



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Workers finishing up with the final coats of sealant on the northwest dome of the courthouse.



Northwest dome of the courthouse now waterproof

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Last Sunday afternoon, workers from A*RC*Hitexture Roof Coatings finished giving the northwest dome another coat of Omni-Clad, which is a polyurethane coating which provides seamless waterproof-

ing. Concerned that the color of the newly restored dome would match the remaining three domes, the Omni-Clad coating was described as “terra cotta” in color and appears to be a perfect match. After the dome and the surrounding base were

repaired, the dome was coated with four coats of a neoprene base, which is black and known as PermaLastic Plus, a rubber-based sealant. While repair work was being done on the dome and after the sealant was applied, rain began to fall in Gatesville.

That was the best opportunity for the roofing company and county officials to examine the attic of the courthouse to make sure the sealant was doing the trick and water wasn't leaking in the building. The repair work was deemed to be a success.

Michigan residents arrive in Gatesville for total eclipse viewing opportunity

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

After traveling around the United States for six months in their RV, Mark and Mary Anderson have finally reached the goal of their journey - to catch sight of the Great American Eclipse on April 8.

The Andersons, who are from Grand Rapids, Michigan, arrived at their final stop in Gatesville on March 24. Since their travel plans took them to Western states like California and Arizona, Mary said they decided early on that they wanted to come to

Texas for the eclipse. “From what we’ve seen on internet stories and stuff, Texas is the best viewing chance,” Mary said. “Historically, Texas has the sunnier weather than places like Indianapolis that it’s going to pass

over.” Although the Andersons began calling to reserve a campsite one year in advance of the eclipse, many places along the path of totality were already booked. Mary said some

PLEASE SEE **ARRIVE** | A2

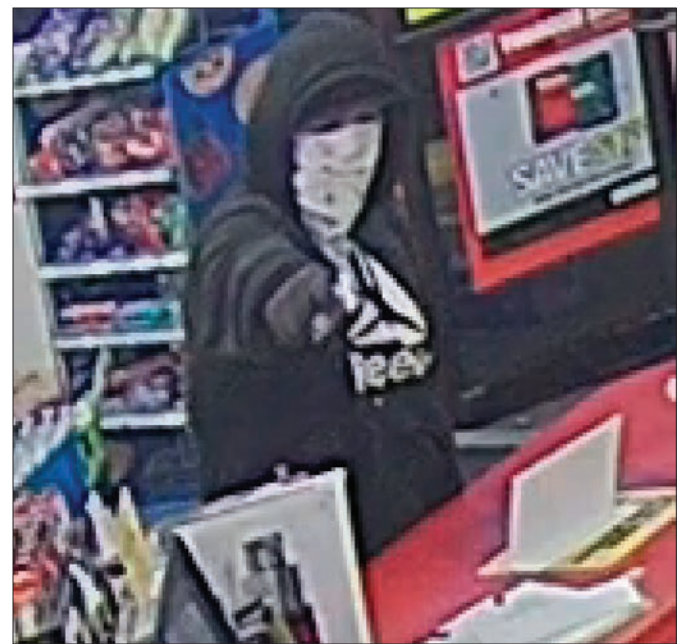
Police searching for armed robbery suspect

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

Gatesville police are investigating an early morning robbery that took place at the CEFCO Convenience Store at 101 N. State Highway 36 on Monday, according to a Facebook post by the Gatesville Police Department.

incident around 2:08 a.m. When officers arrived at the scene, they learned that a man had entered the store with his face covered and armed with a handgun. Police say the man demanded and received “an undisclosed amount of cash”

PLEASE SEE **SUSPECT** | A2



COURTESY PHOTO

Surveillance video shows armed suspect robbing CEFCO.

Solar eclipse may cast a shadow on using cell phones, technology

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

With millions of people traveling to all parts of the state of Texas to follow the path of totality of the solar eclipse, they should become aware that problems may occur with cell phone usage, especially in the more rural areas. The event is expected to put a strain on local cell

towers as the population is expected to triple in some areas. It was reported that during the 2017 eclipse people using their cell phones to share photos and navigate through traffic overwhelmed neighboring cell phone towers. Now that the public relies on cell phones for practically

everything, including driving directions, it has been suggested that eclipse followers should bring along a hard copy of maps and maybe a compass in case they are unable to access GPS. Some cities and towns are encouraging the public to

PLEASE SEE **PHONES** | A2



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KAYLEE DUSANG | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Mark and Mary Anderson are visiting from Grand Rapids, Michigan to witness the upcoming total solar eclipse.

Motor vehicle crash reported on Friday

Staff Reports

On Friday, March 22, at approximately 2:44 p.m., the Gatesville Police Department received a call of a serious motor vehicle crash at the intersection of North Hwy. 36 and FM 929.

Officers arrived along with the Gatesville Fire Department and Coryell Health Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel and found one vehicle occupant, an adult female, unconscious with apparent, life-threatening injuries.

Helicopter EMS crews were summoned, and the woman was transported by air to a local hospital. The women's injuries were serious to the point that she was reported deceased at one time, but she remained alive and in critical condition as of being transported from the scene and her condition is unknown at this time.

Officers ascertained that a blue Volkswagen Tiguan was traveling eastbound on FM 929, attempting to go north on Hwy. 36. A blue Dodge pickup truck was southbound on Hwy. 36 and struck the Volkswagen.

Officers completed the crash investigation and cleared the roadways. Coryell County Sheriff's Office Deputies and Gatesville Independent School District Police Officers also assisted with the scene.

For questions, contact the Gatesville Police Department at 254-865-2226.



ARRIVE

FROM PAGE A1

campgrounds claimed to be sold out for two years or were charging up to \$500 per night.

"We did not necessarily need to be right on the line, we just wanted to be as close as possible," she said. "That's when we started calling all these different places, and they were either full or wanting too much money."

During their search for a place to stay, they came across an RV park in Gatesville.

"Then we started read-

ing more about Gatesville," she said. "Oh, that's a neat place."

A total solar eclipse is not a new experience for the Andersons. In 2017, they traveled to White House, Tennessee, a small town outside of Nashville, to witness the most recent total eclipse to cross the U.S.

"It's full sun, and then when the moon goes over the sun everything's dark," Mark said.

"The birds - they're quiet. And then when it comes back, here comes the morn-

ing again."

"Especially when the sun is showing a little bit around the moon, it's just really awesome," Mary said.

White House, which is similar in size to Gatesville, experienced about 2 minutes and 39 seconds of totality in 2017. The Andersons watched the eclipse from a small local park, where they observed license plates from California, Ohio, Wisconsin, Canada, and many other places. They even met people who drove all night in their cars

just to catch a glimpse of the rare occurrence.

"Then we went to leave, and it was just a huge traffic jam," she said. "The expressway was just stopped, and we had a reservation that night. We got off the expressway and took some side roads, (but) we didn't get there until midnight when it was only supposed to be a few hours' drive."

Mary said it took them 10 hours to drive 200 miles back to their motel in Nashville.

The Andersons said the biggest takeaway from 2017 is to avoid traveling the day of the eclipse. This year, they decided not only to arrive early, but also to stay a few days after the upcoming total eclipse.

"We know what we're getting into kind of," Mark said.

Mary said she expects this year's eclipse to attract even more crowds, especially those that enjoyed the 2017 eclipse, and because there will not be another one to cross North America

until 2044.

"I think the 2017 eclipse kind of caught people by surprise," Mary said.

Mary and Mark's youngest son and grandson will join them to watch the eclipse closer to April 8. Although the eclipse is the highlight of their stay, they also look forward to exploring Gatesville.

"We wouldn't know Gatesville existed if it wasn't for the fact that the eclipse was going through here," Mary said. "I'm sure it's going to bring in a lot of people."

While the eclipse led the Andersons to Texas, another reason for their travels is to spread awareness about organ donation following the death of their oldest son, Michael Anderson, in 2023. As a registered donor, he has saved three other lives by donating his kidneys and liver.

Through a group called Donate Life Rock Painting, Mary has left painted rocks around the country in Michael's memory.

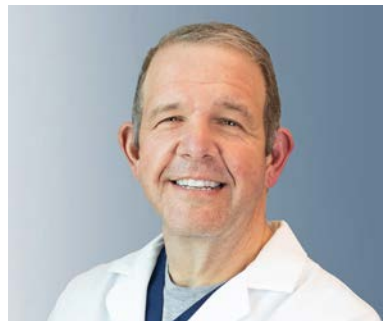
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SUSPECT

FROM PAGE A1

before fleeing on foot to the north.

Officers searched the area but were unable to locate the suspect. No one was injured during the incident, police say.

According to police, the suspect was described as a Hispanic male who was last seen wearing a black

hooded sweatshirt with a white Reebok logo, a white bandana covering a portion of his face, a black-rimmed ball cap, and jeans.

Police ask anyone with information about the robbery to contact the Gatesville Police Department at 254-865-2226 or Centex Crime Stoppers at 254-865-

8477.

Crime Stoppers callers may remain anonymous. Information leading to an arrest may result in a cash reward.

For updates on this story, please visit www.gatesvillemessenger.com

PHONES

FROM PAGE A1

text instead of calling. By texting for communication on April 8, it will limit the congestion of cellular networks. With so many extra phones being brought into a particular region, it's a very real possibility that some areas will be unable to keep up with the demand for wireless cell and data networks.

One cell phone carrier issued a statement that said people across different networks saw slowdowns during the last eclipse in 2017.

Back in 2017, AT&T data revealed that there was a 40% increase in text messaging and a 15% increase in voice calls in the 24 hours before the eclipse.

The event is expected to put a strain on local cell

towers, as the population is expected to triple in some areas. Some cell towers won't be able to handle the extra traffic. This eclipse will be a communications traffic jam on a historic level. At least it will be unless service providers have stepped up their game along the path of totality—which is exactly what some have planned to do.

In preparation for the 2017 eclipse, all the major cell carriers, including AT&T as well as Verizon, T-Mobile and Sprint, deployed mobile, installations to beef up cell service. The installations were known as COWs ("Cell on Wheels"), COLTs ("Cell on Light Trucks") and RATs ("Repeaters on a Trailer").

All the big players in the

telecommunications game have been preparing for the solar eclipse, which will occupy a 60-70-mile-wide path across the nation.

Some NASA scientists do warn that cell service could get spotty, temporarily. In a recent article, NASA officials said a solar eclipse suddenly changes the structure of the ionosphere, which can temporarily disrupt radio signals and GPS navigation.

Emergency responders recommend you having a backup plan for directions travelling to and from the viewing because, when you have that type of influx into the community, there's no guarantee you're going to be able to get on your cell phone and use your GPS systems.

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FROM MY FRONT PORCH

The differences between men and women



BY SAM HOUSTON

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

It has taken me a long time to finally come out and admit it, but I will never really understand women. From the first time I noticed a young girl in my first-grade class until today, I have found my assumptions about females were usually incorrect.

When I make such a statement it is not out of anger or any form of hostility toward woman, nor does it reflect indifference. It is simply a recognition of my own failings and a simple acknowledgment that the sexes have two completely

different ways of walking through life. It seems to me the sooner a man acknowledges that he has no idea of what makes a woman's mind "tick," the sooner he will find peace.

After all, look at the differences.

When packing for a vacation, a woman will start a month early. She will make a ton of lists, remember all the random items she needs to bring, manage to squeeze mounds of clothes and shoes in a bag so tight it defies all physical law, and then she will worry about what she forgot. A man will only think about what to bring on a trip in the period it takes to walk from the sofa to the location of his suitcase. To pack, they will throw a few items in the bag, and this usually happens the night before the trip though it can happen up to the very morning of departure. He will never consider what others will wear, what clothes to wear for a special event taking place during the trip, or what he will do if he forgets something. He believes that if something is missing, he

will replace it at the destination's nearest Walmart.

Then there are bathroom items. Men basically have the following items in their bathroom: toothpaste, toothbrush, razor, soap and shampoo. Women will have 178 different items in their bathroom and all but 10 of those items, a man has no idea of their purpose. What the heck does rejuvenating skin toner do anyway?

Women wash dishes after a meal, or they finish the dishes from the night before when they get up in the morning. Men wash dishes after a meal, or when there is not a single clean dish left to use. Men also use the same "all out so I guess I better take action" mentality when it comes to doing laundry.

When four men go to lunch and the bill comes, either one guy grabs the

check and pays it, or each one of them toss a \$20 bill on the table to pay for their \$7 hamburgers, leaving the change for the server. When women go to lunch and the check arrives, absolutely no one reaches to grab it. Eventually a forensic accounting is conducted by the group to determine who had the watercress salad and exactly what each person's indebtedness is, determined down to the penny. If a tip is left, it is exactly 18% of the total bill.

Women are very color-oriented. They seek out colors like sea foam, cayenne, eggplant and teal, while men stick to the basics of red, blue, brown, and black.

A woman's shoes outnumber the number of shirts she owns. A man has more shirts than he does shoes. A lot more.

Men go the moon and

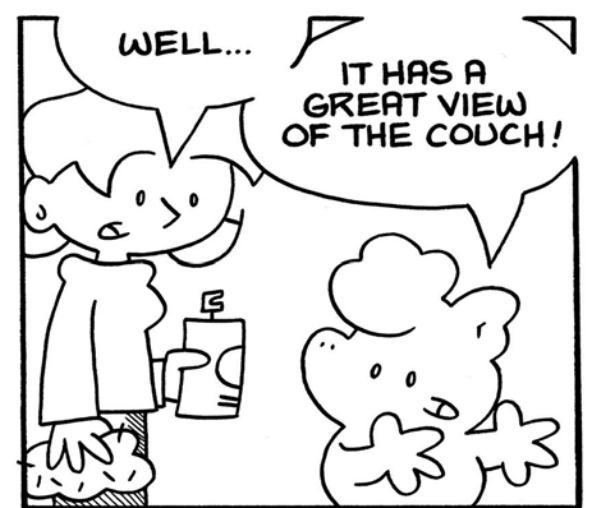
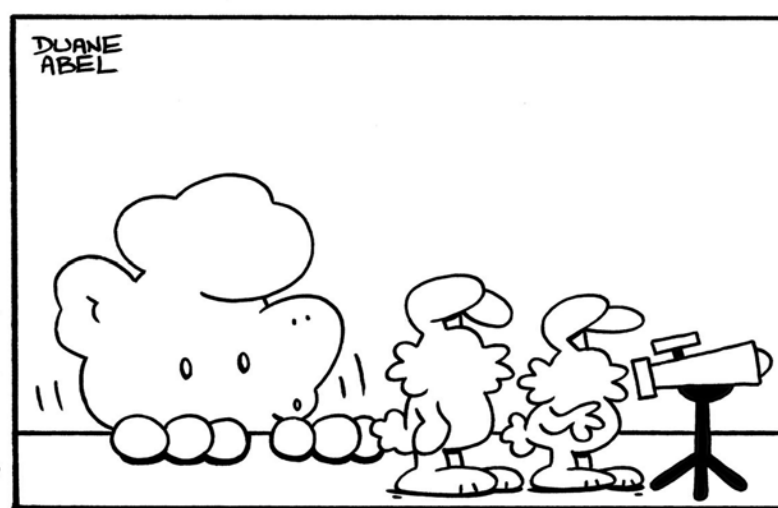
take a half dozen photos. Women go to the park and take 31 photos, one video, and, occasionally, sign on for Facebook Live. If kids or grandchildren are with the woman, the numbers increase exponentially.

