



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

At home again! Barbara Hale Harrison was overjoyed to finally be able to walk on the Liljeblad Ranch where she was born 92 years ago.

Returning to her roots after 85 years

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

In her heart, Barbara Hale Harrison always had the desire to return to the land of her birth and walk across the ranch where she was born and recall fond childhood memories.

Harrison enjoyed a magical childhood on the Liljeblad Ranch near the Ames community where her father, Hoyte Hale, served as the ranch foreman. The Liljeblad family, although not related to Barbara, became like family to her, and she often referred to them with endearing terms such as uncle, aunt, and Gran.

Following her birth on the ranch, the Liljeblad family became very fond of young Barbara. As a child, she remembers "Uncle Charlie," as she called him, putting her on his shoulders and his wife, Allie, making a small playroom for her under

the beautiful staircase in the grand two-story ranch house.

In 1939, when she was seven years old, her parents, Hoyte and Pearl Sellers Hale, pulled up stakes and moved to Abilene where her father purchased and operated a gas station.

Life has a way of taking charge. Following her marriage to John Ray Harrison, Barbara had little time to think about coming back to Coryell County. She became the mother of seven children and was also very supportive of her husband's political career. John Ray Harrison became a member of the Texas House of Representatives and served as Judge on the 113th Judicial District.

After hearing his mother's stories about the Liljeblad Ranch, one of Barbara's sons, Kip Harrison, began researching in earnest to locate the ranch and find anything he could

about his mother's birthplace. He was diligent in tapping into every source possible to find the exact location. He contacted resources at the courthouse, the tax office, and The Gatesville Messenger, among many others.

Last year, during his research, Kip Harrison said, "I found that researching was extremely rewarding. Mom has seven children, and all are very excited to continue this journey. As a whole family, we are just energized."

Last week, on the event of her 92nd birthday, Barbara Hale Harrison's life became complete after 85 years of being away from Coryell County. Her dream came true when she and her children arrived in Gatesville on January 26. She had not been "home" in 85 years.

She was feted at Rancher's Steak House with a birthday supper where she was greeted by Coryell

County Judge Roger Miller. She was pleasantly surprised when Judge Miller presented her with a proclamation. Miller stated, "Barbara Hale Harrison has returned to Coryell County to celebrate her 92nd birthday and to visit the ranch where she was born and lived during her early years. Now, proclaimed by the county judge of Coryell County that January 26th shall be recognized as the Barabara Hale Harrison Day to honor and celebrate her return to the place of her birth and to pay tribute to the Liljeblad family for their instrumental years in Barbara's life."

Judge Miller continued, "When I first read Barbara's story in The Gatesville Messenger, it really resonated with me. It's a different generation. This proclamation is a very small token about how I feel about the history

PLEASE SEE **ROOTS** | A2

65 MORE DAYS...



Coryell Health welcomes Dr. Bradford Holland

Submitted item

Coryell Health is pleased to introduce in-house ENT services and Dr. Bradford Holland to their Gatesville and Waco clinics.



COURTESY PHOTO

Dr. Bradford Holland

Dr. Holland, an experienced and board-certified otolaryngologist (head and neck surgeon) for over 20 years, is dedicated to providing exceptional care

for patients of all ages. He graduated from the University of Colorado on a full Boettcher Scholarship. Dr. Holland also received many accolades during his time at UT Southwestern Medical School, his internship with Bowman Gray School of Medicine, and his residency at Wake Forest University School of Medicine.

"We're grateful to have one of the most respected Central Texas Ear, Nose, and Throat (ENT) physicians join us in upholding our commitment to big-city medicine and small-town care," said Coryell Health CEO David Byrom.

Dr. Holland is married to his wife, Amanda, and has four children: Georgie, Georgia Grace, Hank, and Hudson. When he's not treating patients, he enjoys spending time with his family, hunting, winter sports, fishing, politics, and photography.

Mental health officer shares local resources for rural communities

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

Although individuals living in rural communities experience similar rates of mental illness, they often have less access to resources than those living in urban areas.

Approximately 65% of rural counties in the U.S. lack psychiatrists, and over 60% of rural Americans live in an area with a mental health provider shortage, according to a 2020 study by the Journal of Clinical and Translational Science.

As a mental health deputy and the law enforcement liaison for Central Counties Services, Eric Fox

teaches law enforcement agencies how to respond to mental health calls in four rural counties in Central Texas, including Coryell County. During the Gatesville Exchange Club's weekly meeting on Thursday, Jan. 25, Fox shared where individuals can find local mental health resources as well as how they can support their loved ones or themselves.

Between local law enforcement agencies, Fox said Gatesville received nearly 600 mental health calls between 2022 and 2023, which is almost double from the year before.

"I think in reference to the mental health situation not just

in this community but in most of the rural communities it's sort of two or three-fold," Fox said. "It's being talked about more. People are realizing there is some help for mental health."

Fox adds that throughout the years he has also seen a rise in juvenile calls. He believes social media is one factor that contributes to an increase in stress, anxiety, and depression, especially within the younger generation.

"Social media, the internet, it has its place (and) there's a lot of good in it, but there's a lot of bad

PLEASE SEE **HEALTH** | A3



ERIC FOX EXCHANGE CLUB

Eric Fox, left, with George Cleverly, right, after presenting at Exchange Club on Thursday, Jan. 25.



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Herbelin retires after 36 years of postal service

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Gatesville mail carrier, Ronald Herbelin, recently retired from the U.S. Postal Service after serving for 36 years.

In September of last year, Herbelin received an award from the National Safety Council for attaining one million miles or 30 years of safe driving without a preventable accident. The award, coined the Million Mile Club, was established to honor a select group of postal workers who deliver on safety every day.

After he received the award from the National Safety Council last year, Herbelin said with a grin, "I've been through five postmasters here in Gatesville. I've broken five of them in."

Upon his recent retirement, Gatesville Postmaster Mike Hollingsworth said, "The only thing I can say is thank you. He's been

a great employee - he's been anything you could ask for. He's always done his job to the best of his ability. I've been coming to work with him for 28 years. It will now be definitely different."

A plaque was presented to Herbelin from the postal service which read, "Thank you for 36 years and eleven months of loyal and dedicated service. Your commitment to bringing excellent customer service is second to none and you have left an excellent impression with your peers and your customers. Here's to your impressive career."

When asked what he planned to do following his retirement, Herbelin said, "I would like to play golf, although I'm not very good. I wouldn't like doing anything for a month. I would like spending more time with my grandchildren."



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER
Ronald Herbelin, pictured left, stands with Gatesville Postmaster Mike Hollingsworth following Herbelin's retirement party.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER
Coryell County Judge Roger Miller presented Harrison with a proclamation proclaiming January 26th as Barbara Hale Harrison Day.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER
The Harrison family and the Esparza family gathered at the Coryell Museum to discuss their mutual interest in the history of the Liljeblad Ranch and its residents.

ROOTS

FROM PAGE A1

of our county and its development."

The following day, Barbara and her children gathered at the Coryell County Museum and Historical Center where they met several members of the Esparza family who also worked on the Liljeblad Ranch at the same time Barbara's father worked there.

Manuel Esparza, now age 103, was on hand to share with Barbara his memories about ranch life when she was a child and stories about her father, Hoyte Hale. Manuel was eleven years old and working on the ranch with his family when Barbara was born.

Following their meeting at the museum, Manuel Esparza and his son, Stan, took the Harrison family on a guided tour of the Liljeblad Ranch and were able to show Barbara the exact location of the home site where she was born. "This is home. I never thought I'd be back. This is a dream. I never really expected to get back here again and to do this with my family. I'm just so overwhelmed about being back here again," Barbara Harrison said.

With tears in her eyes, she said, "I had a very happy life here and I'm so very glad to be back home again."

Barbara Hale Harrison and her children all said they would like to make trips back to Coryell County in the future and to share this with future generations of their family.



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FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Which side of the coin does your candidate fall on?



BY SAM HOUSTON

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

As time has passed, the leaders in education have adjusted and altered curriculums to align with the perceived needs of contemporary society. Two generations ago, a traditional education included a healthy dose of the sciences, civics, mathematics and traditional languages like Latin.

As a young man, Latin was available to me as a course in junior high and high school, but even then, the number of students interested in the subject was limited. Not sure if any of our public schools still offer Latin as a class. Is this a good thing or a bad thing?

I am not advocating that teaching Latin is necessary to produce a qualified and

well-trained workforce. I am not suggesting studying a variety of science and math courses is essential to hold a job or to succeed in today's world. But it seems schooling should be about education, and that involves more than simply creating job skills for a specific trade or task. Education should be about more than knowledge of how to do a job, it should also be about

the ability to think and reason about how to make decisions in your life. At least a portion of our formal education should be about learning to discern truth and fact from allegations and untruths. We should embrace free thinking and celebrate growth and change, which new discoveries and information can create. Perhaps the most important discernment is the difference between truth and political spin.

Learning to question and interpret what one hears, reads, and is exposed to is essential to having a free and independent society. Occasionally, we must be willing to consider evidence that contradicts our beliefs and admit the possibility that preconceived notions may be wrong. To be intelligent, one should understand what they do not know and then determine how to inform themselves and become knowledgeable.

As a young boy of the early '60s, in a time prior to the Civil Rights Act and integration, there were ideas I

was exposed to which were contradictory to the "knowledge" and information I heard on the street or saw from the behavior of my neighbors. As I grew older, I had to make decisions about what was "right" and what was best. There was discernment, doubt, questioning and a desire to find the truth. I found knowledge was constantly evolving. What may have been accepted 20 years ago was not necessarily right considering knowledge and the changes that came with time. While segregation may have been a "truth" in the 1930s, I would hope few would believe it is appropriate or "right" in today's world. It was something I learned, rather than simply accepting what the world around told me was true.

As the election cycle spins on there are a lot of statements being made by politicians. It would seem no matter what is said — whether it be a misrepresentation or a downright lie — much of the electorate seems to accept assertions

at face value. There seems to be a desire to support party rather than hold politicians to standards and make them accountable for their actions and their words. I refer to both major political parties when I say, show me how your political positions will make my life better. Show me how it will improve the future of the world around me, how it will make me safe from foreign aggression, how it will protect the rights granted in a free society. Earn my vote. Stop basing your policy on positions on the requests of your biggest donors. Have a vision!

What a political "party" stands for is even in doubt. Members of the same party cannot agree on their core beliefs. There is infighting, name calling and political posturing, but little discussion about a specific and measured plan. Rather, there is only discussion about the past, its failures and who is to blame.

There appear to be no consequences for politicians who seek to divide

and blame, rather than have a vision for the future. Whoever is elected to political office must lead and govern. Leadership requires leading all the people, not just the ones who donate to you or follow you blindly. How can this be accomplished if when there is a disagreement, those who disagree are the "enemy?"

As the candidates go forward, listen to those who have a plan, who can explain their vision of the future, and are seeking to represent all the electorate. Those are men and woman who are statesmen, and statesmen are who will keep us safe and prosperous. For those who seek only power and control and to divide us, let them be cast aside. The question for all of us is which side of that coin a candidate falls on. That is why we vote.

Thought for the day: Being smart is not knowing everything, it is knowing what you don't know and seeking the truth.

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

LETTER

Gifts packed with love

Generosity throughout Gatesville contributed to a successful shoebox gift collection season at drop-off locations for the Samaritan's Purse project Operation Christmas Child. Across the U.S., the project collected 10 million shoebox gifts in 2023. Combined with those collected from partnering countries in 2023, the ministry is now sending over 11.3 million shoebox gifts to children worldwide, including many who are suffering from war, poverty, disease and disaster.

Through shoeboxes—packed with fun toys, school supplies, and personal

care items—Gatesville-area volunteers brought joy to children in need around the world. Each gift-filled shoebox is a tangible expression of God's love, and it is often the first gift these children have ever received. Through the continued generosity of donors since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 220 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 170 countries and territories.

Across Texas, shoebox packers often shop for deals on shoebox items throughout the year, and many serve at a deeper level by becoming a year-round volunteer. Information about ways area participants can get involved

year-round can also be found at samaritanspurse.org/occ or by calling 817-595-2230.

Although local drop off locations for shoebox gifts are closed until Nov. 18 - 25, 2024, anyone can still be a part of this life-changing project by conveniently packing a shoebox gift online in just a few simple clicks at samaritanspurse.org/buildonline.

These simple gifts, packed with love, send a message to children worldwide that they are loved and not forgotten.

Luke Switzer
SAMARITAN'S PURSE

Coryell Health to host Health & Recruiting Fair, Feb. 21

Staff Reports

Local hospital Coryell Health will host a Health and Recruiting Fair on Wednesday, Feb. 21. The fair will be held in the public conference room on floor two of the Coryell Health facility.

The fair will feature free screen-

ings, including pulmonary function testing, blood pressure, body mass index (BMI), cholesterol testing, and more.

Job recruiting will include Ideal Protein, Advanced Wound Care, Cardiology, etc.

There will be door prizes and

raffle drawings as well as snacks and refreshments.

For more information, contact Coryell Health at 254-865-8251.

Coryell Health is located at 1507 W. Main St. in Gatesville.

HEALTH

FROM PAGE A1

in it too," he said. Because there are a limited number of active mental health facilities and psychiatrists in Coryell County, Fox advises contacting law enforcement if someone is experiencing a mental health crisis. He explains that many local sheriff's deputies as well as police officers have been through the mental health training to determine if an individual needs help. This includes asking a series of questions to assess if they have become a danger to themselves or someone else.

"Everybody that I've seen through my courses that I teach up here in Gatesville, they have that resource list," Fox said. "They have a list of numbers they can call; they have a list of facilities they can either take somebody to if they need to, or if the family wants to take them somewhere to get some help, they have

those."

For someone with a mental illness, Fox said having a support system can make a difference. He encourages family members or loved ones to find a mental health training course that teaches the signs and symptoms of someone who might be experiencing a mental health crisis.

"You can step in as a friend, family member, or loved one and get them to some help or get them steered toward somebody," he said. "You don't have to wait until they are in that mental health crisis to where they are ready to hurt themselves or hurt somebody else to get them help."

Fox also recommends calling the number for United Ways of Texas at 2-1-1, which can connect people with various resources in their local area, including the closest mental health facility, therapist, or psychiatrist. Other resources include the suicide prevention hotline

number at 9-8-8.

Fox believes the decrease in the stigma against mental health as well as the growth in awareness has contributed to more people seeking help.

"EMS has more training, law enforcement has more training, and we're trying to put this kind of information out so that the public has more training," he said.

Before joining Central Counties Services, Fox spent his first 20 years in law enforcement with the Killeen Police Department and then about seven years with Coryell County Sheriff's Office as head of its crisis intervention unit, which specifically responded to mental health calls.

Fox also works as a reserve mental health officer for the Gatesville Police Department by providing them with information on the mental health landscape within the community. He trains law enforcement agencies in a mental health officer certification course as well as a 40-hour crisis intervention course.

Central Counties Services is a state-funded community clinic with offices in Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, and Milam counties. They offer services to rural counties by providing adults with behavioral and developmental health needs with counseling, medication management, housing and employment support, and more.

The Gatesville clinic is located at 615 East Main Street and can be reached at 254-865-7504.

"There is help out there for folks with mental illness — they don't necessarily have to be in a mental health crisis," Fox said. "If you have a friend or loved one or somebody that needs mental health help then you can get them those resources, get them those phone numbers, or even just get them to 2-1-1 to get the ball rolling before they get to the point where they are in a mental health crisis."

Folks around town



ALEX MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Jeanette Abrahamson

Say hello to our neighbor, Jeanette Abrahamson!

Jeanette is a cashier at our local Walmart Supercenter. She expressed that she loves assisting and interacting with customers and has been for around 20 years now. She has resided in Gatesville all her life and enjoys living in a small town with good people.

Jeanette reads The Gatesville Messenger and says she likes to look for her grandson in the sports section.

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



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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DEADLINES:

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

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

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

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

MOUND NEWS

Funerals, celebrations, and visits



BY BARBARA HOPSON

Mound News Correspondent

Mound recently lost one of its residents: Mr. Joseph Louis Piller died on Monday, Jan. 24. Funeral services were held on Friday at Scott's Funeral Home in Gatesville. Mr. Piller is survived by his wife, Mrs.

Helen Elizabeth Piller. Joseph will truly be missed in our community. Case and Kristen Jones were honored with a baby shower on Sunday, Jan. 28, at the Heavin Party Barn in Mound. Hostesses

were Kelby Shults, Kay Hunt, Tammy Wright, Lee Bland Lee, Jordy Haigood, Marlena Tippit, Sunshine Buckner, Raygan Hunt and Rachel Hopson.

Valerie Ferrell and Carolyn Blakley had lunch in Gatesville Friday.

Emma Blakley of College Station was home for the weekend.

Carolyn Blakley attended a baby shower for Kristen Jones on Sunday afternoon.

Tammy Roe of Nemo brought her grandchildren, Addison Gibbs and Bryant Ebarb, of Abilene,

and spent the weekend in Gatesville and Mound with Beth Hanies, David and Pam Hopson and family.

Cathy McCarthy of Boston, MA spent several days in Mound with Martha Lawhorn and family.

Several residents of Mound attended the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet at the Gatesville Civic Center.

The winners for the 2023 year were Scott's Funeral Home as Business of the year and Citizen of the Year was Mrs. JoAnn Sugg.

