahead 21-0. Later in the frame, the Texans forced a turnover on downs, then scored again, this time Britten rushing it in from three yards out, his 10th total touchdown on the year.

Tarleton led 28-0 at the break.
Yet again,

Tarleton scored a touchdown on its first drive of the quarter, this time a 50-yard march capped off by a Gabalis 18-yard pass to Kelley. The Texans seemingly had a safety a short while later after kicker/ punter Adrian Guzman pinned the Eagles at the 1-vard line, but officials disagreed and the third frame ended with Tarleton ahead 35-0.

For the fourth time in four quarters, the Texans opened the frame with a touchdown.

Caleb Lewis powered

Caleb Lewis powered his way into an 18-yard touchdown, the fifth by a Tarleton running back on the night.

It was a complete team performance by the Purple and White, who outgained Morehead State 515-113 in total yardage. The Texans had 302 rushing yards to -11 by the Eagles, making it back-to-back games for Tarleton with more than 300 rushing yards, their first such stretch since Nov.



COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Homecoming week is always a little sweeter when Texan Football culminates it with a win.

2-8, 2019. Their -11 rushing yards allowed are the fifth fewest rushing yards allowed in a game across all of NCAA Division I, FCS and FBS, this season.

The Texans had 26 first downs to Morehead State's 10, forcing the Eagles to punt 11 times, which is tied for the most punts the Eagles have had in a game in program history. There were no turnovers by either team on the night.

Gabalis completed 13-of-

24 for 210 yards and two touchdowns. Britten ran for 143 yards and two touchdowns on 14 carries, averaging 10.2 yards per rush. Kelley also had two touchdowns, rushing it nine times for 38 yards and a score, and adding an 18-yard touchdown reception. Lewis went 77 yards on nine carries (8.6 YPC), plus a touchdown. Cooper led the receiving group with four catches, 69

yards and a touchdown.

Three different Texans had

a sack, one each by Ahmir Crowder, Josh Griffis and O'tay Baker. Devin Sterling had two tackles for loss, and Brandon Tolvert had three quarterback hurries.

The Texans are back on the road next week for what will likely be a ranked matchup. Central Arkansas is currently No. 20 in the Stats Perform FCS Football Rankings. The Texans will battle the Bears at Estes Stadium in Conway, Arkansas, on Saturday, Oct. 28, at 4 p.m.

Tarleton State drops 4-set battle to UTRGV

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Texan Volleyball dropped its Homecoming match on Saturday, Oct. 21 against the Vagueros.

the Vaqueros.

The Texans started off strong and claimed the first set, 25-23. UTRGV took the next set 25-16 and saw the final two sets end at 25-21. Tarleton State is now 11-12 overall and 2-7 in Western Athletic Conference play after falling to the Vaqueros. University of Texas Rio Grande Valley tallied 54 digs, 52 kills, 47 assists, 14 blocks, and 10 aces. UTRVG is 14-9 overall and 8-2 in

conference.
In the match against the Vaqueros, the Texans compiled 51 kills, 45 digs, 44 assists, six blocks and four aces. Rajini Fitzmaurice led the team with 11 kills. Emma Burke contributed 10 kills of her own and Breanna

McDonough tallied nine.
Burke led the Texan defense with four blocks.
Madison Frank and
McDonough each claimed two blocks as well. Megan
Hodges also led the team in assists (34) and digs
(13). Matti Theurer earned

12 digs for the match and Fitzmaurice tallied eight of

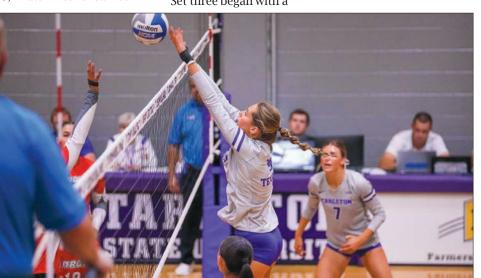
A pair of kills from the Vaqueros put the visitors on the board first in the opening frame. A fourscore run claimed the lead for Tarleton State, but the Vagueros answered with two more to tie the set. Both teams went back and forth for the next two points but kills from Fitzmaurice and McDonough put UTRGV down by two. Three consecutive points from the visiting team closed in on Tarleton State but Allison Bryant sealed the set with a kill for a 25-23 final.

In set two, UTRGV came out strong taking a 5-0 lead. The Vaqueros led the entire second stanza. The Texans saw the closest score of the frame at 10-14 after a kill from Fitzmaurice and an error from the visitors. Tarleton saw kills from Melina Maldonado Ortiz and Fitzmaurice, and an ace from Schirpik for the home team's final points. A pair of errors from Tarleton State tallied the last two points for UTRGV to close the set at 25-16.

Set three began with a

kill from the Vaqueros but the next three points were claimed by the Purple and White. The Texans led the frame until a kill from Luisa Silva Dos Santos tied the set at point eight. A four-score run saw the home team up by four. A strong Vaquero offense took the next five points for a two-point lead at 18-16. From there, UTRGV led the remainder of the stanza. Burke laid down a pair of kills, followed by a kill from McDonough to see the 20th point for the Texans. An error from the visiting team added the last point for the Purple and White but a kill from Perris Key saw the set point for a 25-21 final.

In a very competitive fourth set, both teams took turns leading the stanza. Set four saw four lead changes and eight ties. The final tie of the frame came at the 19th point after a kill from Frank. Three consecutive points from the visitors saw UTRGV up, 22-19. A service error from the Vaqueros and a kill from Schirpik saw the Texans at 21-22. The visitors saw a three-score run to close out the set at 25-21.



COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Texan Volleyball dropped its Homecoming match on Saturday, Oct. 21 against the Vaqueros.



COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY WACO -- Two main draw singles tickets and a doubles run highlighted the Texans' time on the Brazos at

Tarleton State Tennis sees success at 2023 ITA Regional Championship

Tarleton State University

ITA Regionals on Sunday, Oct. 15 and Monday, Oct. 16..

