



# THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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Bonnie Latham in front of the State Capitol in Austin.

COURTESY PHOTO

## Latham provides a voice for educators across Texas

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH  
Staff Writer

Gatesville High School educator Bonnie Latham is currently in her 16th year of teaching. She teaches Honors World History and OnRamps U.S. History, which is a college level course through the University of Texas, Austin.

Latham recently made a trip to the Capitol in Austin on Thursday, Oct. 12, to listen to the debates regarding Senate Bill 1.

Senate Bill 1, authored by Senator Brandon Creighton, R-Conroe, would create education savings accounts, a voucher-like program that would allow families access to \$8,000 of taxpayer money to pay for private schools and other educational expenses such as uniforms, textbooks, tutoring, or transportation among other things.

During this year's convocation at Gatesville Independent School District, Amy Dodson with Raise Your Hand Texas, spoke about vouchers and how they could be a problem for public schools.

"I was moved by what she

had to say and when she shared her contact information and told us to reach out if we wanted to know more, that's exactly what I did," Latham said. "The two of us met in September where she explained more to me about how vouchers could negatively impact public schools, especially rural public schools, and I wanted to know how I could help."

After discussions between the two, it was decided that Latham would represent her fellow educators at the Capitol.

"When Amy offered to host me at the capital and get me in front of my state legislators, I was not only honored but very excited," Latham said. "Dr. Pollard and Mrs. Shoaf were incredibly supportive when I reached out and asked if I could go."

Latham's goal for visiting the Capitol was to speak with her legislators and to provide a voice for public educators that goes against the current narrative of being punished by Governor Abbott.

"Personally, I am a Re-

publican, but how he has painted public education this past year has been incredibly disappointing," Latham said. "There are not litter boxes in our schools, I am not pushing a woke agenda on my students, or trying to groom them in any way and we are not pushing pornographic material into the hands of our students from the library."

"Every day, thousands of public-school teachers get up and go to work in a profession that is highly underpaid, undervalued, and yet one of the most demanding fields you can be in," Latham said. "This career is a calling and I thank God for that calling, but there's also a reason why educators are leaving the field in droves, we are sick of being treated like this by our state."

Latham expressed how educators are being sabotaged through state testing standards, lack of funding, and continued mandates placing even more demand on already nonexistent resources.

PLEASE SEE **LATHAM** | B9

## U.S. Army veteran reflects on service helping global and local communities

BY KAYLEE DUSANG  
Staff Writer

For Lieutenant Colonel Robert Schultz, military service paved a way for him to help others and take part in building a stronger society.

Schultz knew early on that he wanted to join the military. As a child, during the height of the Vietnam War, he was influenced by those around him who served their country. After he graduated high school and received an acceptance letter from Texas A&M University, he discovered a path through the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets.

"To help those who can't

help themselves or who need help is something that I've seen so many do before me," Schultz said. "I definitely wanted to fall in suit with that line and help those folks out."

Schultz's 27 years of service began shortly after graduation when he opted to join the Army. After receiving his degree in agriculture, he was commissioned in 1994 as a second lieutenant in the Army Medical Service Corps with the aim of specializing in medical logistics.

Following Schultz's completion of officer basic training, he was stationed

at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, where he began his specialization in healthcare operations and logistics for the Army, which includes the handling and distribution of medical supplies and equipment.

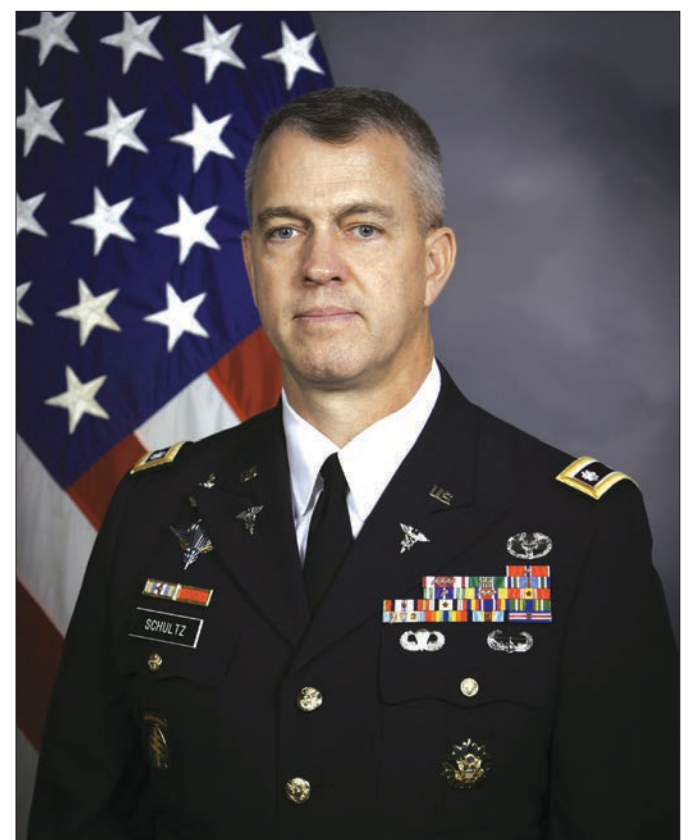
"Operations are something that all are involved with, and logistics involve material items to save lives with jobs involved with item procurement, materials management, and facility construction/management," Schultz said. "Logistics, to me, was and is the more interesting specialty pursuit for me."

After completing his

first assignments at Fort Campbell, he joined the Army Reserve to continue his training in logistics. However, his career took a slight turn when he applied for the 321st Civil Affairs Brigade out of Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio.

Shortly after his acceptance into the civil affairs unit in August 2001, the September 11 attacks occurred, leading to his deployment to the Middle East. He was deployed to Afghanistan from 2003 to 2004 and then to Iraq from 2004 to 2005.

PLEASE SEE **SCHULTZ** | A2



Lieutenant Colonel Robert Schultz

COURTESY PHOTO

## Martinez laces up for UIL cross country state meet

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH  
Staff Writer

Local high school student Vania Martinez will be advancing to the UIL Class 4A state meet after clocking a time of 12:22 to claim third place at the 4A Region III meet.

Martinez has represented Gatesville High School as she has advanced to state

the past three years during her athletic career.

When Martinez was in seventh grade, she became interested in the sport of cross country when her friend invited her to join the team.

"I joined because my friend Callie Smith told me to, and I sort of just clicked with it when I realized I was

decent at it," Martinez said.

Martinez not only runs during practice but also laces up to run in her free time. She maintains staying in shape throughout the season by doing shake outs or doing long runs on the weekends.

"I try to get a minimum of four miles every day, and weekly I want to say

it ranges from 25 to 30 miles," Martinez said. "I train hard even when I feel like I can't, and I try to push beyond my limits when it's hard."

Before Martinez begins a race, she makes sure to pray for herself and her team, as well as after each race is over.

"I just tell myself it's only

two miles, and I try to see the positive outcome of it," Martinez said.

Cross country is more than just a sport for Martinez. It encompasses a time where she can have fun and embrace the outdoors.

"I really like it, because it's a hard sport, but the team is like family so it's worth it," Martinez said.

Martinez expressed how her coaches played a big impact on helping her get to where she is today.

"My coaches are one of the biggest supporters, they have pushed me to work hard and persevere when it gets tough," Martinez said.

Martinez often reflects

PLEASE SEE **MARTINEZ** | A2



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# Gideons...looking for a few good men

BY DAVID SCOTT  
Staff Writer

Gideons International is an association of Christian businesses and professional men and their wives who are dedicated to telling people about Jesus. The Gideons, founded in 1899, began distributing Bibles in 1908. Today, there are more than 269,000 Gideons in 200 countries across the globe who have distributed more than two billion Bibles in 95 languages.

In Gatesville, there are about a handful of Gideons. Since they don't have their own formal organization, they belong to the Copperas Cove Camp and have monthly meetings with them, rotating monthly meetings between Copperas Cove and Gatesville.

It is the desire of the Gatesville Gideons to gain enough members to create a camp of their own.

Local Gideon, Tom Creek, said, "Before I joined, there was just one other Gideon



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Local Gideon, Tom Creek, says that being a Gideon is not just a title, but a way of life.

in this community. I'm at a point now that I think

PLEASE SEE **GIDEONS** | A4

## MARTINEZ

FROM PAGE A1

on how Coach Martin would always say, "Hate me now, thank me later," at early morning practices.

"I am not a morning person, so when Coach Martin said that at 6 in the morning I can't say I hated him but was not very fond," Martinez said. "However, I am 100 percent thanking him now and Coach Moore for pushing me to be better."

As the state meet approaches, Martinez has her mind set on goals she wants to accomplish while competing. She expressed how she would like to set a personal record, and to stay at the front of the pack to get in the top ten.

The UIL Class 4A state meet will be held on Saturday, Nov. 4 at 11:40 a.m. in Round Rock.

COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured is Vania Martinez, who will be competing at the UIL Class 4A state cross country meet Nov. 4.



## SCHULTZ

FROM PAGE A1

Schultz describes his service in the Middle East taking place mostly behind the scenes. He helped plan operations to assist war-torn communities in both countries, which included reconstruction of medical facilities and schools, and establishing programs for disaster relief and disease mitigation.

"It kind of gives them a future, and you hope you're setting them on a path

toward prosperity and to take care of themselves," he said.

Although Schultz is a native Texan from Fort Worth, his career has taken him to various regions throughout the country and overseas. After his operations in the Middle East, he moved to Fort Liberty, formerly known as Fort Bragg, in North Carolina where he became more involved with the planning and building of military medical facilities.

Following several years at Fort Liberty and the receipt

of his master's degree in architecture and health, he received an opportunity to lead various medical military construction projects at Camp Humphreys in Pyongtaek, South Korea.

"My graduation gift was a one-year unaccompanied tour to Korea to oversee the facility construction there," he said.

Eventually, his career brought him to Gatesville when he relocated to Fort Cavazos, formerly known as Fort Hood, as a health facility program manager in 2015. In the base, he said

he had the opportunity to oversee various construction projects, including the opening of the new army medical center and the repurposing of old hospitals.

In 2017, Schultz became the Senior Medical Logistics Planner for III Corps at Fort Cavazos. Due to his role and experience in medical logistics, he helped provide education around the supply and use of personal protective equipment during the COVID-19 outbreak.

"Trying to educate and put folks at ease with PPE shortages and how to ration

around who was authorized and who needed it or not," he said.

After retiring from the Army in 2021, he now works as a contractor for the Joint Operational Medicine Information Systems, where he provides advice about health information technology for military operations.

After 27 years of service and frequent military rotations, Schultz said his main focus today is to spend time with his family and find ways to support his local community.

"They say it's selfless service, but it really impacts the family," he said. "The main thing is to try to be here to help out for all the years that I missed."

Schultz adds that he believes the military is a great opportunity to become a well-respected leader and serve other people.

"I think overall it's a good thing, and I kind of wish [everyone] would have some type of service - if not military, then public service - to help give back and do your part to make the world a better place," he said.



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FROM MY FRONT PORCH

# Political hogwash and political agendas



BY SAM HOUSTON

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

As November nears, the calendar finds us amid the heart of the political season with election day just a few short days away. Going to the polls should be a day to celebrate.

An opportunity for the members of our community to come forward and vote. A chance for the everyday citizen to express their needs and wants and have a direct impact on the leadership that will determine our collective future. It is the fulfillment of the most basic tenets of our democracy and one of the very fundamental reasons why the United States has stood as a beacon to the world for freedom and fairness.

In the last few days, I have been hit by a barrage of campaign flyers, social media posts, and direct mailers, concerning the various elections. I have looked at the

materials, watched the videos, spoken to door-to-door campaign workers, and I must say I have walked away shaking my head. There was a time in our country when candidates developed a platform of what they believed, and they worked to inform the electorate as to their goals and plans for the better operation of our government. It allowed citizens to make informed decisions. Seemingly, those days are long past.

With very few exceptions, I have yet to see candidates come out and factually represent their plan for fulfilling the job upon election. If they are not an incumbent,

they are sure to say the office they seek has gone to heck in a handbasket, and a change must take place, or catastrophic conditions will continue. Seldom is there espoused a clear and cogent plan as to what the candidate has planned to change the situation. On the other hand, incumbents offer little explanation of what they have accomplished while in the office or their plans. Often, they simply attack their opponent, not with specific policy position failures, but with vague attacks on their intentions and motivations.

Candidates use numerous platitudes directed at the electorate, letting the populace hear broad-based, feel-good labels like describing themselves as "Christian" or "Conservative," though offering little explanation as to what that means to the candidate. The underlying tone is they are "more Christian" and "more conservative" than their opponents. There are sometimes innuendos, and occasionally, outright attacks that the opposition is a fake "conservative" or "Christian," an assertion which some would say, seems very un-Christ like. The reality is this group of candidates sees everyone who does not think exactly

like they do as evil. How does one govern the people they represent if they view a portion of the electorate not as the political opposition, but as an enemy? Is there any wonder why we are deadlocked?

Then there are the political catch phrases that say nothing, but infer action. "We need more transparency" is the call, but no specifics are espoused as to what information is being kept from the public. Sadly, the candidates who call for additional transparency frequently are not missing information; they simply reject the information which is available, because it does not fit into their narrative. They have an agenda to fulfill, and information, facts, or evidence is of little value unless it supports that agenda. They are not concerned with what is right, or fair, or even honest, unless it promotes their end goal.

Then there is the long-standing reference to the "good old boys," who evidently are a group of politicians who are in control of the world and manage government in secret to the detriment of the electorate. It would seem this group of individuals is any governing group in power that is not

aligned with the politician making the allegation. It plays into the long-standing "conspiracy" theory that somehow if we simply vote out a couple of people, good government can return, everyone will work together, and life will be wonderful.

My all-time favorite is the candidate who takes a hard stance on cutting taxes. Who wouldn't vote in favor of cutting taxes? Everyone would like to pay less taxes. Everyone I know would also like better schools, better roads, and better infrastructure. These two conflicting ideas are at loggerheads and epitomize the basic conflict in governing: balancing needs and wants with reasonable taxing to acquire the money to fulfill reasonable expectations. Clearly the government cannot spend without restraint, and clearly, they cannot cut taxes to the point they cannot fill the necessary needs of the communi-

ty. Instead of making broad general statements, candidates should, with some degree of specificity, tell us your plan! Don't tell us you will cut waste, without being specific where the cuts lie.

I will vote. I hope my friends and neighbors vote. When the election is over, let us accept the results and attempt to work together to govern wisely and purposely for the good of all. Let us act as a community, accepting our differences and working to understand each other. That is truly the American way. I have my fingers crossed.

Thought for the day: "Elections belong to the people. It's their decision. If they decide to turn their back on the fire and burn their behinds, then they will just have to sit on their blisters." Abraham Lincoln

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

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## Food for Families food drive set for Nov. 17 at fire station

BY DAVID SCOTT  
Staff Writer

Gatesville residents will once again have an opportunity to help those in need through the annual Food for Families food drive, which will take place on Friday, Nov. 17, from 6 a.m. until 8 p.m. at the Gatesville Fire Station, according to Gatesville Care Center Directors Deral McWhorter and Debbie Blanchard.

Gatesville's Food for Families began in 1990 when 6,317 pounds were donated. McWhorter and

Blanchard reported that, "It took us seven years to go over 100,000 pounds." As years progressed, the amounts continued to increase at an amazing rate. As of last year, McWhorter said that the amount of 839,950 pounds was raised. "I do not take it for granted that Gatesville and the surrounding area is home to some of the most generous, sacrificing, deep-hearted people I could imagine," McWhorter said.

According to McWhorter and Blanchard, the need

for an outstanding drive has perhaps never been greater. The availability of food from the Central Texas Food Bank has been limited, forcing the center to purchase food from HEB and Dollar Tree at full price.

The continued mission of Food for Families is to help feed people in need in Central Texas. There is a great need for nonperishable food products. Items needed include canned meats such as tuna, chili, stew and chicken, canned

vegetables, cereals, baby food, peanut butter, dry beans and rice, along with flour, sugar, cornmeal and pasta.

All donations will go to benefit people in need who live in the Coryell County area, where the donations are made.

"We hope the Gatesville area will rise to the occasion this year. Together, we can do this," according to McWhorter and Blanchard.

## 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 education students

- Band instruments
- Maintenance vehicles
- The special education department

- Professional development
- Get portable restrooms by the baseball field functioning

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 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.