Meals on Wheels program to host benefit Feb. 10

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH Staff Writer

The Meals on Wheels program will host a benefit at the Texas Station Event Center on Saturday, Feb. 10.

The benefit will begin at 12 p.m. with a cornhole tournament that will last until 6 p.m. Sign-up will be the day of the event, and the winners of the tournament will receive half of the jackpot prize.

Following the cornhole tournament, there will be a performance by the Texas Connection Band from 7:30-11:30 p.m. The admission will be \$10 per person or \$15 per couple.

The benefit will feature Frank's Kettle Corn out of Waco. The company will set up a kettle machine and cook the kettle corn fresh on site. There will also be a meal provided by Nutrition Supervisor Camilla

Edge, which will be fried rib baskets with fries.

The public is reminded that alcoholic beverages will be BYOB.

If you are not able to attend the benefit but still want to donate, visit <https://givebutter.com/MealsonWheels>. The website allows the community to make a one time or recurring donations to the Meals on Wheels program.

"We will be appreciative of anything we get," Rudolph said. "If we can have people come out and enjoy their time while learning more about what we do here, that would be the ultimate goal."

For more information, or to become a vendor, contact Senior Center Director Pam Rudolph at 254-865-8234.

Texas Station is located at 4604 TX-36 in Gatesville.

SUDOKU

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9		1		7	3	2		
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Puzzle by websudoku.com

Answers to puzzle ran Jan. 27.

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

Whatever happened to ...

20 YEARS AGO (2004)

An old iron bridge on County Road 258 over Cave Creek was scheduled to be removed.

Over the Christmas holiday, Gatesville High School's "Buzz" mascot costume went missing.

A community blood drive was set to be held in the fellowship hall of the First Baptist Church.

The Bee Hive advertised balloon bouquets for Valen-

tine's Day.

Gatesville Elementary School was nominated for the 2003-2004 No Child Left Behind - Blue Ribbon Schools Program.

30 YEARS AGO (1994)

Two Fort Hood pilots were killed when their OH-58A Kiowa helicopter crashed during a training flight near Evant.

Gatesville Lions Club was

set to hold their annual Chili Supper at the Gatesville High School Cafeteria.

Charlie Streetman, assistant warden of the Hughes Unit, received a plaque of donor appreciation.

Return of experienced veteran players expected to lead to Gatesville High School tennis teams' glory.

Bell County Expo Center hosted the PRCA Rodeo.

40 YEARS AGO (1984)

Construction of a \$3,025,721 Highway 36 Loop through Gatesville began.

The old White Auto Store warehouse building was demolished to make room for parking spaces.

Robert C. Featherson, then 14-years-old, was named a 1984 United States National Award winner in mathematics.

Gatesville hornets lose to

Groesbeck, 65-49.

Coryell Memorial Hospital Auxiliary's board of directors discussed plans for the upcoming 1984 Spring Style Show.

50 YEARS AGO (1974)

A flu epidemic forced Gatesville public schools to suspend classes.

The Wall Industries plant in West Gatesville provided

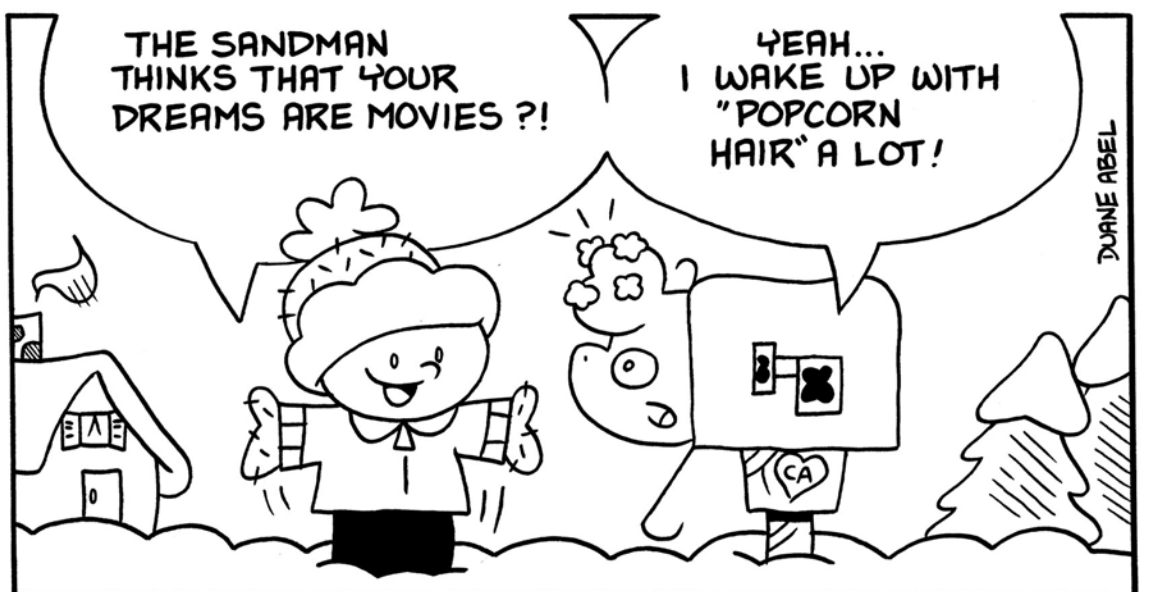
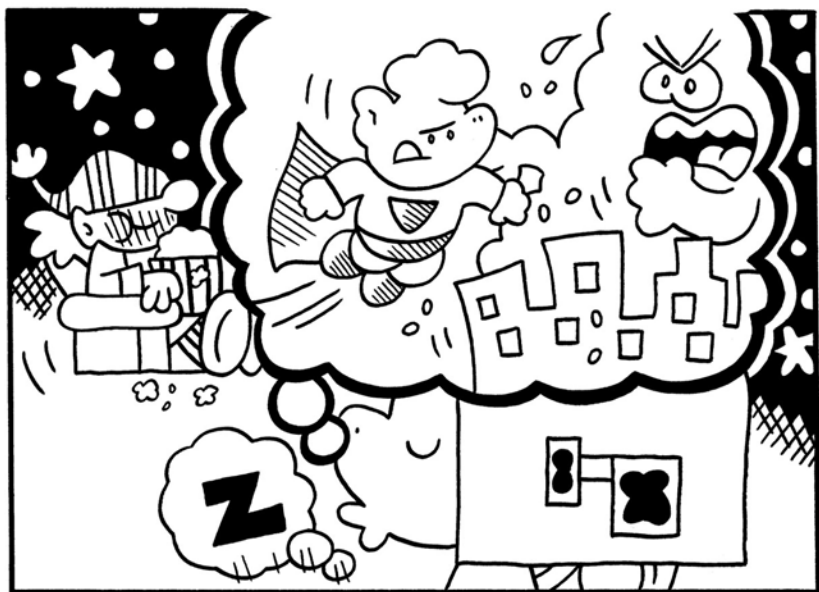
employment for 130 persons.

A seismograph crew from Petty-Ray Geophysical Inc. began a year of work in Gatesville.

A Grand Opening was set for the Bluebonnet Duplexes on Highway 84.

Miller Motor Co. advertised the 1984 Ford LTDs.

ZED by Duane M. Abel



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PEARL NEWS

The Bluegrass event is in full swing!



BY **BETSY CLARK**

Pearl News Correspondent

Good Saturday morning, folks. If you're reading this today, finish the paper and head to Pearl Community Center and Pearl Cottage Bookstore. This is the day!

The Bluegrass event is going on all day long, and it's free. Then, be sure and stop by the Pearl Cottage Bookstore in the historic old teacherage and browse

the over 6,000 books and various other sundries the store offers. Plus, it's the friendliest store in Coryell County (possibly the world), and you'll love visiting with

Kay and Corlisa. Remember, all purchases are by donation with the saying being, "buy what you want, pay what you want." All monies go toward the bookstore's local charities. There's no place like Pearl.

Get ready for the upcoming Pearl Church of Christ annual Valentine Auction benefiting His Kids, which is held in honor and memory of Richard Williams, the founder of this wonderful program. The auction will be held after services, on Sunday, Feb. 11, and the bidding will close at 1:30 p.m. If you would like to view the items for auction in advance, they will be out and ready to bid upon Feb. 4-10 in the fellowship rooms of the church. Among the

numerous other items for bid are many pairs of new, men's size 11 name brand shoes, including Adidas, Nike's, etc., glassware, and crystal. Everyone is invited to participate, and you are always welcome at the Pearl Church of Christ. Services are held each Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

I have to tell you what Kay told Linda during this last dreadful cold spell we had. Remember back in August when Kay and Linda said that they would never complain about the cold weather again? Well, that's not true. Kay Dean Pruett has vowed that if it ever warms up again, she's going to the bookstore in her bikini even if it's 110 in the shade. Won't that be a

sight! That's worth finding that teeny weeny, turquoise greeny, stringy bikini no matter what measures we have to take. We'll be sure and have the Messenger cover this story...with pictures (Kay has threatened to drive to East Texas and kill me if I print anything else about her. She doesn't scare me. I'm thinking that's one way to get her out here, lol.)

If you ever doubt your own sanity, here's a story that tells us that we're all perfectly normal. I was reading a story on social media about a lady who was leaving a local store (the big one in town) when she got a text from her daughter asking, "Mom, where are you?" The mother texted back,

"I'm leaving the parking lot and will be home in about 5 minutes." The daughter replied, "Mom, I rode to the store with you!" The mother replied, "Recalculating." Yes, we're definitely all okay.

This week's Bible verse comes from 2 Corinthians 5:21—For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. NIV

Pray!
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

Pearl Church of Christ to host Valentine auction, Feb. 11

Staff Reports

The annual Pearl Church of Christ Valentine Auction will be held Sunday, Feb. 11. Bidding will start following the church service and close around 1 p.m. Items will be in the church dining room Jan. 29 through Feb. 10 for

early bidders.

Items up for auction include glassware, Pyrex, several boxes of new sports shoes - all size 11, Puma, Adidas, and a new pair of combat boots size 11. There will also be antiques, old Texas books, and much more. Items will also be under the taber-

nacle.

Proceeds from the auction will go to local charities and to "His Kids Lamapasas" for scholarships in memory of Richard Williams.

For more information, please contact Linda Ray at 254-865-9282.

GENEROUS DONATION



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Barbara Hale Harrison, of the Houston area, makes a generous donation to the Coryell Museum and Historical Center upon visiting the museum for the first time. Receiving the check is Coryell Museum board member Catherine Fulton.

Righteous Roots to hold Women's Bible study Feb. 5

Staff Reports

Righteous Roots will hold a women's Bible study on Monday, Feb. 5, from 2:30-3:30 p.m. The study will be hosted by Righteous Roots' Founder Melanie Webb and will include readings

from "Forgiving What You Can't Forget."

This will continue as a six-week Bible study, which will be held each Monday at the same time previously mentioned.

To purchase a study guide before attending

the event, visit <https://a.co/d/3JJD3uZ>.

For more information, contact Righteous Roots at 254-651-3600.

Righteous Roots is located at 904 E. Leon St. in Gatesville.

Boys & Girls Club to host local game room tournament Feb. 12

Staff Reports

The Boys & Girls Club branch of Gatesville will host a local game room tournament for club members only on Monday, Feb. 12.

The games will begin at

9:30 a.m. and will feature Connect Four, foosball, cup stacking, shuffleboard, bobcat pool, free throw, Silver.IO, and Agar.IO.

Each first-place winner will move on to the area competition, which will be

held on Saturday, March 9.

For any further information, contact the front desk at the Boys & Girls Club at 254-865-8347.

The Boys & Girls Club is located at 2533 E. Main Street in Gatesville.

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600-700 lb.	210-240
700-800 lb.	175-210

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OBITUARIES

Joseph Louis Piller

June 12, 1935 - Jan. 22, 2024

Joseph Louis Piller, age 88, of Gatesville, passed away on Monday, Jan. 22, 2024.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 26, at Scott's Funeral Home in Gatesville with Rev. Bruce Cox officiating.

"Joe" was born in NYC to Irene and Joseph Piller on June 12, 1935. He met and married the love of his life, Helen Elizabeth Egger in Queens, NY on June 23, 1956. Joe was an entrepreneur at heart. At a young age, he became the owner of Bumble Bee Auto Repair in the big city of Manhattan-catering to an impressive clientele. Joe's career over the years was nothing short of full. His mechanical skill, knowledge, and expertise employed him as a head mechanic for the city of New York for over 20 years until he retired at age 65.

You would think that after living somewhere for over 65 years, it would define a person's home- not for Joe. After retiring, he relocated with Helen to Gatesville, Texas. This was home! He loved the people, the pace and the warmth.

Joe's passions were numerous. His most loved were fishing, boating, marksmanship, and, of course, the New York Yankees!

He was active in the Coast Guard, Mound Volunteer Fire Department, a member of the Mound Cowboy Church, and he made himself available to lend a hand



whenever it was needed in the community.

Joe was much loved by his family and friends and enjoyed spending time with all of them.

Joe is survived by his wife, Helen Elizabeth Piller; brother, John Piller and wife, Pat; sister, Helen Adamcik; children, Debbie Piller; Joseph Piller and wife, Janie; Diane Heavin and husband, Gary; Joanne Soehnlein and husband, Mark; grandchildren, Brandon Heavin and wife, Amy; Virginia Heavin; Jennifer Miller and husband, Chris; Jason Agado; Mandi Fisher and husband, Neal; Kristine Palady and husband, Jaryn; Shilah Heavin; Kaitlyn Soehnlein; Samantha Soehnlein; Dylan and wife, Lindsay; Alex; Claude; Jared; and Karlee who passed away Dec. 18; great-grandchildren, Madison, Kennah, Ian, Brodie, Blayze, Slayton, Byron, Sofia, Caymbri, Mayah, Luna, Lorenzo, Cruz, Elana, Lilly, Evan, Aubrey, Kinsley and Cora.

Nancy Veach

July 8, 1947 - Jan. 25, 2024

Nancy Veach, age 76, of Gatesville, passed away peacefully at her home on Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2024, at Scott's Funeral Home.

Nancy Carolyn Veach was born July 8, 1947, to the late Dennis (Red) Altum and Ruthie Lee Ingram Altum. She grew up in Flat, Texas, the youngest of four children. She married the love of her life, Ray Veach, on Feb. 15, 1963, lasting 60 years...Bless her heart. She was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother. Nancy enjoyed fishing and camping with her family. She also loved painting and playing bingo. She spent her younger years raising three hardheaded children. Later in life, she worked for Graves Florist, creating flower arrangements. She was an avid shopper and always took great pride in how she dressed.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Doyle Altum; and sisters, Ocie Evetts and Nell Shelton.



Nancy is survived by her husband, Ray; sons, Tim Veach and wife, Denise, and Kevin Veach; daughter, Melissa Lewis and husband, Carlos, all of Gatesville; grandchildren, Kiley Haley and husband, Kenny, of Stephenville, Kara Kouns and husband, Kenneth, Seth Snyder and wife, Teryn, Shay Snyder and Megan Clary, and Tristen Tidrick, all of Gatesville, Destinee Vann and husband, Andrew, of Abilene; and great-grandchildren, Boston, Kenna, Hallie, Kipton, Hartzley, Kyson, Kayson, Addie and Jace; along with many nieces and nephews, whom she loved like her own.

Mary Frances Floyd

Oct. 13, 1934 - Jan. 20, 2024

Mary Frances Floyd, age 89, beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, passed from this life on Saturday, Jan. 20, 2024.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 25, at Scott's Funeral Home Chapel with Minister Loyd Hall officiating. She was laid to rest beside her husband in Restland Cemetery. Serving as pallbearers were her grandsons. Honorary pallbearers were David Hadel, David Putman, Craig Frazee, Dale White, Charles Findley, and Melinda Burke.

Mary Frances was born at home near Gatesville on Oct. 13, 1934, to Francis Samuel Glass and Laura Odessa (Pack) Glass. She was the oldest of three children. She attended school in Gatesville and resided in Gatesville all of her life.

On Oct. 2, 1950, she

married Raymond Floyd, who she had met on a blind date. Mary Frances was a homemaker and the mother of five children. In 1969, she started working with her husband. The couple operated Floyd's Floor Service together for 26 years before retiring in 1995. She and Raymond were married for over 69 years when he passed away.

She became a member of the Church of Christ at age 12 and was a longtime member of the Gatesville Church of Christ. She was a lifelong and avid reader, a love that was instilled in her by her grandmother. She collected a large assortment of books over the years. If you visited her home, you might remember the floor-to-ceiling book-filled shelves in multiple rooms, and in later years, you might remember seeing anything and everything with a ladybug



on it, as she was known as "Ladybug" to some. She was also a Dallas Cowboys fan and a Baylor University sports fan.

She was preceded in death by her husband, her parents, and a brother, David Glass.

Left behind to cherish memories are her five children: Brenda Hadel and husband, David; Debra Williams and husband, David Putman; Nancy Frazee and husband, Craig; Dr. James Floyd and wife, Kelley; and Alisa Hudson. She is also

survived by eleven grandchildren: Trevor Williams and wife, Veronica, Blake Williams, Ryan Hadel, Sean Hadel, Kirsten Frazee, Robert Frazee, Mariel Frazee, Matthew Hudson, Katherine Hudson, Kade Floyd, and Erica Floyd; two great-grandchildren: Torin and Arwen Williams; brother, Donald Glass and wife, Louise; and many nieces and nephews.

Her children would like to express their deepest gratitude to her three caregivers that she referred to as Mary's Angels: Carmen Gribble, Anna Kuzenka, and Billie Cotten.