WACO -- Two main draw singles tickets and a doubles run highlighted the Texans' time on the Brazos at ITA Regionals on Sunday, Oct. 15 and Monday, Oct.

"It's another great competitive weekend in the books for us," said head coach Elianne Douglas-Miron. "Emma [Persson] had an impressive weekend, coming out of the qualifying and beating a player from Rice in the first round."

Persson once again saw success on the court for the Purple and White in singles action. Persson won two straight matches on opening day against Houston and Incarnate Word to punch her ticket to the main draw on Friday.

With a spot locked into the field of 64 on Friday, Persson got an early start beating Chie Kezuka of Rice to send her to the round of 32. She was one of two Texans to face an opponent from Texas in the round of

"Martha [Makantasi] beat a Power Five opponent in Houston and competed well," Douglas-Miron said. "Being able to compete at this level means we are moving in the right direction. Our program is growing, and I'm looking forward to our last event of the fall at the end of the month."

With an automatic bid to the singles main draw, Makantasi opened her time with a bang. With her spot locked into the round of 64, Makantasi earned her way to the round of 32 with a win over Laura Slisane of Power Five conference member, University of Houston. In the round of 32, Makantasi saw stiff compe-

tition in the University of Texas.

On the doubles side of things, Maretha Burger and Makantasi saw a deep run come to fruition. Following a hard-fought loss in the opening round of play, the pair made a deep run in the consolation bracket.

Burger and Makantasi earned a first-round bye before facing a pair from Texas State. The Texans dominated with an 8-1 win over the Bobcats. They then moved onto the quarterfinals and faced North Texas where they faced a bigger challenge, still coming away with the win 8-5. The Texans' run came to an end when they faced off against the Texas in the semi-finals.

The Texans will be back in action Oct. 27-29 when they head to Abilene for the Wildcat Invitational hosted by Abilene Christian.

STAY CONNECTED AT HCNEWS.COM

STARTING OCT. 27

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF GATESVILLE HAUNTED HOUSE

The Boys and Girls Club of Gatesville will host a haunted house with the theme - Carnival of the Dead.

The haunted house will be open on the following dates:

Friday, Oct. 27, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 28, from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 30, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 31, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tickets will cost \$8 each

for adults, and \$5 each for children.

For more information, contact the Boys and Girls Club of Gatesville at 254-865-8347.

The Boys and Girls Club of Gatesville is located at 2533 E. Main St.

OCT. 28

ANNUAL HALLOWEEN CANDY MAZE AND FOOD DRIVE

The Halloween Candy Maze and Local Food Drive will be on Oct. 28, from 5 p.m. until 10 p.m. This

year's event will be sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) post 8577, Barnard Beef Cattle Company, and Liberators L.E.M.C, and Front Porch Reality.

Admission will be any canned or non-perishable food items, which will be donated to the Gatesville Care Center and to the Hidden Gem Family Care Center.

This year there will be animated props for the children to enjoy. The food drive will include a children's maze, adult/big kid scary maze, a train ride, and live actors.

The Halloween Candy Maze will be held at 1518 Golf Course Road in Gates-

ANNUAL BOOZAAR

Gatesville's Boozaar is just around the corner and will be taking place on Saturday, Oct. 28 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on the Coryell County Courthouse Square. The Boozaar is the community's annual Halloween party on the square.

For more than 20 years, the Boozaar has provided Gatesville with a safe and free family Halloween experience. In the past, around 70 businesses and organizations have participated to hand out candy and provide games for the children.

In 2000, the City of Gatesville, along with local businesses and organizations, came together to provide treat stops and game booths

for kids of all ages. Now, a tradition within the community, the Boozaar is the most well-attended event of the

Treat stops are businesses located on the square of the Boozaar route. They will be handing out treats from the sidewalk in front of their business to kids as they make their way around the route. Treat stations are businesses that are not located downtown but set up booths around the square to provide free candy, games, and activities for families.

In addition, there will be a costume contest with categories for all ages. The costume contest will be hosted by the Gatesville Public Library and will take place at the Boozaar on the square. It will start promptly at 6:15 p.m. It moves fast, so contestants need to be on time, so they won't miss their age category. Age categories will include newborn to two years old, three to five vears old, six to nine years old, 10 to 12 years old, teen, adult, and family/friends. Family/friends theme costumes must have a central idea ("Wizard of Oz," "Flintstones," etc.). No registration is necessary. Prizes will be awarded to first, second, and third place in each cat-

There will be a Storybook Pumpkin Contest for the community to participate in as well. All entries should have been submitted by Wednesday, Oct. 25 to the Gatesville Public Library.

The winners of the contest will be on display at the Boozaar, and prizes will be awarded to first, second, and third place in each cat-

Along with the costume contest and the Storybook Pumpkin Contest, the Gatesville Public Library will host a Scary Story Writing Contest as well. Entries for the contest should have been submitted to the Gatesville Public Library by Wednesday, Oct. 25.

For more information, contact the Gatesville Public Library at 254-865-5367.

The Gatesville Public Library is located at 111 N. 8th St. and the Coryell County Courthouse Square is located at 620 E. Main St.

CHARLIE'S WAGS AND WHISKERS DOG COS-**TUME CONTEST**

Local adoption and rescue center Charlie's Wags and Whiskers will host a dog costume contest on Saturday, Oct. 28.

Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. and will cost \$10 for each dog. All the proceeds will benefit Charlie's Wags and Whiskers.

The contest will begin at approximately 10 a.m., and each dog entered will receive a goody bag.

There will be a first, second, and third place prize for each winner.

Charlie's Wags and Whiskers is located at 1111 W. Main St. in Gatesville.

OUTDOOR FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Pennoli Bed and Breakfast will host an outdoor movie night on Saturday, Oct. 28. The event will take place following the annual Boozaar, and admission is free.

From 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., there will be free candy to stop by, and trick or treat.