## Folks around town



COURTESY PHOTO

Heidi Clough

### Say hello to our neighbor, Heidi Clough!

A full-time caregiver for her daughter with special needs, Heidi moved her family to Gatesville eight years ago. She was drawn by the community's hometown values and compassion for those in need. She has been volunteering for the past seven years with Team Gatesville Special Olympics where she is currently a coach and the head of delegation. She feels blessed to serve such inspirational athletes and treasures the lasting friendships she has made.

Heidi reads The Gatesville Messenger and feels that it keeps the community connected, and she enjoys reading about local history and current events.

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


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### DEADLINES:

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

will not be accepted. However, they will be accepted as paid advertisements. All articles and advertisements must meet our standards and newspaper format as determined by management.

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

**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.

# City of Gatesville looking to make improvements

BY SCOTT ALBERT  
City Manager

The City Council recently approved two crucial agreements that are pivotal for the future of the city's utility services.

The first agreement is a professional services agreement with Freese & Nichols Engineering (FNI) to assess the condition of the City's water production facilities. These facilities include the water treatment plant, intake structure at Lake Belton, booster pump stations, and more. This assessment aims to develop a list of improvements and their associated capital costs. These improvements will be prioritized based on immediate needs. The improvements will not only benefit the citizens of Gatesville but also improve services for regional partners, including The Grove Water Supply Corporation, Flat Water Supply Corporation, Fort Cavazos, Fort Gates Water Supply Corporation, Mountain Water Supply Corporation, Coryell City Water Supply District, and the Texas Department of Criminal Justice facilities. Staff anticipate complet-

ing the water improvement plan within the next six months.

The water improvement plan serves several key purposes:

1. It will assist the city in allocating budgetary resources or securing financing for water system improvements based on priority.

2. It lays the foundation for preparing a water master plan for the City of Gatesville.

3. The plan will be instrumental in developing new wholesale water contracts with our regional partners.

The second agreement approved by the City Council is a \$7,203,000 contract with Matous Construction for improvements at the Stillhouse Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). These improvements involve replacing multiple mechanisms at the WWTP that are 30-plus years old. This marks the first phase of planned improvements for the plant, with the city intending to proceed with a second phase of improvements within the next five years. The Texas Department of Criminal



COURTESY PHOTO  
**Gatesville City Manager Scott Albert**

Justice Facilities will pay for over 60 percent of the costs associated with these improvements. Staff anticipates completing these improvements within the next 18 to 24 months.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all those who have played a crucial role in guiding the city toward the development and execution of these two agreements. Both agreements hold immense significance for the future provision of water to the community/region and the treatment of wastewater from both the city and TDCJ.

# CLOSED in Honour of VETERANS DAY



## Staff Reports

Veterans Day (originally known as Armistice Day) is a federal holiday in the United States observed annually on November 11, for honoring military veterans of the United States Armed Forces (who were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable). It coincides with other holidays including Armistice Day and Remembrance Day, which are commemorated in other countries that mark the anniversary of the end of World War I.

### Veteran's Day closings

### for Nov. 11:

Veterans Day closings will occur on Friday, Nov. 10 to honor our veterans. The closings will include the following:

#### GOVERNMENT

The City of Gatesville will be closed. The City of Oglesby and the City of Evant will be closed. The Coryell County Courthouse will be closed, and the Farm Service Agency will be closed.

#### FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Extraco Bank, Cadence Bank, Educator's Credit Union, and the First National Banks of Gatesville, Evant, and Oglesby will all

be closed.

#### POST OFFICES

All local post offices will be closed on Friday in the surrounding area.

#### LIBRARY

The Gatesville Public Library will be closed on Friday, Nov. 10, and Saturday, Nov. 11.

#### SENIOR CENTER

The Gatesville Multi-Service Center will be closed on Friday, Nov. 10 and Saturday, Nov. 11.

#### MUSEUM

The Coryell Museum and Historical Center will remain open on Veterans Day.



## Corks & Kegs

# Annual Corks and Kegs to be held 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 wine cup along with a wristband for five wine tastings. To purchase tickets online,

visit [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com), 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.

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.

# 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 mindfulness-based approaches to stress reduction.
- Understanding how to

recognize your personal stressors.

- Experiencing mindful movement, mindful breathing, and other mindfulness skills as ways to relax and manage stress.

To register for the pro-

gram, 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](mailto:donna.schwausch@ag.tamu.edu).

## GIDEON

FROM PAGE A1

Gatesville is ready to have their own camp, but to do that we need to have 10 to 15 good men to be able to start our own camp, and its probably going to be a two-to-three-year process."

"Since I joined, we've had Charles Talbott and Sam Rhudy join, and we've had several others that are interested. We're not in a big hurry, we're just taking our time. We're kind of like the Marines - 'we're looking for a few good men' who are

soldiers of Christ," Creek said.

The Gideons men's auxiliary is meant to form relationships with community churches and to get them involved and do presentations.

"That's how we raise funds to purchase Bibles, and one hundred percent of the money we raise goes to the purchase and distribution of Bibles and nothing else," Creek said.

In addition, twice a year the Gideons visit all the local hotels and motels and try to make sure that Bibles are placed in each room.

They also distribute Bibles to police, fire, and medical personnel; prisoners; military personnel; hospitals, convalescent homes, medical offices, shelters, and jails. Most people who

travel can usually find a Gideon Bible in their hotel room.

"When you hand a Bible to someone and you ask to pray for them, it opens a door to build a relationship

to ask them about their faith and maybe lead them to Christ. That's our goal - to reach the lost," he said.

The Gideons also participate in local events such as National Night Out where they hand out Bibles. "The school let us do distribution back in April and May of this year, and we handed Bibles out to the students."

Gideon Bibles have a list at the front of the book of questions that might impact a person's life and directs the reader where to find certain scriptures to answer questions individuals might have, and also explains to

the reader how they can be saved.

When asked about being a Gideon, Creek responded "It's not just a title, but a way of life. Gideons are led by the Holy Spirit to approach someone - that's what we do. It's constant looking, sharing, praying, and giving out Bibles."



## The Gideons International

# Whatever happened to...

### 20 YEARS AGO (2003)

Darell Lisenbe resigned as chief appraiser of the Coryell County Appraisal District.

A ceremony was held to dedicate a Texas Historical Marker for the Harman School Community Center.

Tiger Cubs from Pack 272 received a tour of the Gatesville Volunteer Fire Department.

The Mother Neff State Park Association celebrated

its 10th anniversary.

Live Oak Baptist Church sponsored its 10th Annual Pumpkin Patch Fun Festival.

### 30 YEARS AGO (1993)

Gatesville chiropractor, Dr. Tommy Davidson, was giving treatment in exchange for groceries for the Food for Family food drive.

Veterans Leon R. Waddel and Carl Snow were presented with 75th-anniversary WWI commemorative med-

als. Richard and J.B. Littlefield placed first at the 1993 Coryell County Hay Show.

Gatesville's Masonic Lodge No. 197 awarded Dawson Cooper with a 60-year pin.

First Baptist Church of Gatesville's pastor, Dr. Jay C. Riley, was elected to the executive board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

### 40 YEARS AGO (1983)

A turkey shoot was held at Wooley Tools.

Eleven Gatesville Junior High School Band members were awarded all-district or all-region honors at a competition at Connally High School.

The remodeled Guaranty Bank & Trust Co. held an Open House.

Leaird's was selling Levis 501 jeans for \$12.88 each. Gatesville High School's

football team beat Groesbeck - their 7th victory of the season.

### 50 YEARS AGO

Gatesville's new water tower received its finishing touches.

Gatesville made a \$37,341/67-acre tract land purchase as the site for a new landfill.

A subsidy enabled Gatesville ISD to lower milk cost for students.

Jeff Miller and Melinda Young were coronated as Jonesboro High School's King and Queen of their annual harvest carnival.

Jayne Lewis, Mrs. Bill Loden, and Donna Loden, all from Pearl, won 1st places in their divisions at the District 8 Make-It-Yourself-With-Wool Contest held in San Marcos.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Sadler family celebrated their family reunion by the Leon River on Oct. 14.

## Historic Coryell County family celebrate family reunion

Submitted by James Larrimer

One of the oldest families in Coryell County gathered for a family reunion at Faunt Le Roy Park on Saturday, Oct. 14.

Descendants of W.K. and Sara Amma Sadler gathered for their biannual family fish fry. Family members came from across Texas as well as from Louisiana, Colorado, Illinois, and Virginia.

Four generations of Sadlers were included in the group of eighty-five family members who arrived for

the event.

W.K. and Sara Amma Sadler were born in the infancy of Coryell County during the 1850s at Rainey's Creek, just outside of Coryell City. They eventually settled on the Sadler Ranch near Cowhouse Creek before retiring to Gatesville.

The Sadlers married in 1879 and had 10 children. They lived to celebrate their 50th anniversary in 1929 and 60th anniversary in 1939. Per The Gatesville Messenger, for many years they enjoyed the distinction of being the oldest living

children and oldest married couple in Coryell County.

The Sadler family tree stretches far and wide, and their descendants have carried on the tradition of coming together every few years to celebrate the family's history.

The remaining grandchildren of W.K. and Sara Amma Sadler were among those in attendance, which included Sara Larrimer, Cynthia Vaughan, Bob Sadler, Bill Sadler, Jane Jones, and Stanley Sadler.

Kaylee Dusang contributed to this report.



COURTESY PHOTO

The remaining grandchildren of W.K. and Sara Amma Sadler. Seated is Sara Larrimer. From Left to Right: Cynthia Vaughan, Bob Sadler, Bill Sadler, Jane Jones, and Stanley Sadler.

## Local churches sign up to be Bell Ringers for Salvation Army



### Bell Ringers Needed!

Submitted by Joyce Talbott

After signing up for 16 bell ringer positions, Stephen Schmidt, pastor

of First Methodist Church, talked about the importance of the Salvation Army in Gatesville. "Our community has a high percentage of low-income families.

Organizations such as the Salvation Army help these families get by in times of financial hardship. The Salvation Army addresses such needs as utilities, medica-

tions, minimal transportation, and temporary shelter (1-2 days hotel stay), he said.

The Salvation Army operated for many years in Gatesville before it became necessary for those that were running it to step down. After a year when the Salvation Army was not in Gatesville, Schmidt saw a need to bring the Salvation Army back and spoke with Tom Creek. Having the Salvation Army active in town and working with other charities helps to stretch the funds available and meet the needs of more people. The absence of the funds provided by the SA was very noticeable, and the impact was felt by other charities.

When asked why we need local citizens to volunteer to be bell ringers, Schmidt replied, "All monies raised in Gatesville stay in the Coryell County area, excluding Copperas Cove and the Prisons." No funds collected here go up to the State level and no funds come down from the State level. Anytime a volunteer bell ringer slot is not filled, it translates to less funds to be distributed the following year in our local community area.

Karen and Stephen Schmidt enjoy volunteering as bell ringers every year, because it gives them the opportunity to experience the generosity of our local citizens. Your sacrifice of time can make a huge dif-



ference in the lives of those in need.

Eric Moffett has signed up CCC for 24 bell-ringer slots. The bell-ringer campaign hopes that many other churches, civic organizations, and individuals step up to fill the empty bell-ringer slots.

Sign up at <https://signup.com/go/GxatyWD>.

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Market Days are held the 2nd Saturday of each month. If you are a vendor interested in participating, you can sign up under Market Days tab at [www.gatesvillechamber.com](http://www.gatesvillechamber.com) or stop by the Chamber office M-F from 9AM-2PM.

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MOUND NEWS

# Ty Gallaway and Ed Wolff filled in at Mound Cowboy Church



BY BARBARA HOPSON  
Mound News Correspondent

**T**y Gallaway filled the pulpit on Sunday, Oct. 29, at the Mound Cowboy Church in the absence of Rev. Bruce Cox.

Mr. Edward Wolff, of Gatesville, filled the pulpit on Sunday, Oct. 29 at the White Mound Baptist Church in the absence of Rev. Bruce Cox.

Marti Wingate, Louise Kirchner, and John Stephens went on Wednesday evening to Waco to watch a movie.

Emma Blakley, of College Station, came home and spent some time with her parents, Robert and Carolyn

Blakley. Saturday night, they all went to the Wild Game Dinner at the Texas Station in Gatesville.

Bobby and Nelda Carothers attended the Texas Rangers Baseball World Series games one and two at Globe Life Field in Arlington. Games were split 1-1. Now, the Rangers travel to Arizona to play games three, four, and five on Oct. 30, Monday, Oct 31, Tuesday, and Nov 1,

Wednesday to win the 2023 World Series...just in case they don't clench the series in five, they move back to Arlington for games six and seven, Friday and Saturday, Nov. 3 and 4. Go Rangers!

Several people of Mound attended the Fall and Halloween festivities held at Coryell County churches.

Several people of Mound attended the annual Gatesville Boozaar Saturday evening on the Coryell County

Courthouse Square. (The Boozaar is the community annual Halloween party).

*Barbara's Notes:* Happy Birthday to Jennifer Miller and Lyndi Poynter.

## Morris Federation to meet

Submitted Item

The next meeting of the Morris Federation will be on Saturday, Nov. 11, at 10 a.m., in the James Coryell Room at the Coryell County Museum and Historical Center.

Members may still pay their dues to Sue Vernon, the treasurer. Yearbooks for 2023-2024 may also be picked up from Marsha Lee.

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

ritt of Aquilla. She says that she has been making lace for 30 years, mostly just because she enjoys it.

She became interested in lacemaking back in the '90s when t-shirts with Battenburg lace on the tops were popular. At that time, she lived in Dallas, where there was a mall nearby which had several specialty shops, which required that vendors sell only items that were at least 75 percent handmade. Sue became interested in lacemaking,

and a lady who worked there started teaching her. She enrolled in classes and learned new styles of lacemaking. There are different kinds of lace, which are characterized by the region from which they originate. Her personal preference became "Buckspoint," a style from England. She will bring some samples of various laces and some items, such as pillows, on which the lace is used.

## New Legacy Project coming to Gatesville Nov. 7

Submitted Item

Groundbreaking Nashville-based men's vocal band the New Legacy Project, will be live in concert on Tuesday, Nov. 7 at 7 p.m. at the Gatesville City Auditorium. Formerly the Blackwood Legacy, they are best known for their intricate harmonies, true Southern Gospel sound, and homespun humor.

New Legacy was led by Rick Price, who spent much of his 40-year career with the Grammy- and Dove Award-winning Blackwood Brothers, and who was inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame with the legendary quartet. Although Price died in 2021, the group carries on the grand legacy of his music and his leadership.

The Gatesville City Auditorium is located at 110 N. 8th Street. This

event is being co-hosted by the Presbyterian and First Methodist Churches of Gatesville and is non-denominational and non-ticketed. Admission is free, so we recommend you come early for the best seating.

About New Legacy Project

Rick Price, owner and founder of New Legacy Project, began his 45-year career in Southern Gospel music with the legendary Blackwood Brothers Quartet. Originally a protegee of the late Cecil Blackwood, Rick was inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame with the Grammy Dove award-winning group in the 1990's.

After Cecil's death, and with the support of his widow, he and Chris Blackwood formed the Blackwood Legacy. It was Rick's desire to carry on the grand heritage of his beloved mentor. The

group has been continuously touring through the United States since their formation in 2001.

In 2016, Rick made the decision to rename the group to New Legacy Project, recognizing that God was speaking into the ministry in a new way. Rick has surrounded himself with some of the finest singers and musicians in the industry today. Known for their flawless harmonies, homespun humor and impeccable delivery, the group tours about 180 dates per year, coast to coast.

Price died in 2021 but the group continues to travel and share the gospel through the heritage of Southern Gospel Music. As he has often been quoted "the road to the future is paved with memories of the past."

For more information, visit [www.NewLegacyProject.com](http://www.NewLegacyProject.com)



COURTESY PHOTO

Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Kyle Moore

## Clay, Moore wedding vows exchanged October 17

Submitted Item

Chapel Dulcinea in Austin was the setting for the Oct. 17 wedding of Emmanuelle (Emmy) Grace Clay and Benjamin (Ben) Kyle Moore, both of Stephenville.

Edward Leach, the bride's grandfather, officiated at the double-ring ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Drs. Britt and Jill Clay, of Gatesville, and the granddaughter of Edward and Crystal Leach, of Gatesville, Charlene Graham of Rusk, the late Jimmy Graham, the late Jacques Clay, and the late Charlotte Leach.