Proverbs 31: Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies. Her children arise up and call her blessed.

Memorials may be made to Gatesville Church of Christ, 2417 East Main Street, Gatesville, Texas 76528.

City of Gatesville to host art exhibition

Staff Reports

The City of Gatesville will host an art exhibition called Art in the Shadow Saturday, April 6. The event will be held at Leaird's Furniture & Appliance at 10 a.m.

The city encourages the entire community, regardless of age, to submit their artwork for selection by a committee in an art exhibition centered around the state of Texas and the upcoming solar eclipse.

Selected artists will be invited to display their work during the Block out the Sun party for the solar eclipse.

The theme for the art exhibition will be anything related to Texas, the eclipse, Gatesville, or Coryell County. Artists are expected to explore various elements, including landscapes, culture, history, landmarks, people, and unique aspects that make this region special.

Multiple art forms will be accepted such as painting, drawing, photography, and sculptures, and artists may submit up to five pieces. The artwork submitted does not have to be new but must be original.



COURTESY GRAPHIC

All the entries must have a brief description highlighting the inspiration and relevance to the theme of the exhibition.

Submission guidelines include:

- Paintings and drawings should be ready for display and framed if necessary.
- Sculptures should be easily transportable and not exceed 30 inches.
- Photographs can be submitted either as prints or in digital form, adhering to the specified technical requirements.

To place your submission, email your artwork to candypetpalaceevents@gmail.com. Be sure to upload the images of your work, ensuring they meet the specified qualifications as well as providing a brief artist biography and description of each piece submitted.

The deadline for submission will be on Friday, March 1.

This event aims to foster creativity, showcase local talent, and bring people together through various art forms. Visitors will

have an opportunity to appreciate the event, connect with artists, and may even purchase artwork during the exhibition.

This event serves as a platform for local artists to showcase their talent, engage with the community, and celebrate the remarkable features of this state, event, and the community.

For more information, contact the City of Gatesville at 254-865-8951.

Leaird's Furniture & Appliance is located at 108 S. 6th Street in Gatesville.

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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.

DINNER ROLLS

BY CHARITY MOORE

1 pkg. active dry yeast
 ¼ c. warm water
 ¼ c. hot milk
 3 T. shortening
 3 T. granulated sugar
 1 ¼ tsp. salt
 1 egg, beaten
 4 c. all-purpose flour, enough to make stiff
 melted butter



PHOTO COURTESY OF COOKING CLASSY

Dinner Rolls

place until double in bulk, about 45 to 60 minutes. Bake in preheated 400-degree oven for 15 to 20 minutes or less time if rolls are small. Remove from oven and brush with melted butter while hot. Makes 2 to 3 dozen, depending on size.

Dissolve yeast in warm water. Mix hot milk, shortening, sugar, and salt in large mixing bowl. Cool to lukewarm. Stir in yeast and beaten egg. Add 2 cups of flour and beat until smooth. Gradually stir in more flour until dough leaves sides of bowl. Turn dough onto lightly floured surface and knead until smooth and elastic, about 8 to 10 minutes. Place in a large, buttered bowl. Turn over once to grease the upper side of dough. Cover dough and let rise in warm, draft free place until almost double in bulk, about 1 hour. Press dough down into bowl to remove air bubbles. Put a little shortening or butter on hands and divide the dough into small pieces. Roll into balls and place in shallow greased baking pan with sides touching. Cover loosely with cloth. Let rise in warm

Master Gardener updates through February

Staff Reports

The Bell County Master Gardener Association will hold four events through February for people inquiring knowledge about gardening.

The first event will feature the Bell County Master Gardener Association as well as the Harker Heights Activities Center Outdoor & Science Expo as they present a hands-on rainwater harvesting barrel workshop. The workshop will be held on Saturday, Feb. 10 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Harker Heights Recreation Center, which is located at 307 Miller's Crossing Rd. in Harker Heights.

Certified Master Gardener's Karen Colwick and Teri Marceau will provide educational information on rainwater harvesting followed by a class on how to build your own rain barrel to take home after the workshop.

This is for ages 10 and up and will cost \$75 per person. The last day to register will be Wednesday, Feb. 7. To register, contact bcmgaspeakers@gmail.com.

The second event will include a demonstration about succulents and will be presented by the Bell County Master Gardener Association and the Harker Heights Activities Center Outdoor & Science Expo on Saturday, Feb. 10. The event will be from 10-11 a.m. at the Harker Heights Recreation Center, which is located at 307 Miller's Crossing Rd. in Harker Heights.

Certified Master Gardeners Jan George and Carol Morissette will host an educational program on propagating and growing succulents to save water.

This class is free with no registration required but has a limit of 20 people.

The third event will be hosted by the Bell County Master Gardener Association and the Temple Public Library Garden Club, where they will present a special event seminar. The seminar will be held on Saturday, Feb. 10 from 2-4 p.m. at the Temple Public Library in the McLane Room on the third floor.

Certified Master Gardener Barbara Ishikawa will provide the class with information about drought tolerant native plants while giving examples of an assortment of native plants that are drought tolerant for your landscape, enabling you to conserve water. The second presentation will be conducted by Certified Master Gardener Wayne Schirner, where he will inform people about spring gardening in Central Texas and will give a vegetable planting schedule using research-based information.

The class limit will be 50 people. To register, contact bcmgaspeakers@gmail.com. Walk-ins are welcome.

The Temple Public Library is located at 100 W. Adams Ave. in Temple.

The last class of the month will be hosted by the Bell County Master Gardener Association where they will give a free seminar regarding roses in the landscape. The seminar will be held on Thursday, Feb. 15 from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Texas AgriLife Extension Office within the BCMGA Learning Center, which is located at 1605 N. Main St. in Belton.

Gatesville Police to host citizen's academy Feb. 22

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
 Staff Writer

The Gatesville Police Department has recently made applications available for a Citizen's Police Academy to give locals an inside look at what it is like to be in the law enforcement field.

The academy seeks to enhance understanding and communication with citizens of Gatesville and is open to ages 18 and up. If you are 16 or 17 years of age, a parent or guardian is required to be present.

Gatesville Police Chief Brad Hunt expressed that for now the academy is limited to those who live or work within the city limits to accommodate for the number of students attending each course.

Classes will be held each Thursday from 6-9 p.m., with one session conducted at the shooting range.

The first class will take place on Thursday, Feb. 22, with the last being Thursday, May 21.

The courses will include high risk stops, building searches, animal control operations, mental health services, and more.

Applications are to be picked up from the main lobby at the Gatesville Police Department, which is located at 200 N. 8th Street.

For more information, visit gatesvilletx.com/police, or email bhunt@gatesvilletx.com.

GATESVILLE'S GIRL SCOUT STRIKES AGAIN



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Local Girl Scout Mackenzie Stacher, now a junior at Gatesville High School, sells Girl Scout cookies in front of Walmart.

The DISPATCH

The following is a partial breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of January 24 - January 30. People are reminded that only emergency calls should be made to 9-1-1, while all other calls to the police department should be made to 865-2226 or to the Sheriff's office at 865-7201.

CITY OF GATESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

January 24

7:44 a.m., a theft was reported in the 500 block of South Lutterloh Avenue.
 10:12 a.m., a gas leak/fire was reported in the 400 block of East Leon Street.
 7:08 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of Mulberry Avenue.
 9:29 p.m., wanted/stolen (person/property) reported in the 1600 block of St. Louis Street.

January 25

12:24 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of Elm Street.
 1:47 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2300 block of Business Highway 36.
 11:17 a.m., a burglary was reported in the 300 block of South State Highway 36 Bypass.
 4:52 p.m., a threat was reported in the 2200 block of Bridge Street.

January 26

2:52 a.m., a repossession

was reported in the 2500 block of Bridge Street.

7:31 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 400 block of North 14th Street.

7:28 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 1200 block of West Main Street.

11:50 p.m., a fight was reported in the 500 block of County Road 131.

January 27

3:12 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2600 block of East Main Street.

4:34 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 1400 block of West Leon Street.

1:21 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of Mulberry Avenue.

2:40 p.m., wanted/stolen (person/property) reported in the 400 block of Straws Mill Road.

January 28

8:17 a.m., animal cruelty was reported in the 2300 block of Business Highway 36.

8:33 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in

the 100 block of North 7th Street.

12:33 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 1800 block of St. Louis Street.

10:47 p.m., a theft was reported in the 100 block of State School Road.

January 29

11 a.m., a theft was reported in the 3300 block of South State Highway 36.

11:28 a.m., a theft was reported in the 100 block of South 19th Street.

3:20 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1900 block of County Road 138.

6:02 p.m., a structure fire was reported in the 5800 block of East Highway 84.

January 30

9:40 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2800 block of South State Highway 36.

11:24 a.m., a structure fire was reported in the 900 block of East Leon Street.

3:02 p.m., a theft was reported in the 200 block of East Main Street.

4:15 p.m., a fight was

reported in the 600 block of Cedar Mountain Road.

CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

January 24

10:10 a.m., criminal mischief was reported at South Highway 36 and County Road 360.

12:23 p.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported in the 1600 block of County Road 258.

3:20 p.m., a theft was reported in the 200 block of Geronimo Lane.

4:27 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 4900 block of County Road 107.

January 25

8:37 a.m., water on roadway was reported at County Road 268 and the low water crossing.

11:13 a.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 12000 block of FM 116.

3:55 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported on County Road 303.

11:07 p.m., a domestic disturbance was reported in the 500 block of Nathan

Drive.

January 26

4:37 a.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 1600 block of West Main Street.

8:37 a.m., illegal dumping was reported in the 2100 block of FM 1829.

9:13 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1400 block of County Road 303.

January 27

3:04 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported on FM 107 between CR 311 and Oglesby Neff Parkway.

10:15 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 2800 block of County Road 266.

11:37 a.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 100 block of Canyon Drive.

January 28

8:41 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 500 block of County Road 339.

9:36 a.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of Powell Farm Road.

9:45 a.m., a theft was reported in the 16500 block of FM 107.

12:10 p.m., a domestic disturbance was reported in the 2600 block of Arrowhead Drive.

January 29

3:56 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported at FM 217 and County Road 219.

6:11 p.m., illegal burning was reported in the 5700 block of East US Highway 84.

10:20 p.m., a vehicle fire was reported in the 7400 block of Highway 36.

January 30

2:05 p.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 300 block of Beall Ranch Road.

2:13 p.m., identity theft was reported in the 1000 block of County Road 334.

3:16 p.m., a neighbor dispute was reported in the 500 block of Cromeans Road.

4:39 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 2000 block of FM 1996.

THE DEVIL'S ROPE MUSEUM



BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH

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

“I used to live in Alan Reed, and old Route 66 went through there, so I was playing on that road a lot,” says Charla Smith, who works at the Devil’s Rope Museum in the panhandle town of McLean.

“(Devil’s Rope) That’s what the Indians called barbed wire because it tore up the men, the cows and horses.”

She has worked at the museum four years and got that job after working at another museum in McLean, a city with a population of less than 800.

“I learned about barbed wire pretty quick. We have a lot of it.”

The museum is a popular stop for people traveling along the old Route 66.

“We don’t say so much that it’s a barbed wire museum, because people just yawn and go on,” says Mike Oldham, museum president. “We tell them it’s a western heritage and Route 66 museum and

that kind of encompasses what we do and brings in a lot more general interest. There’s no admission, but we appreciate a donation. We have a gift shop that has some great T-shirts and similar items that brings in a little income.”

His folks, Ruth and Delbert True, started the museum in 1991. They both are in their nineties, and last year turned the museum over to Mike.

I was there on a Saturday around noon. That morning, two different groups, totaling 120 people had gone through the museum. One was from a car rally. The other was a large number of motorcycle riders. “They were lined up all the way to the highway,”

says Charla. “They were here a long time and had fun seeing all the stuff we have here. I had them sign in. We have a whole lot of books with names of people who have been here.”

Then a busload of people from Central Iowa came in. It was a busy place.

“It sure was this morning,” says Mike. “Then on some days there might be two people come in all day.”

Millions of people have traveled Route 66. Mike says he’s surprised at the popularity of the famous highway.

“About a third of our visitors are from overseas. We hear all sorts of languages. They’re fascinated with all the western displays we have. They can learn a lot about cowboys and ranching here.”

The museum has some interesting barbed-wire sculptures. One is a cowboy hat. Another is a brassiere. Mike’s brother made them.

“That barbed wire brassiere gets more comment than anything else in here. This building was a brassiere factory that once employed a hundred women at one time. The name was Marie’s Foundations. It was a pretty big deal. They used to call McLean the uplift town.”

Meals on Wheels program in need of volunteer drivers

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

Meals on Wheels is in need of volunteer drivers to deliver meals to local, homebound, elderly folks. Meals on Wheels is a federally-funded program for older adults who are homebound, unable to prepare a meal, don’t drive, and have no one to cook for them.

The Meals on Wheels program provides home-delivered, nutritious meals that provide seniors in the community with support, which allows them

to remain living in their own homes. This typically involves delivering a nutritious meal, a friendly visit, or a quick safety check.

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

Gatesville needs volunteer drivers Monday through Friday with meals picked up at the Senior Center. Drivers are needed for four different routes.

There are four different routes in Gatesville, and each Wednesday a route to Hamilton is taken. Anywhere from 10 to 14 clients are seen each day per route.

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

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

Gatesville Public Library to hold genealogy class through February

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Public Library is offering the community a chance to experience its brand-new genealogy class.

The class is for community members who are interested in discovering the depths of genealogy. Participants will learn about resources the library

provides as well as how to navigate other resources within Coryell County.

The first class was held on Friday, Jan. 19, where community members were introduced to online research.

The next class will be on Friday, Feb. 2, at 10 a.m. and will include information on Coryell County websites and resources.

The last class will be held on Friday, Feb. 16, at 10 a.m. and will entail how to navigate ancestry and state library archives.

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

The Gatesville Public Library is located at 111 N. 8th Street.



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Of those 85%:

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69% read a print newspaper.

The readers of newspapers, both online and print are:

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57% have a household income > \$50K

62% are home owners

63% are college educated

41% have children in the household.



Hood County News

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THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER



Coryell County

DEVOTIONAL PAGE



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CALVARY

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

CANAAN

Jim Keever, senior pastor; 177 Coryell City Road, Crawford; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday worship 10:30 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

COLD SPRINGS

Bob Phillips, pastor; Sundays - Sunday School 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

EASTWOOD

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

FIRST BAPTIST EVANT

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

FIRST BAPTIST FLAT

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

FIRST BAPTIST GATESVILLE

Dr. Pete Keough, Pastor; 912 E. Main St., Gatesville; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.; Wednesday Service 7 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST OGLESBY

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

FIRST BAPTIST PURMELA

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

GATEWAY

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

HARMONY

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

HAY VALLEY

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

JONESBORO

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

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

LIBERTY

Royce T. Cockrell, DMin., Pastor; Corner of FM 107 & HWY 36, Gatesville; Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Sunday Service 11 a.m. & 1 p.m., Family Bible Study Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.

LIVE OAK

Pastor Matthew Hamilton; 113 FM 107, Gatesville; Sunday School 9:15 a.m., Sunday worship 10:30 a.m., Wednesday evening Youth & Children's Bible Study 6 p.m.

MOUNTAIN

Rev. Kurt Fuessel, pastor; 6319 US-84, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. & 6

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

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

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

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

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099 PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, Ideal Self Storage-Gatesville, located at 425 SH-36 Bypass N, Gatesville TX 76528, is having an online auction. The property is being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. The sale will be held at storageauctions.com beginning Monday, February 12, 2024 at 11A.M. Seller reserves the right to withdraw any property from the sale upon payment in full. Bidding sale will end on Monday, February 19, 2024 at 11A.M. Units to be sold: **STEPHANIE HENDERSON, TIFFANY HINES, RICKY MCDANIEL.** Inventory: Household goods, clothing, tools and misc. 00030577

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 75628, is having an online auction. The property is being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. The sale will be held at storageauctions.com beginning Monday, February 12, 2024 at 11A.M. Seller reserves the right to withdraw any property from the sale upon payment in full. Bidding sale will end on Monday, February 19, 2024 at 11A.M. Units to be sold: **DANNY-ELL SUNIGA, SHANNON OCHOA.** Inventory: Household goods, clothing, tools and misc. items. 00030578

No. 23-10927
IN THE ESTATE OF
ERWIN JOSEPH SIMMONS A/K/A ERWIN J. SIMMONS, DECEASED
IN THE COUNTY COURT OF
CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Erwin Joseph Simmons a/k/a Erwin J. Simmons, Deceased, were issued on January 10, 2024, in Cause No. 23-10927, pending in the County Court of Coryell County, Texas, to: Michael D. Edwards. 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.

BAIRD, CREWS, SCHILLERS & WHITAKER, P.C.
c/o: **STEPHEN T. BRISCHKE**
Attorney at Law
15 North Main Street
Temple, Texas 76501

DATED the 29th day of January, 2024.

BAIRD, CREWS, SCHILLERS & WHITAKER, P.C.
STEPHEN T. BRISCHKE
Attorney for Applicant
State Bar No.: 24045552
15 N. Main Street
Temple, Texas 76501
Telephone: (254) 743-7311
Facsimile: (254) 774-9353
E-mail: stephenbrischke@bcswlaw.com 00030605

099 PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Felton Romane Thompson were issued on October 13, 2023, in docket number 23-10881, pending in the County Court at Law of Coryell County, Texas, to Judith Thompson.