Before the movie begins there will be plenty of snacks and beverages to enjoy, such as a slice of Studebakers pizza and a soda for seven dollars, and Chef Ray's Kettle Corn. All items sold will be cash payments

The 1996 film "James and the Giant Peach" will begin playing at approximately 8:15 p.m. Be sure to bring a chair and blankets.

For more information, contact Pennoli Bed and Breakfast at 360-560-5615.

Pennoli Bed and Breakfast is located at 1009 E. Main Street in Gatesville.

OCT. 28

REHABLIVING AT THE MEADOWS TINY TOTS COSTUME CONTEST

Coryell Health RehabLiving at the Meadows will host its annual Tiny Tots costume contest on Monday, Oct. 30, and will be from 3 p.m. to

Children up to five years of age can participate. There will be three prizes given out this year for first, second, and third places.

For more information, contact Coryell Health RehabLiving at 254-404-2500. The Meadows is located at 110 Chicktown Rd. in Gates-

OCT. 31

MEADOWS HALLOWEEN FUN FEST

RehabLiving at the Meadows will host a Halloween Fun Fest on Tuesday, Oct. 31. The fun fest will be held from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., and is onen to the community, residents, staff, and families.

There will be plenty of activities to enjoy, including a tattoo booth, a petting zoo, tin can toss, witch hat toss, pumpkin bowling, corn hole, and a dunking booth. Treats will be provided as well, such as popcorn, snow cones, cotton candy, and funnel cakes.

Trick or treating for everyone will be from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The Meadows is accepting candy donations for the event.

For more information, contact RehabLiving at the Meadows at 254-404-2500.

RehabLiving at the Meadows is located at 110 Chicktown Rd. in Gatesville.

Mother Neff State Park to host Fall Festival Nov. 4

Staff Reports

Mother Neff State Park will host its annual fall festival on Saturday, Nov. 4, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Park entry will be free during the event.

The fall celebration will

have activities including nature hikes, storybook trails, children's activities, demonstrations, and much

Mother Neff State Park is one of the first Texas State Parks where people have

been coming for thousands of years.

For more information, contact Mother Neff State Park at 254-853-2389.

Mother Neff State Park is located at 1921 Park Road 14, in Moody.

Live Oak Baptist Church to hold Fall Festival Oct. 28

Staff Reports

Live Oak Baptist Church will host a fall festival on Saturday, Oct. 28, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The festival will include

tivities, including a trunk or treat, snacks, games, prizes, a train ride, and a bounce house.

For more information,

many family-friendly ac- contact Live Oak Baptist Church at 254-865-5681.

Live Oak Baptist Church is located at 113 FM 107 in Gatesville.

FBC of Gatesville to host Fall Festival Oct. 28

Staff Reports

The First Baptist Church of Gatesville will host a fall festival on Saturday, Oct. 28 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 many various activities, such as a cake walk, music, a bounce house, games, popcorn, candy, crafts, and a chili cookoff.

For more information,

The festival will include the First Baptist Church of Gatesville can be reached at 254-865-2014.

First Baptist Church of Gatesville is located at 912 E. Main St.



Gatesville Church of Christ presents Trunk or Treat Oct. 28

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Church of Christ will host a Trunk or Treat on Saturday, October 28 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

This free event will take

place in the church parking lot.

to wear a Halloween cos-

The Trunk or Treat will feature hot dogs, candy, games, and lots of fun in a safe environment. Be sure

For further questions, contact the church office at 254-865-2438.

The Gatesville Church of Christ is located at 2417 E. Main Street.

Gatesville Parks and Recreation to host Trick or Tree Disc Golf Tournament to be held Oct. 28

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Parks and Recreation Department will host a Trick or Tree Disc Golf Tournament that will be held on Saturday, Oct. 28. Meet at the Gatesville City Pool at 9 a.m. to participate in the tournament.

All players are welcome, including beginners, intermediate, and advanced.

ways to win the tournament, such as closest to the pin, the longest drive, a costume contest, and the standings for each tournament played.

Disc golf is played like traditional golf, but with discs instead of balls and clubs. One throw is counted each time the disc is thrown and when a penalty is incurred. The goal

There are four different is to play each hole in the fewest strokes possible. The hole is completed when the disc comes to rest in a disc golf basket.

For more information, visit www.TeamSideline. com/GatesvilleTX.

The Gatesville City Pool is located at 300 S. 8th St.

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Job summaries at www.CoryellHealth.org



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& ARRT w/1 yr. exp. in CT/X-Ray

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Cath Lab Tech – FT

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Technician - FT

Circulating RN

• PACU RN - FT

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- PCA PRN for Gatesville, Copperas Cove, and Hamilton **INFECTION PREVENTION:** • BSN-RN – FT; Preferable
- Certified Infection Control & Epidemiology **MEDICAL CLINIC:** • CMA/LVN - FT
- Registration Clerk Waco FT
- **CULINARY:**
- Cook Assistant FT

- Paramedic PRN

- Paramedic FT
- EMS:

- *\$8,000 SIGN ON BONUS
- · Cath Lab RN FT EMT – PRN

OTHER STIPULATIONS MAY APPLY. ASK FOR DETAILS. **BENEFITS OFFERED:**

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

***SIGN ON BONUSES W/1-YEAR COMMITMENT**

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

Job summaries at www.CoryellHealth.org



Front Desk Help Wanted

• Must be someone who is strong and capable, and willing to do some heavy lifting, up to 80 lbs. and great personality that enjoys working with people.

• Position includes customer services, answering phone, helping customer at the front desk, stock inside materials, sometimes may need to help load customer in the vard or unload inside materials with small forklift. Working knowledge of metal building construction materials needed. This is a manual labor position (must meet all qualifications to hire).

• Must be able to use a computer and Microsoft word. We will teach you how to use QuickBooks.