The bridegroom is the son of Michael and Shannon Moore of Hideaway, Texas, and the grandson of Brenda Walsh of Lindale, Tom and

Kathy Walsh of Acworth, GA, Larry Michael Moore of Arlington, and Anitha Smith of Trinidad.

The bride was given in marriage by her father.

Sister of the bride, Bailey Holder, served as the Matron of Honor, and William Moore, brother of the groom, served as the Best Man. The father of the groom, Michael Moore, served as the ring bearer.

Cellist, Arlyn Kantz, provided the music including Ode to Joy, The Swan, Marie's Wedding, Fairest Lord Jesus, and Can't Help Falling in Love.

A wedding luncheon followed the service at Fresa's, a restaurant in Austin. The bride's grandmother, Crystal Leach, created the bride

and groom's cakes.

The bride is a 2017 graduate of Gatesville High School. In 2021, she received her BS degree in Public Health and, in 2022, her MA degree in Management from Tarleton State University. She is currently employed as a Project Specialist at Erath Engaged.

The groom is a 2018 graduate of Rockwall High School, and in 2023 received a BBA degree in Management from Tarleton State University. He is currently working in management at Sherwin Williams.

Following a wedding trip to Seaside, Florida, the couple now reside in Stephenville.

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400-500 lb.	235-265
500-600 lb.	220-245
600-700 lb.	190-220
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Young Choice	1800-2200
Young Fair	1400-1800
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<b>Young Pregnancy Test Stocker</b>	
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# OBITUARIES

## Margaret Brown

Dec. 13, 1922 - Oct. 29, 2023

Margaret Cannon Boyce Brown devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend went to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Sunday, the 29th day of October, 2023. She was just under 101 years old.

Services will be held at 1 p.m., Saturday, November 11, 2023, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 515 Columbus Ave., Waco, Texas. Interment will follow at Oakwood Cemetery. The family will receive guests at the family home from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m., the evening prior to the funeral.

Margaret loved life, loved learning, loved people, and intentionally lived her faith in Jesus Christ with an outpouring of love and hospitality to all who crossed her path.

As Discover Magazine noted, "If you have ever wondered what it would be like to be touched by the wand of a fairy godmother, it's like being touched by Margaret. She exudes caring and kindness and is a shining example of loving your neighbor as yourself. In the past years, thousands of people have been the recipients of the nurturing of our extraordinary lady." \*

Margaret was born in Amarillo, Texas, December 13, 1922, to John Kirkpatrick and Margaret Curtis Boyce. Both families were early settlers of Amarillo, the Curtis arriving in 1902 from Henrietta, Texas, and the Boyces, arriving from Tennessee in 1908.

Her maternal grandfather and great-grandfather were early cattlemen of Amarillo and New Mexico. Her great-grandfather, the legendary William Riley "Bill" Curtis, was one of the pioneer cattlemen of the Diamond Tail Ranch in Texas.

Margaret Cannon, as her Amarillo friends affectionately called her, attended Amarillo public schools and Amarillo Junior College. In 2002, she received the Amarillo College Distinguished Alumni Award.

She received her Bachelor of Science in Home Economics degree at the University of Texas in Austin, graduating in 1944.

She loved her time in Austin. She was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority and would later receive the Theta of the Year award from both the Austin and Waco alumnae associations.

After graduation, Margaret moved to New York City to attend Columbia University. She and three friends from Texas lived at the Barbizon Hotel for Women, enjoying all the city's life and glamor. Margaret had never lived outside of Texas and considered her experience in New York City to be a pivotal time in her life. She earned a Master of Arts from Columbia in 1945.

Upon graduating from Columbia, Margaret returned to Austin and taught Home Economics at the University

of Texas from 1946-1951. She became an assistant professor and taught Cooking, Meal Planning, and Table Service. Known as "The Bride's Course," it was a class taken by just about every female on campus. Many of these women would become her dear friends.

In 1951, she married her beloved Shepherd Spencer Neville Brown of Waco, Texas. She once commented that, in her eyes, she never felt like Spencer aged since the day they first met. She loved wearing his camellias in her hair which became her signature look. She always said that Spencer was her greatest cheerleader. She had a small needlepoint pillow in her bedroom which read, "Happiness is Being Married to Your Best Friend." This statement summed up their 58 years of marriage until he passed away Easter Sunday, April 12, 2009.

Margaret and Spencer had 5 children: Maria, Spencer Jr., Margaret, Stanton and Boyce. On Christmas night 1961, they lost their oldest daughter Maria, aged 8, to a sudden illness affecting her heart. At the time, Margaret was six months pregnant with her fourth child.

Margaret and Spencer relied on their faith in God's promises and His Word to carry them through this difficult time. Rather than allow their grief to devastate themselves and their family, they chose to use their grief as a catalyst to help others in their suffering. This loss of her firstborn began a quiet ministry to other grieving mothers. When Margaret heard of a mother who had lost a child, whether she knew them or not, she would go to comfort that mother with words of encouragement, sharing that there could be life and hope after such a great loss. This was a service to others that she never talked about. She just loved and cared for others who were hurting.

Margaret's sincere love for family and friends extended to her community with a great love for the arts, education, and historical preservation.

She used her amazing talents of innovative thinking, courage, determination and her love of people to create projects that would better the lives of those around her and bring friends together for a worthy cause.

In 1956, Margaret had a vision to start a preschool of exemplary standards and Christian values which her daughter Maria would be able to attend. Her idea of a preschool program for 3-year-olds (added to an existing church-school) was rejected. Margaret, not to be deterred, went to her own rector proposing that her church start their own school. With friends and her organizational skills, St. Paul's School opened in September of 1956, and now operates preschool through

sixth grade.

That same year, she served as Chairman of the Ways and Means committee of the Junior League of Waco where she spearheaded the fund raising for and renovation of the historic home Fort House for their headquarters. In 1970, Fort House was recognized by the National Register of Historic Places.

In her term as president of the Junior League of Waco, 1959 through 1960, Margaret proposed the creation of a charity ball to raise funds for the Waco community. She gathered a group of friends and together they launched the Junior League Charity Ball which served as a major fundraiser for the city of Waco for many years.

In 1965, the Waco Symphony needed community and financial support. Margaret had the idea of creating a Junior Belles program to raise money for the symphony and provide a cultural experience for young women in their junior year of high school. The idea was embraced and was a grand success and served as the predecessor to the current Belles and Brass program.

Margaret's talent for organization and her love for her country created an historic opportunity. In 1961, Margaret was approached by three Waco businessmen and asked to help run the statewide campaign for John Tower, who was running as a Republican for the U.S. Senate. At that time, Texas was a one-party state and most thought that a Republican win was impossible. But, having seen impossibilities turn into possibilities, Margaret was undaunted and enthusiastically accepted the challenge. John Tower became the state's next senator and served for over 24 years. He was the first Republican senator elected in Texas since Reconstruction in the 1870's. His election pioneered the way for future Republicans to be elected in Texas and for the future of Texas as a two-party state.

Margaret's passion for history and her country served as the foundation for her love of historical preservation. She believed that preserving historical homes and opening them as public museums, brought history to life and taught a new generation to appreciate the courage and bravery of the past. She hoped that the wisdom from past generations could inspire future heroes to preserve our freedoms and this great nation.

Through her membership and leadership in such organizations as the National Society of Colonial Dames of America (NSCDA), Sulgrave Manor, Daughters of the American Revolution and Daughters of the Republic of Texas, her passion for bringing history to life for her fellow countrymen was fulfilled.

With the NSCDA, she served as president of the

Texas chapter as well as corresponding secretary. During her tenure as NSCDA Texas Chapter President, she was honored to help support the Neil-Cochran House Museum in Austin, Texas, which the Texas Society of NSCDA continues to manage.

She also served internationally for 10 years as a board member for the Sulgrave Manor, George Washington's ancestral home in Banbury, England. Built in 1539, this museum home is visited by people from all over the world. She loved her yearly trips to England and as her board position was ending, she and Spencer were honored to provide the funding to build the Courtyard Hall, a beautiful event center for Sulgrave Manor.

Margaret served as a board member and as a Board Emeritus member of the Friends of the Governor's Mansion in Austin, Texas. This organization preserves the historical collections, beautifies the gardens and educates the public about this historic house.

In addition to historic preservation, Margaret was also passionate about the arts. She was honored and appointed by the Governor of Texas for a six-year term on the Texas Commission on the Arts and served as a founding member and National Advisory Board member for the National Museum of Women in the Arts Museum in Washington, D.C.

Of all her achievements, the revival of the Waco Cotton Palace remained one of her greatest joys. While the first Cotton palace ended at the time of the Great Depression, Margaret envisioned a beautiful revival pageant retracing Waco's history to serve as a legacy for future generations. Undaunted by those who thought her idea was an impossible dream, she and a group of her friends spent two years researching and planning how to execute it. Then one evening she announced to her husband Spencer, "We are going to put on a pageant!" Waco inaugurated the first Waco Cotton Palace Pageant in 1970.

Little did Margaret realize the full impact this dream would have on the Waco community.

Celebrating its 50th year in 2020, the Waco Cotton Palace pageant continued to be fresh and interesting through talented leadership and innovative performances. From the outstanding Baylor and McLennan County Community College theater students to Waco elementary students, local talent and participants from Waco and from all over Texas, all involved enjoyed a unique experience of history and Waco hospitality.

As a result of the pageant, outstanding college student performers received college scholarships and countless Waco businesses enjoyed the benefit of millions of



COURTESY PHOTO

Margaret Brown

tourism dollars over the years.

Most of all, the pageant allowed the opportunity for hundreds of Wacoans to work together, create life-long friendships and to impact their community for the better.

Though her accomplishments, recognitions, awards and service to her community, state and nation, are too many to record here, Margaret Brown's love and kindness remains her greatest legacy.

She always greeted others with a warm twinkle in her eyes and a benevolent smile. Her genuine interest in people and amazing ability to remember names left a lasting effect on all those she encountered.

She cherished her family and extended family and desired for her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, her many cousins and extended family to stay close and love each other always.

Margaret's positive attitude, encouraging words and wise counsel, her ability to see the best in others, find a blessing in each day and, her ability to have a grateful heart no matter the circumstances are all truly reflections of the remarkable woman everyone loved. It is often said that the eyes are a reflection of the soul and Margaret's radiant soul sparkled.

Margaret's love of life, family, friends and community has been a blessing to us all.

"But now faith, hope, and love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love." 1 Corinthians 13:13

Margaret was preceded in death by her parents, Margaret Owen Curtis Boyce and John Kirkpatrick Boyce; her husband, Shepherd Spencer Neville Brown, Sr.; her daughter, Maria Nev-

ille Brown II; her granddaughter, Willow Brown; her brother-in-law, and sister-in-law, Stanton and Jackie Decordova Brown; and her brother and sister-in law, John Kirkpatrick and Sidney Stinnett Boyce, Jr.

She is survived by her brother, James Curtis Boyce, and sister-in-law Anne Dryden Boyce; as well as her four children and their spouses, Spencer and Becky Matustik Brown, Margaret Brown and Keet Lewis, Stanton Brown and the Reverend David Sattler, S. Boyce and Len McClane Brown; Margaret is also survived by her grandchildren, Scott and Alicia Lombardo Stem, Camilla Brown and Nick Custis, Elise Brown, Spencer Brown, Ill, Cannon Lewis and Gavin McClintock, Caroline Lewis and Chris Abbott, Mariah Sattler, Karlie Sattler, Lella Sue (Susie) Brown and Annah S. Brown; as well as seven great-grandchildren.

The family suggests those attending may want to celebrate Margaret's life and home going by wearing colorful clothes, the kind Margaret always loved.

In lieu of flowers, the family encourages gifts to:

Festival on the Brazos (formerly Waco Cotton Palace Pageant), c/o Missy Larson, P. O. Box 7211, Waco, TX, 76714

Sulgrave Manor- <https://www.sulgravemanor.us/donate/>

St. Paul's Episcopal Day School - c/o M'Lissa Howan, 517 Columbus Ave, Waco, TX, 76701 or <http://www.speswaco.org/about/contact-us.cfm>

\*Barcus, N. (1994, April). Margaret Cannon Boyce Brown: The Magic of An Extraordinary Lady. Discover Magazine, Page 28.

## THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

### SUBMITTING AN OBITUARY

Obituaries can be submitted to The Gatesville Messenger online at [www.gatesvillemessenger.com/obituaries](http://www.gatesvillemessenger.com/obituaries). Advance payment is required.

Obituaries should come from the funeral home. Obituaries placed by next of kin must be verified with a death certificate or by the facility handling the body. You must provide the contact information for verification when submitting the obituary.

The Gatesville Messenger deadline for obituaries is 10 a.m. Tuesday for the Saturday paper. Deadlines are subject to change during holidays.



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# Nominations are now being sought for 2023 Gatesville Citizen of the Year

## Staff Reports

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce has recently announced that nominations are open for the 2023 Gatesville Citizen of the Year award.

The Citizen of the Year award has been given to

an outstanding citizen of Gatesville since 1959. Every adult within the community is eligible to nominate one or more people who have made contributions to the town over a significant period.

Nominees who function within the guidelines or re-

quirements of their paid positions will not be considered.

Only one nomination per individual shall be considered regardless of the number of letters or signatures received nominating that individual. The person who is making the nomination

should be available to assist with the presentation of the award.

The 2023 Citizen of the Year Award will be presented at the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce Annual Membership Banquet, which will be held on Saturday, Jan. 20. Nominations must be sub-

mitted by Wednesday, Jan. 3 to the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce office in the Cotton Belt Depot Visitors Center. Nomination forms can be found by visiting <https://www.gatesvillechamber.com/vote>.

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce is located at

2307 S. Hwy. 36.

For more information, contact the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce at 254-865-2617.

## PEARL NEWS

# Gather your friends and family and head to Pearl



BY BETSY CLARK

Pearl News Correspondent

Attention All Pearl Bluegrass and Pearl Cottage Bookstore Lovers: Today, Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023, is the day you've been waiting for. Gather your friends and family and head to Pearl. The Bluegrass is ongoing at various places in and around the Pearl Community Center, and the Pearl Cottage Bookstore is open from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

The next bluegrass and bookstore event is Dec. 2—

same times, same places. Remember, everyone is wel-

come, and there's no place like Pearl.

Pearl is so grateful for the wonderful rains they received during the latter parts of October. Many places around Pearl reported up to eight and nine inches. Prayers work, folks.

A faithful reader just called to ask me to warn readers who are driving through Pearl to "Beware of the Turtle Crossings!" Apparently, turtles are on the move due to the recent rains. Now, you might want to also beware of those community members who actually pull over and get out of their vehicles to help those travelers crossing the roads. The safety of all involved is our utmost desire and concern. So, Beware

of Turtle Crossing Helpers might be the more apropos adage.

I also received a call regarding a teeny weeny, turquoise greeny, stringy bikini sighting. Evidently, local creeks burst forth from their banks and in great, rolling waves carried away the things that were not tightly secured. The blasted bikini may have been one of those things. Apparently, it was last seen ebbing away toward Gatesville, and most likely landed near Raby Park. And wouldn't you know it, that's one of Kay Pruet's favorite hangouts. We all knew that the atrocious apparel had an unusual attachment to Kay. The prevailing thought here is that the abominable

outerwear planned to spend Halloween with its favorite Bookstore lady—in the park—ON the lady. We only wish Kay loved the sassy suit as much as it loves her. If you heard a ruckus in the park on Halloween night, you could probably surmise that the source of the conflict had to do with the one and only teeny weeny, turquoise greeny, stringy bikini and its bestie. I think Mr. L. McDonald and his lovely wife were probably called to mediate...and we hope Mr. David Scott got pictures. In any case, we think that the silly bikini saga may be over for Pearl—and some of us say "good riddance."

This week's Bible verse comes from James 5:7-8—"Be patient then, brothers

and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near." NIV

Please thank the Lord for the generous rain, and pray for our country, Israel, and our schools!

Be sure and like the Pearl Community Center, Texas Facebook page, and the Pearl Cottage Bookstore and Resale Shop Facebook page. Please submit any Pearl news to [betsyclark47@yahoo.com](mailto:betsyclark47@yahoo.com)

# Meals on Wheels in need of 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 home-bound, 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 well.

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.

## SUDOKU

Solution for the puzzle that ran Oct. 28.