I guess the world would be a very boring place if men and women thought the same and acted the same. Acceptance is the key, and understanding what we don't know and will never figure out. God bless the differences.

Thought for the day: Being a woman is a tremendously difficult task, since it consists principally with dealing with men.

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

ZED by Duane M. Abel



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NEWS FROM ECLIPSEVILLE

The final countdown!



BY CHERI SHEPHERD

City of Gatesville
Eclipse Coordinator

Our community eclipse preparations are in the final phase as we enter the last week before the eclipse. Here are a few things you should know about how the City of Gatesville has prepared.

Public Safety

When we began the planning process, we identified public safety as our number one priority. The Gatesville Police Department will have additional officers on patrol April 5-9. The primary reason for this is to manage traffic with the additional vehicles on our streets. While we expect that our visitors will be peaceful, law-abiding folks, we also know that a significant increase of people in town will inevitably increase the number of calls.

The Gatesville Volunteer Fire Department has developed a plan to have personnel prepared to respond quickly in anticipation of a potential increase in accidents and incidents.

Other city departments, including Street, Parks and Recreation, Water, and Wastewater are prepared for the influx of visitors and the additional strain

that could create on our systems and processes.

Coryell Health has done a thorough evaluation of how the eclipse and the increase in people in our community will impact their regular operations. Clinic, hospital, and EMS staff have been meeting regularly to ensure that they are prepared to continue to provide a high level of care for residents and visitors alike.

Both the county and the city will be issuing emergency declarations. There has been some media coverage about these declarations by other jurisdictions. Residents should not be alarmed by these declarations. They simply provide our city and county with the means to receive assistance from the state or federal level as needed.

A Fun and Safe Weekend
Over the last few

months, we've worked to educate and prepare our residents and businesses for the impact that the anticipated number of visitors will have on our daily routines. After talking with representatives from many communities that were in the path of totality in 2017, I'm confident that there is no reason to be fearful of what this event will bring. We do need to prepare, as we would if there were a winter storm predicted. In the coming week, stock up on what your household will need for next weekend so that you don't have to deal with the extra traffic at the grocery store or gas station. Have some cash on hand in case you do need to make a purchase and internet problems affect credit and debit transactions. If you make these preparations before Friday, it will help our businesses restock and be prepared for visitors over the weekend.

Our "BLOCK out the sun PARTY" will take place around the square on Saturday, April 6, from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. and Sunday, April 7, from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. See the ad in the Visitors Guide in this issue for more information. Local businesses, including The Junction on 36, Bare Bones BBQ, and Texas Station Event Center, have planned events for the weekend so that our residents and visitors can come together to celebrate the eclipse. We don't expect any significant traffic issues over the

weekend, so we encourage our visitors and residents to get out and enjoy the weekend festivities.

Monday is Eclipse Day!

On Monday, we expect additional visitors to arrive in town throughout the morning. Many of them will be heading to planned events where they already reserved a space. These include events at the Civic Center/Sports Complex, Coryell Community Church, and The Last Drive-In, as well as multiple smaller events in and outside of town. There will also be visitors who arrive with no plan other than to find a parking lot or space to park along the road. Our police department will be working to make sure that these visitors are in safe locations and are not violating any laws in the selection of their viewing locations. We also know that there will be large numbers of travelers through our community on US 84 and Hwy 36. We expect heavy traffic, especially on the highways, immediately after the eclipse and for several hours afterward. If you can, avoid traveling on Monday afternoon.

Above all, I hope that you have your glasses and a plan that will allow you to experience the wonder of this total solar eclipse. The next one visible in the Central Texas area will occur in 2343.

Folks around town



COURTESY PHOTO

Patrice Gilbert

Say hello to our neighbor, Patrice Gilbert!

Patrice has been Recreation Supervisor at the Gatesville Fitness Center for 18 years, this month. She said that the best part of her job is getting to see people reach their goals. "A lot of members have been coming faithfully over the years and have become a lot like family to me." She has lived in Gatesville for over 28 years and enjoys living within the community. "Everyone always bands together to help people in need," she said.

Patrice reads The Gatesville Messenger and she said, "I love that the paper always puts great information about the youth in our community."

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



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Publisher
SAM HOUSTON
sam@hcnews.com

Director of Operations
JANICE VELASQUEZ
ad2@gatesvillemessenger.com

DEADLINES:

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

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

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

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Locals graduate from GPD Citizen's Police Academy



KAYLEE DUSANG | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Nine of the 11 graduates attended the final class and graduation for Gatesville's Citizen's Police Academy, where they received a diploma from Gatesville Police Chief Brad Hunt (far left).

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

Gatesville residents recently had the opportunity to learn what it takes to work as an officer in law enforcement.

On March 21, the Gatesville Police Department held their final class and graduation ceremony for the Citizen's Police Academy, a community outreach program that aims to give citizens an enhanced awareness and understanding of law enforcement's role in the community. This was GPD's first time to open the

academy since 2019 and following the outbreak of COVID-19.

During the ceremony, Gatesville Police Chief Brad Hunt and other Gatesville police officers honored the eleven graduates of the program.

"I do not know how to express in words how much it means to us to get to spend this much time with the community and explain to them why the police do what they do, how they are trying to do what they do, and the kind people that we have that are trying to do

good things for their community," Hunt said.

The students in the academy spent about three hours once a week in various training sessions and learning about different topics in law enforcement, such as animal control operations, crime scene processing, firearm safety, building searches, traffic stops, dispatch operations, and more.

In the final class, the students participated in a drunk carts demo, where they wore special goggles to simulate drunk driving.

They also received a presentation on narcotics from a GPD narcotics detective.

One of the graduates, Leo Corona, shared why he decided to sign up for the academy.

"I took this because I wanted to see what the atmosphere was like for the officers that were training us," Corona said. "That gave me a feel for how they felt about us on the civilian side. The other one was just to get an aspect of how the city operates as a police department and what they do and how they handle

themselves."

Barbara Burrow, who also serves on the Gatesville City Council, said she wanted to have a better understanding of the risk law enforcement put themselves through every day.

"It was just so real on this traffic stop thing to see the kind of pushback that a driver might provide to the officer that is presenting themselves with all best interest," Burrow said. "That was really interesting, and I'm enjoying to know that we have a drug investigator, finally. That has been long

overdue, and I'm so glad to hear the initial positive results about that, too."

Burrow encourages others to sign up for the academy when classes reopen.

According to the Gatesville Police Department's Facebook page, the department hopes to hold another course later this year.

"I would just like to thank the Gatesville Police Department for taking the time (to do) this course, and again, it's very informative all around," Corona said.

City trash service changes schedule due to eclipse

Staff Reports

Due to the upcoming total eclipse to arrive on Monday, April 8, the City of Gatesville has changed its trash service schedule.

Since there will be an anticipated influx of traffic on the day of the eclipse, the trash service will run one day later after Monday,

April 8.

For example, Monday's route will run on Tuesday, and Tuesday's route will run on Wednesday, etc.

Services will resume to their normal schedule during the week of Monday, April 15.

For further details, visit Gatesvilletx.com.

Grace Assembly to hold parent's night out April 13

Staff Reports

Grace Assembly Christian Church will hold a parent's night out event for local youth on Saturday, April 13. The event will be from 5-9 p.m.

There will be plenty of activities for the kids, featuring games, music, dancing, and movies, along with a pizza dinner.

Children who are infants

through the ages of sixth grade may attend the event.

It will cost \$20 for the first child, and any child after that will be an additional \$5 dollars.

For further details, contact Cassie at 254-223-0101.

Grace Assembly is located at 2315 Osage Road.

Community Easter egg hunts offered

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

Easter weekend has arrived, but there are still plenty of opportunities to join in on an Easter egg hunt. For those looking for last-minute Easter plans, here are a few events in or near the Gatesville area:

First Methodist Church
First Methodist Church will host an Easter egg hunt for the community on Saturday, March 30, from 9:30-11 a.m.

First Methodist Church is located on 2600 E. Main Street. For more information, visit the First Methodist Church of Gatesville's Facebook page or contact 254-865-2520.

First Baptist Church
The First Baptist Church of Gatesville Children's Ministry is providing a free, community-wide Easter egg hunt on Saturday, March 30, from 4-6 p.m.

The event will include games, refreshments, and a photo booth.

Egg hunts will begin as follows:

- Pre-k and under through first grade at 4:30 p.m.
- 2nd through 3rd grade at 5 p.m.
- 4th through 6th grade at 5:30 p.m.

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

Learn more or RSVP via

the First Baptist Church of Gatesville Children's Ministry's Facebook page.

Charlie's Wags and Whiskers

For those wanting to celebrate Easter with their pet, Charlie's Wags and Whiskers will host a dog Easter egg hunt on March 30, from noon to 2 p.m.

Admission is \$15. The event will take place at the Charlie's Wags and Whiskers dog park on 1111 W Main Street.

Contact 254-248-5034 for more information.

First Baptist Church Oglesby

The First Baptist Church in Oglesby will hold a community Easter egg hunt on Saturday, March 30, at the Oglesby City Park. The event begins at 10 a.m.

For updates, visit First Baptist Church Oglesby's Facebook page.

Copperas Cove Easter Egg Round Up

The City of Copperas Cove and Parks and Recreation Department invites the public to attend the 2024 Easter Egg Round Up on Saturday, March 30, from 10 a.m. to noon at the City Park on 1206 W Avenue B.

The free event is for children 10 years old and younger, but there will also be an adaptive hunt for children 0 to 18 years old



PHOTO COURTESY OF ADOBE STOCK

Easter Eggs

with a physical or mental disability. A prize will be awarded to each age group for finding the golden ticket.

The event will be divided into five categories, as follows:

- 0-2 years of age and adaptive line up at 9:45 a.m. Egg hunt begins at 10 a.m. on Field 3.
- 3-4 years of age line up at 10 a.m. Egg hunt begins at 10:15 a.m. on Fields 1 and 2.
- 5-6 years of age line up at 10:15 a.m. Egg hunt begins at 10:30 a.m. on

Field 3.

- 7-8 years of age line up at 10:30 a.m. Egg hunt begins at 10:45 a.m. on Fields 1 and 2.
- 9-10 years of age line up at 10:45 a.m. Egg hunt begins at 11 a.m. on Field 3.

Pictures with the Easter Bunny will be available from 10:15 a.m. to noon. The event will also include various food vendors.

For questions, reach out to Copperas Cove Parks and Recreation by calling 254-542-2719.

Whatever happened to ...

20 YEARS AGO (2004)

City officials began looking at areas for possible annexation.

Construction was underway on the 7,000 square foot addition to the Gatesville Church of Christ on East Main Street.

The annual American Cancer Society Relay for Life was set to be held at McKamie Stadium.

The total rural traffic accidents for Coryell County for

2004 so far was 47, which resulted in five deaths.

The Gatesville Hornets finished second in a home golf tournament.

30 YEARS AGO (1994)

The American Legion, Charles D. Jageler Post 42 celebrated their 75th anniversary.

A mammoth Easter egg hunt was to be held at the Gatesville Recreational Complex.

Western Auto offered a

portrait package for \$6.99.

Bee House and Evant churches were sponsoring their annual Easter Sunrise Pageant.

Thrifty Mart/IGA participated in the national "Hometown Trees" program in which over 300 trees were donated to local units of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

40 YEARS AGO (1984)

Over 200 people attended the grand opening for the

new offices of Jackson and Harris Insurance Company.

The Gatesville City Council voted to increase water user fees by 70%.

Models were selected for the Coryell Memorial Hospital Auxiliary's seventh annual spring fashion show and luncheon.

Leaird's Department Store advertised 501 Levi jeans for just \$12.88 apiece.

Registration for the Gatesville Lions Club's

Little League baseball/softball program ended with a record number of 431 players.

50 YEARS AGO (1974)

The Gatesville Jaycees elected Kenneth Rhoads as president for 1974-1975.

The 52nd Judicial District Bar Association honored Judge Robert W. Brown at the Gatesville Country Club.

Vandals threw caliche-type rocks through plate glass windows at Walls

Industries, Gatesville Commission Co., Jim Miller Army Store, and Perry's.

Freezing temperatures and rain ushered in spring in Gatesville.

A plastic skeleton manufactured at Gatesville's Plastics Laboratory was soon to appear statewide on television in a commercial for Six Flags over Texas.

Total Eclipse of the Smart: A guide to photographing the eclipse with your iphone

BY MICKY SHEARON
Contributing Writer

Get ready to point your iPhones to the sky. A jaw-dropping total solar eclipse is cruising over North America soon, and you've got a front-row seat to capture it all with the gadget in your pocket!

While the pros may lug around their hefty gear for those breathtaking, magazine-worthy shots, the most shared snaps are going to pop from the smartphones of everyday eclipse enthusiasts like you. And guess what? With a sprinkle of savvy and a dash of DIY, you can snag some seriously impressive celestial selfies. Let's dive into a few simple yet super-effective tips to help you nab that perfect eclipse picture with nothing more than your trusty iPhone.

Safety Gear: A Must for You and Your Tech

Top of the list, and non-negotiable: protect those peepers and your iPhone camera with a solar filter. That's right, staring at the sun is bad news, and snapping it without a filter is just as risky. Local astronomer and astrophotographer, Rick Mallek, puts it bluntly, "Even though you will be tempted, never ever look at the sun or the eclipse without eye protection. Just a very few seconds can damage your eyes or the electronics in your cameras and phones. Take it seriously. Wear eye protection and take pictures only through approved ISO filters."

Eclipse glasses and solar filters are inexpensive and can still be ordered online and delivered before the big eclipse on April 8. However, if you wait too long to order and can't get the proper safety gear, Mallek has another suggestion, "Another option is to go to one of the local gathering places that will have local astronomers present and will have the appropriate viewing equipment to enjoy the eclipse."

Flash Off: Keep the Night,

Keep the Magic

If you're inside the path of totality, there's one thing you must do to your smartphone — disable the flash before totality. Using flash won't help your photography, and worse, it will detract from the experience of totality for everyone around you, and you can expect groans and moans in your direction.

Lens Matters: Skip the Digital Pinch

Digital zoom is the archenemy of clarity in smartphone photography, especially during an eclipse. Pinching your screen to zoom is a surefire way to get grainy, smudgy photos. If your iPhone isn't equipped with a separate telephoto lens, resist the urge to zoom. Instead, grab a zoom lens attachment for your iPhone—prices range from about \$20-\$40 for a decent 12x to 18x magnification. It's a small investment for a leap in quality, allowing you to discern the sun's corona and its majestic shape.

Wide Angle: The Bigger Picture

If accessories aren't your thing, there's another route: embrace the wide angle. Zooming out can capture the eclipse in context, framed by the local environment. This technique nets you a more storytelling image, where the eclipse plays a part in a larger scene, etching a moment in time complete with its own setting.

Focus Like a Pro: Precision Counts

Your iPhone is many things, but it's not telepathic. It can't read the celestial script without your directorial input. Practice on the moon—eclipse's understudy—in the days leading up to the eclipse to understand how to handle focus and exposure. On iOS camera apps, tapping an object will center a box around it. This locks the focus manually. It will also

show a little sun icon. This is the exposure slider. Drag it down until you see details on the moon image.