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Apply in person at 1411 N. Hwy. 36.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC **HEARING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIV-EN TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS, THAT:

Upon the Petition of the Property Owners, the City of Gatesville, Texas proposes to institute annexation proceedings to enlarge and extend the boundary limits of said city to include the following described territory, to-wit:

135.03 acres of the William Suggett Survey, Abst. No. 912, Coryell County, Texas, and being part of a 156.2 acre tract of land described in a deed from Rebecca Berry to Krista Ann Moreland, dated June 14, 2021, recorded as Doc. No. 339484 of the Official Public Records of Coryell County, Texas.

A public hearing will be held by and before the City Council of the City of Gatesville, Texas on the 14th day of November, 2023 at 5:30 o'clock in the City Council Chamber of the City Hall of the City of Gatesville, Texas, 110 North 8th Street, Gatesville, Texas, for all persons interested in the above proposed annexation. At said time and place all such persons shall have the right to appear and be heard. Of all said matters and things, all persons shall have the right to appear and he heard. Of all said matters and things, all persons interested in the things and matters herein mentioned will take notice.

By order of the City Council of the City of Gatesville, Texas this the 10th day of October, 2023.

Gary Chumley, Mayor

ATTEST: Wendy Cole, City The purpose of this meeting is Secretary 00030420

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Augusta Lee Taylor, Deceased, were issued on 8-30-23, in Cause No. 23-10877, pending in the County Court-at Law of Coryell County, Texas, to: Freda

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: Freda Lamkin Estate of Augusta Lee Taylor 211 East Halstead Avenue, Apt A Copperas Cove, Texas 76522

DATED the 10th day of Oct., 2023.

Dori Ray Mistic Attorney for Freda Lamkin State Bra No.: 04091800 P.O. Box 246, Copperas Cove, Texas 76522

Telephone: (254) 547-6000 or 6800\ Facsimile: (254) 547-4157

E-mail: doriraymistic@hotmail.com 00030446

PUBLIC NOTICES

Legal Notice

In a meeting on November 2, 2023, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission (the Commission) will consider authorizing the acquisition of approximately 95 acres at Mother Neff State Park. The public will have an opportunity to comment on the proposed transaction before the Commission takes action. The meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. at the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Headquarters, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744. Prior to the meeting, public comment may be submitted to Trey Vick, Land Conservation, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744, or by email to trey. vick@tpwd.texas.gov, or via the department's website at www.tpwd.texas.gov. the TPWD website at tpwd. texas.gov for the latest information regarding the Commission meeting.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamen-Ashby Jung, Deceased, were issued on 8-30-23 in Cause No. 23-10884, pending in the County Court-at-Law of Coryell County, Texas, to: Jodi L. Jones.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 16 day of Oct.,

Dori Ray Mistic Attorney for Jodi L. Jones State Bar No.: 04091800 907 S. Main St. Copperas Cove, TX 76522 Telephone: (254) 547-6000 Facsimile: (254) 547-4157 E-mail: doriraymistic@hotmail.com

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEET-ING TO DISCUSS EVANT ISD: State Financial Accountability Rating

Evant ISD will hold a public November 13, 2023 6:00 p.m. EISD Board Room 339 Memory Lane, Evant,

to discuss Evant ISD's rating on the state financial accountability system.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE: All real estate advertising

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

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

To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICES

CITATION BY PUBLICATION - TRC109 & 114

THE STATE OF TEXAS: IN THE MATTER OF MARRIAGE OF PATRICIA ANNETTE SUTTON DAVID ALLEN SUTTON

Cause No: CCL-23-55168 IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

TO: Defendant DAVID ALLEN SUTTON OR ANYONE HAVING INTEREST IN THE MARRIAGE OF DAVID ALLEN SUTTON AND PATRICIA ANNETTE SUTTON -**GREETING**

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT: "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 twenty days after the date you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. In addition to filing a written answer with the clerk, you may be required to make initial disclosures to the other parties of this suit. These disclosures generally must be made no later than 30 days after you file your answer with the clerk. Find out more at TexasLawHelp.org."

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Petition at or before 10:00 o'clock AM on the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days after the date of this citation before the Honorable JOHN LEE, COUNT COURT AT LAW of Coryell County, at the Courthouse in said County in Gatesville, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said court on the 10/05/2023 in the above entitled cause.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to wit: as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at

Gatesville, Texas, thus 17th day of October 2023. tary for the Estate of Linda Attorney for Plaintiff or Petitioner

CHET SOUTHWORTH, 5302 DEERWOOD TRAIL, KILLEEN, TX 76542

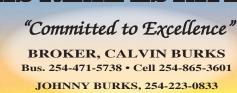
Clerk of the Court: Becky Moore, District Clerk, P.O. Box 4, Gatesville, Coryell County, Texas

By: K. Gajdica 00030445

REAL ESTATE

REAL ESTATE

BURKS REAL ESTATE



715 E. U.S. Hwy. 84, Evant, TX 76525 For complete listings, go to www.burksrealestate.com

▶ 3 Br, 1 Ba Brick Home 371 N. Hwy. 281 Evant, TX, Hardwood floors, large backyard. \$128,500

▶ 4 Br. 2 Ba Frame home, 420 W. Main, Hamilton, TX, hardwood floors, laminate wood in kitchen, ceramic tile in bathrooms, lots of cabinet space in kitchen, large master bedroom, corner lot, beautiful woodwork throughout the home, garage-workshop, covered carport, privacy fence. \$225,000

▶ 1.469 acres, Lampasas River Place Subdivision, Lampasas River frontage, good tree cover, electricity along north property line, Kempner water line runs along the front of the property. \$125,000

▶ 10.01 acres East of Evant, TX in Coryell County on CR 160. Lot 39, Buffalo Creek Ranch Subdivision. Rolling terrain, good tree cover, OWNER FINACING, TERMS 15% DOWN, 7.5 % INTEREST, & CAN DO 10-15- OR 20-YEAR NOTE. \$139,900 ▶ 10.01 acres, Lot 41 in Phase 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX. Good Tree cover, Rolling Terrain, Fiber Optic Internet. \$149,500

along back of the property, nice home site overlooking the branch. \$185.000 ▶ 11 +/- acres, Arnett, TX in Coryell County, good tree cover, nice home site, wil need to be fenced on the east boundary. MCWSC may be available. \$179,500 ▶ 17.85 acres, 296 Cross Timbers Lane Gatesville, 2 homes, main home 3 Br, 2 Ba