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

# 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 Warmer 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.

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# 4-H talents recognized

Submitted by Brandy Rhoades

The accomplishments of a local 4-H talent, Chelsea Johnson, made the community proud with her recent achievements. Chelsea Johnson, a young and driven resident of Coryell County, recently entered two captivating photos in the Heart of Texas Fair and Rodeo Hearts Contest. Her incredible photographic talent shone through as both of her submissions secured 1st place in their respective divisions. One of her photographs soared to even greater heights by winning the prestigious title of the Overall Grand Champion in the photography category. Chelsea is not only a talented photographer but also an active member of the Gatesville 4-H Club right here in Coryell County. She goes above and beyond by serving as a Junior Ambassador for Coryell County 4-H, reflecting her dedication to community involvement and leadership. In addition to her local engagements, Chelsea is currently working with the

state to earn the title of Junior Master Photographer. This achievement will open doors for her when she enters high school, allowing her to apply for the esteemed position of State Photography Ambassador for 4-H.

In addition to these incredible accomplishments, Chelsea recently received the wonderful news of her acceptance into the GLOBE Cohort program with 4-H. Over the next year, she will be participating in numerous activities and programs. If she successfully completes all the tasks, she will be among the select group traveling to Costa Rica for a week next summer. There, she will gain valuable insights into poverty, culture, sustainability, and community service.

Chelsea's accolades extend even further. She secured the eighth position in the nation for youth French Lops, as recognized by the National Lop Rabbit Club. This achievement is a testament to her dedication and expertise in the field of rabbit breeding.

In October, she show-

cased her determination by participating in the 100th American Rabbit Breeders Association Convention Youth Contest, held in Louisville, Kentucky. She took on the challenge of hands-on judging, breed identification, and exhibited one of her French Lop rabbits. It's worth noting that youth contestants from across the United States converged at this event, marking it as one of the largest gatherings ARBA has ever recorded. While the competition was fierce, Chelsea's French Lop, Sable, secured an impressive fifth place in her Broken Senior Doe class.

Chelsea Johnson's dedication, talent, and commitment to personal growth and community involvement are truly inspiring. Her journey serves as a testament to what can be achieved through hard work, passion, and a drive to make a difference. Chelsea is undoubtedly a source of pride for our local community, and we look forward to witnessing her continued success in the future.



Chelsea Johnson

COURTESY PHOTO

# Boys to Men program set for 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 provide 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.

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.

# Bell County Master Gardeners announce two events on Nov. 16

Submitted Item

The Bell County Master Gardeners Association recently announced two events scheduled for Nov. 16. For those interested in gardening, the events held during the month are:

**Nov 16**

The Bell County Master Gardener Association and Keep Copperas Cove Beautiful presents "Holiday Herb Compound Butter & Cream Cheese Spreads" on Thursday, Nov. 16, from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m., at the Copperas Cove Public Library, 501 S. Main St., Copperas Cove. Certified Master Gardeners Jeanne Richard

and Charlotte Nunnery will demonstrate how to elevate your holiday table or consumable gift-giving using fresh herbs like sage, rosemary, and thyme. In class, participants will enjoy tasting samples of different compound butters and cream cheese spreads, as well as receive a variety of recipes.

Class Limit: 30  
 Class Fee: Free  
 Free Box Lunch Provided by KCCB  
 Register at bcmgaspeakers@gmail.com  
 Registration closes Wednesday, Nov. 15, at 5 P.M., or when full.

**Nov 16**

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 Gardeners Sylvia 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. Those attending 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, what to look for, and how it affects your trees. Participants will also learn how to manage frost and freezing temperatures to protect your trees.

Class Limit: 50  
 Please register at bcmgaspeakers@gmail.com  
 Donations up to \$5 are appreciated to support continuing education opportunities in Bell County.

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# The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of Oct. 25 - Oct. 31. While there were many calls to the dispatcher, this is a partial list of more significant activity. Persons are reminded that only emergency calls should be made to 9-1-1, while all other calls to the police department should be made to 865-2226 or to the Sheriff's office at 865-7201.



**CITY OF GATESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**Oct. 25**  
 1:51 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 2300 block of South Business Highway 36.  
 1:58 p.m., an accident was reported in the 400 block of East Leon Street.  
 2:03 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 200 block of South Lovers Lane.  
 3:52 p.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 100 block of FM 107.  
**Oct. 26**  
 8:29 a.m., a gas leak/fire was reported in the 2000 block of North State Highway 36.  
 9:21 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 600 block of South 14th Street.  
 3:02 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 100 block of North Lutter-

loh Ave.  
 4:12 p.m., a theft was reported in the 1200 block of Pidcoke Street.  
**Oct. 27**  
 6:16 a.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 2800 block of South State Highway 36.  
 9:24 a.m., fraud was reported in the 800 block of East Main Street.  
 12:55 p.m., an accident was reported in the 2000 block of North State Highway 36.  
 4:40 p.m., a burglary was reported in the 2200 block of East Main Street.  
**Oct. 28**  
 8:42 a.m., a domestic disturbance was reported in the 1700 block of Leon Street.  
 10:24 a.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 3300 block of East Main Street.  
 7:13 p.m., a threat was reported in the 1100 block of Sierra Vista Drive.  
 8:46 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2200 block of East Main Street.  
**Oct. 29**  
 1:37 a.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 700 block of Straws Mill Road.  
 3:12 a.m., a reckless driver was reported in the

2300 block of Bridge Street.  
 7:21 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2000 block of East Main Street.  
 12:56 p.m., a burglary was reported in the 500 block of Fieldstone Drive.  
**Oct. 30**  
 6:53 a.m., a noise disturbance was reported in the 1400 block of West Main Street.  
 9:04 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2300 block of Business Highway 36.  
 3 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of East Main Street.  
 7:51 p.m., a noise disturbance was reported in the 300 block of Andrews Street.  
**Oct. 31**  
 12:41 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 3300 block of South State Highway 36.  
 1:30 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 1400 block of Pidcoke Street.  
 1:37 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of Old Georgetown Road.  
 9:44 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1200 block of Golf Course Road.



**CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Oct. 25**  
 10:10 a.m., an attempted break-in was reported in the 3100 block of FM 113.  
 1:29 p.m., trespassing was reported on County Road 322.  
 1:53 p.m., a theft was reported in the 500 block of West Lincoln Avenue.  
 2:25 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported on East FM 183.  
**Oct. 26**  
 7:30 a.m., a vehicle in water was reported in the 1000 block of County Road 127.  
 8:30 a.m., a gas leak was reported in the 2000 block of North Highway 36.  
 9:30 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported on County Road 183.  
 1:11 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 500 block of Private Road.

**Oct. 27**  
 6:52 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported on FM 1113 at Oak Springs.  
 9:46 a.m., a sign missing was reported on South Highway 36 in the Flat area.  
 4:18 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 200 block of South Highway 281.  
 4:50 p.m., animal cruelty was reported in the 1500 block of Quail Point Drive.  
**Oct. 28**  
 7:05 a.m., a water leak was reported in the 500 block of Old Fort Gates Road.  
 1:49 p.m., a major accident was reported in the 1400 block of County Road 274.  
 7:22 p.m., a threat was reported in the 1100 block of Sierra Vista.  
 8:25 p.m., shots fired was reported in the 100 block of Boone Avenue.  
**Oct. 29**  
 3:20 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 600 block of County Road 139.  
 4:19 p.m., a theft was reported in the 500 block of County Road 339.  
 5:26 p.m., electric wires down were reported in the 2900 block of South FM 116.

6:06 p.m., a domestic disturbance was reported in the 500 block of County Road 232.  
**Oct. 30**  
 12:56 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 300 block of Baize Drive.  
 9:59 a.m., a recovered stolen vehicle was reported in the 2600 block of Lorraine Circle.  
 11:30 a.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 2300 block of FM 215.  
 5:45 p.m., a major accident was reported in the 1400 block of East Highway 84.  
**Oct. 31**  
 8:37 a.m., a domestic disturbance was reported in the 2900 block of Grimes Crossing Road.  
 10:45 a.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 1700 block of FM 183.  
 1:32 p.m., suspicious persons were reported in the 1700 block of Old Georgetown Road.  
 2:24 p.m., a minor accident was reported on Duncan Road.

# Karolyn is ready for anything



BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH

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

“I was going to paint, and then, after I had my first child, I discovered that you could not paint and take care of a baby, too,” says Karolyn Rogers, of Midland, “because you can get lost in a painting for twelve hours or more, and I realized I could not do that. And so, I was going to wait until I had time to paint. That would be now, and now I don’t want to.”

Karolyn loves to dress up, even when she’s at home. “I just can’t get used to people wearing jeans and t-shirts and thinking it’s OK to go to public places dressed like that.”

Karolyn also has a love of Bloody Mary’s, fine foods, and cars with caramel-colored interiors. “They don’t show dirt and are easy to keep clean. They just look nice all the time.”

Once a friend suggested she buy a fancy foreign car. “I said, ‘Are you kidding? I grew up in the oil patch. Where we go we need to have a car that’s easy to work on.’”

Karolyn has amazing patience and has used it

several times in Las Vegas. She has won the \$10,000 jackpot many times playing the two- and five-dollar slot machines. “I don’t know how many times. I’ve been playing them a long time. I work at it and stay with it until it’s going to give. That’s what I do. If I think it’s about to hit, I won’t quit. I guess when you play long enough you get a sense of when it’s about to hit.”

A prime example of her patience is her effort to discover how her father died during World War II. Karolyn was five years old at the time. Her father died on April 22, 1945, just two weeks before the end of the war. About the only

thing the U.S. Army told her mother was that he died in combat. No further details.

For fifty years, Karolyn struggled with not knowing what happened. Finally, at age 62, she went to work to find out. She went through stacks of letters her father had sent home. She learned that his outfit, the 12th Armored Division, held reunions every year, and she went to many of them, making new friends and meeting her father’s fellow soldiers. At one reunion she met the doctor who treated him after he was wounded.

“I found out he was driving a half track, and it got blown up going up an

embankment leading to a bridge they were going to take.”

In 2013, Karolyn wrote a book about her family and what it’s like to lose a dad. It’s titled, “When Daddy Comes Home” and has gone through four printings. She says writing the book has given her a sense of peace and even some joy.

Her husband Jerry has a restored 1942 Ford pickup.

“I found out it’s called the Fighting Ford, because it was in World War II. It’s pretty cute. Real sharp. Inside on the dashboard, as a surprise to me, Jerry had them paint the 12th Armored Division insignia.”

## RECIPE

This recipe appeared in the “Methodist Best” cookbook in 2008. The Gatesville Messenger is running a series of recipes from that cookbook. If your church has a cookbook, or if you would like to submit your own recipe of a favorite dish for possible publication, please email it to: editor@gatesvillemessenger.com

### Easy Chicken Casserole

BY ADELLE TODD

1 can white chicken or 2 cups cooked chicken breast

1 ctn. sour cream  
1 can cream of mushroom or cream of celery soup

1 pkg. (one roll) Ritz crackers, crushed

Mix the sour cream and cream of soup. In a medium size baking dish,

spread some of the cracker crumbs on the bottom, then spread the chicken over that. Then spread the sour cream mixture over the chicken. Cover with the remainder of the Ritz cracker crumbs. Bake at 350 until it bubbles. Serves 4 to 6. You can add pimentos or onions, if desired.



COURTESY PHOTO BY THEDIARYOFAR-EALHOUSEWIFE.COM

**Fall Fest 2023**  
**Mother Neff State Park**  
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**10am – 2pm**

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## Mother Neff State Park to host Fall Festival

### 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 more.

Mother Neff State Park is one of the first Texas State Parks where people have been coming for thou-

sands 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.

### GAME ON

# Creaks

## All the things that go bump in the night



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.

Another game from my favorite indie game company, Creaks, is a side-scrolling puzzle platformer, entirely hand-drawn in ink and watercolor, including our humble protagonist character.

“The ground starts shaking, light bulbs are breaking - and something rather unusual is happening right behind the walls of your very room. Equipped with nothing but wit and courage, you slowly descend into a world inhabited by avian folk, and seemingly deadly furniture monsters.”

Our hero is at his desk, reading a book, when the light in his room flickers.

While trying to fix the light, it breaks in his hands.

The building shudders, the pull-down shade covers his window, and the wallpaper peels down, revealing a mysterious, metal hatch. He gets a flashlight and enters the hatch into a dark tunnel but drops the flashlight and has to go down the ladder without it. Many of the puzzles involve light, so it makes sense that they take away the flashlight at the beginning. The designer said that the flashlight gave our hero “too much power.”

He descends the ladder into a mysterious underground cavern with a huge, crumbling castle.

The game is called ‘Creaks’ for a reason. It’s all about the things that go bump in the night. This is a place of creatures that are monsters in the dark, but when you shine a light on them, they turn into ordinary objects. The game calls them ‘creaks.’ Barking robot dogs become a chest of drawers with a plant on top. A spiky-headed creature wearing a fur coat becomes a coat rack. A floating deadly jellyfish becomes a world globe.

The castle is actively crumbling while you try to travel through it. As you play through the game, the story is revealed to you - sometimes because a board or brick has fallen, allowing you to peek through. The mysterious denizens of this underground castle appear to be bird people, revealed in the paintings you discover in your explorations. It doesn’t take long for you to realize that something threatens to destroy this world, and that you have the

chance to stop it.

The puzzles themselves are very simple, but pretty clever. I don’t see a lot of recycled puzzles in this game - they’re new ideas. It’s not a very active interface. You have side-to-side motion, you can jump over gaps, and you can activate the collectible ‘paintings’ throughout the game. The puzzles depend upon timing and the use of lights, turned on by switches or plates. If you don’t time it just right, your character dies, and you have to do that puzzle over.

Designers Jan Chlup and Radim Jurda took eight years to complete this game. Like many of Amanita’s games, originally Creaks was created as a final project for a degree in animation. They worked with Amanita Designs to further refine and improve it to make it a playable, entertaining game.

The art in this game is fabulous. It is a genuine pleasure to play a game that looks hand-drawn, instead of the usual obsessively rendered detail.

The music for Creaks is composed by Joe Acheson



PHOTO COURTESY AMANITA DESIGNS

Creaks gameplay is very simple, and the hand-drawn visuals are amazing.

of Hidden Orchestra, who said that “In keeping with the hand-drawn visual aesthetic of the game, the music features no ‘fake’ software-sampled instruments. All of the music is performed by real musicians playing acoustic instruments.” (With the exception of the scenes in the Science Lab, which features synthesizers and electronic modules.)

This is his first soundtrack for a game, but it does exactly what a game soundtrack should do - mu-

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Josh and Ashlee Ramburger

COURTESY PHOTO

## Righteous Roots presents Team Ramburger

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH  
Staff Writer

Local couple Josh and Ashlee Ramburger are ready to take the stage during the Dancing with the Stars of Central Texas competition on Saturday, Nov. 18.

The Ramburgers are lifelong Gatesville natives with two children, Jemma and Jiana.

Josh is a personal trainer at Anytime Fitness in Gatesville and is currently working toward his degree in exercise and sports. Ashlee owns and operates Hydration Therapy in Gatesville.

Team Ramburger still has tables available for sponsorship.

Dancing with the Stars

of Central Texas is a semi-formal 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/hybrid-event/rootscrisis/1>.



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# Williamson retires from United States Postal Service after 42+ years



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Jimmy Williamson, pictured on the right, receives a plaque of recognition from Gatesville Postmaster Mike Hollingsworth.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Jimmy Williamson is pictured with two postal recipients in the Jonesboro community, Linda Hill (left) and Brenda Hoherz (right). He has delivered mail to their families for five generations.

BY DAVID SCOTT  
Staff Writer

After 42 years of service as a mail carrier, Jimmy Williamson recently retired. He was surprised with a retirement party that was held at the Gatesville Post Office where several of the families on his Jonesboro route were present to congratulate him. Also present were several of his co-workers and the postmaster who presented him with a

plaque, pocket watch, and several other items.

About Williamson, Gatesville Postmaster Mike Hollingsworth said, "When I first took over as postmaster, I knew that Jimmy was out in Jonesboro, and I wouldn't have to worry about their route being covered with him being out there."

Williamson has worked on the Jonesboro route since 1981. On his route, he

covers close to 160 miles per day.

"One hundred miles of it is gravel roads. So that will beat a vehicle all to pieces," Williamson said. "Jeeps are the only vehicles that can keep up with that country driving."