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

c/o: **Allen D. Place, Jr.**
Attorney at Law
109 S. 7th Street
Gatesville, Texas 76528

Dated the 23rd day of January, 2024.

Allen D. Place, Jr.
Attorney for Judith Thompson
State Bar No.: 16058500
109 S. 7th Street
Gatesville, Texas 76528
Telephone: (254) 865-8475
Facsimile: (254) 865-5274
Email: allenplacejr@aol.com 00030606

070 LAND & LOTS

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

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

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

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- ▶ 117 N. Rice St., Hamilton, TX. Rustic Lantern, over 7,000 sq ft, 2 stories w/ 2 staircases, kitchen area, old safe, great commercial property for restaurant, office, or retail. \$549,000
- ▶ 1.469 ac. Lampasas River Place Subdivision, Lampasas River frontage, good tree cover, electricity along property line, Kempner water along front of property, \$125,000
- ▶ 5 ac. 4/2 brick home, 1960 CR 158 Evant, fireplace, open floor plan, recently remodeled kitchen, breakfast bar, pantry, second living area, office, ceramic tile floors, large front porch, fiber optic internet service, Multi-County Water, 2 car carport, storage that is 24'x19' w/ attic lift, \$599,000.
- ▶ 5.078 ac. East of Gatesville, Greenbriar Ranch Estates, Lot No. 4. North Greenbriar Creek, good tree cover, rolling terrain, electricity & water at the road. \$123,500
- ▶ 10.01 ac. East of Evant TX, 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 ac, Lot 41 Ph 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX., Good Tree cover, Rolling Terrain, Fiber Optic Internet. \$149,500
- ▶ 11 +/- ac. Arnett, TX Coryell County, good tree cover, nice home site, will need to be fenced. MCWSC may be available. \$179,500
- ▶ 11.01 ac. Lot 5 Ph 2 Rio Escondido, 3180 PR 42111 Evant, TX. Ready to build on w/ house pad, electricity, septic system, water well, Fiber-optic internet, small cabin w/kitchenette, bathroom, covered patio, & RV pad, 1 tank. \$212,500
- ▶ 15 ac. East of Evant, great views, scattered tree cover, small pond, electricity across road, will need to drill water well for water. \$150,000
- ▶ 16.5 ac. Turnersville, open pasture, good views, paved CR 220. electricity across road, check w/ Coryell City Water on availability of water meter. \$206,500
- ▶ 17.85 ac. 296 Cross Timbers Lane, Gatesville, 2 homes, 3/2 brick home, open floor plan, 2nd home 2/2 single wide, good tree cover, rolling terrain, storage building, excellent fences. 1 stock pond. \$749,500
- ▶ 18.1 ac. south of Evant, near Adamsville, Lampasas County, Hwy 281 & CR 2830. water well, electricity, carport, rolling terrain, good tree cover. \$260,000
- ▶ 20 ac. Evant, TX, Rio Escondido Subdivision, Lot 23 Ph 1, good tree cover, rolling terrain, gated subdivision, electric available, Fiber Optic Internet. \$215,000
- ▶ 20.02 ac. Evant, TX, PR 42107, Hamilton County, Lot 43 Ph 6 Rio Escondido, rolling terrain, good tree cover, season creek. \$265,000.
- ▶ 20.33 ac 3/2 modular home 714 CR 415, Evant, open floor plan, vaulted ceiling, hardwood floors, pantry, free standing wood stove, 10'x 60' front porch, multi-county water, 1 tank, fiber optic internet, small workshop, chicken coop, greenhouse, storage buildings and carport. \$498,000
- ▶ 22.2 Ac, 4/2 Palm Harbor Manufactured Home, 812 Blakley Rd, open floor plan, large master bedroom, his & her closets, 2 living areas, 14'x35' sunroom, laminate floors, ceramic floors in kitchen, laundry room & bathrooms, 8'x40' container w/lean-to for a carport, outbuildings, water well, rolling terrain, good tree cover. \$649,500
- ▶ 30.528 ac. East of Evant, great views, scattered tree cover, small pond, electricity across the road, you will need to drill a water well. \$305,280
- ▶ 33.43 ac. near Coryell City, Coryell County, FM 929 & CR 260 frontage, rolling terrain, good views. \$295,000
- ▶ 38 +/- ac. South of Pearl, TX, Coryell County, FM 183 frontage, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, nice views, great home site. \$372,400
- ▶ 39.378 ac West of Gatesville, Hwy 36 frontage, scattered tree cover, rolling terrain. Good fences, water meter on property & electric available, Jonesboro ISD \$395,000
- ▶ 41.0457 ac. Hamilton, CR 404, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, approx. 25 acres farmland, 2 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 ac. 3/2.5 home, 2171 CR 419 Evant, rolling terrain, good tree cover over 40% of property, remaining balance open pasture, great views. \$649,500.
- ▶ 58.51 ac. 3/2 frame home, 6630 FM 183 Evant, TX, water well, several outbuildings, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, 2 tanks. \$585,000
- ▶ 60.23 ac. CR 238 near Turnersville, TX, 1 stock tank, good fences, scattered tree cover, rolling terrain, \$361,380.
- ▶ 68.9 ac, 3/2.5 rock home 101 Mac Dr., Gatesville, approx. 2900 ft Leon River frontage, ceramic tile floors, carpet in bedrooms, vaulted ceiling, rock fireplace, granite countertops, breakfast bar, garden tub, metal building 45'x24' barn, cattle pens, 1 tank, approx. 48 ac of coastal. \$1,249,500
- ▶ 74.264 ac. West of Purlmea, FM 1241 & CR 181, 1 tank, barn w/cattle pens, good exterior fences, approx. 65 acres good pasture w/coastal & native grasses, \$508,709
- ▶ 82.43 ac. West of Evant, Mills County. Open pasture, scattered mesquite tree cover, native grasses, 1 tank, fenced on 3 sides. \$560,524
- ▶ 88.007 ac, Hamilton CR 614 36 ft. Travel Trailer, 25'x30' metal barn, electricity, 1 tank, seasonal branch, water well, scattered tree cover, \$650,000
- ▶ 89.862 ac. 3/2 home 1784 CR 610 Hamilton, open floor plan, vaulted ceilings, fireplace, breakfast bar, stainless steel appliances, pantry, ceramic floors, carpet in bedrooms. Large front porch, 2 carports, 50'x 30' metal building, 8'x 40' storage container, well, 1 tank. great views, good tree cover, rolling terrain. \$975,000
- ▶ 105 ac. South of Pearl, TX, Self Rd. good tree cover, rolling terrain, small branch, 38'x42' barn w/rain harvest system, electricity along property line, will need to drill well for water. \$743,775
- ▶ 106 ac. CR 180 Purlmea, Coryell & Hamilton County, good tree cover, rolling terrain, 1 tank, paved road frontage, electricity across road. \$832,100
- ▶ 154.904 ac. Turnersville, paved CR 226, Coryell County, brick home in need of repair, water well, 1 tank, 1 barn 100'x 50', 1 barn 50'x 48' & 1 barn 120'x 48', cattle pens, grain storage bin, open pasture w/ native grasses, 24-ac. field. Jonesboro I. S. D., Owners will consider owner financing. \$929,424
- ▶ 179.562 ac. 1.6 miles South of Gatesville, TX FM 116 frontage, great views, stock tank, rolling terrain & scattered tree cover. \$1,166,255
- ▶ 199.86 ac. 4/2 Manufactured Home, 1805 CR 180 Purlmea, fully furnished, 2 tanks, 8'x40' container, storage building w/water storage tank, barn, cattle pens, water well, rolling terrain, good tree cover, paved road frontage. \$1,568,901
- ▶ 210 ac. Carlton, Comanche County, approx. 5000 ft Resley Creek frontage, small cabin, water well, electricity, cattle pens, 2 tanks one approx. 2.4 ac, good tree cover, 48 ac. improved grass, good exterior & interior fences. \$1,450,000

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045 SERVICES

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Gatesville High School Art Department receives shoutout



GATESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL LIZ SHOAF

An art department student designing a new piece for her upcoming photo shoot.



GATESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL LIZ SHOAF

A plethora of pictures were taken during the class-based photo shoot.

Staff Reports

The Gatesville High School Art Department students are tackling an art-in-photography unit that art teacher Claude Williams planned on turning into a project runway challenge. The unit is in full swing, while students learn with hands-on experience.

The class has learned

how to use lighting, clothing, and props to set a mood and tone in photography, as well as sketching clothing designs that are then brought to life on mannequins.

The final stage of the project included students wearing the designed clothing for a class-based photoshoot. "The products I am

seeing in his class are things I have never seen done in a classroom before, and I applaud Claude for thinking outside the box and making it happen," Gatesville High School Principal Liz Shoaf said.

For more information on the art department, contact Gatesville High School at 254-865-8281.

THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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PHOTOS BY SUSIE MEELBUSCH, MEMBER OF THE GATESVILLE EDUCATION FOUNDATION



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MOVIE NIGHT:

The Gatesville Education Foundation hosted a mother and son movie night on Saturday, Jan. 27, at the Last Drive-In Picture Show for students at Gatesville Independent School District. The event featured a viewing of the movie Aquaman, mini golf for two, and a photo booth to take pictures. Students of prekindergarten through sixth grade attended the event with their mothers.



GISD tennis courts to be named for Vernons

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

At the June 19, 2023 meeting of the Gatesville Independent School District Board of Trustees meeting, it was voted to name the Gatesville High School Tennis Courts after long-time supporters of the GHS tennis program, Glenn and Sue Vernon.

After a few delays, GISD recently announced that the formal dedication of the courts will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 6, at 3:30 p.m.

Both graduates of Gatesville High School and both

prolific tennis players, Glenn and Sue have dedicated their lives to teaching the sport to young people.

Upon first learning that the courts would be named after them, Glenn and Sue Vernon responded: "We are both humbly honored that the tennis courts will bear our names. We both have played tennis about 50 years and have taught lessons almost that long. We have especially poured our hearts and bodies into helping the Gatesville High School tennis program over the last six years. We couldn't have

done any of this without the support from parents who are providing an opportunity for their child to improve. Equally important is the support from the GHS tennis coaches, athletic director, superintendent, school board, and a school system that allows and encourages community involvement."

Glenn and Sue Vernon greatly anticipate the dedication ceremony on Feb. 6. The public is invited to attend.



COURTESY PHOTO BY ALEX SCOTT

Sue and Glenn Vernon have been instrumental in working with Gatesville youth and helping to develop a strong love for tennis.

Gatesville girls take down China Spring, nearly topple Connally



CHRIS ALLMAN | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

GHS girls basketball standouts, pictured counterclockwise, Emma Pollard, Paige Sentillas, Taylor Sanderson, and Taylor Coward.

CHRIS ALLMAN
Contributing Writer

Thanks to a gutsy 44-42 overtime win over China Spring on Jan. 27, the Gatesville girls basketball team is still very much in the thick of the playoff race with two games remaining in the regular season.

On Jan. 30, Gatesville nearly pulled off an upset of No. 19 Connally falling 53-42 to the Lady Cadets in a game that was much closer than the final score would indicate.

After falling behind 17-10 after the first quarter, Gatesville battled back and trimmed the Lady Cadet lead to 28-25 at the half.

After a back-and-forth third quarter, Gatesville (12-19) cut the Connally lead to three points on back-to-back buckets from Emma Pollard. The sophomore center hit an acrobatic reverse layup to make it 45-38 then scored on a coast-to-coast layup to make it 45-42.

Nursing a narrow lead,

Connally employed a stall on the offensive end leading to long stretches without a shot attempt. The Lady Cadets did not score their first points of the fourth quarter until a free throw with 4:06 to play and did not convert a field goal until a jumper with 2:26 to play.

Over the final two minutes of play, Connally turned a four-point lead into an 11-point win thanks to four free throws and two field goals.

Pollard poured in a game-high 26 points including nine field goals and eight made free throws. Senior Taylor Coward scored eight points while Paige Sentillas had four points. Yasmin Sanders and Taylor Sanderson each had two points in the loss.

In the thrilling win at China Spring, the Hornets held a 34-31 lead at the end of regulation but Abby Norris banked in a deep three-pointer with 5.1 seconds left to tie the game at 34-34.

Sentillas was able to get away from China Spring's full-court pressure and launched a 30-footer that just missed and sent the game to overtime.

Norris connected from three again to open the overtime period and give China Spring a 37-34 lead, but a defensive rebound and putback from Coward made it 37-36. Following defensive stop, Coward connected on one of two free throw attempts to tie the game at 37-37.

Norris hit a short jumper with 2:34 remaining to give China Spring a 39-37 lead, but Pollard quickly made two free throws of her own to tie the game again, this time at 39-39.

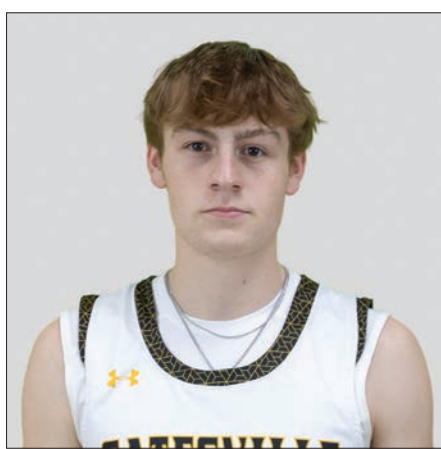
Gatesville took the lead for good when Coward buried a three-pointer and a 42-39 lead with 2:02 to play. Sanderson pushed the lead to 43-39 with 24 second left, but Norris hit from three again to make it 43-42 with 9 second to play. Norris finished

with 23 points - 21 of which came in the second half and overtime.

Sentillas hit a free throw to make the lead 44-42. Then Yasmin Sanders forced a jump ball on China Springs' final effort to tie the game giving the ball - and the win - to Gatesville.

Coward had 19 points in the win while Pollard had 11. Sentillas and Sanderson each chipped in four points. Gatesville hosts Salado on Feb. 2 in their final home game of the season, then wraps the regular season at No. 2 La Vega on Feb. 6.

The Lady Hornets best route to the postseason would include a win in one or both of their final two games or a Robinson victory over China Spring. That would force a three-way tie between Robinson, China Spring, and Gatesville for the final playoff spot. A tie-breaker is to be determined.



CHRIS ALLMAN | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

GHS boys basketball standouts, pictured left to right, Charlie Winkler, Graceson Stewart, and Kase Cox.

Gatesville boys hoops begins final push for postseason

CHRIS ALLMAN
Contributing Writer

Despite an uneven stretch of basketball to start district play, the Gatesville Hornets still control their own destiny as they look to secure their third straight playoff berth.

Gatesville dropped their two most recent district contests to fall to 1-5 in district

but face Salado, Robinson, and China Spring in three of their next four games. Wins over Salado and Robinson would likely lock up the fourth spot in 23-4A, and wins over all three teams would put Gatesville in a position to be the No. 3 seed in the playoffs.

On Jan. 30, the short-handed Hornets fell 52-45 to Con-

nally. Gatesville was without Rayshon Smith in the game and West Allman was also not 100%, but the Hornets offense was sparked by Charlie Winkler and Kase Cox. Winkler's sharp-shooting kept Gatesville in the game in the first half, while Cox's contributions on both ends of the floor and on the glass prevented the Cadets from

pulling away.

Against China Spring, the Hornets led 16-12 after the first quarter but went ice-cold over the second and third periods. They scored just six points in the second quarter and seven in the third as the Cougars turned a four-point first quarter deficit into a 43-29 lead after three quarters.

Smith and Graceson Stewart led the Hornets in scoring with 12 points each against China Spring, while Cox and Amos Phillips each pulled down five rebounds apiece.

Gatesville welcomes Salado on Feb. 2 and will look to avenge a 56-52 overtime loss to the Eagles on Jan. 16. After a visit to district-leading La Vega on Feb. 6, they

will visit Robinson on Feb. 9, then close with a home game against China Spring on Feb. 13.

District 23-4A will match up with District 24-4A in the first round of the playoffs. Burnet currently leads 24-4A with a 6-0 mark followed by Lampasas (4-2), Jarrell (4-2), and Marble Falls (4-2).

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Gatesville High School hosts Powerlifting meet



COURTESY PHOTO

The athletes and coaches of the Gatesville High School powerlifting team had a successful meet this past weekend at the Sid Pruitt Gymnasium. The girls' powerlifting team won fifth place overall in a field of 13 schools competing. The boys' powerlifting team placed second overall.



GHS girls powerlifter Baylyn Roberts

SE'VETTE EARLY | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER



GHS girls powerlifter Kasey Fitzer

SE'VETTE EARLY | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER



GHS girls powerlifter Kasey Fitzer

SE'VETTE EARLY | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER



GHS boys powerlifter Kori Burns

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GHS girls powerlifter Paisley Wells

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GHS girls powerlifter Zoey Arnold

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THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER



Oglesby Junior High Boys Basketball team

COURTESY PHOTO BY TOM NORRELL



COURTESY PHOTO

The boys' team is pictured following a 4-0 victory over Copperas Cove. Pictured back row, left to right: Hector Silva, (goalie) Javier Bonilla, Angel Almendariz, Hayden Blanchard, Asa Hardcastle, Damian Guerrero, Daniel Gonzalez, Jack Armstrong, and Ryan Tesar. Bottom row: (manager) Luis Valencia, Sergio Bucio, Alex Bueno Cerretero, Abraham Almendariz, Oswaldo Leon, Frankie Medina, and Malichi Olvera (in front).