▶ 10.01 acres. Lot 48 in Phase 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX, Dry Branch

brick home, open floor plan, second home 2 Br 2 Ba single wide mobile home, 2 covered parking spaces, good tree cover, rolling terrain, storage building, excellent fences,1 stock pond. \$749,500 ▶ 20 acres, Evant, TX, Rio Escondido Subdivision, Lot 23 Phase 1, good tree cover rolling terrain, gated subdivision, electric available, Fiber Optic Internet, \$215,000

▶ 20.02 acres, Evant, TX, PR 42107, Hamilton County, Lot 43 Phase 6 Rio Escon dido, rolling terrain, good tree cover, season creek. \$265,000 22.2 Acres, 4 Br, 2 Ba Manufactured Home by Palm Harbor, open floor plan, large master bedroom, his & her closets, 2 living areas, 14 ft x 35 ft sunroom, laminate wood floors, ceramic floors in kitchen, laundry room & bathrooms, 8 ft x 40 ft container with lean-to for a carport, outbuildings & barn that has not been completed

water well, rolling terrain, good tree cover. \$649,500 ▶ 25.06 acres Pottsville, TX, Hamilton County, Paloma Vista Subdivision Lot 31

rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, great views. \$275,000 ■ 30.528 ac. East of Evant, TX. Great views, scattered tree cover, small pond, Evant ISD. Electricity across the road, you will need to drill a water well for water. \$365,000 ▶ 33.43 acres, near Coryell City, Coryell County, FM 929 & CR 260 frontage, rolling

terrain, good views. \$295,000 ■ 38 +/- acres, South of Pearl, TX, Coryell County, FM 183 frontage, rolling terrain

scattered tree cover, nice views, great home site. \$372,400 41.0457 acres Hamilton, TX, CR 404, Hamilton County, rolling terrain, scattere tree cover, approx. 25 acres farmland, 2 stock tanks, & good fences. \$449,000 ▶ 47.332 ac. south of Ireland, TX, good tree cover, rolling terrain, good fencing on 3

sides, southside will need to be fenced. \$395,000 ▶ 50.24 acres, 3/2.5 home, 2171 CR 419, Evant, TX, rolling terrain, 40% being good tree cover, the remaining balance being open pasture, great views. \$649,500. ▶ 58.51 acres, 3 Br, 2 Ba frame home, 6630 FM 183, Evant, TX. Water well, sev

outbuildings, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover & 2 stock tanks. \$585,000

▶ 60.23 acres, CR 238 near Turnersville, TX. 1 stock tank, good fences, scattered tree cover, rolling terrain, \$361,380. ▶ 68.9 acres, 3/2.5 rock home, 101 Mac Dr., Gatesville, TX. Approx. 2900 ft of Leor

River frontage, ceramic tile floors, carpet in bedrooms, vaulted ceiling, rock fireplace granite countertops, breakfast bar, garden tub, metal building approx. 45 ft x 24 ft barn approx. 50 ft. x 30 ft., cattle pens, 1 stock tank ,approx. 48 acres of coastal

▶ 74.264 ac. West of Purmela, TX FM 1241, 1 tank, barn with cattle pens, good ex terior fencing, approx. 65 acres good grazing pasture with coastal & native grasses frontage on FM 1241 & CR 181. \$508,709

▶ 82.43 acres West of Evant, TX, Mills County. Open pasture, scattered mesquite tree cover, native grasses, 1 stock tank, fenced on 3 sides. \$560,524

▶ 88.007 acres, 36 ft. Travel Trailer, 25 ft. x 30 ft. metal barn, Electricity, 1 tank seasonal branch, water well, scattered tree cover, good hunting. \$650,000

▶ 106 +/- Acres, CR 180, Purmela, TX, Coryell & Hamilton County, good tree cover. rolling terrain,1 tank, paved road frontage, electricity is across the road. \$832,100 ▶ 154.904 acres, Turnersville, TX, paved CR 226 Coryell County, brick home that is in need of repair, water well, 1 $\tan k$, 1 $\tan n$ 100 ft. x 50 ft, 1 $\tan n$ 50 ft. x 48 ft a 1 a120 ft. x 48 ft., good set of cattle pens & grain storage bin. 24-acre field, remaining acreage open pasture with native grasses. The property is in Jonesboro I. S. D. Owners will consider owner financing. \$929,424

▶ 179.562 acres 1.6 miles south of Gatesville, TX, FM 116 frontage, great views

stock tank, rolling terrain & scattered tree cover. \$1,166,255 ▶ 199.86 acres, 4/2 Manufactured Home, 1856 sq. ft., 1805 CR 180, Purmela, TX Coryell County, fully furnished, 2 stock tanks, 8 ft. x 40 ft storage container, storage building with water storage tank, barn, cattle pens, water well 560 ft deep, rolling terrain, good tree cover, paved road frontage. \$1,568,901

210 +/- acres, Carlton, TX, Comanche County, approx. 5000 ft of Resley Creek frontage, small cabin, water well, electricity & cattle pens, 2 tanks one approx. 2.4 acres, over 120 ft of change in elevation & good tree cover, approx. 48 acres of improved grass, & good exterior and interior fencing. \$1,450,000

COMMUNITY

Raven Garcia, Metal Artist, Speaks to Morris Federation

BY MARSHA LEE Contributing Writer

etal Artist, Raven Garcia, of Temple, spoke to members of the Morris Federation at their October meeting. She has worked as a licensed massage therapist for around 24 years. However, she says that she has always had artistic talents and abilities but was never encouraged to pursue those talents. However, she remembers as a child in elementary school always loving to make things; art was her entertainment. Then in 2007, she found herself experiencing depression and just an overall lack of happiness. Something that gave her satisfaction and joy was missing from her life.