Reflecting on when he first started out, Williamson said, "Bob Rhudy asked me if I wanted to be a sub-delivering mail, and I told him no because I didn't have the

time. I was building fences. Then I got to thinking about it, and I thought there's no retiring from fence building, so I accepted the position."

When talking about the people on his route, he said, "With the postal customers, you're just like family. I treat them like family. You have to know who they are."

Williamson was asked about how many kids he's seen grow up over the past

42 years. He replied, "I have two families that I've delivered mail to for five generations. Once you get to know the family, you even get to know the dog's name."

"It's so funny: Somebody in the community will be looking for something, and they'll leave a note in the mailbox, and then I'll call them up and say I know where the item is. It's kind of like a big network where everybody knows everybody

else - kind of like a neighborhood watch. If I'm not there to deliver the mail, they call me up and say 'what's wrong?'"

About his retirement, Williamson said, "I'm going to miss it. I thought about not retiring... I thought about it for about 15 minutes, and then I got over it."

# Christmas light donations needed for Christmas at the Meadows

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 decora-

tions 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 Mead-

ows 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

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## Gatesville drops Robinson in overtime thriller, playoffs up next

BY CHRIS ALLMAN  
Contributing Writer

The old saying goes that big players make big plays in big games.

In the biggest moments of the biggest game of their season, the Gatesville Hornets leaned on their present and future stars to make the biggest plays of a 21-14 overtime win against Robinson.

Lawson Mooney's fourth down sack paved the way for Rayshon Smith's touchdown run in overtime and secured the No. 3 playoff seed for the Hornets. The win sets up a bi-district playoff game against the runner up from District 12-4A. That spot will be determined by a Nov. 3 matchup between Gonzales and Giddings.

With the game tied 14-14 at the end of regulation, the Hornets won the coin flip and elected to play defense first. Facing 3rd-and-1, they delivered their first big stop when Mooney and Amos Phillips drilled Robinson's Steven Knight for a one-yard loss.

"Amos saw something on that play...you saw him pointing before the play," said head coach Aaron Hunter. "Then he did his job. Lawson did his job. And our outside backer Tommy Aaron did his job."

On 4th-and-2, quarterback Aiden Stanford took the snap, spun left, and at-

tempted to roll out. Instead of seeing his receiver in the flat, Stanford was met by Mooney - who had sprinted through the Rocket offensive line in hot pursuit - and was dropped for a ten-yard loss and a turnover on downs.

"In those moments your players have got to make the plays. And he did. You look back at the season and key plays, and that will certainly stand out as one of the biggest ones," said Hunter. "Credit to Coach Aguirre calling that blitz. He did that all himself."

After taking over on offense, the Hornets handed the ball to Smith five consecutive times. On the fifth carry - his 36th of the night - he started up the middle, changed directions, and outran the Rockets defense for the game-winning score.

Smith finished the game with 205 yards rushing despite battling a stomach bug. It was his second 200-yard rushing game in district and gave him 1348 rushing yards for the season.

"Rayshon had a little lull in the second and third, but then in the fourth quarter he just turned it on. He has that 'it' factor," Hunter said.

Following the win, Hunter heaped praise on his entire team and specifically noted a pair of his big men on the offensive line.

"Zach Bryant and Tookie Jones played out of their minds Friday night. They physically dominated all night. The most they have all year," Hunter said. "When you can take their front line and drive them off the ball 3-4 yards that makes all the difference. When you can win the line of scrimmage and drive the line into the linebacker's lap, you're getting 4-5 yards a carry."

As a team, Gatesville averaged 4.9 yards per carry with Smith picking up 5.7 per carry. They totaled 278 yards of offense on the night with 228 coming on the ground. On the other side of the ball, the Hornets allowed just 185 yards to the Rockets - their second-best performance of the season. They allowed Godley just 86 yards in a 30-0 non-district win.

Hunter pointed to a number of factors and players for the defensive improvement.

"It's better communication and, truthfully, our coaching staff," Hunter said. "Early on we were trying to figure ourselves out. Our guys have just gotten more comfortable playing with each other. Zavier Clater is really playing well right now, and Tommy Aaron is just a dude. He's been banged up all year, but you would never guess it."

Clater had 11 tackles in the game including two for a loss. He was one of four Hornet defenders with double-digit tackles. Corey Burns had 13 including a sack while Mooney had 12. Phillips led the team with 20 tackles including 13 solo tackles, two tackles for a loss, and a sack.

"Amos is just different. He's got that 'it' factor, too. He's really quiet and



Zach Bryant



Tookie Jones

PLEASE SEE HORNETS | B2



Lawson Mooney takes down an opponent during the Gatesville vs. Robinson game.

GLADYS WHITENBURG | GATESVILLE MESSENGER



Gatesville Hornets come up short during first round of playoffs.

GLADYS WHITENBURG | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

## Gatesville volleyball falls in bi-district playoffs

BY CHRIS ALLMAN  
Contributing Writer

Gatesville volleyball wrapped up another playoff season on Oct. 30 with a four-set loss to Georgetown Gateway in the bi-district round of the playoffs.

The Lady Hornets - with a roster featuring just three healthy upper classmen - reloaded after a regional quarterfinal appearance in 2022 and finished fourth in District 23-4A. Their reward for their 21st consecutive playoff berth was a playoff rematch with a Gator team bent on a measure of revenge after falling to Gatesville in the 2022 playoffs.

Gatesville dropped the opening set 25-14 but battled back to take the second set 25-21. Head coach Janey Weber attributed the first set to a bit of nerves as well as a very good Gateway team.

"It was a little bit of both. Gateway came out with a lot of fire, but even after being down I thought our team stayed calm, settled in to the game, and started competing and fighting for every point," Weber said. "I loved that every player on our team stepped up last night and filled their role. We played together and fought really hard each play."

Gateway took the third set 25-12 then finished the match with a 25-14 win in the fourth set.

"What a way to go out. Every single player stepped up tonight ready to go. We did so many good things tonight, and I loved seeing how we stay focused and determined the whole way through," Weber said.

Seniors Barrett Boyd and Laura Trejo finished their careers with the loss, and the duo anchored a very young team throughout the season. Boyd will continue her athletic career as a pole vaulter at the Air Force Academy next year.

"I have loved having Trejo and Barrett be a part of the volleyball program. They were a great balance for our team and are both great kids that work really hard at everything they do. Both Barrett and Trejo are involved in so much, and they do an amazing job of balancing it all," Weber said.

The 2024 season will be a promising one for the Lady Hornets as they return juniors Tamiyah Miller and Addison Taylor, sophomores Emma Pollard, Taylor Sanderson, Belle Bartlett, and Hailey Wilson, and freshmen Charlee Ferris and Anna McPherson.

District 23-4A champion Salado won their playoff opener in straight sets over Lago Vista, and China Spring also advanced thanks to a 3-0 win over Jarrell. Robinson fell 3-0 to 24-4A runner up Burnet.



Barrett Boyd



Laura Trejo

CHRIS ALLMAN | GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured left to right are Oglesby's Evan Williamson, Mason Marquez, and Holdyn Goff.

# Oglesby Junior High Tigers defeat Calvert Trojans, 47-7

BY TOM NORRELL  
Contributing Writer

The Oglesby Junior High Tigers defeated the Calvert Junior High Trojans, 47-7, Oct. 2, to open up District 25A play. The Tigers improved to 7-1 on the season, and 1-0 in district play. All the Tigers saw ample playing time tonight on both offense and defense. Several Tigers scored touchdowns and Points After Touchdown (PATs) for the Tigers. The Tigers will travel to Buckholts Nov. 2, and winner of this game will be 2023 District 25A Junior High District Champions.

Offensively for the Tigers: Holdyn Goff led the Tigers in touchdowns. He had two rushing touchdowns of five, 25 yards, threw a 25-yard touchdown pass, had a pick six interception on defense for a total of four touchdowns, and a total of

90 yards. Mason Marquez had three carries for 66 yards, including one 22-yard touchdown run, and one PAT. Liam Ammerman had the most total yards with four carries for 55 yards, including a 35-yard touchdown run. He had two kickoff returns for 53 yards, and a total of 108 yards, and scored one PAT. Brody Martinez had two carries for 28 yards, and two PATs. Ranger Dalton had one reception for a 25-yard touchdown pass from Goff. AJ Marfa had one 10-yard touchdown run. Chayson Leverett had two carries for seven yards. Hunter Insall had one seven-yard carry and scored one PAT. Ashton Thompson had one carry for five yards.

Defensively for Tigers: Aiden Aviles led all tack-

lers with four solo tackles, two assists, and one fumble recovery. Brody Martinez had two solos, four assists, and one fumble recovery. Mason Marquez had one solo, three assists, and one fumble recovery. Holdyn Goff had one solo tackle, one assist, and one pick 6 interception. Jayce Aaron had one solo tackle, and one fumble recovery. Caden Brinkley had one solo tackle, and three assists. Javoni Gonzales had one solo tackle. Rancher Jeffcoat had one solo tackle. Liam Ammerman had one assist. Landry Riley had one solo tackle. Ranger Dalton had one solo tackle, and two assists. Tigers will play at Buckholts Thursday, Nov. 2, at 6 pm.

## PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

 <b>GATESVILLE HORNETS</b> <b>Corey Burns</b> Defensive player of the week 4 Solo Tackles 9 assist 13 total tackles and 1 sack	 <b>JONESBORO EAGLES</b> <b>Jacob Cisneros</b> 153 passing yards, 12 carries for 126 yards, 7 solo tackles, 4 assists, 2 TDs
 <b>EVANT ELKS</b> Not available	 <b>OGLESBY TIGERS</b> <b>Kyler Fossett</b> 43 passing yards, 18 carries for 254 yards, 9 solo tackles, 6 TDs

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## CO-DISTRICT CHAMPIONS



COURTESY PHOTO

Oglesby Lady Tigers are Co-District Champions. Pictured standing, left to right: Assistant Coach Kara Helms, Zarah Wisheart, Andrea Licea Perez, Addison Hamilton, Matti Dixon, Autumn Meyers, Caitlyn Battreal, Presley Robinson, and Head Coach Amanda Martin. Kneeling is Jayda Gonzalez.

# Lady Elks take loss against Bruceville-Eddy ISD

Staff Reports

The Evant Lady Elks volleyball team lost a tough battle against Bruceville-Eddy Independent School District during their warm-up game before the playoffs on Saturday, Oct. 28, 22-25, 25-22, 25-23, 19-

25, 11-15. The stats include: Harley W. - 30 assists, 4 kills, 4 saves, 11 digs. Molly W. - 1 ace, 12 digs, 13 kills, 1 assist, 1 save. Bree R. - 1 ace, 8 digs, 11 assists, 9 kills, 3 saves. Luwi R. - 2 aces, 29 digs,

11 kills, 2 saves. Izzy G. - 6 kills, 1 save, 24 digs, 2 aces. Jolyce A. - 3 aces, 13 digs, 4 kills, 1 save. Evant ISD is located at 339 Memory Lane in Evant.

# Oglesby Tigers thrash Calvert in District 25A opening play

BY TOM NORRELL  
Contributing Writer

The Oglesby Varsity Tigers opened up District 25A play with a 64-27 thrashing of the Calvert Trojans, Oct. 27, in Calvert. The game remained close in the first quarter, but the one-two punch of Kyler Fossett and Edward Aviles Jr., the passing of Hunter Walters, and sure-hands of big receiver Landon Williamson proved to be more than the Trojans could handle. The defense jelled for the Tigers, with multiple defenders helping to shut down the speedy backs and receivers of the Trojans. Top defensive performers for the Tigers were Fossett, Aviles, Tippit, Hendricks and Gomez. Offensively, Hunter Ewing made several key blocks and had a clutch 22-yard reception to help break open the game and set up the Tigers to score. Kyler Fossett had six rushing touchdowns, Edward Aviles had three rushing touchdowns, and Alex Castillo

was five/nine on PATs for 10 points. The Tigers host the Buckholt Badgers, Friday, Nov. 3 at 7 p.m., for the District 25A Championship. **Offensive stats:** Kyler Fossett was one for one passing for 43 yards, 18 carries for 254 yards rushing, and six touchdowns. He ended the night with 297 total yards. Edward Aviles Jr. was two for three passing for 44 yards, had four carries for 63 yards, and 169 kickoff return yards, for a total of 232 yards and three touchdowns. Landon Williamson had three catches for 77 yards and three first downs. Hunter Ewing had one catch for 22 yards and a

first down. Johnny Gomez had one catch for 12 yards. Hunter Walters was three for 10 passing for 46 yards. Defensively for the Tigers: Kyler Fossett had nine tackles and one interception. Edward Aviles had seven tackles. Jakson Tippit had six tackles and one fumble recovery. Landon Williamson had seven tackles and one forced fumble. Jack Hendricks had six tackles. Johnny Gomez had five tackles. Aiden Oxford had one tackle.

## HORNETS

FROM PAGE B1

calm, but he has an edge. Deep down inside there is a competitive spirit that you don't see right away," Hunter said. While Phillips will anchor the defense for the next two years, Mooney is nearing the end of a record-setting career. His sack of Stanford was his 127th of the season and the 485th of his career, which ties a school record. The four-year letterman needs one tackle in the Hornets playoff game to break Pedro Quintero's 23-year old school record for career tackles. Despite threatening weather prior to the game,

kickoff happened on schedule, but lightning delayed the game after five plays sending both teams to the locker room. "I think our guys were more prepared in pre-game than I have seen them all year. The feel in the locker room was the best we had all year. Then you have the delay," Hunter said. "Our offense met for about 20 minutes, and then we let them relax and get off their feet." Once play resumed, Gatesville took a 7-0 lead on Smith's two-yard touchdown run. Robinson tied the game at 7-7 in the second quarter on a touchdown pass from Stanford to Ty Weaver. The Rockets took their only lead on a two-yard

run from Lujan in the third quarter, but the Hornets tied the game at 14-14 with just over 3:00 left in the game on a touchdown run from Jacob Newkirk. Each team had one final possession before regulation ended with the game tied. "Kudos to Coach Lancaster and Robinson. Those guys played extremely hard. Everybody knew what was on the line, and both teams laid it all out there," Hunter said. Gatesville had a bye for the final week of the regular season and will wait to have their playoff opponent determined. Gonzales and Giddings played each other on Nov. 3 in their regular season finales, and Gatesville will face the winner in Hutto on Nov. 10.

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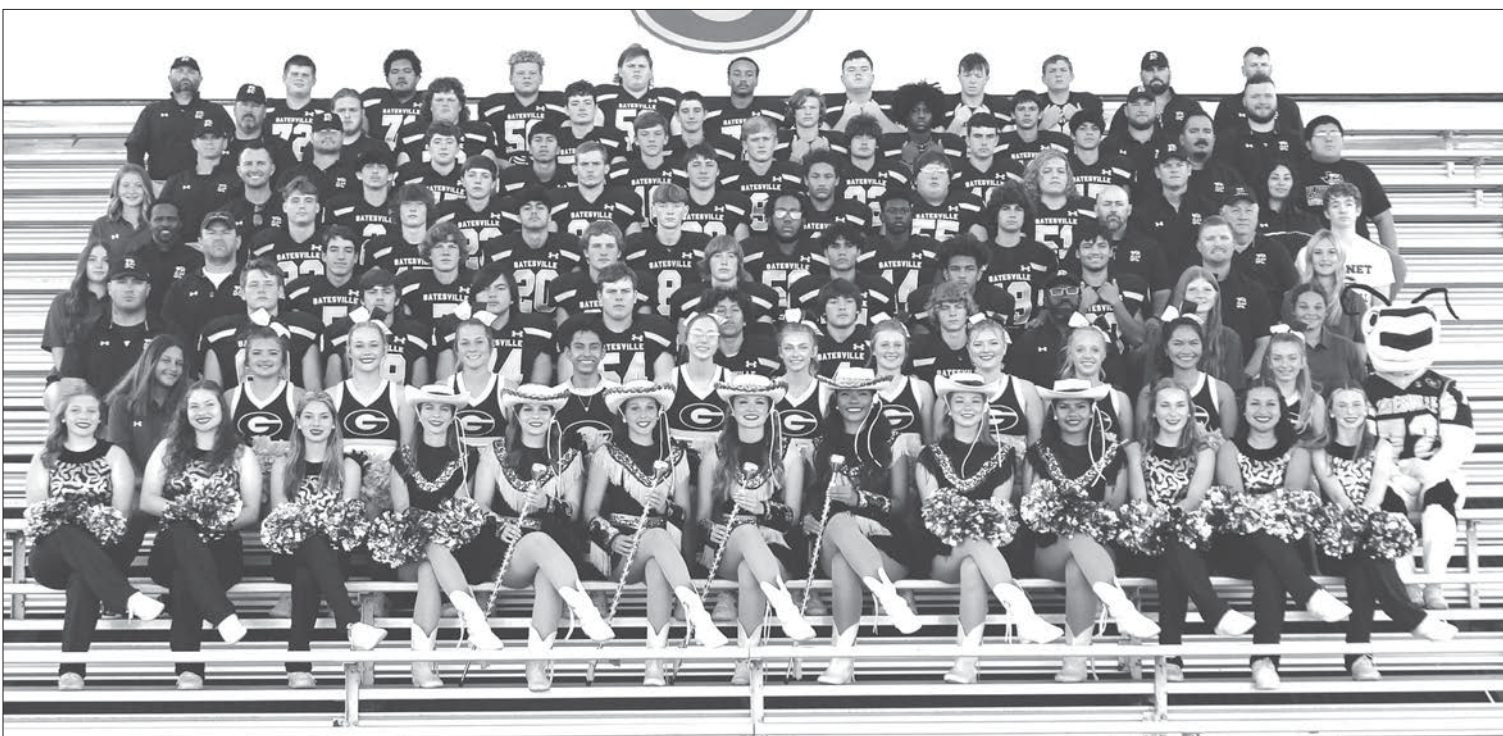
# GATESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR WALK

GLADYS WHITENBURG | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Following the overtime victory against Robinson, GHS seniors and families participate in the annual Senior Walk.