Burst for Brilliance: Diamond Ring in the Sky

Totality's grand finale is the diamond ring effect—an ephemeral sparkle just before the moon completely cloaks the sun. It's a split-second marvel that won't wait for slow fingers. Burst mode is your ticket to capturing this fleeting gem. To capture burst photos on your iPhone, start by opening the Camera app. Then, swipe the Shutter button to the left and release your finger when you're ready to stop capturing!

Shoot Totality in Raw

Totality is dark. That means you need to think like an astrophotographer and shoot in RAW image format. RAW images retain the original sensor data and skip the built-in processing, which your smartphone automatically applies to JPEGs. RAW images especially thrive in low-light situations (like an eclipse) and in those with a high dynamic range (like a sunset). If you have an iPhone 12 or iPhone 13 (any model) and iOS 15 or later, you can take classic RAW photos with a third-party camera app such as Halide, Yamera, or Camera+ 2 using all iPhone lenses. If you have an iPhone 12 Pro or iPhone 13 Pro, or any more recent iPhone models, you can use Apple ProRAW with all lenses.

To enable Apple ProRAW on your iPhone, navigate to Settings, select Camera, tap on Formats, and then turn on the option for Apple ProRAW under Photo Capture.

However, be forewarned, since RAW images take up considerably more space, it's wise to make sure you have plenty of room on your smartphone, perhaps clearing out unwanted photos and apps before eclipse day.

Editing Magic: Post-Eclipse



PHOTO COURTESY OF ADOBE STOCK

Capturing the eclipse with your cell phone takes some preparation.

Alchemy

Here's a secret: the magic often happens after the event. With RAW images, you can tweak and tune to your heart's content with smartphone apps like Snapseed, Darkroom, Afterlight, or VSCO. The finished result will have much more dynamic range, color, and detail than any JPEG your smartphone's built-in camera app produces.

Stability is Key: Tripod and Shutter Remote

Take my advice: use a tripod and some sort of remote shutter for low-light imagery. The vibration of your hands will be enough to smear the image and make it very difficult to focus on it. This is a once-in-a-lifetime event for most people, so you don't want to be all lined up for the perfect shot and have it turn out blurry and smeared.

If you have an Apple Watch, you can easily activate your iPhone's camera shutter hands-free from your watch. If you don't have an Apple Watch, any type of inexpensive Bluetooth shutter activator will work just fine and will make a world of difference in the quality of your

photos.

Scene and Seen: Capture the Humanity of the Eclipse

The eclipse is the star, but the audience is part of the show. Snap the reactions, the ambient, the collective breath-holding. These candid shots are as priceless as the astronomical phenomenon itself. A time-lapse can capture the atmosphere's transformation, offering a visual timeline of the event.

Totality: The Moment of Truth

But let's not forget why we're here. When the sun and moon align in their cosmic dance, make sure to experience it with more than just your camera lens. The digital keepsake is priceless, but the personal memory is the true treasure. Be present for the spectacle and let your senses revel in the universe's grandeur.

The Takeaway: Be an Eclipse Astronaut with Your iPhone

You're now equipped with the knowledge to turn your iPhone into a stellar observatory. Come April 8, with your viewing glasses, solar filter, and iPhone in hand, you'll be ready to capture the eclipse like a pro. Remember, preparation

meets opportunity—this is your chance to seize an out-of-this-world moment with a device that fits in your pocket.

Whether you're shooting the darkness of totality, the brilliance of the diamond ring, or the wonder in a stranger's eyes, each photo tells a story. Be the narrator of your own celestial saga, and let your iPhone be the pen with which you write a visual chapter in your life's adventure. The solar eclipse is a reminder of the vast, beautiful universe we're a part of, and your photographs can be a bridge between that cosmic ballet and the earthbound spectators.

There's a reason eclipses have captivated humans throughout history. They're not just celestial phenomena; they're shared experiences that transcend the ordinary, turning our gazes upward and our thoughts inward. As you use your iPhone to chronicle this celestial moment, remember that you're not just a spectator but an active participant in a story as old as time itself.

micky@hcnews.com

'We feel prepared:' City officials get locals ready for the eclipse

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

With the total solar eclipse only days away, the City of Gatesville held a final public meeting on Monday, March 25 to share what residents can expect and how they can start preparing before April 8.

With Gatesville and parts of Central Texas on the path of totality, the city is expecting thousands of visitors, leading to concerns about major traffic jams, shortages at gas stations and grocery stores, and impacts on cellular and internet service.

While no one knows the exact number of people Gatesville will receive, Eclipse Coordinator Cheri Shepherd and Gatesville Police Chief Brad Hunt expect that the majority of traffic will occur on the day of the eclipse.

"We're preparing for that, and it's still really difficult for us to even guess the amount of traffic or the number of people who are actually going to be here through the weekend, but

I'd say we're preparing for the worse," Shepherd said.

Hunt said the Gatesville Police Department is working with other first response and law enforcement agencies across the county and the state to plan for the influx of people, including adding extra officers to patrol the weekend of eclipse.

"We're tweaking something every day, of course we are, but we have been planning for a year. We feel prepared," Hunt said.

The city also plans to create an emergency lane so that EMS and first response vehicles can access the hospital in midst of traffic, Hunt adds.

Since Gatesville contains two major highways - U.S. Highway 84 and State Highway 36 - Hunt said he has received confirmation that the Texas Department of Transportation will avoid lane closures due to construction on Highway 36 from Friday, April 5 until Tuesday, April 10.

With the expected strain on local resources and

businesses, Shepherd and Hunt recommend residents start preparing earlier in the week before the busy weekend.

Tips to prepare

- Stock up on groceries or household items, including prescriptions.
- Fill up gas tanks in vehicles ahead of time so local gas stations have enough on hand during the weekend of the eclipse.
- Get cash - the higher demand on the internet and cellular systems could cause credit card machine problems.
- Get eclipse glasses - ensure they have an ISO 12312-2 certification.
- Avoid traveling on Monday, April 8, especially on major streets or highways since they are likely to be

congested for several hours following the eclipse.

"It would really help our banks, gas stations, and our grocery stores if you didn't wait until Friday afternoon to do that," Shepherd said. "You can stock up on those things that we're suggesting that you take care of ahead of time on Wednesday or Thursday. Then it gives our businesses a chance to kind of resupply so that when the people do come to visit, they'll hopefully still have merchandise on shelves."

With traffic expected to be less severe on Saturday and Sunday, Shepherd and Hunt encourage residents to come out and enjoy the various events happening in the Gatesville area the weekend before the eclipse. "Mainly, we're trying to

encourage folks to not panic, not panic buy things at the store, and not panic about the crowds coming to town, and not just to stay home from now until April 10 because we do have some interesting things going on in town," Hunt said. "It's really a once in a lifetime historical event for Gatesville."

Emergency response Due to the population increase, local law enforcement is asking residents to submit any large events so they can properly stage first responders and EMS teams in case of potential emergencies.

Hunt asks residents who are hosting more than 50 people to submit their event to Shepherd by email at cshepherd@gatesvillex.com

The Coryell County Sheriff's Office also asked residents via Facebook to submit large gatherings of 25 people or more by calling 254-865-5911 ext. 530 or 531 or emailing CCSODispatch@coryellsheriff.com.

If there is an emergency, Hunt reminds the public that they can text 911 if they lose cellular service and a landline is not available.

Residents can sign up for Code Red emergency notifications at www.gatesvillex.com

For a full list of FAQs for residents and visitors, visit: <https://www.gatesvillex-eclipse.com/residents>.

PUBLIC NOTICE

A public meeting regarding the Coryell County transportation Safety Action Plan is scheduled for

**2:00pm on April 4th
at the Coryell County Main Street Annex
in the Commissioners Courtroom
at 801 E. Leon Street,
Gatesville, TX 76528.**

The Safety Action plan is a comprehensive plan that identifies roadway safety concerns and provides solutions for these concerns. The overall goal of the Safety Action Plan is to reduce fatalities and serious injuries. This public meeting is an opportunity for the public to voice the transportation safety concerns they would like to see addressed in the plan.

Thank
you

We would like to give a Huge Thank You to the Coryell EMS team for going to Dallas on Friday, March 22, especially Kylie! Also, special thanks to Natalie for volunteering your time.

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TUMBLEWEED SMITH

A trip to the Rio Grand Valley



BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH

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

I've been going to the Rio Grand Valley for more than fifty years. When I first went there, towns were separated by brush country.

You would go to one city, then travel thru non-populated areas, then you would come to another city. It's not that way now. It's hard to find much rural coun-

try. Nearly all the cities are backed up to each other, and it's hard to tell when you leave one city and go to the next one. The population of the valley continues

to grow and now stands at about 1.2 million.

I visited with Mike Blum, former city planner in McAllen, and he said the valley is a mixture of cultures that includes immigrants from Russia, Poland, and other Eastern European countries. Of course, the Mexican influence is predominate. The major cities in the valley are Brownsville (185,000), McAllen (150,000) and Harlingen (71,000). South Padre Island, the popular resort destination, has a population of 3,000. Of course, the 1,900-mile Rio Grand River, the longest in Texas, is a legendary landmark that separates Texas from Mexico.

In San Benito, I visited

Patricia and Peter Avila, who have the Conjunto Museum and Hall of Fame. Their father loved conjunto music and started the museum to pay tribute to the musicians he admired. The walls are filled with photos of musicians who have been inducted into the Conjunto Hall of Fame. The museum has a stage where musicians perform weekly.

Also, in San Benito, I visited a museum honoring black educators in the valley. In Harlingen, I met Pat and Sue Thomas, retired twin teachers who should get national recognition for teaching their students to learn skills and excel in what they do. Their students always ranked high in academics despite their

unusual teaching methods. They danced while teaching English grammar, and when they run into former students they all start dancing. The twin sisters love to talk. I don't think I asked a single question - just turned on the recorder. They are genuinely outrageous and spend their time sewing craft items and taking care of stray animals. And laughing.

I visited with LALA fashions in downtown Harlingen where fashion designer Laisa Macias and her husband created a gigantic photographic backdrop featuring the word LOVE in 23 languages. People go to the shop and have their photos made there. One of her signature clothing lines

carries the theme Home Sweet Harlingen.

In a valley RV Park, I sat on a screened-in porch with some winter Texans from Indiana and Canada. They've been spending winters in the valley most of their lives. They first came as children with their parents who primarily came for the warm climate, palm trees, and citrus. Now, they come because they've made lifelong friends and get to see them when they abandon their cold and snowy climes and head south for a few months. The final valley interview was with writer Eileen Mattei, who says writers must be curious and want to find out what's beyond the horizon.

DRT to meet April 4 in Waco

Submitted item

The Sterling C. Robertson Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas will meet on Thursday, April 4, 2024 at 1p.m. The meeting will be held at the new location, the Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce Building, located at 101 S. 3rd Street in downtown Waco. There is a meeting room there and parking is

available.

Author Jerry Powell has researched and will present his findings about the "6666s Ranch." He will also have copies of his books about the early days in Waco available for purchase. This meeting is free and open to the public. Prospective members are encouraged to attend.

Jonesboro VFD to hold BBQ luncheon April 28

Staff Reports

The Jonesboro Volunteer Fire Department will host a BBQ luncheon fundraiser on Sunday, April 28. The luncheon will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Jonesboro Community Center.

Barbeque plates will include chopped beef, sausage, potato salad, beans, and all the fixings, as well as iced tea or water and

homemade desserts.

Adults will cost \$12 per plate, and children will cost \$8 dollars per plate.

Dine in or carry-out is available.

Donations are to be mailed to Jonesboro Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 6, Jonesboro Tx 76538.

The Jonesboro Community Center is located at 11625 TX-36 in Jonesboro.

SPRING CLEAN UP



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured is Gatesville Chamber President Mason Matthews and wife, Tiffany, during the Keep Gatesville Beautiful spring clean-up event. The clean-up was held on Saturday, March 23, and focused on many streets, including half of Main Street, Business Hwy. 36, Old Waco Road, South Lovers Lane, North Lutterloh, and parts of FM 2412. Many volunteers attended the event to clean up our town before visitors arrive for the Total Eclipse on Monday, April 8.

Exchange Club to hold meeting recognizes prevention of child abuse

Submitted item

The Exchange Club of Gatesville will focus their weekly meetings in April to reflect their National Program - Prevention of Child Abuse. The public is invited to join them any Thursday at 7 a.m. at Junction

36.

The following speakers have been scheduled for their April programs: April 4, CASA of Central Texas; April 11, AWARE Central Texas; April 18, Coryell County Rainbow Room; and April 25, Coryell County Child

Welfare Board.

Visitors are welcome to attend any of the scheduled meetings. The Exchange Club will also be promoting their Parenting Education information at venues throughout the city.

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MOUND NEWS

Sherry Hopson was crowned Queen of Merak Temple No. 104



BY BARBARA HOPSON

Mound News Correspondent

Mrs. Sherry Hopson was crowned Queen of Merak Temple No. 104, in Waco on Sunday afternoon. Daughters of the Nile is a philanthropic organization that helps support Shriner's Childrens Hospitals around the world. The Mound community wants to congratulate my aunt, Sherry Hopson.

Mound Cowboy Church is having their annual Easter breakfast at 7:30 a.m. at the inside church. The service starts at 9 a.m., and the Easter egg hunt will start after church service. The address of the church is 3075 E. FM 931.

Thomas Allen Belt is a member of the Coryell County 4-H Livestock Judging Team and recently placed 3rd at the Brazos County contest. Thomas was recognized as the 8th highest individual at the Houston contest. He also placed 15th individually at the Houston contest. We are proud of his hard work and dedication to livestock judging and to the team!

Brenda Helms and Carolyn Blakley went to College Station to see Emma and took her to lunch and did some shopping Saturday.

Robert Blakley visited in Pearl Sunday with his mother, Mrs. Bettie Blakley.

Jenson Kinnear went to the Temple Mall on March 21st with his family to celebrate his seventh birthday. On Sunday, March 24th he had a ninja turtle/Jurassic Park theme birthday party at his home with his friends and family.

Jenson was also promoted to orange belt in Dynamic Dance Company's MMA program.

Holly Jones, Kay Branham, Kelby Shults, and Kristen

Jones surprised Sue Jones with a birthday party on Friday night at Rancher's. About 50 were in attendance.

David and Pam Hopson escorted Jakson Tippit, Dylan, and Ashton Hooker to their 2024 annual Oglesby Junior/Senior Prom Saturday evening.

Mrs. Eric (Liz) McCorkle spent a few days in Frisco at the home of Patrick and Kelli Casey and family during their Spring Break. While there they all attended The Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden.

Those who had birthdays this month were Alicia Rueter, Kelby Shults, Staci Combs, Gary Heavin, Cheryl

Ford, Paul Hopson, Sherrie Barton, Beth Haines, Mary Sue Winkler, Lauren Goins, Keva Campos, Brance Spencer, Billye Rhody, Jennifer Mann, Pat Schoenewolf, Rachel Hopson, Lou Ann Cashel, Nancy Suson, Samantha Penny, Cynthia Lynch, Sue Jones, Kelli Tatum, Corey Ayres, Karen George, Allison Hopson, Sara Poynter, Roberta Dixon, Ronnie Harris, Angie Cupps and Ray Evetts.

Barbara's Notes: HAPPY EASTER EVERYBODY!

The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of March 20 - March 26. While there were many calls to the dispatcher, this is a partial list of more significant activity. People are reminded that only emergency calls should be made to 9-1-1, while all other calls to the police department should be made to 865-2226 or to the Sheriff's office at 865-7201.