Oglesby junior high boys win Walnut Springs tournament

BY TOM NORRELL
Contributing Writer

Coach Julian Helms led the Oglesby Junior High Tigers to victory on Saturday, Jan. 27, defeating the Jonesboro Eagles 38-23 to capture the Walnut Springs Tournament Championship.

The Tigers worked their way through the tournament, beginning with a 44-15 victory over the Kopprel Eagles on Thursday, Jan. 25. They played the Iredell Dragons at noon on Jan. 27, and defeated them 53-23 to advance to the championship.

In game one vs the Kopprel Eagles, the Tiger's leading scorer was Holdyn

Goff, and he scored 26 points, seven rebounds, six assists, five steals, and one blocked shot. Evan Williamson had six points, four rebounds. Mason Marquez scored four points and two rebounds. Liam Ammerman scored two points, and Couper Wulfkhule scored two points. Hunter Inshall scored two points. AJ Marfa scored two points.

In game two vs the Iredell Dragons, the Tiger's leading scorer was Holdyn Goff with 25 points, 16 rebounds for a double/double, five assists, and four steals. Evan Williamson pumped in 24 points, two rebounds, two assists, and one steal. Liam Ammerman

dropped in two points, and Rancher Jeffcoat added two points.

In game three, the championship vs the Jonesboro Eagles, Holdyn Goff led the scoring with 19 points, 10 rebounds for double/double, four assists, three steals, and one blocked shot. Evan Williamson scored 12 points, two rebounds, three assists, and one steal. Mason Marquez scored four points, five rebounds, and one steal. Caiden Brinkley scored two points and two rebounds. Jacob De La Torre rounded out the scoring by hitting a free throw for one point.

GHS Boys Soccer has only had four goals scored against them

Submitted Item

The Gatesville High School boys' soccer team is 7-1-1 for the season, outscoring their opponents 37-4 so far. The program is lead by Coach Scott Campbell, who coaches the boys' and girls' teams.

The boys team won at Connally Jan. 30, with a final score of 6-0. GHS

scored their first goal 19 seconds into the game. Alex Bueno scored once, Angel Almendariz scored twice, Hector Silva scored twice, and Oswaldo Leon scored once. Jack Armstrong had two assists, and Abraham Almendariz, Asa Hardcastle, and Bueno each had an assist.

The team is now 1-0 in

district and were set to play at Stephenville on Friday.

GHS girls won, 5-2, at Connally. Andrea Ortiz had two goals, and Bethany Penrod, Ally Penrod, and Raisa Leon each had a goal. The girls are 5-3-1, and 1-0 in district. They were also set to play at Stephenville on Friday.



Oglesby junior high girls fall short at Walnut Springs tournament

BY TOM NORRELL
Contributing Writer

The Oglesby junior high Lady Tigers made a valiant effort in the Walnut Springs tournament; although all the games were very close, the Lady Tigers failed to make the finals of the tournament.

Oglesby lost their first game to the Kopprel Lady Eagles 18-16. The Lady Tigers rallied back in the second game to beat the Evant Lady Elks, 22-21. In the third game of the con-

solation bracket, the Lady Tigers fell to Morgan Lady Eagles, 28-19.

Top Finisher's for the Lady Tigers included Makenzie Wright, who finished the tournament as the top scorer with 24 points, 19 rebounds, and six steals. Delaney Marfa scored 18 points, 19 rebounds, and six steals. Scarlet Arron scored seven points, 12 rebounds, and eight steals. Ali Chrisner scored eight points and six rebounds

during the tournament.

The Lady Tigers will travel to Aquilla on Monday, Jan.

29, for the last district game. The games will begin at 4:30 p.m.

The Tigers and Lady Tigers will play in the district tournament on Saturday, in

Aquilla, with times and opponents to be determined.

ALL TOURNAMENT HONORS



PHOTO COURTESY OF TOM NORRELL

During the Oglesby junior high basketball tournament held at Walnut Spring on Jan. 27, two Oglesby athletes were honored with All Tournament awards. (Left) Evan Williamson scored 42 points, eight rebounds, five assists, and twelve steals. (Right) Holdyn Goff scored 70 points, 33 rebounds, 15 assists, six steals, and two blocked shots.

GATESVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT			
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES			
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS			
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023			
Data Control Codes	10 General Fund	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:			
5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 10,704,485	\$ 2,919,233	\$ 13,623,718
5800 State Program Revenues	16,580,885	389,324	16,970,209
5900 Federal Program Revenues	783,957	4,566,888	5,350,845
5020 Total Revenues	28,069,327	7,875,445	35,944,772
EXPENDITURES:			
Current:			
0011 Instruction	14,195,823	2,019,697	16,215,520
0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services	158,641	204,439	363,080
0013 Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	204,276	343,984	548,260
0021 Instructional Leadership	214,135	38,173	252,308
0023 School Leadership	1,590,938	58,564	1,649,502
0031 Guidance, Counseling, and Evaluation Services	601,289	311,658	912,947
0032 Social Work Services	265,677	56,491	322,168
0033 Health Services	319,089	1,070	320,159
0034 Student (Pupil) Transportation	1,034,832	4,162	1,038,994
0035 Food Services	51,824	1,946,409	1,998,233
0036 Extracurricular Activities	1,649,550	164,245	1,813,795
0041 General Administration	1,317,490	9,999	1,327,489
0051 Facilities Maintenance and Operations	3,012,521	3,450	3,015,971
0052 Security and Monitoring Services	480,208	184,050	664,258
0053 Data Processing Services	591,462	-	591,462
0061 Community Services	11,973	6,923	18,896
Debt Service:			
0071 Principal on Long-Term Liabilities	-	1,385,000	1,385,000
0072 Interest on Long-Term Liabilities	-	642,272	642,272
0073 Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	-	4,000	4,000
Capital Outlay:			
0081 Facilities Acquisition and Construction	42,107	20,085	62,192
Intergovernmental:			
0099 Other Intergovernmental Charges	193,647	-	193,647
6030 Total Expenditures	25,935,482	7,404,671	33,340,153
1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	2,133,845	470,774	2,604,619
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):			
7912 Sale of Real and Personal Property	667	-	667
1200 Net Change in Fund Balances	2,134,512	470,774	2,605,286
0100 Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning)	12,783,068	1,181,060	13,964,128
3000 Fund Balance - August 31 (Ending)	\$ 14,917,580	\$ 1,651,834	\$ 16,569,414

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Gatesville Junior High Boys Basketball results

Submitted Item

JAN. 6, GJHS VS WACO LIVE OAK

8A vs. Live Oak	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Live Oak	6	14	5	2	27
Gatesville	16	10	12	9	47
Scoring: Grady Keeton- 19; Draven Henderson- 10; Eli Phillips- 10; Callen Webb-5; Stefon Boyd- 3					
Record: 8-1					

7A vs. Live Oak	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Live Oak	13	10	19	7	49
Gatesville	7	4	8	9	28
Scoring: Jaxson Franks- 11; Bennett Eggeling- 7; Andrew Winkler-6; Sebastian Hubik- 2; TaShawn Evans- 2					
Record: 5-4					

8B/7B Combo vs. Live Oak	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Live Oak	2	4	8	4	18
Gatesville	4	10	8	2	24
Scoring: Isaac Crawford-8; Jaxon Botkin-6; Brensyn Pope-4; Jaxon Shepard- 2; Zion Nunn-2; Memphis Salas-2					
Record: 3-5					

JAN. 11, GJHS VS CONNALLY

8A vs. Connally	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Connally	5	14	6	15	40
Gatesville	4	8	12	11	35
Scoring: Grady Keeton- 21; Eli Phillips-11; Draven Henderson- 3					
Record: 8-2					

7A vs. Connally	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Connally					38
Gatesville	9	14	16	16	54
Scoring: Jaxson Franks- 27; Andrew Winkler- 9; Preston Barron- 6; TayShon Evans- 6; Max Jacobs- 3; Bennett Eggeling- 2; Sebastian Hubik- 2					
Record: 6-4					

8B vs. Connally	FINAL Connally 28, Gatesville 26				
Record: 3-6					

7B vs. Connally	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Connally	6	4	2	6	18
Gatesville	3	7	6	6	22
Scoring: Jennar Velasquez- 8; Zion Nunn- 5; Micah Olvera- 2; Brayden Warren- 3					
Record: 4-5					

JAN. 18, GJHS VS SALADO

8A vs. Salado	FINAL Salado 29, Gatesville 28				
Scoring: Eli Phillips- 16, Grady Keeton-8; Kaydon Buster- 4					
Record: 8-3					

7A vs. Salado	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Salado	15	6	2	8	31
Gatesville	9	11	6	13	39
Scoring: Jaxson Franks- 17; Bennett Eggeling- 14; Andrew Winkler- 6; Sebastian Hubik- 2					
Record: 7-4					

8B vs. Salado	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Salado	12	7	6	7	32

Gatesville	0	9	1	4	14
Scoring: Jaxon Botkin- 7; Brensyn Pope- 5; Isaac Crawford- 2					
Record: 3-7					

7B vs. Salado	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Salado					28
Gatesville	4	2	0	1	7
Scoring: Zion Nunn- 4; Micah Olvera- 2; Jennar Velasquez- 1					
Record: 4-6					

JAN. 19-20, GJHS A TEAM @ GLEN ROSE TOURNAMENT

8A vs. Godley	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Godley	12	12	10	14	48
Gatesville	11	10	12	9	42
Scoring: Grady Keeton- 21; Eli Phillips- 11; Stefon Boyd- 3; Kaydon Buster- 2; Callen Webb- 3; Camden Webb- 2					

8A vs. Granbury	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Granbury	8	0	2	2	12
Gatesville	18	10	12	6	46
Scoring: Grady Keeton- 26; Eli Phillips- 8; Kaydon Buster- 4; Stefon Boyd- 4; Camden Webb- 2; Braxton Brown- 2					

8A vs. Glen Rose	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Glen Rose	8	4	2	4	18
Gatesville	14	12	8	4	38
Scoring: Grady Keeton- 27; Eli Phillips- 7; Kaydon Buster- 2; Callen Webb- 2					
Record: 10-4					

7A vs. Godley	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Godley	3	7	5	7	22
Gatesville	1	4	6	14	25
Scoring: Jaxson Franks- 15; Preston Barron- 3; Bennett Eggeling- 2; TayShon Evans- 2; Andrew Winkler- 2; Sebastian Hubik- 1					

7A vs. Granbury	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Granbury	8	8	7	2	25
Gatesville	9	5	8	14	36
Scoring: Jaxson Franks- 14; TayShon Evans- 8; Bennett Eggeling- 5; Andrew Winkler- 4; Preston Barron- 3; Sebastian Hubik- 2					

7A vs. Lorena (Championship game)	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Lorena	6	4	13	5	28
Gatesville	8	2	4	9	23
Scoring: Jaxson Franks- 13; Preston Barron- 4; Andrew Winkler- 4; Bennett Eggeling- 2					
Record: 9-5					

JAN. 20, GJHS B TEAM @ ACADEMY TOURNAMENT

8B vs. Lake Belton	1st half	2nd half	FINAL
Lake Belton	4	5	9
Gatesville	22	9	31
Scoring: Isaac Crawford- 9; Memphis Salas- 6; Wayne Brumalow- 5; Pate Foster- 5; Jaxon Botkin- 4; Hunter Loy- 1; Brensyn Pope- 1			

8B vs. China Spring	1st half	2nd half	FINAL
China Spring	8	10	18

Gatesville	8	17	25
Scoring: Isaac Crawford- 15; Jaxon Botkin- 4; Pate Foster- 4; Brensyn Pope- 2			

8B vs. North Belton (Championship game)	1st half	2nd half	FINAL
North Belton	11	13	24
Gatesville	14	18	32
Scoring: Brensyn Pope- 13; Isaac Crawford- 6; Jaxon Botkin- 6; Memphis Salas- 6; Pate Foster- 1			
Record: 6-7			

7B vs. Lake Belton	1st half	2nd half	FINAL
Lake Belton	19	8	27
Gatesville	12	7	19
Scoring: Brayden Warren-6; Zion Nunn-6; Micah Olvera-5			

7B vs. Belton Middle School	1st half	2nd half	FINAL
Belton	4	8	12
Gatesville	7	7	14
Scoring: Zion Nunn-7; Brayden Warren-5; Jennar Velasquez- 2			

7B vs. South Belton	1st half	2nd half	FINAL
South Belton	7	4	11
Gatesville	11	9	20
Scoring: Zion Nunn-9; Jennar Velasquez- 6; Brayden Warren- 3; Jaxon Shepard- 2			
Record: 6-7			

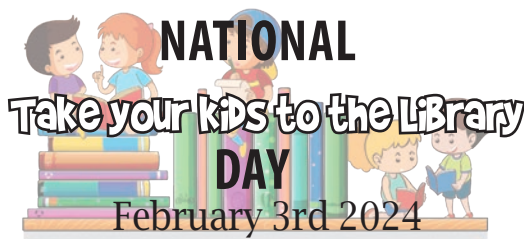
JAN. 25, GJHS VS LAVEGA

8A vs. LaVega	1	2	3	4	FINAL
LaVega	9	8	5	3	25
Gatesville	16	12	2	9	39
Scoring: Grady Keeton- 17; Draven Henderson- 11; Callen Webb- 6; Eli Phillips-3; Braxton Brown-2					
Record: 11-4					

8B vs. LaVega	1	2	3	4	FINAL
LaVega	6	4	0	4	14
Gatesville	1	7	4	8	20
Scoring: Isaac Crawford-10; Jaxon Botkin- 7; Brensyn Pope-2; Wayne Brumalow-1					
Record: 7-7					

7A vs. LaVega	1	2	3	4	FINAL
LaVega	6	4	5	3	18
Gatesville	6	6	6	7	25
Scoring: Bennett Eggeling-9; Jaxon Franks-8; Andrew Winkler-6; Preston Barron-2					
Record: 10-5					

7B vs. LaVega	1	2	3	4	FINAL
LaVega	2	0	3	9	14
Gatesville	3	8	6	8	25
Scoring: Brayden Warren-6; Jennar Velasquez-5; Zion Nunn-4; Jaxon Shepard-4; Copen Hartley- 2; Braylon Brown-2; Alex DeLaTorre-2					
Record: 7-7					



GETTING A LIBRARY CARD OPENS PEOPLE UP TO A WORLD OF BOOKS, MOVIES, MUSIC, AND OTHER SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AT THEIR LOCAL LIBRARIES.



Library

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

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

Word Bank

- 1. pages
- 2. reference
- 3. librarian
- 4. desktop
- 5. quiet
- 6. read
- 7. reading
- 8. bookshelf
- 9. computer
- 10. lamptables

National Take Your Child to the Library Day, observed on February 3rd, is a fantastic celebration that invites families to embark on literary adventures together. Libraries are magical places filled with endless stories, exciting worlds, and the promise of discovery.

On this special day, parents and caregivers can create lasting memories with their children by taking them to the library. Libraries are like treasure troves, offering a diverse collection of books that cater to every interest and imagination. Kids can ex-

plore picture books, chapter books, and even discover new friends through the characters they meet in stories.

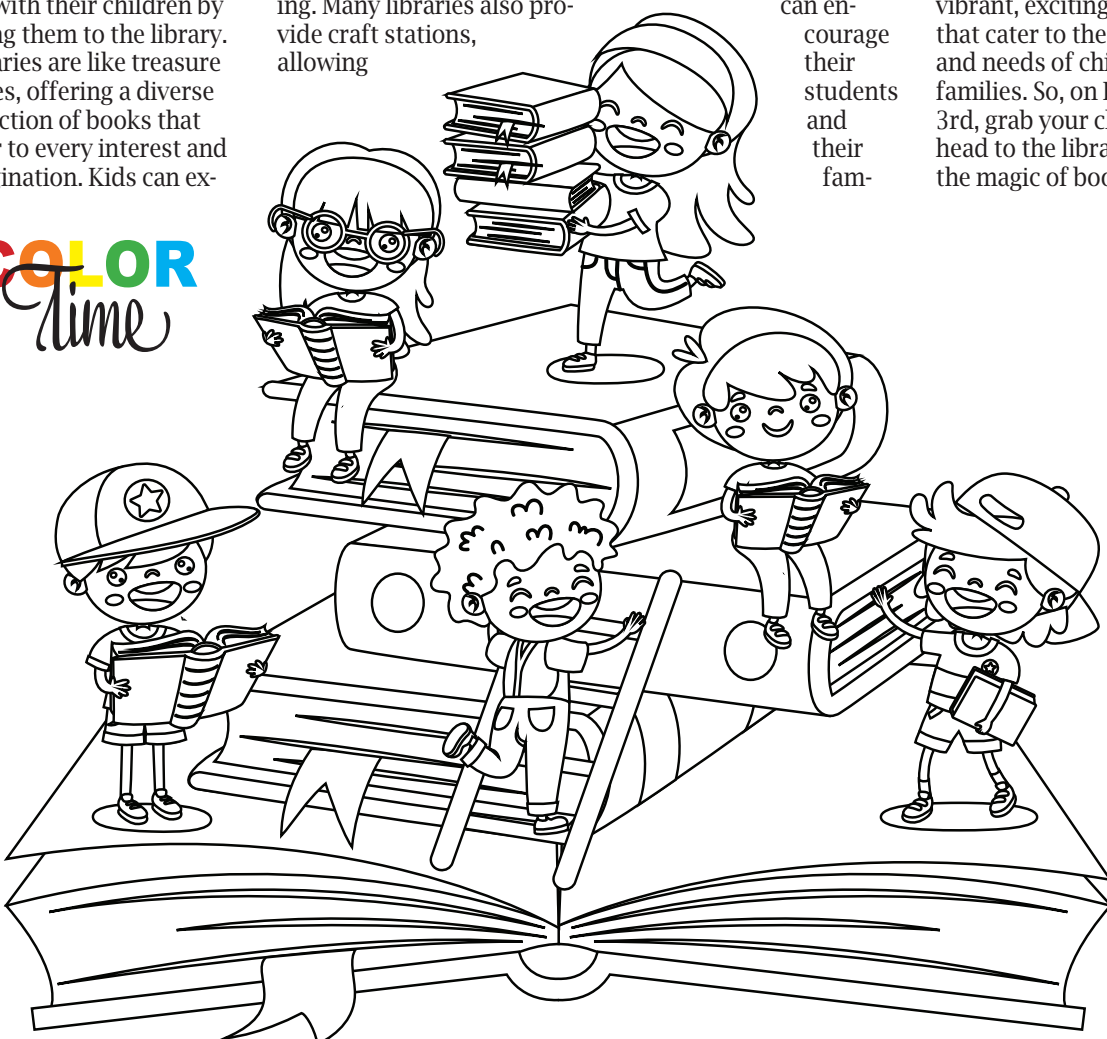
Libraries often host special events on this day, such as storytime sessions, puppet shows, or interactive activities. It's an opportunity for kids to engage with literature in a fun and interactive way, fostering a love for reading and learning. Many libraries also provide craft stations, allowing

children to unleash their creativity and make bookmarks or crafts related to their favorite books.