## GOOD LUCK HORNETS!



### GATESVILLE FOOTBALL Bi-district Playoff game

November 10 at Hutto ISD Stadium Gatesville vs. Giddings or Gonzales



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GHS fell to 4A No. 21 Georgetown Gateway Prep 3-1 (16-25, 25-22, 12-25, 14-25) in the bi-district playoffs. The Hornets, making their 21st-straight playoff appearance, finish the season 19-21 overall.

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# TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

## Texans cement fourth straight win in D1 winning season

### Tarleton State University

CONWAY, AR — Nothing about the conditions surrounding Tarleton State's game on Saturday, Oct. 28 seemed favorable, but the Texans have proven for four straight years at the NCAA Division I level they only know one thing — winning.

The Texans cemented their fourth straight winning season with an upset bid over No. 18 Central Arkansas on the road 25-23. By improving to 6-3 with two games to play, the Texans became just the third program since 2004 to post winning seasons in each of their reclassifying seasons, joining North Dakota State and South Dakota State.

It was a downpour in Conway, Arkansas, on the Bears' homecoming weekend, and the Texans spoiled the festivities more by snapping UCA's four-game winning streak. This was Tarleton's first game against a Football Championship Subdivision-ranked opponent since joining the subdivision, and they defeated a Bears' team that was 4-0 at home and ranked seventh in total offense at 455.6 yards per game.

The Texans (6-3, 2-2 UAC) outgained the Bears (5-3, 2-1 UAC) 376-347, winning the time of possession 32:55 to 27:05.

Kayvon Britten stole the show in the United Athletic Conference showdown between two of the conference's top running backs, rushing for 156 yards and two touchdowns on 22 carries (7.1 YPC). His first touchdown was a 38-yard, Marshawn Lynch-like "beast mode" run with several alterations and a plow over the defensive back at the end. He also opened



COURTESY PHOTO

The Texans cemented their fourth straight winning season with an upset bid over No. 18 Central Arkansas on the road 25-23.

the fourth quarter with a 59-yard score to give the Texans the game's first two-possession lead, 22-10.

The Texan defense held off UCA at the end as the Bears wouldn't go quietly. Down eight, Central Arkansas scored a touchdown after a 72-yard march in 1:45 with 14 seconds remaining. But needing the two-point conversion for the tie, Tarleton's Caimyn Layne got to UCA QB Will McElvain quickly and forced him into a spinning incompleteness to seal the win for the Purple and White. UCA tried a unique outside kick by booting it over Tarleton's line, but Tucker Swoboda gobbled it up and Texan QB Victor Gabalis went in victory formation to send the Texans home with the win.

Tarleton's defense held UCA at bay for most of the night, earning six tackles for loss, two sacks, a forced fumble, seven pass break-

ups, a blocked field goal, and that final two-point try stop. Blake Smith had a team-high 12 tackles. Devin Sterling had two tackles for loss among his six total. Ty Rawls and Josh Griffis each had a sack, with Rawls adding two pass breakups. Bryson Collins was credited with the field goal block to end the first half, adding four tackles and a TFL on the night.

Gabalis completed 12-of-21 passes for 168 yards on the wet Saturday. Trevon West was the leading receiver with 60 yards on three catches. Darius Cooper had 58 yards on two catches, including a one-handed sure-to-be SportsCenter Top-10 grab. Benjamin Omayebu recorded five catches for 46 yards.

One of the biggest storylines coming into Saturday was how Tarleton would handle UCA RB ShunDerrick

Powell. Powell entered as the conference leader in rushing yards per game and ran for 204 yards plus three touchdowns on 13 carries just a year prior against Tarleton while with North Alabama. This time around, Tyrone Nix and his defense shut him down to just four yards on six carries.

Upon walking onto a flooded Estes Stadium, Tarleton embraced it, spending even more time warming up pregame it seemed in the sopping conditions, while UCA stayed dry by warming up in their indoor practice facility.

The Texans were the tougher team early, forcing two three-and-outs and striking first with an Adrian Guzman 22-yard field goal at the 3:14 mark in the first quarter.

UCA took its first lead on its first drive in the second quarter, capping off a 16-play, 66-yard march with a

13-yard touchdown connection between McElvain and Jordan Owens. On Tarleton's ensuing drive, the Texans used a 25-yard Omayebu reception to give Guzman a chance from 43 yards out. He split the up-rights to make it a 7-6 Texan deficit.

On Tarleton's next drive, they scored their first touchdown to take a 13-7 lead, going 79 yards in nearly five minutes, with Britten bursting ahead for a 38-yard score, his 10th rushing touchdown of the season.

UCA nearly answered to end the first half, thanks to a 51-yard rush by Kylin James to put UCA in the red zone. With time waning, Tarleton's defense held firm and forced a field goal try that was blocked by Collins to send the Texans into the locker room up 13-7.

To open the third quarter, the Bears forced the game's lone turnover on a

sack fumble by Gabalis that spoiled a solid Texan drive. They threatened by getting to Tarleton's 3-yard line but had to settle for a 26-yard field goal to make it 13-10 Texans.

Guzman answered right back with his third field goal of the night to boost the lead back to six, 16-10, from 25 yards out.

On the second play of the fourth quarter, Britten broke free for 59 yards and his 11th rushing touchdown of the season. Tarleton went for two and didn't get it, making it a 22-10 game.

McElvain found James for a 19-yard score to quickly answer, cutting it to a 22-17 game with 10:41 to play.

With about seven minutes to play, Griffis came up with a huge third-down strip sack, to force a Bears punt when UCA had the momentum. That led to Guzman's fourth field goal on the night, this one from 36 yards out, to extend the Texan lead to 25-17 with 1:59 remaining.

Central Arkansas had several chunk plays lead to a McElvain-Owens three-yard touchdown with 14 seconds left to make it 25-23 Tarleton. Layne's pressure on the two-point try got to UCA, and Tarleton State left Conway with the conference victory.

The Texans improved to 3-2 on the road this year, their most road wins since 2019. That was also the last time Tarleton started a season 6-3 or better overall.

They have just two games remaining, and will host their final home game of 2023 on Saturday, Nov. 4, against Stephen F. Austin at 6 p.m. It will be both Senior Night and Military Appreciation for the conference battle at Memorial Stadium.

## Kevin Baez notches top-15 win at 2023 WAC Cross Country Championship



COURTESY PHOTO

On Friday, Oct. 27 in his final race as a Texan, Kevin Baez took 11th place leading the Purple and White to a sixth overall finish Tarleton State men's and women's cross country wrapped up their seasons at the 2023 WAC Championship. The men took sixth place overall with the women taking tenth.

### Tarleton State University

ABILENE - On Friday, Oct. 27 in his final race as a Texan, Kevin Baez took 11th place leading the Purple and White to a sixth overall finish.

Tarleton State men's and women's cross country wrapped up their seasons at the 2023 WAC Championship. The men took sixth place overall with the women taking tenth.

#### MEN (6TH)

The Texans were led once again by senior Baez who took 11th place overall with a time of 24:16.9. Baez finished 24 spots higher this go-around at the WAC Championship. Last season he finished in 35th with a time of 24:39.9.

The Purple and White finished as a team sixth overall with a point tally of 166, just one point short of fifth place Utah Tech.

"I was really proud of our guys and the way that we competed," said coach Chase Rathke. "It was a hard-fought battle obviously. Going in we got a

few pieces back with Angel Gomez and then also dealt with a couple minor injuries going into the conference meet just like every team. We were one place or one point away from being 5th. I thought they competed extremely well. I was really proud of Kevin Baez going out and finishing 11th. To come in 11th, he ran a really gutsy race and put us in a position to do really well. Our guys went out and executed the race plan really well and I know we had high expectations and everything but at the same time I was really proud of the way those guys competed.

Following Baez and notching a top-30 finish was Gomez with a time of 25:06.8 earning him 29th place. Not far behind Gomez was Angel Contreras who finished in 34th place with a time of 25:20.6.

Ricky Tolentino claimed the final spot in the top-50 with a time of 25:52.7. Three spots behind Tolentino was Kellen Frickel who finished in 53rd with a time of 26:01.9.

Rounding it out for the

Purple and White was Diego Flores and Christopher Moreno. Flores came in 75th with a time of 27:26.6. Moreno wrapped it up for the Texans with an 82nd place finish and a time of 27:59.6.

#### WOMEN (10TH)

The Texans were led by Sage Lancaster as they have been the entire season. Lancaster finished in the top-50 with a 46th place finish with a time of 23:09.2.

The Purple and White finished in tenth place as a team with a point total of 303.

"It unfortunately wasn't our day," said coach Chase Rathke. "There's a bunch of factors that went into it, but I was proud of the way the girls competed and battled all year. We battled injuries and other things and at the end of the day it was just about getting to the conference meet. I was really proud of the way that they competed and laid it all out there. It was a gutsy performance in a tough race, and I think it gave a lot of those

girls some needed experience. I think that we're going to use that going forward and build on it and continue to grow as a team. We are going to continue to build that culture and I think we're on the right track for sure and I know that they're very hungry to continue to build on that and I'm really excited for them going forward."

Kailey Sykora finished in 62nd place with a time of 23:35.8. Four spots later Georgina Balderas finished with a time of 23:42.8 in 66th place.

Aimee Landers-Wilburn and Emily Teal finished back-to-back in 80th and 81st places respectively. Landers-Wilburn turned in a time of 25:29.6 and Teal crossed the finish line at 25:32.1.

Rounding it out for the Texans were Jordan Jones, Morgan Lamberson and Magaly Lopez. Jones came in 84th with a time of 26:22.2. Lamberson finished in 86th place with a time of 26:41.3. Lopez came across the line in 87th place with a time of 26:44.5.

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# Gatesville ISD partners with Elite Therapy Center

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH  
Staff Writer

**E**lite Therapy Center of Gatesville and Gatesville Independent School District have recently partnered to provide on-site physical therapy services to students.

Roxy Hunter, DPT, is a local physical therapist that treats at the Gatesville Elite Therapy Center as well as Waco clinic locations.

"I am a physical therapist who has been working with Elite Therapy Center for six years, since 2017," Hunter said.

She has played a major role in the partnership between Elite Therapy Center and Gatesville ISD.

"In early September, we initiated discussions with school personnel to explore a potential partnership, and since then, we've been gradually implementing our plan," Hunter said.

Gatesville ISD and Elite Therapy Center conducted meetings to talk about the partnership and what it would entail.

"This program is designed for junior high and high

school athletes," Hunter said. "We recognized evident challenges faced by both parents and students leading to the pioneering of this concept with Gatesville athletes, aiming to alleviate these issues and enhance healthcare accessibility for this community. Our vision was to create a solution that would address the pressing needs of quality care while minimizing disruptions to both parents' and students' daily routines."

Hunter expressed how the significance of on-site physical therapy services in partnership with Gatesville ISD will ensure immediate access to specialized care for student athletes and will foster a seamless integration of rehabilitation into their academic and athletic routines.

To reduce the number of

unnecessary trips off campus, Elite Therapy Center has made it accessible to conduct treatment and screenings during school hours.

"All treatments are conducted on campus, making use of the athletic training building, weight room, and track amenities to ensure the most convenient and effective care for our athletes," Hunter said.

This partnership will provide a comprehensive range of services, tailored to the needs of athletes who are post-surgical, recovering from injuries, or managing persistent pain, to support their journey towards peak performance and well-being.

Benefits of the partnership include:

- Less class missed. Helping students to stay on track with academics.

- Parents can now avoid taking time off from work to drive their children to appointments.

- There will be direct collaboration with coaches and athletic trainers to ensure the most comprehensive care for students.

"Additionally, our company offers free sports injury prevention screening which

may detect biomechanical imbalances that could predispose them to both minor and serious injuries," Hunter added.

If the student qualifies for physical therapy services, a signed doctor's referral is necessary.

"Elite Therapy's administration will collaborate directly with families to facilitate the process, including obtaining the required referral and addressing insurance requirements," Hunter said.

To date, there has been one student athlete who has received physical therapy treatment services as well as several that have received free screenings.

"Ultimately, the partnership will promote a quicker, more accessible, and comprehensive recovery as well as enhance the student's overall well-being and performance while providing less stress and peace of mind for the parents," Hunter said.

To receive treatment, visit the link <https://www.elite-therapycenter.org/sports-pt-in-gatesville/> and click request care. You may also speak with your doctor di-



Roxy Hunter, DPT

COURTESY PHOTO

rectly for a referral to Elite Therapy and a representative from Elite Therapy center will contact you for more information.

Elite Therapy Center accepts private insurance,

Medicaid, and private pay options, and all fees can be directly paid online.

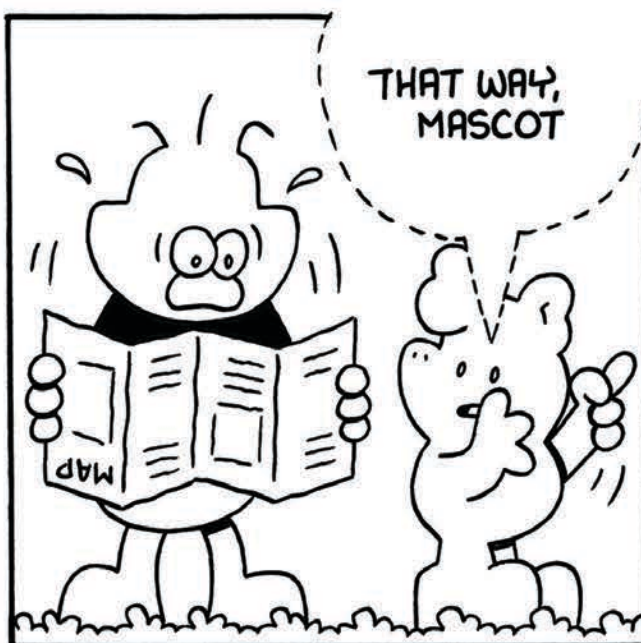
## GHS BAND HEADED FOR STATE

GLADYS WHITENBURG | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Gatesville High School Band hosts community show before returning to state competition for the second consecutive year.



### ZED by Duane M. Abel



Coryell  
County

## DEVOTIONAL PAGE



THIS DEVOTIONAL DIRECTORY IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES:

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

Steven L. Bogan, pastor; Hwy. 84 &amp; FM 116; Sunday Bible study 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. &amp; 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. &amp; 5:30 p.m.

**EASTWOOD**

Lynn Parks, pastor; 2518 East Main, Gatesville; Sundays - Sunday School 9:45 a.m., worship 10:50 a.m. &amp; 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' &amp; 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 &amp; Bible Study 7 p.m.; Youth Group &amp; Kid Knights 7 p.m.; Supper first Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m.; Men's Breakfast second Saturday of each month at 7:30 a.m.