She said, "After some soulsearching, I finally realized what that one "thing" was: it was art, a love of art and design, combined with an enjoyment of creating things and problem solving."

At that time, she had moved to Austin and was working towards a degree in Interior Design. However, while following that pathway, she got sidetracked when she discovered metal art and sculpture, realized her passion and natural talent in working in metals, and fell madly in love with metal sculpting. So, her degree in Interior Design changed into a degree in Art Metals at Austin Community College. This career included many different methods of welding and metal forming, using various tools and heavy-duty equipment.

"It is a very physically challenging medium and most of the time it requires getting sweaty and dirty. It can be dangerous, due to the equipment and tools used to create my art," Raven explained. "I believe the most complete way to discover your potential is to

use the talents and gifts you

are blessed with."

After earning her degree, she began honing her skills in a metal studio she built for herself in Copperas Cove, and in 2014, forged her way to a successful art career. She became one of 25 "Creatives" selected for the inaugural 2014 Artist, INC. Live-Austin. This was an intensive six-week seminar, in which "Creatives" were taught the business side of being an artist.

What exactly does Raven do? The sign on her business card and shop says, "Custom CNC Plasma cutting, metal forging, sculpture, and artistic welding for home and business, accessories, furniture, lighting, yard art, and more..."

Raven's answer would be, "I enjoy sculpting metal in a way that is recognizable, but with a distinct or slight exaggeration, and on occasion, I use light to enhance the exaggeration. Sometimes, my art is born from recycled or reclaimed objects. It's exciting to take discarded material and turn it into something completely different

and amazing!" Raven continued, "I like feeling that I'm doing my part to make this a greener, more positive world, guiding people to see things in a whole new, creative, and innovative way."

She also enjoys creating one-of-a-kind custom commissioned pieces for clients.

Raven adds, "It's another opportunity that challenges and inspires me to tap into my potential. It also greatly aids in my expansion as an artist and as a person."

Raven brought two pieces of metal sculptures with her: "Idle Hand" and "Rustic Rhino." "Idle Hand" is a solid metal hand with fingers and hand, palm-up, holding a crystal globe. The other sculpture, "Rustic Rhino," is not made from a solid piece of metal, but rather it is formed from a sheet of discarded, recycled, weathered 22-gauge sheet metal. Raven explained that she first cut out paper patterns of the individual body parts that she would fit together to form the rhino. She then fit the pattern pieces to the discarded piece of sheet metal, cut them out, and put the body parts together, before forging and shaping the head. She showed a video of her workshop and some of the sculpting and cutting tools she uses to form and forge her metal artwork.

Raven went on to describe some other special metal fabrication projects she has made. There was a lamp called "Enlightened Hibiscus." The flower's petals were formed from metal, with a light in the flower's center, made from white and red LEDs, and attached to a base by a metal stem. Another recent metal fabrication project involved making a Fireplace Swing Arm to use for cooking indoors. The client wanted to be prepared for the next time she suffered several days of power outage during winter weather. She requested a design incorporating tree branches.

Raven explained, "I designed the tree branch motifinside the swing arm on my computer, then cut it out using a CNC plasma system, and tack welded it to the arm. And viola! A custom-designed fireplace swing arm!"

The client could now hang a pot from the end of the swing gate and prepare food without a need for electricity. Raven designed a large scroll doggie door, with selfclosing hinges, for another client. In this case, she drew out the design on paper like she wanted it, then laid it out on her computer, and finally forged the metal work to match the design on the paper. The metal was painted white and given a vintage, "weathered" appearance.

Another client requested a lighted tree branch chandelier, made of metal cut to resemble tree limbs. She had to do a little research on this project. Because it would be made of metal, it would be heavy, and it would hang about 15 feet above the floor. She hand-forged and welded mild steel tubing, which would then be wired with LED lights of varying sizes. The wiring could not be run through the metal limbs, but it would instead have to be attached to the limbs on the outside, thus requiring some work at blending the wiring with the branches. She carefully ran the wiring with LED lights of varying sizes along the branches, working hard to camouflage the wiring. Hanging from the high ceiling, the lights on the chandelier were run by remote control. Other unusual requests have included metal



COURTESY PHOT

Metal Artist, Raven Garcia, is shown with two of her works, "Idle Hand" and "Rustic Rhino."

figures or skeleton hands to attach to the handlebars of a motorcycle, a gargoyle for the handle of a lawn mower for a military man over at Fort Cavazos, another gargoyle request for a sissy bar on a motorcycle, and many more creative projects.

Raven creates some of her pieces for herself. She planned on making one for herself this past summer, but it was simply too hot to work in her shop. Some pieces she sells in Copperas Cove. And, of course, many of her creations are one-ofa-kind pieces for others.

As Raven would say, "I can design and build almost anything a person can dream up and creating amazing objects from new virgin metal or even reused, reclaimed, and recycled metal is my passion. My skills and talent in this process are

many, and it is extremely rewarding to see the 'Wow!' response I get from folks who see their piece for the first time. The Universe has blessed me with great imagination and varied technical skills, which I'm eager to share. I love problem-solving and showcasing one-of-a-kind pieces for folks who enjoy expressing their individuality and zest for life."

"I am a local artist who specializes in custom work for folks. If you can dream it, I bet I can create it. I specialize in functional work, meaning creating pieces that look super-cool, but also have a helpful function."

Boys and Girls Club to present Boys to Men program Nov. 11

Staff Reports

The Boys and Girls Club of Gatesville will host a Boys to Men program with Christian-based classes on Saturday, Nov. 11, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and is open to ages 13 to 17. Lunch will be provided.

The program will have discussion topics that include response to authority, academic success,

personal decision-making, healthy lifestyles, relationships with girls, fatherhood and family, employment and careers, and personal appearance.