Parents can use this day to instill the habit of reading in their children. By introducing kids to the joy of reading, they not only enhance their literacy skills but also open doors to new worlds, ideas, and possibilities.

Teachers can encourage their students and their families to participate in National Take Your Child to the Library Day. It's a chance to reinforce the importance of literacy outside the classroom and inspire a lifelong love for books.

In the digital age, libraries are evolving, offering e-books, audiobooks, and online resources. National Take Your Child to the Library Day is a reminder that libraries remain vibrant, exciting places that cater to the interests and needs of children and families. So, on February 3rd, grab your child's hand, head to the library, and let the magic of books unfold!



TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Texans roll Thunderbirds in annual “White Out Wisdom” game

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Tarleton State Men’s Basketball coasted to a 86-68 victory over the Utah Tech Trailblazers Saturday, Jan. 27 in Tarleton’s annual “White Out Wisdom” game in Wisdom Gym.

The Texans (13-7 overall, 6-3 WAC) split the week with the win over the Trailblazers (7-13, 3-6). After California Baptist knocked off Stephen F. Austin earlier in the day, the Texans are tied with the Lancers for second in the WAC conference standings.

In an effort to “White Out Wisdom,” early-arriving fans

received a free white T-shirt. Fans filled the lower bowl in white in support of Texan basketball. Baseball and softball were also on hand for a pregame poster signing to highlight their upcoming season.

Jakorie Smith racked up 28 points, tying Lue Williams for the most points by a Texan in a WAC game this season. Williams found himself back in double figures for the 14th time this season posting 18. Adam Moussa helped navigate the offense, dishing out a game-high seven assists, his most as a Texan. Emmanuel Innocenti led the Texans with

seven boards with six on the defensive glass. He was the third Texan to score in double-digits with 11.

In the early minutes of the first half, the Trailblazers controlled pace, leading by as much as seven, 19-12, eight minutes into the game. The Texans started to take the momentum of the game after a fast break dunk in open court by Bubba Benjamin. Tarleton kept up the momentum with a Williams triple and seven straight points by Smith. Gaddy capped the 14-0 run with a pair of free throws, giving the Texans a 26-19 lead at the 7:42 mark.

Tarleton never looked back, taking a 46-34 lead at the break. Smith led all scorers with 16 including a trio of triples. Williams added 14 with the duo combining for 30 in the first 20 minutes. The Texans were feeling it from the floor, sinking 15 of their 30 shots, a 50% rate. Tarleton was nearly perfect at the line shooting 13-for-14 (92.9%).

The Purple and White kept the hype train rolling with a pair of triples by Innocenti and Smith to open the second half pushing the lead to 18. Tanner Christensen, who entered the game as the Trailblazers’ leading scorer,

picked up two quick fouls in the beginning of each half forcing him to the bench with 16 minutes on the clock in the second half.

Smith picked up his 28th point of the game off an alley-oop from Izzy Miles to put a comfortable seal on the game, giving the Texans a 72-48 lead, their biggest of the night.

The Texans’ lead never dropped below 13 in the second half, as the Purple and White closed out the victory. In the final 10 minutes, Tarleton executed a half-court offense, waiting until the final few seconds on the shot

clock in every possession. The Purple and White scored 40 in the second 20 minutes and held the Trailblazers to 34 for the second straight half.

Tarleton improved to 29-0, shooting over 50% in D1 game shooting 29-for-57, 50.9%. The Texans sunk seven triples and were nearly perfect at the line, shooting 21-for-22 a 95.5% rate. The Purple and White won the turnover battle, 22-13. Utah Tech won the battle of the boards, 34-29.

Texans break 4 school records, multiple other top-10 performances at New Mexico Team Open

Tarleton State University

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Tarleton State once again had a record-setting weekend with four student-athletes breaking school records, this time at the New Mexico Team Open Friday, Jan. 26-Saturday, Jan. 27 in Albuquerque.

“These young men and women had a great weekend of competition,” said interim head coach Chase Rathke. “They not only competed at high level, but they pushed their teammates and supported them throughout. It was a joy to watch them compete and to take down four school records is amazing. We are just scratching the surface and I truly believe this team has a lot more room for growth.”

David Mvundura got the school record breaking started for the Texans at the New Mexico Team Open when he broke the school record for the indoor Men’s 200 meter. Mvundura ran a time of 21.42 topping Justin Raines’ time of 21.57 last season.

Not long after Mvundura broke the first school record of the weekend, Hanna Dudley broke another school record. Dudley broke the indoor women’s 200-meter record after posting a time of 24.41, beating the previous record of Nyla Barlow (24.53) set in 2022.

Hannah Cade got things going on day two, breaking

a school record set just one week ago by teammate Sage Barmettler. Cade set the new mark to beat in the indoor women’s pole vault at 3.85 meters after Barmettler set the mark at 3.75 just a week ago.

Gabriele Tosti came out hot, breaking the indoor men’s triple jump school record by almost an entire meter. Tosti jumped 15.76 meters, locking himself into the top spot, previously held by Jaden Hall (2023) with a jump of 14.94.

FIELD

Jacob Thomas moved into second all-time in school history in the indoor men’s pole vault after a vault of 4.76 meters this past weekend. He now only sits behind William Carlon (2015) who posted the school record at 4.86 meters.

Rylee Hennig is now just one spot out of holding the school record for the indoor women’s high jump after clearing 1.73 meters in Albuquerque. She now has her sights set to beat the school record of 1.74 meters held by teammate Jordan Rae who set the record in 2023.

Chandler Wilson posted a vault of 3.40 meters in the indoor women’s pole vault, moving her into fourth all-time in school history. At the time of her vault, she secured third place in school history before moving down

to fourth place following Hannah Cades’ school record.

Sofia DeGroot now sits third in school history in the indoor women’s long jump after posting a jump of 5.77 meters. She is only surpassed by Jasmine McQuirter (2020, 6.00 meters) and Euphemia Eden (2015, 6.05 meters).

Ashonti Idlebird moved into fifth all-time in school history in the indoor women’s triple jump after posting a jump of 11.21 meters.

Kassidy Kirkpatrick is tied for seventh all-time in the indoor women’s high jump after jumping 1.65 meters. She is tied with current teammate Jourdaire Cerenil who also jumped 1.65 meters.

Jordan Flores now sits seventh all-time in school history in the men’s long jump after a jump of 6.74 meters.

Max Newell moved up to eighth all-time in school history in the men’s high jump with a jump of 1.97 meters.

TRACK

After a successful weekend out west, Morgan Lamberson now sits second all-time in school history in the indoor women’s 3K with a time of 10:28.31. Aly Coughlin (2016) holds the school record with a time of 09:54.1

Amandine Estival moved into second all-time in school history in the indoor women’s 60-meter with a time of 7.56. Sitting ahead of her and holding the school record is cur-



COURTESY PHOTO

Tarleton State once again had a record-setting weekend with four student-athletes breaking school records, this time at the New Mexico Team Open Friday, Jan. 26-Saturday, Jan. 27 in Albuquerque.

rent teammate Dudley (2023) who set the record at 7.48 seconds.

Konnor Hoerman now sits fourth all-time in school history in the indoor men’s 60-meter hurdles after turning in a time 8.03 seconds.

Angel Contreras is now fifth all-time in school history in the indoor men’s mile after crossing the finish line with a time of 4:20.32.

Aaliyah Rifort-Delem turned in a time of 57.52 seconds to move herself into fifth all-time in school history in the indoor women’s 400 meter.

Lamberson notched her second top-10 finish in school history over the weekend in

the indoor women’s mile, moving into sixth all-time with a time of 5:17.95.

After turning in a time of 21.80, Hugo Menin has now tied for seventh all-time in school history in the indoor men’s 200-meter.

Mikayla Watson moved into seventh all-time in school history in the indoor women’s 60 meter hurdles with a time of 9.05.

Sage Lancaster earned her first of two top-10 finishes in school history over the weekend, turning in a time of 10:49.58 to move into eighth all-time in school history in the indoor women’s 3K.

Lancaster’s second top-10 finish came when she turned

in a time of 5:23.54 to move into ninth all-time in school history in the indoor women’s mile.

Nathan Franco moved himself into ninth all-time in school history in the indoor men’s 60-meter hurdles after posting a time of 8.27 seconds.

Omar Mahmoud tied the Egyptian National Record for the indoor men’s 60-meter hurdles after posting a time of 8.09 seconds.

The Texans will travel out west again, but this time a little closer to home as they compete in the Texas Tech Javis Scoot Invitational in Lubbock Feb. 9-10.

Texans return to Lone Star State boasting 2-0 start after sweep of C-USA teams

Tarleton State University

LAS CRUCES, N.M. - Tarleton State picked up right where they left off in El Paso beating the Aggies for the fifth straight time.

The Purple and White never ended up on the wrong side of things when facing the Aggies in WAC play going a perfect 4-0. With New Mexico State making the move to Conference USA this past July, the Texans’ meetings with the Aggies will no longer be conference matchups. The move didn’t faze the Texans one bit, with the Purple and White walking away with a 5-2 victory in Las Cruces on Saturday, Jan. 27.

“It was another great win for our team today against another strong Conference USA team,” said head coach Elianne Douglas-Miron. “We knew New Mexico State was going to fight until the end and I thought we kept our

calm, played smart and used momentum to our advantage. We are excited for what’s to come and can’t wait to play at home next Friday.”

DOUBLES

The Texans took the doubles point for the second straight match with a 2-1 win over the Aggies.

Martha Makantasi and Maretha Burger came out hot once again cruising to a 6-2 win over Natsuki Nishimura and Anna Pinaieva of NMSU to earn the Texans’ first doubles win. This is the pair’s second doubles win of the season after earning a 6-1 win over UTEP.

“Maretha and Martha played a great set of doubles and really set the tone for the day,” said Douglas-Miron.

The Purple and White clinched the doubles point with a win on court three from doubles partners Emma

Persson and Clara Sobius. The pair earned the 6-3 win over Whitney Moon and Dora Kurdi putting the Texans only three singles wins away from opening their season 2-0.

Noelia Lorca and Adeliya Mukhutdinova were defeated by Valeriia Ivanovskaia and Lisa Zhu 6-1.

SINGLES

Burger’s hot streak from the doubles side of action carried over nicely to singles action with her earning the Texans’ second point of the day. She earned a 6-1, 6-1 win over Kurdi on Court 6. This is Burger’s first singles win in the Purple and White.

The next Texan put the team just one point away from earning their fifth straight win over the Aggies. Noelia Lorca put away Moon 6-3 in the first set but had to fight a little more in the second set, coming out vic-

torious with a 7-6(3) win on Court 5.

Persson clinched for the Texans on Court 1 winning the fourth point of the day 6-4, 6-4 over Pinaieva. She is now 2-0 on the season after earning a 3-6, 6-3, 6-0 win over Carlotta Mencaglia of UTEP.

The fifth and final point was earned by Makantasi, a senior for the Purple and White who is off to a great start for her final campaign for the Texans. Makantasi notched her second win of the season with a 6-4, 4-6, 1-0(10-7) win over Nishimura on Court 3. She started off her season with a 6-3, 6-3 win over Zuzanna Szczepanska of UTEP.

Elsa Boisson ended up on the wrong side of things falling to Zhu 6-4, 7-6(4).

Sobius ultimately fell to Ivanovskaia 7-5, 5-7, 1-0 (10-4).



COURTESY PHOTO

“It was another great win for our team today against another strong Conference USA team,” said head coach Elianne Douglas-Miron. “We knew New Mexico State was going to fight until the end and I thought we kept our calm, played smart and used momentum to our advantage. We are excited for what’s to come and can’t wait to play at home next Friday.”

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EDUCATION

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Oglesby ISD Elementary students UIL results released

Staff Reports

Oglesby Elementary students in the grades second through fifth competed in district Academic UIL

events in late November of 2023, and the results have been submitted to the campus. As a district, Oglesby ISD

placed third overall and had several individual and team awards. The results include: **Second Grade**

Story Telling: Jaylyn Taylor won second place, and Brennen Hill won fifth place. Creative Writing: Crystal

Mejia won fifth place, and Jaylyn Taylor won second place.

Third Grade Music Memory: Caymbri Fisher won second place. As a team, Caymbri Fisher, McKynzlynn Brand, and Kinzlee Gray received third place.

Ready Writing: Kinzlee Gray won fourth place, and Ariel Crell won third place.

Spelling: Braxton Henry won third place. Story Telling: Ariel Crell won fifth place.

Fourth Grade Chess: Judd Wulfkuhle won second place, and Hudson Seymour won fourth place. As a team, Judd Wulfkuhle, Hudson Seymour, and Bentley Goff received first place.

Oral Reading: Hudson Seymour won fourth place. Spelling: Bentley Goff won second place.

Fifth Grade Art: Brook Hamilton won fifth place, and Gracie Thompson won third place. As a team, Brook Hamilton, Arell Augeri, Gracie Thompson, and Peyton Schu received second place.

Chess: Slayton Fisher won first place.

Listening: Peyton Schu won second place. As a team, Gracie Thompson, Peyton Schu, and Kristy Anderson won second place.

Maps, Charts, and Graphs: Joe Hamilton won third place.

Music Memory: Slayton Fisher won second place as well as Judson Marquez and McKayla Regan tied for third place. As a team, Slayton Fisher, Judson Marquez, and McKayla Regan won first place.

Number Sense: Jayden Hopkins won fourth place. Oral Reading: Peyton Schu won fifth place and Arell Augeri won sixth place.

Ready Writing: AJ Martin won fifth place.

Social Studies: Joe Hamilton won first place, McKayla Regan won sixth place, and Judson Marquez won third place. As a team, Joe Hamilton, McKayla Regan, and Judson Marquez won second place.

Spelling: Brook Hamilton won second place. As a team, Brook Hamilton, Gracie Thompson, and Rainie Owens won second place.



COURTESY PHOTO

Oglesby ISD's second grade UIL winners.



COURTESY PHOTO

Oglesby ISD's second grade UIL winners.



COURTESY PHOTO

Oglesby ISD's third grade UIL winners.



COURTESY PHOTO

Oglesby ISD's fifth grade UIL winners.



COURTESY PHOTO

Oglesby ISD's fourth grade UIL winners.



COURTESY PHOTO

Oglesby ISD's fifth grade UIL winners.

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Free one-day medical clinic Feb. 10 at Gatesville Primary

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Primary School will hold a free, one-day medical clinic, which will be hosted by Feed My Sheep on Saturday, Feb. 10, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The clinic will offer a complete medical checkup, a well or sick visit, and medicine if it is available.

There are no age requirements to attend the clinic. Parents will need to com-

plete a one-page, consent-to-treat form before treatment.

Feed My Sheep provides free monthly medical clinics for children. The organization is comprised

of volunteer doctors and nurses from local hospitals and medical schools who provide care to families who need access to care for their children.

For more information,

contact 254-865-8281, ext. 5856.

As well as holding a free medical clinic, the Gatesville Primary Community Outreach program will also host a coat, hat, and sock

drive on Saturday, Feb. 10, for families in need. The items will be free while supplies last.

The Gatesville Primary School is located at 308 Hornet Way.



COURTESY PHOTO

Wyatt Dunbar, a member of the Gatesville High School Band, was recently selected as a member of the All-State Band.

GHS band student named to 2024 All-State Band

Submitted by
Jose Sanchez

The Association of Texas Small School Band (ATSSB) is pleased to announce the selection of the 2024 ATSSB All-State Band. More than 10,000 high school band students from across Texas auditioned in twenty-two different regions for a place in their respective all-region band. The top chairs in each region advanced to one of the five area auditions held this past weekend Jan. 6, 2024, and only 286 of these students were selected for all-state honors.