CITY OF GATESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

March 20
12:16 a.m., harassment was reported in the 3000 block of FM 929.

12:48 a.m., a theft was reported in the 1400 block of Westview Drive.

8:16 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of South 34th Street.

4:51 p.m., harassment was reported in the 2500 block of Jackson Drive.

March 21
12:43 a.m., a prowler was reported in the 100 block of FM 1996.

10:31 a.m., harassment was reported in the 1700 block of Bridge Street.

12:49 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 300 block of South State Highway 36 Bypass.

9:54 p.m., harassment was reported in the 200 block of North 8th Street.

March 22
8:36 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2200 block of Bridge Street.

9:19 a.m., a theft was reported in the 2300 block of East Main Street.

9:44 a.m., animal cruelty was reported in the 100 block of Mulberry Avenue.

2:33 p.m., harassment was reported in the 2400 block of Business Highway 36.

March 23
1:42 a.m., a threat was reported in the 100 block of Knowles Road.

8:04 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of Park Street.

8:37 p.m., harassment was reported in the 1400 block of East Leon Street.

10:48 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 200 block of North 14th Street.

March 24
12:02 a.m., a noise disturbance was reported in the 200 block of North 14th Street.

12:39 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 3400 block of Canyon Crossing Drive.

3:12 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2200 block of Bridge Street.

11:06 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of Mulberry Avenue.

March 25
6:44 a.m., an accident was reported in the 3500 block of North Highway 36.

12:28 p.m., wanted/stolen person or property in the 3400 block of Imperial Drive.

2:07 p.m., a robbery was reported in the 100 block of North State Highway 36 Bypass.

7:43 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1800 block of County Road 274.

March 26
2:20 p.m., harassment was reported in the 3400 block of Royal Drive.

4:35 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2400 block of Business Highway 36.

5:05 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1600 block of Venus Avenue.

10:02 p.m., an accident was reported in the 3700 block of South State Highway 36.

CORYELL COUNTY

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

March 20
10:35 a.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 2000 block of FM 215.

1:01 p.m., theft of a firearm was reported in the 100 block of Knowles Road.

1:08 p.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported in the 200 block of South 1st Street.

11 p.m., harassment was reported in the 100 block of Harrell Drive.

March 21
3:22 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of FM 1996.

6:22 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 3500 block of B County Road 303.

2:34 p.m., identity theft was reported in the 2000 block of East Main Street.

8:15 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of Woodglen Drive.

March 22
9:40 a.m., missing livestock was reported in the 4300 block of FM 1113.

2:04 p.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported on County Road 40.

5:14 p.m., theft was reported in the 300 block of FM 183 Spur.

6:19 p.m., missing livestock was reported at Leon Junction.

March 23
11:24 a.m., burglary of a building was reported in the 1000 block of Sierra Vista Drive.

11:59 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 3000 block of Straws Mill Road.

12:54 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in

the 1500 block of Lutheran Church Road.

2:15 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported on Texas Highway 236.

March 24
8:44 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported on North Highway 36 and Morgan Creek.

10:49 a.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 15000 block of South Highway 36.

1:39 p.m., a stranded motorist was reported on West Highway 84 between FM 930 and CR 177.

10:11 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 1100 block of Old Pidcoke Road.

March 25
8:41 a.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 200 block of Old Fort Gates Road.

9:19 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 100 block of Knowles Road.

3 p.m., suspicious persons were reported in the 400 block of Gaylon Drive.

6:14 p.m., suspicious persons were reported on County Road 341 and TX 236.

March 26
8:39 a.m., a domestic dispute was reported in the 800 block of Mountain Road.

8:43 a.m., a disturbance/noise complaint was reported at the courthouse.

4:02 p.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 3500 block of County Road 322.

5:10 p.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 600 block of County Road 148.

OBITUARY

Rebekah Barnes

Feb. 1, 1951 - March 16, 2024

Rebekah Barnes, age 73, of Gatesville, passed away on Thursday, March 16, 2024.

Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 13, at Restland Cemetery in Gatesville.

Rebekah Buchmann Barnes was born on Feb. 1, 1951, to the late Deryl and Margaret Wright in Coleman. She attended school in Gatesville and was a member of the class of 1969. Rebekah attended the nursing program at Coryell Memorial Hospital, obtaining a license in Vocational Nursing (LVN). She worked as an LVN throughout her career at the Rotunda, Hillside Medical Lodge, and the Texas Department of Corrections. Rebekah was known to be a hard worker, and in her spare time, she liked to draw and enjoyed watching television.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Edward Barnes; her son, Kenneth Craft; and

her brothers, Danny Wright and Russell Wright.

Rebekah is survived by her children, Kathleen Main; Kristi Vineyard, and husband, Scott; Kimberly Vasterling, and husband, Les; and grandchildren, Ty Doyle, Travis Taylor, Cheyenne Wasden, and husband, Adam.



Turnersville Community Center meeting is April 1

Staff Reports

The Turnersville Community Center will host a meeting on Monday, April 1, at 6 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Turnersville Community Center. The meeting is open to the public.

The Turnersville Community Center serves residents of the rural community of Turnersville (originally Buchanan Springs).

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

How to dispose of unused and expired medication



Staff report

There are multiple ways to dispose of unused or expired medication. There are places around the community where to dispose of the medicine properly that can help prevent harm, dangers, and any risk that comes from taking those kinds of medications.

There are many ways to dispose of medications.

The best option is to find a drug take back location in the area. Finding a take-back location will help get rid of the medications and help prevent harm. This could be a local pharmacy or a police station. The take-back location may offer on-site medicine drop-off boxes, mail-back programs, or in-home disposal products.

By visiting the Drug Enforcement Administration website and adding the zip code you can find a take back location in the area. If there is not a drug take-back location, check the FDA's flush list to see which medication can be flushed to help get rid of the unused medication.

Medication on the flush list may be especially dangerous with just one dose if it's taken by children, pets, or others in the household. Flushing medicine that is not on

the flush list can still be harmful to the environment.

If the medication is not on the flush list, throwing the medication in the trash is an option if you cannot flush the medication or there is not a take-

back location. For medicines that are thrown away in the trash, FDA recommends mixing them with an unappealing substance such as dirt, cat litter, or used coffee grounds. Don't crush pills.

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PEARL NEWS

Come view the solar eclipse and enjoy Pearl Bluegrass weekend



BY BETSY CLARK
Pearl News Correspondent

The next big event in Pearl is the upcoming Solar Eclipse and Pearl Bluegrass weekend, April 5, 6, and 7. To sign up for RV space, go to www.eventbrite.com/o/pearl-texas-community-center.

You can see how much they cost and what is available there. Also, on that Saturday, the Pearl Book-

store will be open from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. It will be a huge weekend in Pearl, so make your plans now.

The Pearl Baptist Church will host an Easter morning service at the Pearl Cemetery Pavilion on March 31. Beginning at 7 a.m., breakfast will be served at the church's fellowship hall following the service.

The Pearl Community Fellowship will have an Easter service beginning at 9 a.m.

The Pearl Church of Christ will have an Easter service beginning at 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch and an Easter egg hunt for the kids.

Upcoming speakers at the Pearl Church of Christ:

Edward Schaub will be speaking on Easter morning at 10:30 a.m.; Dr. Charles Patterson, retired Superintendent of the Killeen ISD and currently ministering and living in Corsicana, will be speaking on April 21, (please note-this is a change from the April 7 date - He will now be speaking on the 7th) and also at 10:30 a.m. Dr. Patterson is a native of Hamilton.

The Pearl Church of Christ will hold its annual VBS May 27 through May 31, 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. each day. The theme this year is "Jesus Loves You!" Be sure and mark your calendars, and please tell all your friends and family. The

Pearl CofC VBS is epic, and you don't want to miss it.

Everyone is always invited to any of these Pearl churches and services. Bringing guests is happily encouraged, too.

Before I began typing the news for this week, I called one of my reliable sources to inquire as to whether or not there is anything else I need to report. Linda Ray replied, "Not that you can put in print." Hmmm, makes you wonder what Kay has been up to this time. There's no place like Pearl.

This week's Bible verses come from Romans 8:34—Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to

life-is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us," and Luke 24:5b-7—"Why do you look for the living among the dead. He is not here; He has risen! Remember how He told you, while He was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.'" Then they remembered His words. NIV

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



Reavis Wortham

COURTESY PHOTO

American Legion Post 42 and Lone Scouts Troop honor veterans at The Meadows

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

In February, American Legion Post 42 was joined by the Lone Scouts Troop #272, of Gatesville, in the process of retiring U.S. flags that were tattered and faded. The stars from the flags were removed and made into pins, which were then presented to

veterans residing at The Meadows at Coryell Health RehabLiving in Gatesville.

The Stars for our Troops program, which began in 2010, is a group of volunteers that are patriotic. They collect old, tattered, and worn-out American flags and turn them into a prized possession for veterans. Volunteers cut each

embroidered star from the flag, dispose of the stripes properly, and place each star into a tiny plastic bag with a card.

American Legion member, Joseph Considine, said that approximately eleven veterans were living at The Meadows, and that each one would be receiving a star in honor of their

service to the country.

In addition to the stars, each veteran was presented with a "goody bag." The Lone Scouts Troop also presented the veterans with certificates of appreciation for their "tireless efforts in support of the United States Armed Forces."



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

American Legion Post 42 and the Lone Scouts Troop #272 joined together and visited with veterans who reside at The Meadows at Coryell Health RehabLiving in Gatesville. While there, they gave the veterans a unique gift made from old, tattered American flags.

Mystery Book Club welcomes Wortham

Staff Reports

Spur Award author, Reavis Wortham, will speak to the Mystery Book Club on Saturday, April 2, at 6 p.m. at the Gatesville Public Library.

He is the author of the critically acclaimed Red River historical mystery series. Kirkus Reviews listed his first novel, The Rock Hole, as one of their Top 12 Mysteries of 2011. True West Magazine included Dark Places as one of 2015's Top 12 Modern Westerns. The Providence Journal writes, "This year's Unraveled is a hidden gem of a book that reads like Craig Johnson's

'Longmire' on steroids."

Wortham's new high octane contemporary western series from Kensington Publishing featuring Texas Ranger Sonny Hawke kicked off in 2017 with the publication of Hawke's Prey. The fourth Sonny Hawke thriller, Hawke's Fury, was published in June 2020. In 2019, the Western Writers Association presented Hawke's War with the Spur Award in the WWA Best Mass Market Paperback category. The next Red River Mystery, The Texas Job, was published in February 2022.

The public is invited to hear Wortham speak about his writing career and about his books. Gatesville Public Library is located at 111 N. 8th Street.

CORYELL COUNTY COMMISSION

Sale Every Saturday • Cattle at Noon
Saturday, March 23, 2024
Jody & Robin Thomas (254)223-2958

No. 1 Steers	
Under 300 lb.	335-435
300-400 lb.	350-425
400-500 lb.	325-385
500-600 lb.	265-335
600-700 lb.	250-305
700-800 lb.	230-270
No. 1 Heifers	
under 300 lb.	325-410
300-400 lb.	290-355
400-500 lb.	280-330
500-600 lb.	245-295
600-700 lb.	235-265
700-800 lb.	200-235
Slaughter Cows	
High Yielding	115-144
Low Yielding	100-115
Fats	110-130
Thin & Shelly	85-105
Packer Bulls (1250-2075 lb.)	
Yield Grade 1&2	135-175
Cow & Calf Pairs	
Young Choice	2850-3350
Young Fair	2000-2800
Aged Pairs	1500-2000
Young Pregnancy Test Stocker	
Replacement Cow	1500-2700
Number of Head	662

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Weigh Cows	85-143	Bred Cows	NO TEST
		Replacement Bulls	NO TEST

#1 Type Steers		#1 Type Heifers	
200-300 lb.	342.50-415	200-300 lb.	NO TEST
301-400 lb.	330-401	301-400 lb.	290-357
401-500 lb.	300-357	401-500 lb.	280-313
501-600 lb.	285-330	501-600 lb.	245-289
601-700 lb.	250-287	600-700 lb.	225-246

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SUDOKU

Puzzle answers from the March 2, 2024 issue.

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

Coryell County

DEVOTIONAL PAGE



THIS DEVOTIONAL DIRECTORY IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THESE BUSINESSES.

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AND FIND ME WHEN
YOU SEEK ME WITH
ALL YOUR HEART.

HEART

JEREMIAH 29:13

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SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:50 AM
WEDNESDAY SERVICES 6:00 PM

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3835 CR 127, Gatesville;
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday worship 11 a.m.
BETHLEHEM PRIMITIVE BAPTIST
Elder Hugh Montgomery,
pastor; 4555 FM 1690,
Gatesville; Worship 4th
Sunday of each month at
10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.
CALVARY BAPTIST
Steven L. Bogan, pastor;
Hwy. 84 & FM 116;
Sunday Bible study 10
a.m., Sunday worship 11
a.m. & 6:30 p.m.
CANAAN BAPTIST
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 BAPTIST
Bob Phillips, pastor;
Sundays – Sunday School
10 a.m., worship 11 a.m. &
5:30 p.m.

EASTWOOD BAPTIST
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 10:45 a.m.;
Wednesdays – Children
& Youth 5:30-7:00 p.m.
(supper provided), Adult
Bible Study 6-7:00 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 BAPTIST
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 BAPTIST
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 BAPTIST
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 BAPTIST
Matt Dossey, pastor;
11420 N. State Hwy. S;
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday worship 10:50
a.m.

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

LIBERTY BAPTIST
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 BAPTIST
Pastor Matthew Hamilton;
113 FM 107, Gatesville;
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.,
Sunday worship 10:30
a.m., Wednesday eve-
nings: Choir at 5:30 p.m.,
Children & Youth Activities,
Adult Bible Study at 6:15
p.m.

MOUNTAIN BAPTIST
Rev. Kurt Fuessel, pastor;

6319 US-84, Gatesville;
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday worship 11 a.m.
& 6 p.m. Prayer meeting 7
p.m. Wednesday.
OSAGE BAPTIST
Chris Thomas, pastor;
7505 FM 185, Gatesville;
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday worship 11 a.m.

PEARL COUNTRY CHURCH
2082 FM 1690, Gatesville;
Sunday worship 10 a.m.
PECAN GROVE BAPTIST
6545 FM 107, Gatesville;
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday worship 11 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WESTVIEW BAPTIST
Interim Pastor: Malachi
Houser; 1102 W. Main St.,
Gatesville; Sunday School
10 a.m., Sunday worship
11 a.m.

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

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

MOUND COWBOY CHURCH
Bruce Cox, pastor; Sunday
worship 9 a.m., Sunday
school 9:30 a.m. Men's
breakfast every third
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Deral McWhorter,
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Ridge, Gatesville; Sunday
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W. Brooks Dr., Evant;
Sunday Bible Study 9:30
a.m., Sunday worship
10:20 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.,
Wednesday Bible Study
7 p.m.

FORT GATES CHURCH OF CHRIST
4605 St. Hwy. 36 S.,
Gatesville; Sunday
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GATESVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST
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10:30 a.m.; Wednesday
Bible classes 6:30 p.m.
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Cove; Sundays – worship
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10:30 a.m. Wednesdays
– Bible Study 5:30 p.m.;
Royce 512-734-5390 or
Steve 254-865-3559.