Guest speakers include Coach Aaron Hunter, Pastor Lynn Parks, Justin Hitt, Barrett Pollard, Seth Phillips, Marte Bailey, Patrice Gilbert, David Ashley, Pastor Wray Nunn, Joe Campbell, Kevin George, Coach Chris Simon, Houston Brown, and Tyler Myers.

To sign up, or for more information, contact the Boys and Girls Club of Gatesville at 254-865-8347. The deadline to sign up is Monday,

The Boys and Girls Club of Gatesville is located at 2533 E. Main St.

Bell County Master Gardeners, how to plant trees program, Nov. 16

Staff Reports

The Bell County Master Gardener Association Free Monthly Seminar presents "Planting Trees" on Thursday, Nov. 16, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., at the Texas AgriLife Extension Office, BCMGA Learning Center, 1605 N. Main St., Belton.

Certified Master Gardener's Syl-

via Maedgen, Bob Gordon, and Jerry Lewis will discuss how the elements, overhead obstructions, as well as maintenance play into your tree selection. In addition, they will tell you how to select the best tree for your property. You will also receive a list of trees that grow best in Texas. Last, but certainly not least, they will discuss diseases such as oak wilt and

what to look for and how it affects your trees. You will also learn how to manage frost and freezing temperatures to protect your trees.

The class limit will be 50. Please register at bcmgaspeakers@gmail.

Donations up to \$5 are appreciated to support continuing education opportunities in Bell County.

SUDOKU

Solution for the puzzle that ran Oct. 21.

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com



S('H()()I.

Gatesville ★ Evant ★ Jonesboro ★ Oglesby



Gatesville High School Marching Band

Fightin' Hornet Band makes history for the second year in a row

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH Staff Writer

History was made this past weekend by the Gatesville High School Fightin' Hornet Band during the University Interscholastic League (UIL) Area Competition, and they will advance to the state competition.

Assistant Band Director

Corbin Myers said, "There were two determining factors for this contest." The first UIL Contest was held on Saturday, Oct. 14 at the Midway Panther Stadium at Midway Independent School District. The Band received its 10th consecutive superior rating that earned the band the right to progress to the UIL Area level competition. The competition was held at The Pfield in Pflugerville on Saturday, Oct. 21.

There was a preliminary performance where the top 12 out of 32 bands advanced to the finals portion of the competition. Preliminary

performance times were drawn at random within classes, and there was also a draw for class order for each competition.

While the directors knew the preliminary scores, they did not let the band know what the scores were.

"We did not release the prelims scores to the students, it is a little bit of a superstition for us," Myers said. "The less they know from that round the better they perform overall."

The Fightin' Hornet Band sat in second place during the end of the preliminary competition and finished in third place in finals.

"This is a real sign band's consistency in performance level," Myers said. When the time came to

receive the announcement of the band's final place, band members gathered

around and eagerly waited. "They were excited to make the finals and were in complete shock when Gatesville was one of the last names to be called," Myers said. "The energy was amazing and so special."

"The long hours, hot days, and combing through every detail of each performance is all worth it to see the joy that our students have on their faces when they realize they are one of the best groups around the state of Texas," Myers said. Once the school year begins, band students attend rehearsal for about 40 minutes before their first period class in addition to one rehearsal each Monday evening from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

"The directors overall were blown away by the scores," Myers said. "We always believed that our band could

achieve great things, but the feeling of being towards the top is something that I can't truly put into words."

This is the second year in a row for the group to advance and the fourth time in Gatesville history.

"This group of sophomores, juniors, and seniors have set the stand and pace for the band program going forward," Myers said.

The UIL State 4A Marching Contest will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 1 in San Antonio, inside the Alamodome. The Gatesville Fightin' Hornet Band will take the field at 12:45 p.m.

To support the band program with a donation for their trip to San Antonio, contact Teresa Johnson at 254-248-7984.

GOOD LUCK HORNETS!



4A BI-DISTRICT PLAYOFFS

Gatesville High School Volleyball vs. Georgetown Gateway Prep Monday, Oct. 30 • Belton High School • 6:30 PM

This page is sponsored by The Gatesville Messenger and these businesses.























Gatesville ISD presents coats, hats, and gloves drive

Staff Reports

As the season of winter is approaching, Gatesville Independent School District has its sights set on receiving donations of coats, hats, and gloves from the community with its clothing drive. The drive will be from Wednesday, Nov. 1, through

Thursday, Nov. 30. Both adult and children's sizes will be accepted and are needed. New, or gently used items, are to be

dropped off at any Gatesville ISD school office loca-

For more information, contact Gatesville ISD at 254-865-7251.

RECIPE

Caramel Apple Cake

BY ASHTON RAMMINGER - METHODIST BEST 2008 COOKBOOK

CAKE

- 6 8 small apples 2 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1 c. vegetable oil ½ tsp. salt
- 3 large eggs, lightly beaten 2 ½ c. chopped pecans,
- toasted and divided 2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 3 c. all-purpose flour

Peel and finely chop enough apples to equal 3 cups. Set aside. Stir together sugar, oil, eggs, and vanilla in a large bowl. Stir together flour, cinnamon, baking soda, and salt. Add

to sugar mixture, stirring just until blended (batter will be stiff). Fold in finely chopped apples and one cup pecans. Divide batter evenly between two greased and floured 8-inch round cake pans. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 to 50 minutes or until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Remove from pan and cool on wire racks. Spoon warm Quick Caramel Frosting evenly over the cakes. Sprinkle with remaining 1 ½ cups pecans. Serves 16.

QUICK CARAMEL FROSTING

- 2 (14-oz.) cans sweetened condensed milk
- ½ c. unsalted butter ½ c. firmly packed brown
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract

Place all ingredients in a heavy 3-quart saucepan. Bring to a boil stirring constantly, over medium low heat. Cook, stirring constantly, 3 to 5 minutes or until mixture reaches a pudding-like thickness. Remove from heat. Makes 2 ½ cups.

GATESVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT HOSTS OPEN HOUSE

PHOTOS BY DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Community members attending the Gatesville Volunteer Fire Department's Open House got an up-close look at the fire station and a tour of some fire trucks. Sparky the Fire Dog visited with kids and those attending were able to enjoy refreshments and view fire prevention posters turned in by local children.











FIRST RESPONDER DAY October 28, 2023

Have you ever wondered who comes to help when there's an emergency? Well, it's our amazing first responders! They are like real-life superheroes.

First responders are the brave people

who rush to the rescue when something bad happens. They include firefighters, police officers, paramedics, and even some doctors and nurses. These special people are always ready to help, no

ready to help, no matter the time or the weather.

Firefighters are like fearless dragonslayers. They put out fires and save people from burning buildings. They also help with other emergencies like rescuing animals and even helping in floods.

Police officers are like protectors of the peace. They keep our neighborhoods safe, catch the bad guys, and make sure everyone follows the rules to keep us all safe.

Paramedics are like magical healers. When someone is hurt or sick, they come with their ambulances and take care of them, making sure they get to the hospital in time to get better.

Doctors and nurses are like guardian angels in the hospital. They work hard to make people feel better when they are sick.

First responders are incredibly important because they make our world a safer and happier place. They're always

there when we need them, and we should always be thankful for their bravery and kindness. So, remember to say 'thank you' and 'please' to these heroes, and know that they are always looking out for us

You may have heard to call 9-1-1 in case of an emergency. Do you know what an emergency is?

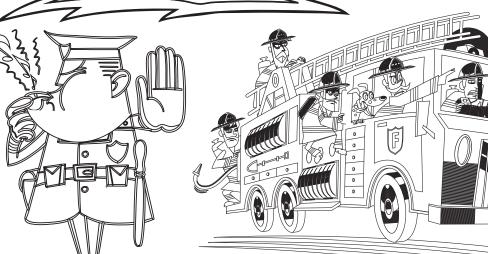
There are three good reasons to call 9-1-1.

To save a life!
To report a fire!
To report a serious crime in progress!



911
Police · Fire · Medical
EMERGENCY









IN ENGLAND, THE POLICE ARE SOMETIMES REFERRED TO AS THIS AFTER SIR ROBERT PEEL, FOUNDER OF THE BRITISH POLICE FORCE.

ANSWER: BOBBIES





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HIDDEN GEM HARVEST FESTIVAL OFFERED FAMILY FUN

PHOTOS BY DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER AND SUSIE MEELBUSCH

Hidden Gem Family Center hosted a Harvest Festival at the Gatesville Civic Center last weekend. The event offered tons of family fun including games, a photo booth, live music, goat roping, cooking and baking competitions, a best dressed pet palooza contest and much more.









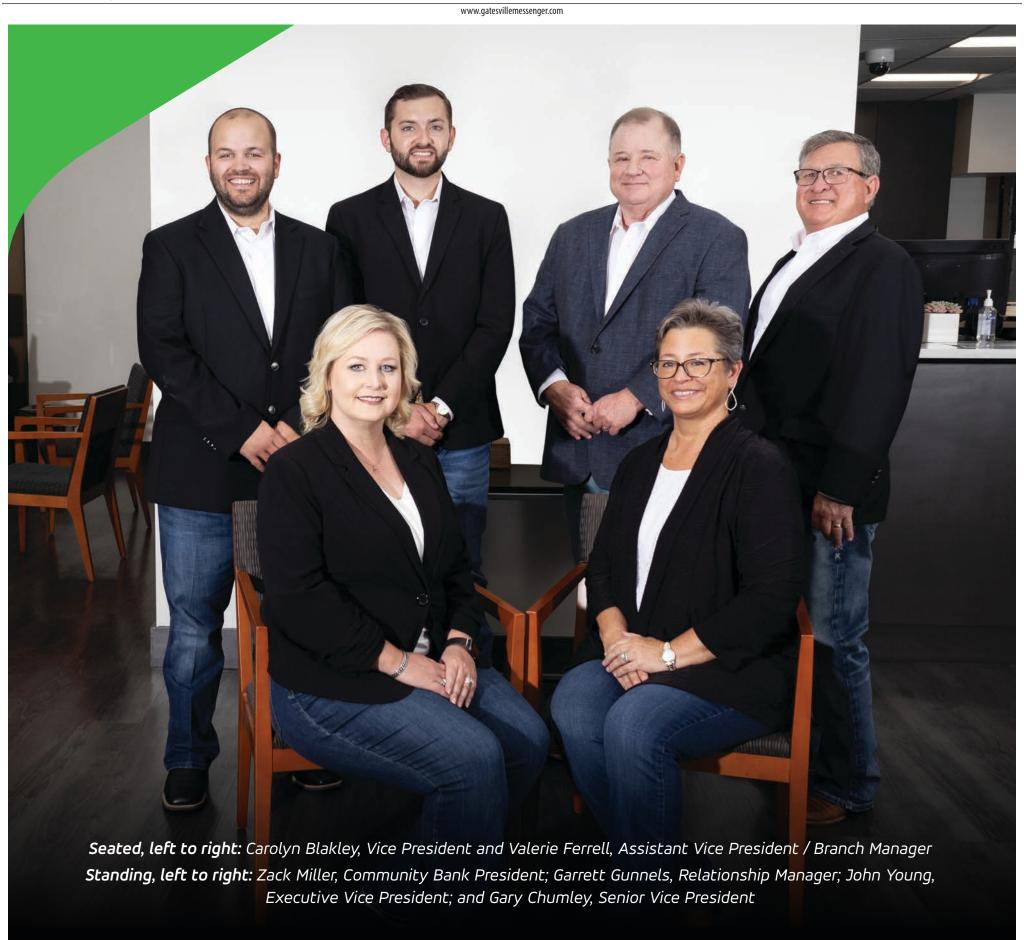








B12 The Gatesville Messenger SATURDAY, Oct. 28, 2023



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