The ATSSB All-State Bands will meet in rehearsals in San Antonio, Texas, Feb. 7-10, 2024, and will present a concert beginning at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 10, 2024, in the Lila Cockrell Theatre of the Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center in downtown San Antonio.

William Owens (Composer and Retired Educator) will be the clinician-conductor of the All-State Concert Band which will premier his composition White Crow (commissioned by ATSSB for this concert). Dr. Michael Golemo (Iowa State University) will be the clinician-conductor of the All-State Symphonic Band. Noe Marmolego (University of Houston) will be the clinician-conductor of the All-State Jazz Ensemble which will perform at 1

p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 10, 2024, in the Convention Center Hemisfair Ballroom 1-2. The Jazz Ensemble will premier Solstice Samba written by Aaron Lington (commissioned by ATSSB).

Wyatt Dunbar, a member of the Gatesville High School Band, was selected as a member of this band. He was chosen for this honor in competitive auditions held this year across the state at region and area levels. Wyatt is a private student of Michael Hamilton and plays percussion at school under the direction of Jose Sanchez, who is a member of the Association of Texas Small School Bands, a 1400-member group of band directors in class 1A, 2A, 3A, and 4A high schools in Texas. This is his first time performing as a member of the ATSSB All-State Band. His other interests at school include Jazz Band, National Honor Society, and UIL Academics. He is also active in church activities at Eastwood Baptist Church and enjoys competitive marksmanship and spending time with his family. He is currently a National Merritt Scholar Semi-Finalist. Wyatt plans on attending Texas A&M University in College Station where he will pursue a degree in Engineering. He is the son of Brent and Janet in Gatesville.

OISD HONORS TIGERS AT BOARD MEETING



COURTESY PHOTO

During the Jan. 24 Oglesby Independent School District board meeting, the Tiger football program was honored for their accomplishments during this past fall season. The team made history for Oglesby ISD, making their first appearance in a state championship game. These student athletes work hard in the classroom and on the field.

OISD to start new visitor sign-in system

Staff Reports

With student and staff safety being a top priority for Oglesby Independent School District, the campus has now implemented a new visitor sign-in system.

To receive your visitor tag, you will now need to provide your driver's license and current cell phone number prior to entering the building.

Visitor tags must be

worn throughout the duration of your visit to the campus.

If you have any questions regarding the new process for signing in on campus, contact the front office of

Oglesby ISD at 254-456-2271.

Oglesby ISD is located at 125 College Ave. in Oglesby.

Floyd received degree from UT Martin

Staff Reports

The University of Tennessee at Martin has recently announced that Parker Floyd, of Gatesville, received a bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies. The degree was

presented to Floyd during a fall commencement ceremony that was held on Saturday, Dec. 9 on the UT Martin campus in Martin, TN.

Around 345 students participated in UTM's fall

commencement ceremony, which officially awarded degrees to eligible students from both the summer and fall semesters.

UT Martin is a comprehensive regional institution in the University of

Tennessee System, which offers 18 bachelor's degree programs and nine master's degree programs.

For more information, visit utm.edu.

University of Arkansas' Fulbright College announces Fall 2023 Dean's List

Staff Reports

The University of Arkansas's Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences has recently announced Kennedy Preciado, of Gatesville, to the Fall 2023 Dean's List.

Preciado joins more than 2,500 additional Fulbright College students on the Fall 2023 Dean's and Chancellor's Lists.

To qualify for the Dean's List, students must achieve at least a 3.75 grade point average (GPA) for the semester while completing at least 12 credit hours.

Fulbright College is home to more than 8,000 students who have degrees in fine arts, humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences.

For more information, visit Fulbright.uark.edu.

UMHB announces Honor Roll for Fall 2023

Staff Reports

The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor announced that 593 students have been listed on the Fall

2023 Provost's Honor Roll.

Out of the many students that were on the honor roll, Catherine Fondren, of Evant, and Cheyenne

Miller, of Gatesville, were both recognized for their academic efforts.

To receive this recognition, a student must

achieve a 3.85 grade point average (GPA) or better on a 4.0 scale.

For more information, visit www.umhb.edu/news.

Thoms named to MSU's fall 2023 dean's list

Staff Reports

Each semester, students at Missouri State University who attain academic excellence are named to the dean's list including

Gatesville high school alumni Tasha Thoms.

Thoms was among more than 5,100 students named to the fall 2023 dean's list.

For undergraduate

students, criteria include enrollment in at least 12 credit hours during the fall semester and at least a 3.50 grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale.

MSU is a public university system with a mission in public affairs.

For more information, visit www.missouristate.edu.

GHS Band to host 5th annual mattress fundraiser

Staff Reports

The Gatesville High School Band program will host its fifth annual mattress fundraiser on Saturday, March 2. The fundraiser will be held at Gatesville High School from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The mattresses featured will be Beautyrest and will include an adjustable base, luxury pillows, and a mattress

protector. All sizes will be available for purchase with 25 plus styles on display, which are brand new with full factory warranties.

Delivery is available, and all forms of payment will be accepted.

The starting prices of the mattresses include a twin size for \$199, a full size for \$229, a queen size for \$249,

and a king size for \$499.

Every purchase that is made will benefit the band program.

For more information, visit <https://fb.me/e/3aj0fgYE4>. Gatesville High School is located at 205 S. Lovers Lane.



PHOTOS BY DAVID SCOTT AND ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Participants in the 2024 Coryell County Youth Fair.

Coryell County Youth Fair

Thornton children participate in youth fair despite tragedy

DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Just a few days following Christmas, the home of Rodney and Alesha Thornton and their three children was destroyed in a fire just as the Thornton children were preparing for the Coryell County Youth Fair.

Each one of the children has participated in the Youth Fair since they were eligible to compete in the Pee-Wee competitions - every year yielding many ribbons.

"After the fire, it seemed so overwhelming at first to think about doing the projects, but it's something that they enjoy doing each year, so they moved forward," Alesha Thornton said.

Jaelee, now in eighth grade, has participated in the auction each year either with sewing, cooking, or rabbits. Last year was Jett's first year out of the Pee-Wee competition where he won many ribbons and auctioned a rabbit. (Jett's now in fourth grade.)

In the past, the Thornton children have shown rabbits and participated in all categories of Home Economics including photography, baked goods, sewing, hobbies, art, and preserved foods.

"In my opinion, the Youth Fair has taught them invaluable lessons in winning, losing, showcasing their talents, trying new things, making new friends, enriching current friendships, and leaving their comfort zones," Alesha Thornton said.

Barely two weeks before the Youth Fair, the Thornton children decided to put the house fire behind them and focus on participating in the competition - and their determination paid off with making the sale this year.

"It was heartwarming to see the support the kids received from fellow Youth Fair families in light of all that had happened," Thornton said.



COURTESY PHOTO

The children of Rodney and Alesha Thornton moved beyond their loss to participate in the Coryell County Youth Fair. From left to right, Jett Thornton, Judson Thornton, and Jaelee Thornton.

Bar N Veterinary Clinic, PC

Congratulations
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Gatesville Banking Center President

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AG MECHANICS

Farm Machinery Division: Rian Chapman, 1; Rolando Gonzales, 2.
Home Convenience Division-Other: Kayson Campbell, 1.
Home Convenience Division-Large Indoor Furniture: J Seymour, 1, Overall Grand Champion; Joel Gonzales, 2.
Home Convenience Division-Lawn Furniture: Jaxon Markum, 1.
Home Convenience Division-Small Indoor Furniture: Aiden Oxford, 1.
Livestock Equipment Division-Feeders: David Mejia, 1, Overall Reserve Champion.
Livestock Equipment Division-Gates: Hunter Ewing, 1; Ashton Hooker, 2.
Livestock Equipment Division-Livestock Crates: Alisa Contreras, 1.
Outdoor Cooking Division: Dylan Hooker, 1.
Trailer Division: Johnny Gomez, 1.
Wildlife Division: Autumn Meyers, 1.

ANGORA BILLIE

Billie-Two-Tooth or Older: Brooke Blanchard, 1; Truett Foote, 2; Clancy Archie, 3.
Billie Kid: Pate Foote, 1, Grand Champion, Overall Grand Champion; Truett Foote, 2, Reserve Champion, Overall Reserve Champion; Clancy Archie, 3.

ANGORA DOE

Doe-Two-Tooth or Older: Truett Foote, 1, Sr. Showmanship; Clancy Archie, 2; Pate Foote, 3; Rylee Retana, 4.
Doe Kid: Rylee Retana, 1, Grand Champion, Overall Grand Champion; Truett Foote, 2, Reserve Champion, Overall Reserve Champion; Rhett White, 3, Jr. Showmanship; Pate Foote, 4; Clancy Archie, 5; Rhett White, 6.

CATTLE/COMMERCIAL CATTLE

Junior 3rd-7th Grade: Allie McPherson, 1, Overall Grand Champion; Emma Burks, 2, Overall Reserve Champion; Jozie Wolff, 3; Pete Wallace, 4.
Senior 8th-12th Grade: Anna McPherson, 1, Overall Grand Champion; Kinsley McPherson, 2, Overall Reserve Champion; Jeret Burks, 3; Clayton Gregory, 4; Clancy Archie, 5; Bailey Wolff, 6.

CATTLE/HEIFERS

American: Johnny Gomez, 1, Grand Champion, Overall Reserve Champion.
British: Ezra Readett, 1, Grand Champion, Overall Grand Champion; Ivan Readett, 2, Reserve Champion; Madison Cohn, 1; Ivan Readett, 1; Allie McPherson, 2.

CATTLE/MARKET STEERS

Heavy Weight: Lane Kinsey, 1, Overall Grand Champion; Chales Belt, 2; Thomas Belt, 3.

Light Weight: Hubbard Kinsey, 1, Jr. Showmanship; Hubbard Kinsey, 2; Audie Kinsey, 3; Madison Cohn, 4.
Medium Weight: Lilly Kinsey, 1; Lilly Kinsey, 2, Overall Reserve Champion; Thomas Belt, 3, Sr. Showmanship.

DAIRY BILLIE

Billie (24 months and older): Paden Martin, 1, Grand Champion, Overall Reserve Champion; Trinity Aulabaugh, 2, Reserve Champion; Kendal Grazen Clarke, 3.
Billie Kid (0 to 24 months): Cameron Lewis, 1, Grand Champion, Overall Grand Champion; Jonathan Haag, 2, Reserve Champion; Noah Haag, 3, Jr. Showmanship; Nicolas Haag, 4; Noah Haag, 5; Jonathan Haag, 6.

DAIRY GOATS/JUNIOR

AOB-12 to 24 Months: Chase Janke, 1.
AOB-6 to 12 Months: Kendal Grazen Clarke, 1; Camdin Raysor, 2; Katie Hatcher, 3.
Nubian-12 to 24 Months: Paden Martin, 1, Grand Champion, Overall Reserve Champion; Kendal Grazen Clarke, 2, Reserve Champion, Overall Grand Champion; Lacy Weaver, 3; Lacy Weaver, 4; Chase Janke, 5; Stone Weaver, 6.
Nubian-6 to 12 Months: Chase Janke, 1, Sr. Showmanship.

DAIRY GOATS/SENIOR

AOB-3 Years & Older: Kendal Grazen Clarke, 1, Grand Champion.
Nubian-12 Months to 3 Years: Chase Janke, 1, Reserve Champion; Eli Martin, 2.
Nubian-3 Years & Older: Stone Weaver, 1; Trinity Aulabaugh, 2.

GOATS/COMMERCIAL GOATS

Four-Permanent Teeth and over: Trey Harbour, 1, Overall Grand Champion; Ella Latham, 2; Ella Latham, 3; Kaylee Williams, 4; Kentley Brown, 5; Lila Ayers, 6.
Milk Teeth (no permanent teeth visible): Colbi Allison, 1, Overall Reserve Champion, Sr. Showmanship; Ella Latham, 2; Caden Secrest, 3; Bobbi Tubbs, 4; Ella Latham, 5; Brayden Lewis, 6.
Two-Tooth (no more than 2 permanent teeth visible): Ryder



Wittie, 1; Castillo Janessa, 2; Esmerelda Sanchez, 3.

Pete Wallace, 6.
SR: Truett Foote, 1; Kinsley McPherson, 2; Ludwika Rodriguez, 3; Marin Segraves, 4; Pate Foote, 5.

GOATS/MARKET GOATS

Heavy Weight 1: Kylie Caraway, 1, Reserve Champion, Sr. Showmanship; Lilly Goins, 2; Addyson Edwards, 3; Hailee Spicer, 4.
Heavy Weight 2: Trey Harbour, 1, Grand Champion, Overall Grand Champion; Kylie Caraway, 2; Memory Middlebrooks, 3; Cameron Lewis, 4.
Heavy Weight 3: Ryder Wittie, 1; Ella Latham.
Light Weight 1: Hannah Gustin, 1; Kaylee Williams, 2; Natalie Gore, 3; Thomas Riley, 4; Thomas Riley, 5.
Light Weight 2: Maddison Smith, 1; Josue Rodriguez, 2; Jeremiah Langley, 3; Natalie Gore, 4.
Light Weight 3: Trey Harbour, 1, Grand Champion, Overall Reserve Champion; Kennedy Estes, 2, Reserve Champion; Brooke Blanchard, 3; Ashton Hooker, 4.
Medium Weight 1: Bobbi Tubbs, 1; Lila Ayers, 2; Lila Ayers, 3; Kaylee Williams, 4.
Medium Weight 2: Kylie Caraway, 1, Grand Champion; Caden Secrest, 2; Bobbi Tubbs, 3; Tucker Dobbbs, 4.
Medium Weight 3: Ryder Wittie, 1, Reserve Champion; Hannah Gustin, 2; Memory Middlebrooks, 3; Maddison Smith, 4.

HORSE SHOWMANSHIP

JR: Harper Goins, 1; Allie McPherson, 2; Ava Hagen, 3; Caylor Althoff, 4; Paige Thomas, 5;

HORSE/HALTER

Grade Gelding: Rodie Lee, 1, Grand Champion; Leddy Lee, 2; Pete Wallace, 3; Mia Conley, 4; McKenzie Coble, 5; Ludwika Rodriguez, 6.
Grade Mare & Filley: Bliss Buckner, 1, Reserve Champion; Pete Wallace, 2; Tyson Jackson-Smith, 3; Addison Price, 4; Mia Conley, 5; Marcy Conley, 6.
Registered Filleys-4 years or younger: Pate Foote, 1.
Registered Geldings-4 years or younger: Ava Hagen, 1.
Registered Geldings-5years or older: Kinsley McPherson, 1, Reserve Champion; Pate Foote, 2; Truett Foote, 3; Marin Segraves, 4; Rodie Lee, 5; Leddy Lee, 6.
Registered Mare-5 years or older: Allie McPherson, 1, Grand Champion; Pate Foote, 2; Truett Foote, 3; Marcy Conley, 4.

HORSE/WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP

JR: Isela Rodriguez, 1; Ava Hagen, 2, Overall Jr. High Point Horse; Rodie Lee, 3; Harper Goins, 3, Overall Reserve Jr. High Point; Leddy Lee, 5; Bliss Buckner, 6.
SR: Ludwika Rodriguez, 1, Overall Sr. High Point Horse; Mia Conley, 2; Marin Segraves, 3, Overall Sr. High Point.



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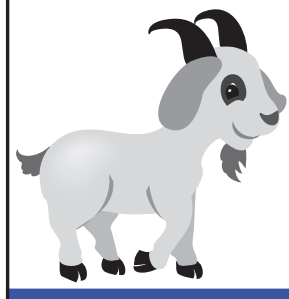
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HORSE/WESTERN PLEASURE

JR: Ava Hagen, 1; Harper Goins, 2; Leddy Lee, 3; Addison Price, 4; Isela Rodriguez, 5; Bliss Buckner, 6.
 SR: Ludwika Rodriguez, 1; Mia Conley, 2; Marin Segraves, 3.

Horse/Western Trail
 JR: Isela Rodriguez, 1; Ava Hagen, 2; Harper Goins, 3; Leddy Lee, 4; Rodie Lee, 5; Bliss Buckner, 6.

SR: Ludwika Rodriguez, 1; Mia Conley, 2; Marin Segraves, 3.

POULTRY/BROILERS

Pen of Three Broilers: Mary Mitchell, 1, Overall Grand Champion; Lane Ledger, 2, Overall Reserve Champion; Ryder Carothers, 3; Graham Bay, 4; Linkin Blanchard, 5; Dawson Jaynes, 5; Mary Mitchell, 6.

POULTRY/ROASTERS

Cockerels-Male: Mary Mitchell, 1, Overall Grand Champion; Zakary Huckabee, 2, Sr. Showmanship; Mary Mitchell, 3, Overall Reserve Champion; Zakary Huckabee, 4; Carlie Hale, 5; Eve Fulton, 6.

Pullets-Females: Mary Mitchell, 1; Mary Mitchell, 2; Carlie Hale, 3, Jr. Showmanship; Stetson Hale, 4; Eve Fulton, 5; Zakary Huckabee, 6.

POULTRY/TURKEYS

Hens: Ryder Carothers, 1; Graham Bay, 2; Graham Bay, 3; Lakensi Blanchard, 4; Greyson Bay, 5; Linkin Blanchard, 6.

Toms: Graham Bay, 1, Overall Grand Champion; Lakensi Blanchard, 2, Overall Reserve Champion; Ryder Carothers, 3; Graham Bay, 4; Linkin Blanchard, 5; Ryder Carothers, 6.