**FIRST BAPTIST GATESVILLE**

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 5:40 p.m.; Kids &amp; Youth Group 6 p.m., Prayer meeting 6 p.m.

**FIRST BAPTIST PURMELA**

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

**GATEWAY**

Michael Bragdon, Pastor; 2819 S. Hwy. 36, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. &amp; 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. &amp; 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 &amp; women on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

**JONESBORO**

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

**KING**

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

**LIBERTY**

Royce T. Cockrell, DMin., Pastor; Corner of FM 107 &amp; HWY 36, Gatesville; Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Sunday Service 11 a.m. &amp; 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 &amp; Children's Bible Study 6 p.m.

**MOUNTAIN**

Rev. Kurt Fuessel, pastor; 6319 US-84, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. &amp; 6 p.m. Prayer meeting 7 p.m. Wednesday.

**OSAGE**Chris Thomas, pastor; 7505 FM 185, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.  
**PEARL COUNTRY CHURCH**  
2082 FM 1690, Gatesville; Sunday worship 10 a.m.**PECAN GROVE**

6545 FM 107, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.

**PIDCOKE**

Donald McConnaughay, pastor; 11125 FM 116, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday service 11 a.m.

**PLEASANT VALLEY**

Chris Post, Pastor; CR 301, Jonesboro; Sunday school 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.

**PRIMERO IGLESIA EMANUEL**

One mile north of Evant, Hwy. 281; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.

**PURMELA BAPTIST CHURCH**

Pastor: Brenden Hough; 875 FM 932, Purmela, TX 76566; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

**SWEET HOME**

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

**SPANISH**

Ezequiel Casas, pastor; 113 Veazy Dr., Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m., Wednesday Prayer Meeting 6 p.m.

**TRINITY**

Bro. Sam Crosby, Pastor; 1506 W. Main, Gatesville; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday worship 8:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Wednesday - activities for adults, youth &amp; children 6:30 p.m.; 254-865-8495 or Pre-school: 254-248-0041.

**TURNERSVILLE**

Jon Crosby, Pastor; 8120 FM 182, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m., Wednesday night Bible study, 6 p.m.

**WESTVIEW**

Interim Pastor: Eddie Taylor; 1102 W. Main St., Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.

**WHITE HALL**

Mike Barron, pastor; 2040 CR 238, Gatesville; Sunday school 10 a.m.; Sunday worship 11 a.m.; 254-679-3200.

**WHITE MOUND**

Bruce Cox, pastor; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.; 642 CR 320; mailing address: P.O. Box 103, Mound, TX 76558.

**MOUND COWBOY CHURCH**

Bruce Cox, pastor; Sunday worship 9 a.m., Sunday school 9:30 a.m. Men's breakfast every third Saturday at 8 a.m. Inside: 3075 FM 931, outside: 2000 CR 321. Mailing address: P.O. Box 103, Mound, TX 76558. For more info. &amp; location, call 254-865-5908.

**CATHOLIC****OUR LADY OF LOURDES**  
Rev. Jayaraju Polishetty; 1108 W. Main, Gatesville; Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m. (English) & 12 p.m. (Spanish Mass), Tuesdays at 12:15 p.m. & Wednesday-Friday at 7 a.m.**CHURCH OF CHRIST****CEDAR RIDGE**  
Deral McWhorter, minister; 104 Cedar Ridge, Gatesville; Sunday worship 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.  
**EVANT**  
Will Vann, Preacher; 310 W. Brooks Dr., Evant; Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m.,

Sunday worship 10:20 a.m. &amp; 12:30 p.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

**FORT GATES**

4605 St. Hwy. 36 S., Gatesville; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.

**GATESVILLE**

Justin Hall, minister; 2417 E. Main, Gatesville; Sunday Bible class 9:30 a.m., Sunday service 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Bible classes 6:30 p.m.

**LA IGLESIA DE CRISTO**

2413 E. Main, Gatesville; clases y servicios en Español, 10-11:30 a.m., Solamente en domingos.

**MIDWAY**

1955 CR 3640, Copperas Cove; Sundays - worship 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays - Bible Study 5:30 p.m.; Royce 512-734-5390 or Steve 254-865-3559.

**PEARL**

6790 FM 183; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.

**CHURCH OF GOD****CORNERSTONE**  
Greg Demmitt, pastor; 338 State School Rd., Gatesville; Sunday worship 11 a.m.**LUTHERAN****IMMANUEL**  
David Reedy, International Interim Pastor; 922 Lutheran Church Rd., Copperas Cove; Sunday Bible Study 9:15 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.**ST. JOHN**

Rev. Christopher Richman, PhD; 10801 FM 929, Coryell City; Sunday worship 9 a.m., Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

**ST. PAUL**

Rev. John Heckmann, pastor; Hwy. 36 &amp; FM 1114, The Grove; Sunday School 9 a.m., Sunday worship 10:15 a.m.

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

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

**FIRST METHODIST GATESVILLE**

2600 E. Main St.; Stephen Schmidt, pastor; Sunday worship 8:30 a.m. &amp; 10:30 a.m., Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. WEDNESDAY WORD: Meal at 5:30 p.m. \$3; youth, Children &amp; Adult Bible Studies at 6 p.m. AA meets Monday, Wednesday &amp; Friday at 6:30 p.m.

**OGLESBY UNITED**

Kent Berry, pastor; 109 College St.; Sunday worship 9 a.m.

**PIDCOKE**

Bill Jones, Pastor; Hwy. 116 N., Pidcoke; Sunday worship service 10 a.m.; 254-677-6242.

**MORMON****CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LATTER-DAY SAINTS**

206 S. 26th St., Gatesville; Sacrament services Sundays 10 a.m., Sunday School 10 a.m.

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

Eric Moffett, Pastor; 115 N. Levita Rd., Gatesville, 248-0849. Sunday worship 9 a.m. &amp; 10:30 a.m. Wednesday services 6 p.m.; Adult Bible Study, Children's Ministry &amp; C3 Student Ministry.

**CORYELL FELLOWSHIP**

Doran Belknap III, Pastor; Sunday service 11 a.m., 8205 FM 182, Turnersville; 254-218-5901.

**COVER2COVER**

Pastor: Rev. Brandy Spiker, Sunday service 10 a.m. &amp; 6 p.m., Wednesdays 6 p.m.

407 SH-36, Ste. 4 & 5, Gatesville.  
**GATESVILLE REVIVAL CENTER**

Wes Covey, Pastor; Sunday school 10 a.m., Sunday services 11 a.m. &amp; 6 p.m., Thursdays 7 p.m.; 2518 Bridge St.; 254-392-9472.

**GRACE ASSEMBLY CHRISTIAN**

Wray Nunn, pastor; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m., Wednesday worship 6:30 p.m.; Gateway Learning Center, 2315 Osage Rd., Gatesville.

**HARVESTING SOULS INTERNATIONAL**

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

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

Peter M. Mafwal, Pastor; 4460 FM 930, Levita; Sunday Bible Study 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:45 a.m.

**MOTHER NEFF FAITH****TABERNACLE**  
William Bertelsen, Pastor; 1415 Texas Hwy. 236; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.**PEARL COMMUNITY****FELLOWSHIP**  
6735 FM 183, Pearl; Sunday Services 9 a.m.**THE HOUSE THAT GOD****BUILT**  
Bill Trotter, pastor; 3412 E. Main St., Gatesville; Sunday service 11 a.m., Wednesday service 7 p.m.**PENTECOSTAL****TABERNACLE OF PRAISE**  
Rev. Jimmy Skiles, pastor; 202 E. Main, Gatesville; Sundays 10 a.m.; Wednesdays 7 p.m.; 254-206-1826.**MOUNT CALVARY****CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST**  
Rev. Lee O. Ford, pastor; 514 N. 13th St., Gatesville; Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m., Wednesdays Bible Study 6:30-7:30 p.m., Wednesday service, 7:30 p.m.**PRESBYTERIAN****THE PRESBYTERIAN**  
Rev. Dr. Buddy Wheat, pastor; 1110 E. Main, Gatesville; Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.**REFORMED****GRACE BIBLE**  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday services 10:45 a.m.; 4012 US Hwy. 84, Gatesville.**SPANISH****BIENVENIDOS**  
AL HOGAR DE DIOS Domingos a partir de las 2:00 p.m. Te esperamos! 6226 E. Hwy. 84, Gatesville.**WESLEYAN****CORYELL VALLEY**  
Worship Saturdays 5 p.m., Bible fellowship Sundays 10 a.m.; 4995 FM 929**INTER-DENOMINATIONAL****BOOTS-N-SADDLE COWBOY CHURCH**  
Max Gunn, pastor; 254-216-1537; 10 miles west of Gatesville on HWY 84; Sundays 10:30 a.m.; Wednesdays 7 p.m.; Youth Sunday Service 9:45 a.m.**HIGHWAY 2 HEAVEN****BIKER CHURCH**  
Monty & Tammy VanHorn, pastors; 1608 W. Main St., Gatesville; Sunday Praise & Worship 11 am, Wednesday Bible Study Rally-6 p.m.; 254-865-4076.

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060

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Tues., 11/07 - Sat., 11/11 we will have CHRISTMAS GIFTS! All new gift items! The Boys & Girls Club Resale Shop, 1706 E. Main. Tuesday-Friday, 8a.m.-5p.m. & Saturday, 9a.m.-3p.m. 00030459

**YARD SALE:** 1340 Old Osage Rd., from 8 a.m.-3 p.m.! Old pictures, clothing, purses, and lots of miscellaneous items! 00030469

099

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**Gatesville Independent School District** is seeking E-Rate services for E-Rate Funding Year 2024: **July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025**

All interested vendors please visit: <https://portal.usac.org/suite/>

Form 470 Application Number: **240002624**

Please see RFP at:

<https://erate.esc12.net/R12/>

00030465

**NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO DISTRICT RULES**

Notice is hereby given that the Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District ("MTGCD") will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, December 7, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. at 930 N Wolfe Nursery Road, Stephenville, Texas, 76401, to discuss, consider and receive public comment on proposed amendments to the District's rules. All interested parties are invited to attend.

The Board will consider proposed amendments to establish a transport fee of \$0.20 per thousand gallons of water transported out of the District effective January 1, 2024. Any person who desires to appear at the hearing and present comment or other information on the proposed amendments may do so in person, by counsel, or both. Comments may be presented verbally or in written form. Limits may be placed on the amount of time that each person is allowed to present verbal comments. The hearing posted in this notice may be rescinded from day to day or continued where appropriate.

A copy of the proposed amendments to the District Rules may be requested by email at wells@middletrinitygcd.org, and is available at MTGCD's website www.middletrinitygcd.org, and may be reviewed or copied at 930 N Wolfe Nursery Road, Stephenville, Texas, 76401. Any person who wishes to receive more detailed information on this notice of the proposed District Rules should contact the General Manager, at 254-965-6705.

00030466

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**

Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, Ideal Self Storage-Gatesville, located at 1611 E. Main St., Gatesville TX 76528, is having an online auction.

The property is being sold to satisfy the landlord's lien. The sale will be held at storageauctions.com beginning Monday, November 20, 2023, at 11 a.m. Seller reserves the right to withdraw any property from the sale upon payment in full. Bidding sale will end on Monday, November 27, 2023, at 11 a.m.

Units to be sold: Tarifa Lopez, Justin Loera, Barbara Boyle. Inventory: Household goods, clothing, tools, and misc.

00030470

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**PUBLIC NOTICES****NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of DAVID WAYNE SHEHANE, Deceased, were issued on October 11, 2023, in Cause No. 23-10804, pending in the County Court at Law of Coryell County, Texas, to: DUSTYN SHEHANE.

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: Mary Wiley  
Attorney at Law  
100 W. Central Texas Expressway  
Suite 302  
Harker Heights, Texas 76548

DATED the 26 day of October, 2023.

MARY WILEY  
Attorney for DUSTYN SHEHANE  
State Bar No.: 24032669  
100 W. Central Texas Expressway  
Suite 302  
Harker Heights, Texas 76548  
Telephone: (254) 634-6969  
Facsimile: (254) 634-6587  
E-mail: mary@lindleylawoffices.com  
00030471

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Jack Richard Widup, Deceased, were issued on 10-3-23, in Cause No. 23-10895, pending in the County Court-at-Law of Coryell County, Texas, to: Ronald Allen Widup.

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: Ronald Allen Widup  
2331 Perkins Rd.  
Arlington, Texas 76016

DATED the 30 day of October, 2023.

Dori Ray Mystic  
Attorney for Ronald Allen Widup  
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  
00030476

099

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

JENNIFER NEWTON  
CLERK OF THE COUNTY COURT  
P.O. BOX 237  
GATESVILLE, TX 76528

ATTORNEY OR PERSON FILING CAUSE  
GARRETT L. BEACH  
3501 W. WACO DR.  
WACO, TX 76710

TO: MICHAEL RAY WALTER  
DECEDENT'S UNKNOWN HEIRS  
UNKNOWN ADDRESS  
UNKNOWN STATE

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF CORYELL

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ALTA FAYE WALTER DECEASED, CAUSE NO 23-10885, COUNTY COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS. SHELLEY BEESLEY FILED IN THE COUNTY COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS ON THE 14TH DAY OF AUGUST 2023, APPLICATION FOR DETERMINE HEIRSHIP SAID ALTA FAYE WALTER, DECEASED. SAID APPLICATION SHALL BE HEARD AND ACTED ON BY SAID COURT ON OR AFTER THE FIRST MONDAY NEXT AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF TEN DAYS FROM DATE OF POSTING THIS CITATION, THE SAME BEING THE 13TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2023, AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS.

ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN SAID ESTATE ARE HEREBY CITED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COUNTY COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY AT THE SAME ABOVE MENTIONED TIME AND PLACE BY FILING A WRITTEN ANSWER CONTESTING SUCH APPLICATION SHOULD THEY DESIRE TO DO SO.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE COUNTY COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS THE 31ST DAY OF OCTOBER 2023.

JENNIFER NEWTON  
CORYELL COUNTY CLERK  
CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

BY: A. KORNEGAY 00030477

**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.

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With nearly **80%** of households reporting that they rely on circulars and other traditional print media sources for product information\*, the newspaper is still an unbeatable value for your advertising dollars.\*

\*MarketingSherpa, October 2018, as reported by News Media Alliance

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- RN - FT
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- Registration Clerk - Waco FT

**CULINARY:**

- Cook Assistant - FT

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- Paramedic - PRN
- EMT - PRN

**\*\*RN/LVN/CNA/PARAMEDIC POSITIONS MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR A SIGN-ON BONUS WITH ONE YEAR COMMITMENT FOR SPECIFIC AREAS**

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EOE.

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

045

**SERVICES**

Central Texas Landscaping & Services, LLC: Mowing, Landscaping, Brush Clearing, Trash Clean Up, Pipe Fence Painting (Ospho), Road Installation. John Capella, 254-216-3684. Licensed & Insured. 00030331

**R&M FENCING & DOZING:** barbed wire, custom pipe, entryways, corrals, barns, fence row clearing, metal buildings, residential & game fencing, solar gate openers, dozer work. Free estimates. Larry Riddle, 254-248-2205; Joyce McAdams, 254-248-4318. 00030454

045

**SERVICES**

**Dry Creek Trash Service Weekly Pickup and Roll-off container rentals: Ofc. (254) 463-4988/Cell (254) 206-1512/drycreektrash-service.com 00030450**

**FERGUSON ROOFING:** Locally owned company serving all Central Texas area. Commercial and Residential. Free Estimates! 254-466-5128 00030449

**TREE WORKS Tree Service:** tree trimming, removal & stump grinding. Free estimates. Call Lloyd, (254)223-3287. 00030451

# CLASSIFIEDS

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**REAL ESTATE**

## Texas Commission on Environmental Quality



### NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION FOR TPDES PERMIT FOR MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER

RENEWAL

PERMIT NO. WQ0011011001

**APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION.** City of Evant, P.O. Box 10, Evant, Texas 76525, applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a renewal of Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0011011001 which authorizes the discharge of treated domestic wastewater at a daily average flow not to exceed 60,000 gallons per day. TCEQ received this application on May 11, 2023.

The facility is located at 650 East Live Oak Street, in the City of Evant, Coryell County, Texas 76525. The treated effluent is discharged to Langford Branch, thence to Cowhouse Creek, thence to Belton Lake in Segment No. 1220 of the Brazos River Basin. The unclassified receiving water use is minimal aquatic life use for Langford Branch. The designated uses for Segment No. 1220 are primary contact recreation, public water supply, and high aquatic life use. All determinations are preliminary and subject to additional review and/or revisions. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and is not part of the application or notice. For the exact location, refer to the application.