PEARL CHURCH OF CHRIST
6790 FM 183; Sunday
worship 10:30 a.m.

CHURCH OF GOD CORNERSTONE CHURCH OF GOD
Greg Demmitt, pastor;
338 State School Rd.,
Gatesville; Sunday
worship 11 a.m.

LUTHERAN IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
David Reedy, International
Interim Pastor; 922
Lutheran Church Rd.,
Copperas Cove; Sunday
Bible Study 9:15 a.m.;
Sunday worship 10:30
a.m.

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

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

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Schmidt, pastor; Sunday
worship 8:30 a.m. & 10:30
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9:30 a.m. WEDNESDAY
WORD: Meal at 5:30
p.m. \$3; youth, Children
& Adult Bible Studies at 6
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College St.; Sunday
worship 9 a.m.
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worship service 10 a.m.;
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N. Levita Rd., Gatesville,
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p.m.; Adult Bible Study,
Children's Ministry & C3
Student Ministry.

CORYELL FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
Doran Belknap III, Pastor;
Sunday service 11 a.m.,
8205 FM 182, Turnersville;
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Spiker, Sunday service
10 a.m. & 6 p.m.,
Wednesdays 6 p.m.

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Sunday services 11 a.m. &
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9472.

GRACE ASSEMBLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Wray Nunn, pastor;
Sunday worship 10:30
a.m., Wednesday worship
6:30 p.m.; Gateway
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LEVITA BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
4460 FM 930, Levita;
Sunday worship 10:45
a.m.

MOTHER NEFF FAITH TABERNACLE
William Bertelsen,
Pastor; 1415 Texas Hwy.
236; Sunday worship
10:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.;
Wednesday Bible Study
7 p.m.

PEARL COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP
6735 FM 183, Pearl; Sun-
day Services 9 a.m.

THE HOUSE THAT GOD BUILT
Bill Trotter, pastor; 3412
E. Main St., Gatesville;
Sunday service 11 a.m.,
Wednesday service 7 p.m.

PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE OF PRAISE
Rev. Jimmy Skiles,
pastor; 202 E. Main,
Gatesville; Sundays 10
a.m.; Wednesdays 7 p.m.;
254-206-1826.

MOUNT CALVARY CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
Rev. Lee O. Ford, pastor;
514 N. 13th St., Gatesville;
Sunday School 9:45
a.m., Sunday worship 11
a.m., Wednesdays Bible
Study 6:30-7:30 p.m.,
Wednesday service, 7:30
p.m.

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

REFORMED GRACE BIBLE CHURCH
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.,
Sunday services 10:45
a.m.; 4012 US Hwy. 84,
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Max Gunn, pastor; 254-
216-1537; 10 miles west
of Gatesville on HWY
84; Sundays 10:30 a.m.;
Wednesdays 7 p.m.;
Youth Sunday Service
9:45 a.m.

HIGHWAY 2 HEAVEN BIKER CHURCH
Monty & Tammy VanHorn,
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Gatesville, TX
254-865-5328
WWW.TPCGATESVILLE.ORG

Welcome to our Church

First Methodist Church

Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

2600 E. Main, Gatesville, TX
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CLASSIFIEDS

007 AUTO PARTS & SUPPLIES

Good used tires, \$25 & up. 254-397-3676. 00030613

035 WANTED

Fill dirt wanted! Rock & small concrete chunks OK. Close to town. 254-223-1943. 00030697

037 HELP WANTED

Johnson Roofing is currently hiring Experienced Commercial Roofers, Experienced Metal Framers Immediately. \$500 Hiring Bonus after 1st week of employment! Top Pay and Benefits! Email resume HR@JRoof.com 00030648

045 SERVICES

Dry Creek Trash Service
Weekly Pickup and Roll-off container rentals
Ofc. (254) 463-4988
Cell (254) 206-1512
drycreektrashservice.com
00030640

CENTRAL TEXAS REMODELING AND HANDYMAN
Tile, sheetrock, painting, decks, fences, flooring, windows, siding, roofing, texturing. Cecil Woodson, 254-216-3835.
00030645

037 HELP WANTED

060 GARAGE SALE

Business Closing Sale
Fri.-Sun., April 5-7
250 FM 116, Gatesville
Opens at 8 a.m. Friday
Opens at Noon Sat. & Sun.

GALLERY CLOSEOUT
Lots of:
Art • Jewelry • Antiques
Native American
Displays • Tools • More

Huge Multi-Family Garage Sale! 300 River Place West-Gatesville, Fri., 3/29&Sat., 3/30, @8a.m.! Lots of new&used items, household, clothing, saddle, furniture, Tupperware-dealer inventory-All Needs To Go! 00030696

099 PUBLIC NOTICES

THE STATE OF TEXAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION - Parent and child CAUSE NUMBER 319465-0 To: Jessica Michelle Moore Greetings: You are hereby commanded to appear before the 426th District Court, Bell County, Texas to be held at the Bell County District Courts Building in Belton, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock AM of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days of publication of which this citation, then and there to answer the original petition for adoption of a child IN RE:, Petitioner filed in said court on August 24, 2020, against Jessica Michelle Moore, respondent, and said suit being number 319465-0, on the docket of said court, and entitled in the interest of a child, David Brice Terrell, DOB: May 24, 2014. The nature of which suit is a request to adoption not under CPS. The court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child's interest which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's children's adoption. This was issued at the request of attorney: William David Scales, 204 North Penelope Street, Ste. F-1, Belton, Texas 76513. Notice to Jessica Michelle Moore: You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 AM on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were serviced this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. Witness, Joanna Staton, District Clerk of Bell County, Texas. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at office in Belton, Texas on October 29, 2020. Joanna Staton, District Clerk, P.O. Box 909, 1201 West Huey Road, Belton, Texas 76513. For more information, contact Velva Johnson, Court Coordinator, 254-933-5246, velva.johnson@bellcounty.texas.gov. By: C. Estrada, Deputy. 00030695

099 PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE: Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage License and a Food and Beverage License by Okapi's Bar and Grill, LLC, to be located at 712 E. Main Street, Gatesville, Coryell County, Texas. Owner of said LLC is Montgomery T. Roach TRUST U/D/T dated December 23, 1998, Member. 00030688

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: Notice is given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Benton Surrell Boyd were issued on March 20, 2024 in Cause No. 24-10960 pending in the County Court at Law of Coryell County, Texas, to Patricia Abshire. All persons having claims against the estate, which is presently being administered, are required to submit them, within the time and manner prescribed by law, and before the estate is closed, addressed as follows:
c/o Allen D. Place, Jr.
Attorney at Law
109 S. 7th Street
Gatesville, Texas 76528
Dated the 20th day of March, 2024.
Allen D. Place, Jr.
Attorney for Patricia Abshire
State Bar No.: 16058500
109 S. 7th Street
Gatesville, Texas 76528
Telephone: (254) 865-8475
Facsimile: (254) 865-5274
Email: allenplacejr@aol.com
00030689

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Lonnie Ben Putnam were issued on March 20, 2024 in Cause No. 24-10968 pending in the County Court at Law of Coryell County, Texas, to David Mayhew. All persons having claims against this estate, which is presently being administered, are required to submit them, within the time and manner prescribed by law, and before the estate is closed, addressed as follows:
c/o: Allen D. Place, Jr.
Attorney at Law
109 S. 7th Street
Gatesville, Texas 76528
Dated the 20th day of March, 2024.
Allen D. Place, Jr.
Attorney for David Mayhew
State Bar No.: 16058500
109 S. 7th Street
Gatesville, Texas 76528
Telephone: (254) 865-8475
Facsimile: (254) 865-5274
Email: allenplacejr@aol.com
00030690

NOTICE OF SALE: NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY HORNET STORAGE II OF GATESVILLE TX TO THE FOLLOWING PERSONS LISA BROWN.
UNIT #28
THAT ON THE 5TH DAY OF APRIL AT 9AM AT 322 FM 107 GATESVILLE, TX. THE GOODS IN YOUR UNIT WILL BE SOLD IN ORDER TO SATISFY YOUR STORAGE LIEN AS SET FORTH BY TEXAS LAW. THIS IS THE 3/22/2024.
00030698

NOTICE OF SALE: CITATION BY PUBLICATION - TRC109&114 THE STATE OF TEXAS: U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS SUCCESSOR IN THE INTEREST TO BANK OF AMERICA NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR C-BASS MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-SP2, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS -vs- MARILYN J MAZE; KENNETH MAZE JR; GARLAND MCGIRR AKA GARLAND MAZE; RANDY L WRIGHT; LISA REANN MCGIRR AKA LISA DICKSON Cause No: DC-23-54728 IN THE 52ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS TO: MARILYN J MAZE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF MARILYN J. MAZE 503 MARY ST COPPERAS COVE, TX 76522 Defendant - GREETING NOTICE TO RESPONDENT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days after the date you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. in addition to filing a written answer with the clerk, you may be required to make initial disclosures generally must be made no later than 30 days after you file your answer with the clerk. Find out more at TexasLawHelp.org." You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Petition at or before 10:00 o'clock AM on the Monday next after the expiration after 42 days after the date of issuance of this citation before the Honorable 52ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT of Coryell County, at the Courthouse in said County in Gatesville, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said court on the 05/23/2023 in the above entitled causes. A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to wit: PLAINTIFF U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS SUCCESSOR IN THE INTEREST TO BANK OF AMERICA NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR C-BASS MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-SP2., B AND THROUGH ITS ATTORNEY OF RECORD, DANYA F. GLADNEY OF CODILIS & MOODY, P.C., 20405 STATE HIGHWAY 249, SUITE 170, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77070, BROUGHT SUIT UNDER CAUSE # DC-23-54728 IN THE 52ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS FOR ENFORCEMENT AND FORECLOSURE OF DEED OF TRUST LIEN ON THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED REAL PROPERTY OF WHICH DEFENDANTS, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF MARILYN J. MAZE, ARE POTENTIAL PARTIES IN THE INTEREST: LOT FOUR(4) BLOCK FIVE(5) OF MEGGS SUBDIVISION, COPPERAS COVE, CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS, AS SHOWN OF RECORD IN VOLUME 190, PAGE 327, DEED RECORDS OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS COMMONLY KNOWN AS 503 MARY ST. COPPERAS COVE, TEXAS 76522 in as more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit. Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Gatesville, Texas, this 10th day of January, 2024.
Attorney for Plaintiff or Petitioner
DANYA F. GLADNEY
400 N. SAM HOUSTON PKWY E, SUITE 900A
HOUSTON, TX 77060
Clerk of the Court:
Becky Moore, District Clerk
P.O. Box 4
Gatesville, Texas 76528
Coryell County, Texas
By: LONNA GOSSETT, DEPUTY 00030662

NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND HEARING TO CONSIDER TO REPLAT OF TWIN CAVERNS RANCH, PHASE II LOCATION/DATE:
The Coryell County Commissioners Court will hold a public hearing at 9:00 a.m. on April 23, 2024, at the Coryell County Commissioners' Courtroom, 800 E. Main Street, Gatesville TX 76528.
PURPOSE: To receive comments for or against a request by KG Texas Ranch, LLC for a revision of Twin Caverns Ranch, Phase 2 Replat No. 1.
SITE LOCATION:
The subject site is located at County Road 272, Oglesby, TX.
SITE LEGAL DESCRIPTION: The subject site is a 144.08-acre tract being in Twin Caverns Ranch, Phase 2, Replat No. 1, Lot Numbers 157, 159, 160, 166-168, 170, 172-178, 181, 185, 200, 206, 217-219, 223, 224, 226, 227, and 242 as recorded in Slide 1130-1139 of the Coryell County Clerk Records.
FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Additional information and a map of the subject site are available upon request for review. You may contact Justin Mannix at the Coryell County Road and Bridge Department for additional information.
00030699
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of RITA J. JUREK, Deceased, were issued on March 22, 2024, under Docket No. 24-10971 pending in the County Court at Law of Coryell County, Texas, to GREGORY RICHARD JUREK. All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present them to the undersigned at the address shown below within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
Dated this 25th day of March, 2024.
Suzanne N. Hack #24049511
Sheehy, Lovelace, & Mayfield, P.C.
510 N. Valley Mills Drive, Suite 500
Waco, Texas 76710
Telephone No. 254-772-8022
Email: shack@slm.law
ATTORNEYS FOR THE ESTATE
00030694

NOTICE OF SALE: NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY HORNET STORAGE II OF GATESVILLE TX TO THE FOLLOWING PERSONS LISA BROWN.
UNIT #28
THAT ON THE 5TH DAY OF APRIL AT 9AM AT 322 FM 107 GATESVILLE, TX. THE GOODS IN YOUR UNIT WILL BE SOLD IN ORDER TO SATISFY YOUR STORAGE LIEN AS SET FORTH BY TEXAS LAW. THIS IS THE 3/22/2024.
00030698

NOTICE OF SALE: NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY HORNET STORAGE II OF GATESVILLE TX TO THE FOLLOWING PERSONS LISA BROWN.
UNIT #28
THAT ON THE 5TH DAY OF APRIL AT 9AM AT 322 FM 107 GATESVILLE, TX. THE GOODS IN YOUR UNIT WILL BE SOLD IN ORDER TO SATISFY YOUR STORAGE LIEN AS SET FORTH BY TEXAS LAW. THIS IS THE 3/22/2024.
00030698

NOW HIRING

- RN – FT & PRN; all Shifts for Charge Nurse and Nursing
- LVN – FT & PRN; all Shifts for Charge Nurse and Nursing
- Occupational Therapist – FT

****FULL TIME SIGN ON BONUS MAY BE AVAILABLE WITH ONE YEAR COMMITMENT FOR SPECIFIC AREA'S LVNS, CMAS, CNAS**

BENEFITS OFFERED:
Competitive compensation • Paid Vacation • Sick time accrual • Matching 457B investments
Tuition Reimbursement • Health, Dental, Life and Supplemental Insurances. EOE.

APPLY IN PERSON OR DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION FROM WEBSITE:

110 Chicktown Rd. off: (254) 404-2500
Gatesville, TX 76528 fax: (254) 248-6288
humanresources@coryellhealth.org

Job summaries at www.CoryellHealth.org

NOW HIRING

HOME HEALTH:
• RN – FT (4 day weekends every other week)
• PCA – PRN for Gatesville, Copperas Cove & Hamilton

ASSISTED/INDEPENDENT LIVING:
• CNA-FT & PRN – all Shifts
• CMA – PRN

MEDICAL CLINIC:
• CMA/LVN – FT
• CCMA
• LVN – PRN

CULINARY:
• Patient Dining Associate
• Retail Café Server
• Cook
• Kitchen Manager
• Cashier
• Dishwasher

DIALYSIS:
• LVN – PT; RN Charge
• Nurse – FT

EMPLOYEE HEALTH:
• Employee Health RN

EMS:
• Paramedic – FT & PRN

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT:

• RN – FT Nightshift
• PRN – all shifts

HOUSEKEEPING:
• Housekeepers – FT

ICU:
• RN – FT all shifts

INFECTION PREVENTION:
• BSN-RN – FT
Preferable Certified Infection Control & Epidemiology

LAB:
• Medical Laboratory Technician – FT and PT or PRN
• Point of Care Assistant – FT

MED/ SURG:
• RN or LVN – FT and PRN

MILLS COUNTY MEDICAL CLINIC:
• LVN

RADIOLOGY:
• CT/X-Ray Tech – PRN
TDH MRT & ARRT W/1 yr. exp. in CT/X-Ray

SURGERY:
• Certified Scrub Technician
• Cath Lab RN
• Pre-Op/PACU RN

SOME POSITIONS MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR SIGN ON BONUS. ASK FOR DETAILS.