RABBIT/4-CLASS

Group I JR Doe: Dylan Chrisner, 1, Grand Champion.

Group I SR Buck: Aaron

Parks, 1, Reserve Champion; Briah Canady, 2; Briah Canady, 3; Lucretia Roehrig, 4; Hannah Ashley, 5; Hannah Ashley, 6.

Group I SR Doe: Julie Lusk, 1; Emma Harviel, 2; Chloe-Noelle Campbell, 3; Ava Escobar, 4.

Group II JR Buck: Emma Treadway, 1.

Group II JR Doe: Emma Treadway, 1.

Group II SR Buck: Brianna Petrie, 1, Reserve Champion; Raylee Glover, 2; Emma Treadway, 3; Rhylee Glover, 4; Slayton Fisher, 5; Lilly Goins, 6.

Group II SR Doe: Emma Treadway, 1, Grand Champion; Jake Watts, 2; Madison Wright, 3; Hannah Ashley, 4; Emma Outten, 5; Emma Outten, 6.

Group III JR Buck: Elli Kinnear, 1.

Group III JR Doe: Elli Kinnear, 1, Reserve Champion.

Group III SR Buck: Lilly Goins, 1, Ava Escobar, 2; Alhana Collier, 3; Rylee Retana, 4; Judd Wulfkuhle, 5; Elli Kinnear, 6.

Group III SR Doe: Elli Kinnear, 1, Grand Champion; Judd Wulfkuhle, 2; Madison Wright, 3; Ava Escobar, 4; Ava Escobar, 5; Cooper Dickey, 6.

Group IV SR Buck: Cayleigh Coursey, 1, Grand Champion; Max Jacobs, 2; Max Jacobs, 3; Taetym Sanders, 4; Elli Kinnear, 5; Max Jacobs, 6.

Group IV SR Doe: Max Jacobs, 1, Reserve Champion; Elli Kinnear, 2.

Group V JR Buck: Baylea Redden, 1, Grand Champion, Overall Grand Champion.

Group V JR Doe: Baylea Redden, 1, Reserve Champion; Jamesyn Rogers, 2.

Group V SR Buck: Bentley Goff, 1; Cameron Lewis, 2; Caymbri Fisher, 3; Noah Hagg, 4, Jr. Showmanship; Nicolas Haag, 5; Jazleyann Melendez, 6.

Group V SR Doe: Brayden Lewis, 1; Ayden Collier, 2; Baylea Redden, 3; Zane Harsch, 4; Madilyn Smith, 5.

Group VI SR Buck: Nikola Murphy, 1, Grand Champion, Overall Reserve

Champion; Nikola Murphy, 2; Irena Murphy, 3; Cooper Anderson, 4; Bailey Duncan, 5; Chloe-Noelle Campbell, 6.

Group VI SR Doe: Bailey Duncan, 1, Reserve Champion; Bailey Duncan, 2; Irena Murphy, 3; Brianna Petrie, 4.

RABBIT/6-CLASS

Group I Int. Bucks: Baylea Redden, 1; Brianna Petrie, 2; Brianna Petrie, 3; Brianna Petrie, 4.

Group I JR Bucks: Landree Deats, 1.

Group I Jr. Doe: Baylea Redden, 1; Levin Lynch, 2.

Group I Sr. Buck: Baylea Redden, 1, Reserve Champion; Jake Watts, 2; Cooper Anderson, 3.

Group I Sr. Doe: Brianna Petrie, 1, Grand Champion, Overall Grand Champion; Jake Watts, 2.

Group II Int. Doe: Max Jacobs, 1, Grand Champion, Overall Reserve Champion; Jenessa Castillo, 2; Cooper Anderson, 3.

Group II Sr. Buck: Cooper Anderson, 1, Reserve Champion; Joleen Lam, 2; Janessa Castillo, 3; Chelsea Johnson, 4.

Group II Sr. Doe: Chelsea Johnson, 1.

RABBIT/FRYER

Fryer 1: Rogan Smith, 1; Grant Gibson, 2; Kaylee Williams, 3; Raynzlie York, 4; Levin Lynch, 5.

Fryer 10: Brensyn Pope, 1; Rogan Smith, 2; Rogan Smith, 3; Kannon Turner, 4; Giovanni Vega, 5; Callen Webb, 6.

Fryer 11: Logan Pruett, 1; Julia Gibson, 2; Alexis Miller, 3; Grace Carothers, 4; Cayleigh Coursey, 5; Raelynn Breckenridge, 6.

Fryer 12: Jessica Gibson, 1; Romi Bomar, 2; Lilly Goins, 3; Addie Rueter, 4; Brensyn Pope, 5; Lash Turner, 6.

Fryer 13: Cayleigh Coursey, 1; Cayleigh Coursey, 2; Kylie-Ahn Loy, 3; Hayes Chumley, 4.

Fryer 14: Madison Wright, 1; Brantley Loewe, 2; Emily Turner, 3; Madison Wright, 4; Jaelee Thornton, 5; Tully Tatum, 6.

Fryer 15: Lash Turner, 1; Brensyn Pope, 2; Stone



Weaver, 3; Ryah Pearce, 4; Kylie-Ahn Loy, 5; Eli Martin, 6.

Fryer 16: Brensyn Pope, 1; Raynzlie York, 2; Madison, Hester, 3; Hailey Wilson, 4; Madison Hester, 5; Raynzlie York, 6.

Fryer 17: Kenley Turner, 1; Stone Weaver, 2; Tinsley Richardson, 3; Chloe Hill, 4; Kenley Turner, 5.

Fryer 18: Ryah Pearce, 1; Cayleigh Coursey, 2; Madison Wright, 3; Madison Hester, 4; Eason Johnson, 5; Parker Diserens, 6.

Fryer 19: Autumn Wolff, 1; Kannon Turner, 2; Eason Johnson, 3; Lash Turner, 4.

Fryer 2: Alibi Smith, 1; Lilly Goins, 2; Kaylee Williams, 3; Madison Manning, 4; Sydnie Smith, 5; Julia Gibson, 6.

Fryer 20: Stetson Hale, 1; Eli Martin, 2; Eason Johnson, 3; Carlie Hale, 4; Caylor Althoff, 5; Tyler Richardson, 6.

Fryer 21: Jett Thornton, 1; Brantley Loewe, 2; Camdyn Christel, 3; Rhett White, 4; Greyson Bay, 5.

Fryer 22: Reigan Davidson, 1; Laine Rueter, 2; Jake Watts, 3; Rachael Pruett, 4; Autumn Wolff, 5; Tripp

Richardson, 6.
 Fryer 23: Raylee Glover, 1; Jett Thornton, 2; Camden Webb, 3; Eli Martin, 4.

Fryer 24: Jaelee Thornton, 1, Reserve Champion; Jaelee Thornton, 2; Cameron Britton, 3; Greyson Bay, 4; Graham Bay, 5; Reigan Davidson, 6.

Fryer 25: Greyson Bay, 1, Grand Champion; Breezy Wall, 2; Breezy Wall, 3; Hailey Wilson, 4; Graham Bay, 5; Jett Thornton, 6.

Fryer 3: Caylor Althoff, 1; Tyler Richardson, 2; Addie Rueter, 3; Lynlee Deats, 4; Stetson Hale, 5.

Fryer 4: Madison Manning, 1; Parker Diserens, 2; Braylynn Fritze, 3; Romi Bomar, 4; Giovanni Vega, 5.

Fryer 5: Lyla Breckenridge, 1; Raelynn Breckenridge, 2; Lynlee Deats, 3; Jessica Gibson, 4; Briar Hill, 5; Kaylee Williams, 6.

Fryer 6: Alibi Smith, 1; Logan Pruett, 2; Brensyn Pope, 3; Kaylee Williams, 4.

Fryer 7: Parker Diserens, 1; Camdyn Christel, 2; Kannon Turner, 3; Alibi Smith, 4; Breezy Wall, 5; Hailey Wilson, 6.

Fryer 8: Lilly Goins, 1; Breezy Wall, 2; Landree



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Deats, 3; Alexis Miller, 4; Sydnie Smith, 5; Braylynn Fritze, 6.
Fryer 9: Biloxi Tatum, 1; Madison Hester, 2; Chelsea Johnson, 3; Laine Rueter, 4; Grant Gibson, 5; Madison Hester, 6.

RABBITS/MEAT PEN

Meat Pen-3 Rabbits: Mya Rogers, 1; Chelsea Johnson, 2; Memory Middlebrooks, 3; Rhylee Glover, 4; Carlie Hale, 5; Chelsea Johnson, 6.
Meat Pen-3 Rabbits: Lacy Weaver, 1, Grand Champion; Paden Martin, 2, Reserve Champion; Bailey Duncan, 3; Emily Turner, 4; Breezy Wall, 5; Kenley Turner, 6.

SHEEP/BREEDING EWE

Hair Sheep Ewe-Lamb: Breeze Buckner, 1, Grand Champion, Overall Reserve Champion; Maci Allison, 2; Saydee Cullar, 3; Kaylee Williams, 4; Paislee Cullar, 5.
Hair Sheep Ewe-Two-Tooth or Older: Saydee Cullar, 1, Reserve Champion; Madison Wilson, 2; Paislee Cullar, 3; Madison Wilson, 4; Ludwika Rodriguez, 5; Isela Rodriguez, 6.
Southdown Ewe-Two-Tooth or Older: Trey Harbour, 1, Grand Champion, Overall Grand Champion.

SHEEP/MARKET LAMBS

Finewool 1: Riley Aaron, 1, Grand Champion; Tommy Aaron, 2, Reserve Champion; Mackenzie Allison, 3.
Finewool 2: Braidy Lusk, 1.
Finewool Cross 1: Maci Allison, 1, Grand Champion; Kendal Grazen Clarke, 2.
Finewool Cross 2: Breeze Buckner, 1, Reserve Champion; Truett Foote, 2; Bliss Buckner, 3; Nicolas Haag, 4.
Hair Sheep 1: Bobbi Tubbs, 1; Zakary Huckabee, 2; Zakary Huckabee, 3.
Hair Sheep 2: Mackenzie Allison, 2; Elizabeth Whisenhunt, 3; Pate Foote, 4; Caitlyn Slatton, 5; Bryce Smith, 6.
Hair Sheep 3: Colbi Allison, 1, Grand Champion; Mackenzie Allison, 2; Madison Wilson, 3; Maci Allison, 4; Bobbi Tubbs, 5; Mason Williams, 6.
Hair Sheep 4: Addyson Edwards, 1; Maci Allison, 2; Makaylie Williams, 3; Ludwika Rodriguez, 4; Jaycie Brown, 5; Kayliegh Scott, 6.
Hair Sheep 5: Addyson Edwards, 1, Reserve Champion, Jr. Showmanship; Pate

Foote, 2; Elizabeth Whisenhunt, 3; Isela Rodriguez, 4.
Medium Wool 1: Couper Wulfkuhle, 1.
Medium Wool 2: Brynlee Taylor, 1; Pate Foote, 2; Dylan Hooker, 3.
Medium Wool 3: Hannah Gustin, 1; Brynlee Taylor, 2; Noah Haag, 3; Braidy Lusk, 4.
Southdown 1: Kendal Grazen Clarke, 1.
Southdown 2: Trey Harbour, 1, Reserve Champion, Overall Grand Champion, Sr. Showmanship; Ella Gustin, 2.
Southdown 3: Trey Harbour, 1, Grand Champion, Overall Reserve Champion.

SHEEP/RAM

Hair Sheep Ram-Lamb: Paislee Cullar, 1, Overall Grand Champion; Saydee Cullar, 2; Zakary Huckabee, 3.
Hair Sheep Ram-Two-Tooth or Older: Paislee Cullar, 1, Overall Reserve Champion; Ludwika Rodriguez, 2; Saydee Cullar, 3.

SWINE/BREEDING SWINE

Unspecified Class Description: Landry Mabry, 1, Overall Grand Champion; Molly Waldrum, 2; Kase Laster, 3; Kinlee Gardner, 1, Overall Reserve Champion; Memphis Wells, 2; Kenton Mabry, 3; Peyton Velesky, 4.

SWINE/MARKET SWINE

Berkshire 1: Molly Waldrum, 1, Grand Champion; Paisley Wells, 2; Brynlee Taylor, 3.
Berkshire 2: Landry Ohnheiser, 1; Shaylee Velesky, 2; Justin Johnson, 3.
Berkshire 3: Justin Johnson, 1, Reserve Champion; Shelbi Bomar, 2.
Berkshire 4: Paisley Wells, 1; Kenton Mabry, 2; Kian Dingianni, 3.
Cross 1: Kinlee Gardner, 1, Reserve Champion; Ryli Bryson, 2; Canyon Smith, 3; Lillie Mann, 4.
Cross 2: Landry Mabry, 1, Grand Champion; Kinlee Gardner, 2; James Leighton Wood, 3.
Cross 3: Michella Martinez, 1; Kenton Mabry, 2; Matti Mann, 3; Reed Hooten, 4; Taylor Coward, 5.
Cross 4: Lillie Mann, 1; Kinzlee Gray, 2; Kian Dingianni, 3.
Cross 5: Canyon Smith, 1; Rachael Pruett, 2; James Leighton Wood, 3.
Cross 6: Pailey Wells, 1; Ryli Bryson, 2; Shaylee Ve-

lesky, 3; Johnny Gomez, 4.
Dark OPB 1: Johnny Gomez, 1; Hailey Lincoln, 2.
Dark OPB 2: Reed Hooten, 1; Peyton Velesky, 2.
Dark OPB 3: Hunter M. Walter, 1; Memphis Wells, 2; Peyton Velesky, 3; Reed Hooten, 4.
Dark OPB 4: Kinlee Gardner, 1, Grand Champion, Sr. Showmanship; Kace Laster, 2, Reserve Champion.
Dark OPB 5: Shaylee Velesky, 1; Peyton Velesky, 2.
Duroc 1: Shelbi Bomar, 1, Reserve Champion; Michella Martinez, 2; Braydon Dosssey, 3.
Duroc 2: Landry Mabry, 1, Grand Champion; Brynlee Taylor, 2; Matti Mann, 3.
Duroc 3: Shelbi Bomar, 1; Molly Waldrum, 2; Kace Laster, 3; Mya Rogers, 4.
Duroc 4: Kinlee Gardner, 1; Ryli Bryson, 2; Hunter M. Walter, 3.
Duroc 5: Shelbi Bomar, 1; Johnny Gomez, 2.
Hamp 1: Molly Waldrum, 1, Reserve Champion, Overall Reserve Champion; Canyon Smith, 2; Kinzlee Gray, 3.
Hamp 2: Trinity Aulabaugh, 1; Trinity Aulabaugh, 2; Kinzlee Gray, 3; Trinity Aulabaugh, 4.
Hamp 3: Landry Mabry, 1, Grand Champion, Overall Grand Champion; Paisley Wells, 2; Shaylee Velesky, 3.
Hamp 4: Memphis Wells, 1.
Light OPB 1: Kenton Mabry, 1, Grand Champion, Jr. Showmanship; Justin Johnson, 2, Reserve Champion.
Light OPB 2: Matti Mann, 1; Landry Ohnheiser, 2.
Light OPB 3: Canyon Smith, 1; Johnny Gomez, 2.
Light OPB 4: Kinlee Gardner, 1.
York 1: Michella Martinez, 1.
York 2: Canyon Smith, 1; Molly Waldrum, 2; Matti Mann, 3.
York 3: Shaylee Velesky, 1, Grand Champion; Johnny Gomez, 2.
York 4: Landry Ohnheiser, 1, Reserve Champion.



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Inaugural Polar Pickle Tournament

ALEX MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER
COURTESY PHOTOS BY KYLIE GLASS DIXON

An inaugural Polar Pickle Indoor Pickleball Tournament took place at the Gatesville Civic Center on Saturday, Jan. 27 and on Sunday, Jan. 28. The event was put together by Kylie Glass Dixon and Cort Dixon. Over 50 pickleball matches were played through three divisions. Trophies were awarded to the first and second place teams in each bracket. In the Recreation Division, the champions were Erika Medina and Rosanna Cannon, and the runners-up were Donna Vandagriff and Carol McCoy. In the Competitive Division, the champions were Tim Martin and Noe Arujo, and the runners-up were Brennen Mata and Emily Wuenschel. In the Open Division, the champions were Calvin Ford and Alex Scott, and the runners-up were Kylie and Cort Dixon. The winners of the paddle giveaways were Calvin Ford and Carol McCoy.



RECREATION DIVISION CHAMPIONS: Rosanna Cannon and Erika Medina



RECREATION DIVISION RUNNERS-UP: Carol McCoy and Donna Vandagriff



COMPETITIVE DIVISION CHAMPIONS: Tim Martin and Noe Arujo



COMPETITIVE DIVISION RUNNERS-UP: Brennen Mata and Emily Wuenschel



OPEN DIVISION CHAMPIONS: Calvin Ford and Alex Scott



OPEN DIVISION RUNNERS-UP: Kylie and Cort Dixon



PADDLE GIVEAWAYS WINNER: Calvin Ford



PADDLE GIVEAWAYS WINNER: Carol McCoy



Cayden Mata and Kendall Villagrana compete at the Polar Pickle.



Over 40 competitors participated in the recent Polar Pickle pickleball tournament held at the Gatesville Civic Center, with winners in multiple divisions.