<https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-98.146692,31.471875&level=18>

The TCEQ Executive Director has completed the technical review of the application and prepared a draft permit. The draft permit, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the facility must operate. The Executive Director has made a preliminary decision that this permit, if issued, meets all statutory and regulatory requirements. The permit application, Executive Director's preliminary decision, and draft permit are available for viewing and copying at copying at Evant City Hall, 598 East U.S. Highway 84, Evant, Texas 76525.

**PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING.** You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. TCEQ holds a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING.** After the deadline for submitting public comments, the Executive Director will consider all timely comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. **Unless the application is directly referred for a contested case hearing, the response to comments will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and to those persons who are on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting a contested case hearing or reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision.** A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in a state district court.

**TO REQUEST A CONTESTED CASE HEARING, YOU MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN YOUR REQUEST: your name, address, phone number; applicant's name and proposed permit number; the location and distance of your property/activities relative to the proposed facility; a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the facility in a way not common to the general public; a list of all disputed issues of fact that you submit during the comment period; and the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing." If the request for contested case hearing is filed on behalf of a group or association, the request must designate the group's representative for receiving future correspondence; identify by name and physical address an individual member of the group who would be adversely affected by the proposed facility or activity; provide the information discussed above regarding the affected member's location and distance from the facility or activity; explain how and why the member would be affected; and explain how the interests the group seeks to protect are relevant to the group's purpose.**

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for reconsideration or for a contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

The Commission may only grant a request for a contested case hearing on issues the requestor submitted in their timely comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. **If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact or mixed questions of fact and law relating to relevant and material water quality concerns submitted during the comment period. TCEQ may act on an application to renew a permit for discharge of wastewater without providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACTION.** The Executive Director may issue final approval of the application unless a timely contested case hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed. If a timely hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed, the Executive Director will not issue final approval of the permit and will forward the application and request to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

**MAILING LIST.** If you submit public comments, a request for a contested case hearing or a reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision, you will be added to the mailing list for this specific application to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. In addition, you may request to be placed on: (1) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (2) the mailing list for a specific county. If you wish to be placed on the permanent and/or the county mailing list, clearly specify which list(s) and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

**All written public comments and public meeting requests must be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 or electronically at [www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment) within 30 days from the date of newspaper publication of this notice.**

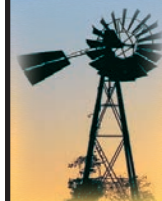
**INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE.** For details about the status of the application, visit the Commissioners' Integrated Database at [www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid). Search the database using the permit number for this application, which is provided at the top of this notice.

**AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION.** Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at [www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment), or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Any personal information you submit to the TCEQ will become part of the agency's record; this includes email addresses. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Public Education Program, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040 or visit their website at [www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep). Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from City of Evant at the address stated above or by calling Ms. Robin Butcko, Permitting Services, LLC, at 713-458-8612.

Issuance Date: October 20, 2023

## BURKS REAL ESTATE



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For complete listings, go to [www.burksrealestate.com](http://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
- 10.01 acres, Lot 48 in Phase 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX, Dry Branch along back of the property, nice home site overlooking the branch. \$185,000
- 11 +/- acres, Arnett, TX in Coryell County, good tree cover, nice home site, will need to be fenced on the east boundary. MCWSC may be available. \$179,500
- 17.85 acres, 296 Cross Timbers Lane Gatesville, 2 homes, main home 3 Br, 2 Ba brick home, open floor plan, second home 2 Br 2 Ba single wide mobile home, 2 covered parking spaces, good tree cover, rolling terrain, storage building, excellent fences, 1 stock pond. \$749,500
- 20 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 Escondido, 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, scattered tree cover, approx. 25 acres farmland, 2 stock tanks, & good fences. \$449,000
- 47.332 ac. south of Ireland, TX, good tree cover, rolling terrain, good fencing on 3 sides, southside will need to be fenced. \$395,000
- 50.24 acres, 3/2.5 home, 2171 CR 419, Evant, TX, rolling terrain, 40% being good tree cover, the remaining balance being open pasture, great views. \$649,500.
- 58.51 acres, 3 Br, 2 Ba frame home, 6630 FM 183, Evant, TX. Water well, several outbuildings, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover & 2 stock tanks. \$585,000
- 60.23 acres, CR 238 near Turnersville, TX. 1 stock tank, good fences, scattered tree cover, rolling terrain, \$361,380.
- 68.9 acres, 3/2.5 rock home, 101 Mac Dr., Gatesville, TX. Approx. 2900 ft of Leon River frontage, ceramic tile floors, carpet in 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. \$1,249,500
- 74.264 ac. West of Purnela, TX FM 1241, 1 tank, barn with cattle pens, good exterior 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, Purnela, 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 tank, 1 barn 100 ft. x 50 ft, 1 barn 50 ft. x 48 ft & 1 barn 120 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, Purnela, 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



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# SHOP LOCALLY!

# EDUCATION

Gatesville ★ Evant ★ Jonesboro ★ Oglesby

## GISD taking clothing donations

Staff Reports

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 run through Nov. 30.

Both adult and children's sizes are needed. New or gently used items are to be dropped off at any Gatesville ISD school office location.

For more information, call 254-865-7251.

## LATHAM

FROM PAGE A1

"It's to paint the picture that we're failing, but it's the state of Texas that's failing us," Latham said. "We would like to see change as well and advocate for it often, but it falls on deaf ears because of course, it would require properly funding public schools which is something Abbott clearly doesn't want to hear or do."

As the debates took up most of the day, Latham sat through them and absorbed everything she could. "There were senators really putting pressure on Brandon Creighton, the Senator who created the bill," Latham said. "I learned that the 13 who voted against it knew that it was a losing battle, but they wanted to get Creighton on record owning up to the bill's shortcomings."

After the debates concluded, Latham was able to speak with Shelby Slawson's Legislative Director, Jackson Woomer.

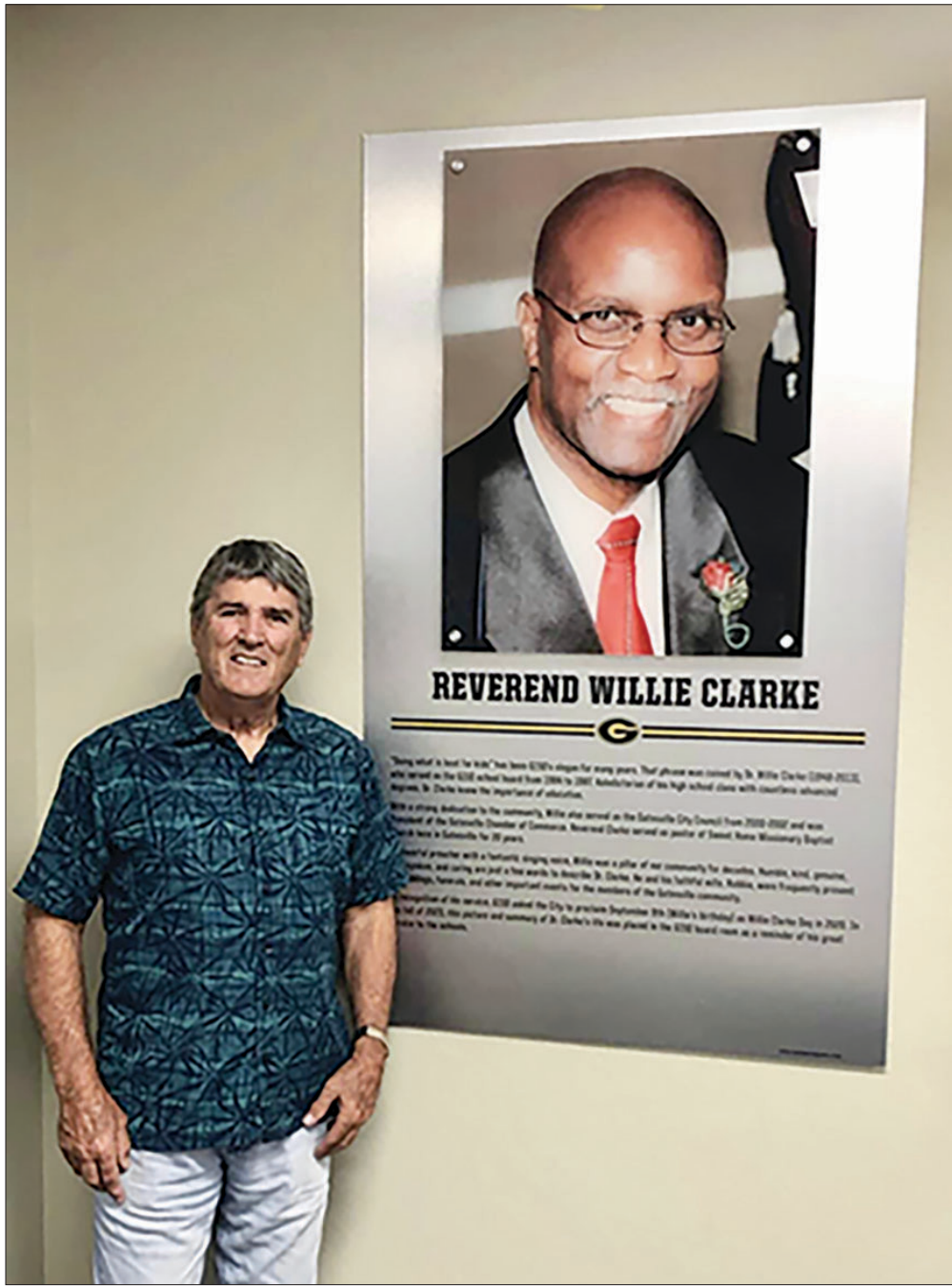
"I believe he was genuinely shocked when I told him some of the financial statistics of teacher pay despite how professionally trained we are," Latham said. "We are the 10th largest economy in the world and yet we rank in the 40's in educational spending."

She had a discussion with Woomer regarding rural districts, like the ones Slawson represents, and she pleaded her case as to why schools sincerely need Slawson's support and the support of the House.

"Think of the amount of activities that take place at the schools that bring our community together, so I don't like the idea of anything threatening public education and the culture it creates in towns, especially here in Texas," Latham said.

Latham was also able to speak with Senator Pete Flores's Senior Policy Analyst, Cassidy Driskell. The two spoke in the gallery outside the Senate Chambers as Senator Flores was in the session. "She gave me a lot of her time and was incredibly generous," Latham said. "The Senator's mind was already made up to vote for the bill and we had to agree to disagree on several things, but overall, it was a productive conversation."

"If you believe the current negative narrative about public schools, then I invite you to come visit one, talk with your local teachers and get involved to better understand how we operate," Latham said. "Gatesville ISD is full of great educators that I'm blessed and honored to call colleagues and friends," Latham said. "Public schools are the heartbeat of every small town in Texas."



Former Superintendent James Baize is pictured standing next to a picture summarizing Clarke's life, which is placed in the Gatesville ISD board room.

## Former GISD superintendent recommends honoring Rev. Willie Clarke

Staff Reports

Former Gatesville Independent School District Superintendent James Baize recommended several months ago to honor the memory of Reverend Willie Clarke.

Clarke served on the school board from 1984 to 1987. Baize described how board meetings during that era were particularly contentious and would sometimes last long hours. However, it was Clarke's clam demeanor and graciousness that was often the source of compromise.

Most everyone knows that Clarke coined the term "doing what is best for kids," which has been the Gatesville ISD's slogan for many years.

Valedictorian of his high

school class with countless advanced degrees, Clarke knew the importance of education. He served as pastor of Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church in Gatesville for 20 years. A powerful preacher with a fantastic singing voice, he was a pillar in the community for decades.

Humble, kind, genuine, soft spoken, and caring are just a few words to describe Clarke. He and his wife Robbie were frequently present at weddings, funerals, and other important events for the members of the Gatesville community.

In recognition of his service, Gatesville ISD asked the city of Gatesville to proclaim Sept. 9, Clarke's birthday, as "Willie Clarke Day" in 2020.

## Gatesville Elementary to hold food drive

Staff Reports

Gatesville Elementary School will hold its annual Food for Families canned

food drive from Monday, Nov. 6 to Thursday, Nov. 16.

For every two and a half pounds of canned items it will equal one dollar, and

every pound will equal one item.

The top three classes who provide the campus with the most canned items will

receive a popcorn and movie day.

For more information contact Gatesville Elementary School at 254-865-7262.

Gatesville Elementary School is located at 2537 E. Main Street.

## Advertising that WORKS

In a survey of Texas residents, the Texas Press Association found that newspaper advertising remains one of the most effective ways of getting your message to your customers.

**85%** of Texas adults read print or digital newspapers every month

Of those 85%:

**79%** get their news online

**69%** read a print newspaper.

**The readers of newspapers, both online and print are:**

**83%** under the age of 65

**57%** have a household income > \$50K

**62%** are home owners

**63%** are college educated

**41%** have children in the household.

**HYDE**  
MEDIA GROUP



Hood County News

**TRI**  
COUNTY  
REPORTER



**THE GATESVILLE MESSANGER**

# GHS HAPPENINGS



COURTESY PHOTO

Charley Ayres with Texas Workforce Solutions visited Coach Smith's Business and Marketing classes at Gatesville High School and spoke on employability skills. Mr. Ayres is the Director of Industry/Education Partnerships.



COURTESY PHOTO

Gatesville High School had their first Roving Chef Event. Students toured the cafeteria and learned how to do some cooking. Afterwards, they got to create chocolate and caramel covered apples. The students had a blast.



COURTESY PHOTO

Gatesville Choir Director Cherith Wells and Dr. Tim Klingler, Choral Director, shared that the choir classes are hard at work preparing for their Winter Showcase and Winter Concert. Costumes, formal attire, and dancing all play a big role in the finished pieces. In addition to their two large shows, the varsity choir will be performing at Hillside Medical Lodge, GISD Admin Office, a Lions Club Meeting, and the Gatesville Senior Center.



COURTESY PHOTO

Gatesville High School's art students, directed by Claude Williams (center), have partnered with the Culinary Department for November's Food for Families. They are making and selling placemats. They also helped the intermediate campus prepare for their Fall Festival by painting boxes and cardboard that will be used for games. Williams shared that they are also transitioning into their second unit and will be learning about art through photography. This unit will have two major projects that will focus on contrast and lighting.



## Candy

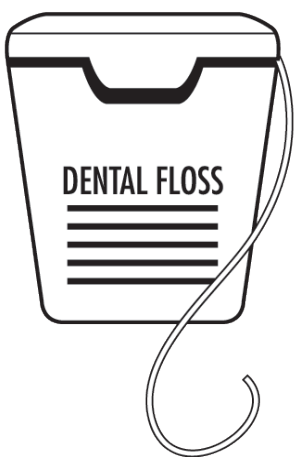
Words can be found in any direction (including diagonals) and can overlap each other. Use the word bank below.

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

### Word Bank

- |          |            |             |              |
|----------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. sugar | 2. sucker  | 3. treat    | 4. bar       |
| 5. sweet | 6. gum     | 7. lollipop | 8. chocolate |
| 9. snack | 10. goodie |             |              |

## COLOR Time



Don't forget to brush your teeth after eating candy. Nobody wants to get cavities!



## How they SAY that in...

**ENGLISH:** Candy

**SPANISH:** Caramelos

**ITALIAN:** Dolciumi

**FRENCH:** Bonbon

**GERMAN:** Süßigkeit

## Did You Know?

MANY CANDY HISTORIANS THINK THAT JELLY BEANS ORIGINATED IN THE MIDDLE EAST FROM A CANDY KNOWN AS "TURKISH DELIGHT."

Looking for a creative way to promote your business?  
Sponsor the Coryell Kids pages by calling 254-865-5212.

# A WEEKEND OF FALL FESTIVITIES & FUN

DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Many local churches hosted Fall Festivals and Trunk-or-Treat events to provide candy and goodies to children. The local Candy Maze also provided frights and fun for everyone.



# GATESVILLE'S ANNUAL BOOZAAR

DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

A large gathering came together on the courthouse square in Gatesville for the city's annual Halloween Boozaar. Businesses and organizations set up "treat stops" for kids to collect candy and prizes and to play games.