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

APPLY IN PERSON OR DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION FROM WEBSITE:

1507 W. Main St. off: (254) 248-6386
Gatesville, TX 76528 fax: (254) 248-6288
humanresources@coryellhealth.org

045 SERVICES

NOLTE'S CONSTRUCTION



Roads • Tanks • Driveways,
Septic Systems • Land Clearing
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254-432-1705
CELL 254-216-2938

HUNT FENCING: Farm & Ranch Fence, Residential, Corrals, Automatic Solar Gates, Custom Entryways & Gates, Welding Projects. **John Hunt, Owner, (254)248-2613** 00030642

ASHLEY'S LANDSCAPING & SERVICES: Tree Trimming, Leaf/Yard Cleanup, Mowing, Landscaping, French Drains, and Moving Services. **John 3:16, Like us on Facebook! 254-239-8842** 00030646

Central Texas Landscaping & Services, LLC: Mowing, Landscaping, Brush Clearing, Trash Clean Up, Pipe Fence Painting (Ospho), Road Installation. **John Capella, 254-216-3684. Licensed & Insured.** 00030649

TREE WORKS Tree Service: tree trimming, removal & stump grinding. Free estimates. Call Lloyd, (254)223-3287. 00030641

FERGUSON ROOFING: Locally owned company serving all Central Texas area. Commercial and Residential. Free Estimates! 254-466-5128 00030639

R&M FENCING & DOZING: barbed wire, custom pipe, entryways, corrals, barns, fence row clearing, metal buildings, residential & game fencing, solar gate openers, dozer work. Free estimates. **Larry Riddle, 254-248-2205; Joyce McAdams, 254-248-4318.** 00030644

Schuman's HEAT & AIR, Inc.
Residential & Commercial Service • Installation
Refrigeration
Servicing All Brands
Gatesville & Surrounding Areas
Darrel Schuman - Owner
254-499-0054
TACLA27524C www.schumansair.com

Your ad should be here.....

CLASSIFIEDS

099 PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO RAZE AND REMOVE BUILDING

TO: Donna Teel (deceased)
1612 Robertson Ave
Copperas Cove, TX 76522

NOTICE COPIES PROVIDED TO THE FOLLOWING HOLDERS OF ENCUMBRANCES OF RECORD PURSUANT TO WIS. STAT 66.0413(1)(d):

CITY OF WAUSAU
407 Grant Street
Wausau, WI 54403

MARATHON COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE
500 Forest Street
Wausau, WI 54403

MARATHON COUNTY
c/o County Administrator
500 Forest Street
Wausau, WI 54403

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the building hereinafter described located on the hereinafter described property is in violation of Wausau Municipal Code Section 15.32.010 (Razing, removing or repairing). Consequently, this building is out of repair, dangerous for further use, unsafe, unfit for human habitation and unreasonable to repair. A Building Inspection Report is attached as Exhibit 1.

IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED that the cost to repair the building hereinafter described exceeds fifty (50) percent of the assessed value of the building divided by the ratio of the assessed value to the recommended value as last published by the Wisconsin Department of Revenue for the City of Wausau and that such repairs are therefore presumed unreasonable, as set forth on Exhibit 1. The 2023 value set by the City of Wausau Assessor's Office for the building was \$76,800 and the total miscellaneous value, including the detached garage, was \$5,200. Values for 2024 will not be public until May.

YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED pursuant to Section 15.32.010 of the Wausau Municipal Code and Section 66.0413(1)(b)1, of the Wisconsin Statutes to Raze and Remove said building within thirty (30) days after service of this order on you.

Property location address: 930 S. 5th Ave, Wausau, WI 54401
Legal Description: J M SMITHS ADD LOT 8 BLK 9, in the City of Wausau, Marathon County, Wisconsin.

Tax Parcel No.: 59-6915-009-008-00-00

PIN: 291-2907-353-0028

Building: The building to be removed is an unattached garage.

YOU ARE FURTHER ORDERED to remove all personal property or fixtures from the building within thirty (30) days after service of this Order on you. If the personal property or fixtures are not removed within such time the City may store, sell, or if the personal property or fixtures have no appreciable value, destroy such property or fixtures. If the property is stored, the amount paid for storage shall be a lien against the property and the real estate and to the extent not reimbursed, shall be assessed and collected as a special tax against the real estate if owned by the owner of the personal property and fixtures.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that this notice is served upon you pursuant to the terms and provisions of Section 66.0413, Subsection (1) of the Wisconsin Statutes and in such case made and provided. If you shall fail or refuse to comply within the time prescribed in this notice, said building shall be razed and removed by the City of Wausau; and the cost of such razing and removal shall be charged against the property, shall be a lien thereon, and shall be assessed and collected as a special tax.

Dated at Wausau, Wisconsin, this 21st day of March, 2024.

CITY OF WAUSAU
Evan Garski, Property Inspector for the City of Wausau
STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF MARATHON

Personally came before me this 21st day of March, 2024, the above named Evan Garski, Property Inspector for the City of Wausau, to me known to be the person who executed the foregoing instrument and acknowledged the same. 00030691

JENNIFER NEWTON
CLERK OF THE COUNTY COURT
P.O. BOX 237
GATESVILLE, TEXAS 76528
ATTORNEY OR PERSON FILING CAUSE
JACQUELINE BALTRUN
512 E. FOURTH ST.
LAMPASAS, TX 76550
TO: DECEDENT'S UNKNOWN HEIRS
UNKNOWN ADDRESS
UNKNOWN STATE
THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF CORYELL

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF JOSHUA ERNEST BAILEY, DECEASED CAUSE NO 23-10939, COUNTY COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS. KIMBERLY SUE BAILEY FILED IN THE COUNTY COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS ON THE 28TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2023, APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP SAID JOSHUA ERNEST BAILEY, DECEASED.

SAID APPLICATION SHALL BE HEARD AND ACTED ON BY SAID COURT ON OR AFTER THE FIRST MONDAY NEXT AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF TEN DAYS FROM DATE OF POSTING THIS CITATION, THE SAME BEING THE 8TH DAY OF JANUARY 2024, AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS.

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

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE COUNTY COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS THE 28TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2023.

JENNIFER NEWTON
CORYELL COUNTY CLERK
CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS
BY: A. KORNEYGAY 00030692

099 PUBLIC NOTICES

102 REAL ESTATE



Burks

REAL ESTATE

Evant, TX
Office: 254-471-5738

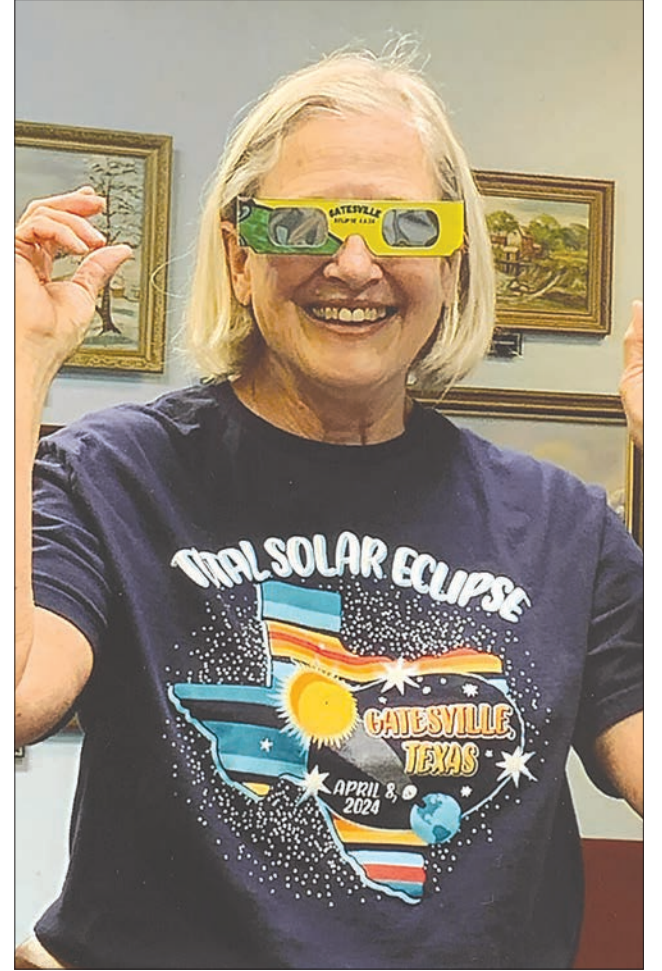
Calvin Burks - Broker
(254) 865-3601

Lindy Burks
(254) 206-0643

Johnny Burks
(254) 223-0833

FOR ALL LISTINGS
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.BURKSREALESTATE.COM

102 REAL ESTATE



COURTESY PHOTO

Joyce Talbott presented a program to members of the Morris Federation about the upcoming total solar eclipse.

Morris Federation learns about upcoming eclipse and Gatesville's plans for it

Submitted by Marsha Lee

On Saturday, March 9, the Morris Federation held its monthly meeting in the James Coryell Room at the Coryell Museum and Historical Center.

The program was presented by Joyce Talbott, who majored in math and science and taught school for 27 years, some of those at Gatesville Elementary School. She joined the Lions Club in April of 2022, and her willingness to help with any and all Lions Club projects resulted in her being named "Lion of the Year" for 2022. She is also a member of CRSP and volunteers at the Gatesville Care Center. She is married to Charles Talbott, and they have two children, Clint and Valerie.

A Total Solar Eclipse

Joyce has also been a vital part of planning and helping Gatesville prepare for a major upcoming event: the total solar eclipse, which will occur on April 8, 2024. A total solar eclipse happens when the moon passes between the Earth and the sun, and the three bodies are in perfect alignment with one another. When the moon is at its closest distance to Earth and appears to be the same size as the sun, it will completely block out the face of the sun. This type of solar eclipse is special because it is the only eclipse where viewers can momentarily remove their eclipse glasses as the moon completely covers the sun. Talbott warned, "Looking at the sun when it is not totally covered can damage the eyes."

Other Types of Eclipses

There are three other types of solar eclipses: An annular solar eclipse happens when the moon passes between the Earth and sun. The bodies are aligned, but the moon is at or near its farthest point from the Earth. Its shadow on the sun will thus appear smaller than the sun, and the eclipse will resemble a small black disk on top of a larger, bright disk, and it leaves a bright ring of sun exposed around its shadow. The last annual eclipse in the U.S. was on Oct. 14, 2023. A partial solar eclipse happens when the Moon passes between the Earth and sun, but without being in a straight line, and thus only a part of the sun is blacked out. This

gives it a crescent shape, making it look like a bite has been taken out of the sun. It is probably the most common eclipse. The hybrid solar eclipse is the rarest eclipse. Because the Earth's surface is curved, an eclipse will sometimes shift between an annular and a total eclipse.

Gatesville will be in the path of a total eclipse of the sun on April 8, 2024. It will be visible in parts of 13 states: Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. Observers here will be able to see the partial phase of the eclipse begin at 12:19 p.m. At 1:36 p.m., totality will occur when the moon's path will completely obscure the sun for a total of 4 minutes, 23.9 seconds. The last contact will occur at 2:59 p.m.

People located nearest the center of the width of the track left by the moon's shadow when it hits the Earth will experience the longest period of total coverage of the Sun. Gatesville's central location will allow this longer period of totality, whereas other sites may only experience a minute or a little less of totality. The sky will darken, as if it were dawn or dusk. Weather permitting, observers may view the sun's atmosphere, called the corona, which sometimes may put on a little display.

During totality, it is not unusual for this to confuse animals and insects. Nocturnal animals may stir about, whereas birds may stop chirping and settle down for the night or "roost," and cows in the pasture may walk back toward the barn. Most insects may quieten down, while others like crickets and cicada may become louder. Some people experience an eerie feeling, like the world is standing still. Mrs. Talbott shared, "This may seem a bit strange, but I would urge viewers to take time to listen to the eclipse and to feel the eclipse. This may be the only total solar eclipse you ever have a chance to view."

'Diamond Ring Effect'

Another thing Mrs. Talbott urged viewers to watch for was the 'diamond ring effect' in a total solar eclipse. She explained, "As the moon comes close to com-

pletely covering the sun, the eclipse will take on a diamond ring appearance. This occurs again as the moon begins to leave its full coverage of the sun; then the diamond ring effect appears on the other side of the eclipse."

So, why is this eclipse so special? And, how rare is a total solar eclipse? Mrs. Talbott explained, "Total solar eclipses may occur an average of once every 18 months and are visible from someplace on the Earth's surface. That's still only an average of twice every 3 years, and each time they appear, they can only be viewed from a small portion of our big planet. They occur in different places, like over other countries or continents or even in the middle of nowhere like over the South Pacific or Antarctica." She continued, "The last time a total solar eclipse crossed a portion of the United States was in 2017. Prior to that, it had been 38 years since the eclipse of 1979 crossed over the Pacific Northwest." Another will occur in 2026, touching fringes of Greenland, Iceland, and Spain. North America will not experience totality again until 2033, with only part of Alaska able to witness it. Then, in 2044, another total solar eclipse will occur over North America, but only parts of western Canada, Montana, and the Dakotas will be able to view it. The path of totality for a 2045 total solar eclipse will run coast to coast from California to Florida.

The total solar eclipse of 2017 provided a view of totality over parts of about 14 states, but there are some differences between that eclipse and the upcoming one:

- The sun will be more active than in 2017. Every 11 years, the sun's north and south magnetic fields flip. As the magnetic fields are reoriented, activity on the sun changes. Scientists say this solar cycle is expected to near its peak around the eclipse on April 8th, and the sun will look more interesting. The Sun will likely have more wisps and streams exiting its atmosphere.

- An unusual "horned devil comet" notable for a series of recent outbursts will be visible in the night sky, and astronomers expect it to make a rare appearance during the total eclipse on April 8. This

Halley-type comet makes a 71-year orbit around the sun. It is a dazzling comet, greenish in color.

- There will be a longer duration for totality, especially in Gatesville. Sky watchers will not only get a glimpse of total darkness, but also a longer period of duration as well. Gatesville totality will last 4 minutes, 23.9 seconds.

Gatesville city planners are anticipating a large crowd of visitors for this event. They have been busy making plans. Brad Hunt, Police Chief, has called in additional police officers, not anticipating more crime, but rather management of traffic, etc. Restaurants, grocery stores, businesses, and motels are making plans. RV and tent camping areas are being made ready. A wide variety of activities and special events are being arranged for April 5-8. These include a presentation by NASA Ambassador Liam Finn in the City Auditorium on April 6 entitled "Syzygy: Exploring the Science and Wonder of the Solar Eclipse" (free admission, but tickets required). The museum will be open, allowing 60 visitors maximum at one time. There will be a "BLOCK (out the Sun) Party on the Square April 6-7 with lots of activities for all ages, and the Texas Station Events Center will host activities on those nights. Look at articles in The Gatesville Messenger for more information about times and locations of events.

Lastly, Mrs. Talbott mentioned a few things that we can do ahead of eclipse weekend. These included things such as getting solar eclipse glasses in advance, stocking up on groceries (to avoid the crowds and help our grocery stores meet needs that weekend), filling vehicles up with gasoline (also to avoid crowds and to help alleviate the chance of a gas shortage over the weekend), and filling prescriptions early and getting some extra cash (to help avoid ATM's running out of cash). In conclusion, she suggested "take off eclipse day if possible and stay flexible, participate in activities, watch the eclipse from home, record your memories, have fun and enjoy the experience!"

1st Place Winner



COURTESY PHOTO BY CLAY REEVES

The Gatesville Messenger has officially kicked off their second annual Bonnets in Bloom bluebonnet photo contest, sponsored by The First National Bank of Central Texas. Clay Reeves' photograph, taken outside of Brenham, was selected as the first weekly winner. Pictured in the bluebonnets is the late Pepper, who happens to be one of the two stars of the "Aggie & Pepper rescue dog series" books penned by Reeves. Reeves will receive a one-year subscription to The Gatesville Messenger, a Bonnets in Bloom t-shirt, and a chance at winning the \$200 grand prize. To enter your photos for a chance to win, visit www.gatesvill messenger.com today.

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Locals crowned at 2nd annual Miss Springfest Pageant

Staff Reports

The second annual Miss Springfest Pageant was held on Friday, March 22 and on Saturday, March 23 and on Sunday. The event was sponsored by the Texas Station Event Center for their annual Spring Fest.

A \$1,000 scholarship award was donated by Spur Chevrolet GMC and Spur Chrysler Dodge Jeep RAM to the queen, Jaynee Green.

The pageant was organized by Dean Smith, Kaylie Mendez, Susie Meelbusch, Kendra Pruitt, and Allysen Simon. The volunteers included Angel Heath and Yvonne Williams.

The winners of the 2024 Miss Springfest Pageant are Queen Jaynee Green, Junior Miss Natalie Brooke Arriage, Sweetheart Jolee Adair, Little Miss Jonesy Newman, Tiny Miss Claire Mchargue, and Baby Miss Aurora Waters.

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



COURTESY PHOTO

Aurora Waters, Baby Miss



COURTESY PHOTO

Claire Mchargue, Tiny Miss



COURTESY PHOTO

Jaynee Green, Queen



COURTESY PHOTO

Jolee Adair, Sweetheart



COURTESY PHOTO

Jonesy Newman, Little Miss



COURTESY PHOTO

Natalie Brooke Arriage, junior Miss

Hornets place in top 10 at state powerlifting meet

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

Gatesville High School powerlifters Zach Bryant and L.J. Hall posted top 10 finishes at the Texas High School Powerlifting Association meet on Friday, March 22, in Abilene.

Bryant claimed the bronze medal in the super heavy-weight class with a three-lift total of 1,795 pounds. His stats include 715 pounds on squat, 500 pounds on the bench press, and 580 pounds on the deadlift. He was one of 13 lifters who qualified in his division.

Bryant has competed in five invitational meets, including the regional and state meets as well.

His meets include:

Moody Invitational on Jan. 20, placed 1st with a 1,585-pound total.

Gatesville Invitational, on Jan. 27, placed 1st with a 1,660-pound total.

China Spring Invitational, on Feb. 1, placed 1st with a 1,690-pound total.

McGregor Invitational, on Feb. 8, placed 1st with a 1,720-pound total.

West Invitational, on Feb. 17, placed 1st with a 1,670-pound total.

At the Regional Championships in Gatesville, he placed 1st with a 1,770-pound total.

Hall finished in 9th place in the 165-pound weight class with 1,470 pounds. His stats include 500 pounds on squat, 440 pounds on

the bench press, and 530 pounds on deadlift. He was one of 32 state qualifiers in his division.

Hall has competed in five invitational meets as well as the regional and state meets this year.

His meets include: Moody Invitational, on Jan. 20, placed 1st with a 1,265-pound total.

Gatesville Invitational, on Jan. 27, placed 1st with a 1,295-pound total.

China Spring Invitational, on Feb. 1, placed 1st with a 1,300-pound total.

McGregor Invitational, on Feb. 8, placed 1st with a 1,360-pound total.

West Invitational, on Feb. 17, placed 1st with a

1,415-pound total.

At the Regional Championships in Gatesville, on March 9, he placed 2nd with a 1,440-pound total.

In addition to Bryant and Hall representing the Hornets at the state meet, David Sims was also honored by being awarded with a \$1,250 scholarship by the THSPA. Each year, the THSPA awards 24 scholarships to senior powerlifters who have been outstanding in the classroom and in their sport.

Powerlifting coach Jason Moffett said, "David worked hard to earn this scholarship and is very deserving of it."

"All three of these guys

PLEASE SEE STATE | B2



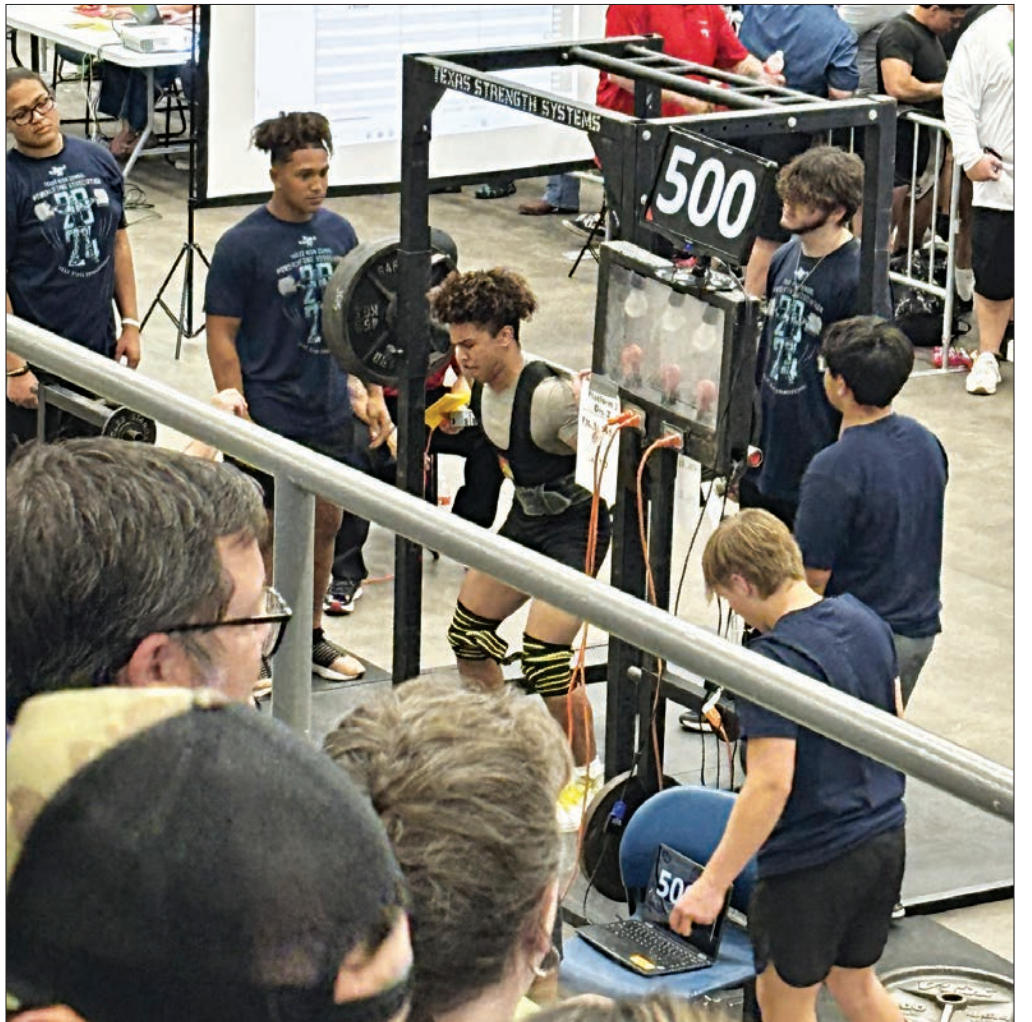
COURTESY PHOTO BY CODIE KEY

Gatesville Hornets L.J. Hall (left) and Zach Bryant recently competed in the THSPA State Championships.



COURTESY PHOTO BY CODIE KEY

Hornet Zach Bryant took third place at the THSPA meet with a total lift weight of 1,795 pounds.



COURTESY PHOTO BY CODIE KEY

Hornet L.J. Hall came in ninth place at the THSPA meet with a total lift weight of 1,470 pounds.

GISD appoints Colson and Perez as the new cheer coaches

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

Gatesville Independent School District has recently announced that two Gatesville High School alumni will be the new cheer coaches of the district.

The position of the varsity and junior high cheer coach will be fulfilled by Amber Colson, and the junior varsity team will be led by Cassie Perez.

Both ladies are well known throughout the community since they already work within the school district.

Colson first began her journey with Gatesville ISD in 2015. She is currently teaching kindergarten at Gatesville Primary and will later transfer to Gatesville Elementary in the fall.

This will be her fifth year with the cheer team, as she

has helped coach throughout the years.

Perez is serving her ninth year at Gatesville ISD and is in her second year as a school counselor at Gatesville Elementary.

Perez was once a cheerleader and mascot for the high school and expressed that she believes her experience will help her connect with the team because she

understands the hard work and dedication it takes to be in their position.

"I think coming full circle from being a cheerleader and mascot to becoming a coach for the program at Gatesville High School is pretty special," Perez said.

"Amber and I have worked together in the past as kindergarten teachers, and we balance each other out well,"

Perez said. "We have high expectations for both teams for the upcoming season."

Colson explained that this year she is planning to physically improve as a team with advanced stunt skills and tumbling, with hopes to be the first team to make finals at the State UIL Competition. She would also like to support more organizations to help create a true home

field/court advantage.

"I am really excited to see the team transition throughout the program at different levels and watch them continue to grow and reach their full potential," Colson said.

Perez said that she has been watching many of the cheerleaders and Buzz perform since they were in ju-

PLEASE SEE CHEER | B2

Keeton, Veazey help Hornets down Rockets in district opener



Gehrig Keeton

BY CHRIS ALLMAN
Contributing Writer

Sophomore Gehrig Keeton spun a three-hit shutout, and Bralen Veazey hit a two-run homer as Gatesville beat Robinson 8-0 in the 23-4A opener for both teams.

For Keeton, it was his second straight stel-

lar start. In a 3-1 loss to Brownwood on Mar. 19, he gave up five hits, two earned runs, and threw just 61 pitches in a complete game loss.

Against Robinson, he allowed only an infield single in the second inning, a double in the fourth, and a single in the sixth as he kept Rockets

hitters off balance with a mix of pitches throughout the night.

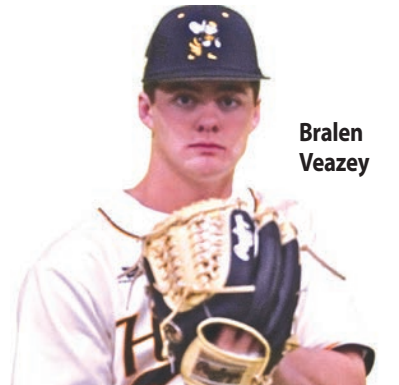
"He is putting the ball on both corners of the plate, throwing his curveball and slider for strikes and is even mixing in his changeup. That combination of things makes it hard to hit him hard consistently," said

Gatesville head coach Chase Smith.

Keeton had a pair of hits and an RBI himself but was bolstered by a big offensive night from the Hornets other ace, Bralen Veazey.

Veazey drove in four runs on a pair of hits -

PLEASE SEE OPENER | B2



Bralen Veazey



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CHEER

FROM PAGE B1

nior high, so she is excited to work with and challenge them to improve personally and as a program.

Most of the seniors at Gatesville High School are around the age of Perez's son, so she expressed how this group is very special to her.

"I would like to see them grow together as a team and build confidence in themselves," she said. "We have a lot of talented athletes in our program, and we know they will do an amazing job next season."

"Amber and Holly Redford have done a great job with the program in the past, and we want to continue growing the program in the years to come," Perez said. "We have some new things implemented and exciting things planned."

As there will be many

new additions to the cheer program, one of those will be a new custom one-of-a-kind Buzz costume to match the logo of the school. The costume will be purchased through tiered sponsorship.

The cheer program's fundraising goal is \$15,000 to purchase the mascot costume.

There are a few different ways to sponsor the costume, which include the platinum sponsor for \$2,500, the gold sponsor for \$1,000, the silver sponsor for \$500, and the bronze sponsor for \$250. For further details on what is received with each sponsor, contact Amber Colson at acolson@gatesvilleisd.org.

All sponsorship donations are tax-deductible and are payable to Gatesville ISD for "Buzz the Hornet Sponsorship."

"I am planning to work with Buzz a lot during next season; she is an amazing mascot. I am excited to collaborate with her to make her senior year special," Perez said. "Having her out and about at many events will help bring more school spirit to the students and community."

Colson and Perez both expressed how they are excited for the new Buzz costume, as it will represent Gatesville ISD with pride and honor.

"I love having the opportunity to build relationships with my teams and witness them grow as not only cheerleaders, but people too," Colson said. "It is so rewarding to see how excited and proud they are when they are able to accomplish a goal that they have set for themselves or for the team."



COURTESY PHOTO

Gatesville ISD's cheer coaches Amber Colson (left) and Cassie Perez.

STATE

FROM PAGE B1

are seniors, and they have made huge contributions to our athletic programs here at Gatesville High School over the course of the last four years and have made a very positive impact on me, personally," Moffett said. "They are outstanding kids who have represented us well, and they will be dearly missed when they graduate."

OPENER

FROM PAGE B1

the biggest being his two-run blast over right-center field wall in the third inning. Veazey's other two RBI came in the top of the sixth when the Hornets scored four times to turn a 4-0 lead into an 8-0 rout.

Sophomore Justin Muegge led off the inning with a single then advanced to third when the Rockets misplayed a Justin Johnson bunt. Clayton Gregory delivered a sacrifice fly to centerfield to score Muegge to make it 5-0. Then Keeton singled to left field to score Johnson and give the Hornets a 6-0 lead.

After Lawson Mooney drew a two-out walk, Veazey rifled a single to right field to score Logan Biggs and Sean Aguilar and make the score 8-0.

Gatesville had eight singles to go along with Veazey's homer and Keeton's double. They also had a pair of sacrifice flies in a game where offensive approach was both aggressive and selfless.

"We moved runners up and weren't taking as many of those monster hacks that usually come up empty tonight. Just smooth, head-still swings. It was nice to see," said Smith.

Veazey, Muegge, and Keeton had a pair of hits each while Biggs, Gregory, Mooney, and Miles Tull had a hit apiece. Gregory drove in two runs, including the first run of the game with a single in second inning.

Last season, Gatesville dropped a pair of extra-inning losses to Robinson en route to an 0-4 district start before righting the ship and advancing to the regional quarterfinals. The Hornets and Rockets met again on Mar. 28, in Gatesville, and a season-sweep would give the Hornets an edge in terms of playoff seeding in District 23-4A.

"It's always big when you are able to get a win against those guys. Dropping both games like we did to those guys last year was a shot to the gut for sure. Hopefully, we can build off this win and keep the momentum rolling," Smith said.



COURTESY PHOTO

BI-DISTRICT CHAMPIONS: Gatesville High School boys' soccer team



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GHS boys soccer beat Kennedale, become bi-district champs

Submitted Item

The Gatesville boys' soccer team took on Kennedale on Tuesday in the first round of the high school soccer playoffs. The boys fell behind, 0-2, in the first ten minutes of the game but fought their way back with a goal from Angel Almendariz and headed into halftime trailing 1-2. The boys came out of half with relentless play that led to three goals by Almendariz, Asa Harcastle, and Oswaldo Leon, in a span of five minutes, to gain a 4-2 advantage. Kennedale struck back with a goal at the 20-minute mark to make the score 4-3. The Hornets then came back with two more goals from Leon and Almendariz. A late

goal from Kennedale made the final score 6-4. Assisting in the goals for the Hornets were Jack Armstrong, Hector Silva, Alex Bueno, Sergio Bucio Rivera, and Harcastle. The Hornets received strong play from goal keeper Javier Bonilla and strong defense from Abraham Almendariz, Malichi Olvera, Damian Guerrero, Hayden Blanchard, and Ryan Tesar. This was the first playoff win for the GHS boys' soccer team in nine years.

After becoming bi-district champions, the boys were scheduled to play Fort Worth Diamond Hill Jarvis on Friday at Cleburne High School in the area round of the playoffs.

Jonesboro baseball falls to Tigers

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

This past week, Jonesboro ISD's baseball team played against Oglesby ISD, where Jonesboro lost 2-17.

The top hitters for the game include:
Layden Nichols, 1-2, 1 run

scored.
Garrett Young, 1-2, 1 run scored.

Luke Stephenson, 1-1.
Jonesboro ISD Baseball coach Brandon Pierce said, "Too many walks and plays not made in the field, we

put the ball in play, but hit it right at them. They made plays unlike us."

For further details, contact Jonesboro ISD at 254-463-2111.



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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TRACK RESULTS FOR LOCAL SCHOOLS



COURTESY PHOTO

Gatesville's Cory Burns hands off to Dutch Nielsen during a recent track meet.

Gatesville Hornets compete in Burnet track meet

Staff Reports

The Gatesville ISD Hornet track team recently competed in a track meet located in Burnet on Thursday, March 21.

The team brought home various medals and awards. The stats for the team include:

JV Boys 100 Meter Dash
Larry Schwertner, 15th place, 12.72.
Trey Howard, 16th place, 12.72.
Graham Barron, 21st place, 13.32.
Varsity Boys 100 Meter Dash
Lawson Mooney, 5th place, 11.39.
Ricky Villigrana, 12th place, 11.76.
Dutch Nielsen, 21st place, 12.33.
JV Boys 200 Meter Dash
Brayden Mills, 11th place, 25.58.
Dominyk Romero, 14th place, 26.17.
Trey Howard, 18th place,

26.65.
Varsity Boys 200 Meter Dash
Cory Burns, 1st place, 22.45.
Tommy Aaron, 9th place, 23.72.
Kase Cox, 16th place, 24.87.
JV Boys 400 Meter Dash
Jahaziel Martinez, 2nd place, 55.05.
Mason Brizendine, 11th place, 58.77.
Dominyk Romero, 13th place, 59.73.
Varsity Boys 400 Meter Dash
Cameron Thompson, 5th place, 53.33.
Amos Phillips, 13th place, 55.19.
Nevin Benning, 15 place, 56.13.
JV Boys 800 Meter Run
Seth Baize, 16th place, 2:30.13.
Braxton Boyd, 17th place, 2:30.22.
Varsity Boys 800 Meter Run
Justin Muegge, 2nd place, 1:59.34.

Malachi Olvera, 10th place, 2:07.90.
Asa Hardcastle, 19th place, 2:25.92.
JV Boys 1600 Meter Run
Braxton Boyd, 16th place, 5:38.70.
Roman Wallace, 17th place, 5:38.74.
Mason Emigh, 18th place, 5:51.48.
Varsity Boys 1600 Meter Run
Malachi Olvera, 12th place, 5:02.55.
Charles McCleod, 15th place, 5:09.42.
JV Boys 3200 Meter Run
Roman Wallace, 11th place, 12:30.16.
Mason Emigh, 13th place, 12:43.29.
Varsity Boys 3200 Meter Run
Jack Armstrong, 5th place, 10:31.05.
Asa Hardcastle, 11th place, 11:08.97.
Charles McCleod, 13th place, 11:22.74.
JV Boys 110 Meter Hurdles
Larry Schwertner, 9th

place, 19.67.
Ian Gilmore, 16th place, 21.22.
Varsity Boys 110 Meter Hurdles
CJ Morrall, 4th place, 18.39.
Caleb Saxon, 6th place, 20.75.
JV Boys 300 Meter Hurdles
Ian Gilmore, 14th place, 51.14.
Larry Schwertner, 16th place, 54.22.
Varsity Boys 300 Meter Hurdles
CJ Morrall, 4th place, 44.04.
Caleb Saxon, 5th place, 46.30.
JV Girls 100 Meter Dash
Kayla Mabry, 4th place, 14.19.
Varsity Girls 100 Meter Dash
Jaylyn Pickens, 15th place, 14.17.
Lilly Salter, 18th place, 14.72.
JV Girls 200 Meter Dash
Alyssa Sanders, 18th place,

34.04.
Varsity Girls 200 Meter Dash
Ryleigh Eaton, 9th place, 28.07.
Riley Aaron, 19th place, 29.80.
JV Girls 400 Meter Dash
Maygen Glennon, 4th place, 1:11.24.
Savana Glenn, 11th place, 1:29.90.
Varsity Girls 400 Meter Dash
Charlie Ferris, 12th place, 1:06.71.
Lana Tyson, 13th place, 1:06.89.
Brooklyn Wallace, 14th place, 1:15.75.
JV Girls 800 Meter Run
Savana Glenn, 12th place, 3:38.58.
Varsity Girls 800 Meter Run
Vania Martinez, 7th place, 2:32.59.
Charlie Ferris, 11th place, 2:42.48.
JV Girls 1600 Meter Run
Lillian Kinder, 7th place, 6:30.21.
Bianca Borges, 17 place,

8:55.79.
Varsity Girls 1600 Meter Run
Riley Higginbotham, 8th place, 5:56.07.
Vania Martinez, 9th place, 6:01.67.
Varsity Girls 3200 Meter Run
Vania Martinez, 3rd place, 12:16.74.
Riley Higginbotham, 7th place, 12:36.25.
Varsity Girls 100 Meter Hurdles
Barrett Boyd, 1st place, 15.40.
Brooklyn Wallace, 9th place, 19.21.
Paisley Wells, 11th place, 24.55.
Varsity Girls 300 Meter Hurdles
Barrett Boyd, 1st place, 48.25.
Ally Penrod, 12th place, 56.15.
Addison Taylor, 14th place, 56.86.
For further details, contact Gatesville High School at 254-865-8281.

Eagles track team competed in meet on March 21

Staff Reports

The Jonesboro ISD track team competed in the Blanket Tigers track meet on Thursday, March 21, where the team brought home awards.

The athletes' stats include:
Varsity Boys 100 Meter Dash
Luke Stephenson, 3rd place, 12.20.
Braxton Dossey, 14th place, 12.96.
Demarcus Acoff, 24th place, 13.48.
Varsity Boys 200 Meter Dash
Damon Moore, 10th place, 25.75.
Austin Massingill, 20th place, 27.19.
Koen Nabors, 35th place, 31.72.

Varsity Boys 400 Meter Dash
Truett Foote, 9th place, 57.23.
Sam Lawrence, 11th place, 58.44.
Pate Foote, 21st place, 1:01.63.
Varsity Boys 800 Meter Run
Truett Foote, 7th place, 2:29.20.
Varsity Boys 1600 Meter Run
Sydnie Smith, 7th place, 5:59.21.
Varsity Boys 110 Meter Hurdles
Eric Thorman, 1st place, 17.37.
Kayden Craft, 9th place, 20.93.
Camden Christel, 10th place, 20.98.
Varsity Boys 300 Meter Hurdles

Will Featherston, 5th place, 51.03.
Camden Christel, 8th place, 52.75.
Kayden Craft, 9th place, 52.79.
Varsity Boys High Jump
Eric Thorman, 1st place, 5-10.00.
Kayden Craft, 6th place, 5-04.00.
Varsity Boys Triple Jump
Layden Nichols, 4th place, 36-10.00.
Austin Massingill, 10 place, 33-03.00.
Varsity Boys Pole Vault
Will Featherston, 2nd place, 9-00.00.
Pate Foote, 7th place, 8-00.00.
Varsity Boys Discus
Seaborn Ashby, 2nd place,

129-02.00.
Maddox Stroud, 3rd place, 110-05.00.
Payton Brister, 9th place, 95-11.00.
Varsity Boys Shot Put
Payton Brister, 2nd place, 42-06.00.
Maddox Stroud, 3rd place, 41-06.00.
Varsity Girls 100 Meter Dash
Laini Ingram, 1st place, 14.17.
Paige Glenn, 10th place, 15.15.
Kayleigh Scott, 22nd place, 17.53.
Varsity Girls 200 Meter Dash
Emily Turner, 3rd place, 29.91.
Ally Thorman, 9th place, 31.39.
Hailey Morris, 30th place,

39.75.
Varsity Girls 400 Meter Dash
Madison Manning, 3rd place, 1:07.29.
Leighla Hernandez, 16th place, 1:25.31.
Varsity Girls 800 Meter Run
Madison Manning, 4th place, 2:47.08.
Varsity Girls 3200 Meter Run
Rachael Pruett, 3rd place, 20:10.62.
Varsity Girls 100 Meter Hurdles
Campbell Gustin, 2nd place, 19.35.
Kylee Gould, 7th place, 21.57.
Madalyn Smith, 8th place, 21.88.
Varsity Girls 300 Meter Hurdles
Campbell Gustin, 3rd

place, 59.74.
Madalyn Smith, 4th place, 1:00.96.
Kylee Gould, 6th place, 1:02.86.
Varsity Girls Long Jump
Ally Thorman, 2nd place, 14-02.00.
Emily Turner, 6th place, 13-04.00.
Varsity Girls Pole Vault
Campbell Gustin, 1st place, 7-00.00.
Tenley Scott, 2nd place, 6-06.00.
Madalyn Smith, 3rd place, 5-00.00.
For further details, contact Jonesboro ISD at 254-463-2111.

Evant Elks competed in Blanket track meet March 21

Staff Reports

The Evant ISD Elks competed in a track meet in Blanket on March 21.

The stats include:
Varsity Boys 100 Meter Dash
Cameron McGilvary, 15th place, 13.00.
Wyatt Hitt, 17th place, 13.09.
Varsity Boys 200 Meter Dash
Cameron McGilvary, 11th

place, 26.21.
Wyatt Hitt, 14th place, 26.43.
Dylan Price, 22nd place, 27.22.
Varsity Boys 400 Meter Dash
Dylan Price, 15th place, 59.72.
Cristian Morales-Lopez, 33rd place, 1:12.21.
Varsity Boys High Jump
Wyatt Hitt, 5th place,

5-04.00.
Varsity Boys Triple Jump
Wyatt Hitt, 8th place, 34-07.00.
Cameron McGilvary, 12th place, 32-06.00.
Dylan Price, 13th place, 32-00.00.
Varsity Girls 100 Meter Dash
Maya Reynolds, 7th place, 14.68.
Harley Weeks, 12th place,

15.39.
Varsity Girls 200 Meter Dash
Brinlea Bates, 12th place, 31.87.
Maya Reynolds, 14th place, 32.01.
Harley Weeks, 20th place, 33.20.
Varsity Girls 400 Meter Dash
Madison Wilson, 11th place, 1:22.45.
Varsity Girls 800 Meter Run

Hailey Neri, 7th place, 3:06.17.
Varsity Girls 1600 Meter Run
Hailey Neri, 3rd place, 6:59.28.
Varsity Girls 100 Meter Hurdles
Daritza Escamilla, 9th place, 22.75.
Varsity Girls 300 Meter Hurdles
Daritza Escamilla, 8th

place, 1:05.05.
Varsity Girls Discus
Bree Ramirez, 4th place, 77-11.00.
Isabel Gandy, 8th place, 67-02.00.
Varsity Girls Shot Put
Jolyce Acosta, 9th place, 23-04.00.
For further details, contact Evant ISD at 254-471-5536.

Oglesby ISD track competes in McGregor March 13

Staff Reports

The Oglesby ISD track team recently competed in a meet in McGregor on Wednesday, March 13, where they had various athletes' place.

The stats include:
Boys 100 Meter Dash
Caiden Brinkley, 11th place, 16.59.

Blayze Fisher, 14th place, 16.76.
Boys 200 Meter Dash
Kegan Redford, 7th place, 27.47.
Boys 400 Meter Dash
Evan Williamson, 4th place, 1:01.24.
Blayze Fisher, 13th place, 1:14.40.
Boys 800 Meter Run

Jayce Aaron, 3rd place, 2:17.21.
Boys 2400 Meter Run
Couper Wulfkuhle, 6th grade, 9:50.71.
Liam Ammerman, 3rd place, 10:33.12.
Boys 110 Meter Hurdles
Logan Ewing, 12th place, 21.57.
Boys 300 Meter Hurdles

Holdyn Goff, 5th place, 52.56.
Logan Ewing, 10th place, 59.79.
Hunter Insall, 7th place, 1:00.62.
Girls 100 Meter Dash
Delany Mafra, 14th place, 17.37.
Ayleen Aviles, 18th place, 23.19.

Girls 200 Meter Dash
Cierra Ingram, 17th place, 34.03.
Scarlet Aaron, 21st place, 35.16.
Girls 400 Meter Dash
Scarlet Aaron, 8th place, 1:13.87.
Cierra Ingram, 10th place, 1:19.55.
Girls 100 Meter Hurdles

Ali Chrisner, 12th place, 25.84.
Girls Shot Put
Delany Mafra, 9th place, 26-10.00.
Ayleen Aviles, 15th place, 17-01.00.
For further details, contact Oglesby ISD at 254-456-2271.

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Texans come back in clash of top WAC programs to take down Mavericks in Arlington

Tarleton State University

ARLINGTON – Sunday tennis in Arlington featured two of the top programs in the Western Athletic Conference March 24. After Tarleton State lost the doubles point and lost the first set in five of six singles matches, the Texans ended up with five singles victories to come

back and take down UT Arlington 5-2 on the road.

The Texans (11-2, 2-0) continued their special 2024 campaign with their sixth win on the road in seven opportunities. This was their first victory over the Mavericks (10-6, 0-2 WAC) since joining the NCAA Division I ranks, now 1-1 on the road at UTA.

“What an intense match!” head coach Elianne Douglas-Miron said. “UTA has not lost very many this year, we knew we would all have to battle to win. Our energy was great from the start. UTA played two good doubles matches but the team rallied back and fought for every singles point. Martha (Makantasi) and Elsa (Boisson) had very

tough matches but dug their teeth in and battled. I am proud of Ximena (Morales) and Emma (Persson) for their performances today. After losing their first set, both of them elevated their game and fought hard for a win. Getting the win on Court 4 with Noelia (Lorca) was a nice way to end a very competitive match.”

The Texans went 2-1 in their three-match week and are one of three teams to start conference play 2-0. They have the tied-fewest overall losses in the WAC and the second most wins, only behind Grand Canyon at 14-2.

To start Sunday at the UTA Tennis Center, the Texans lost just their second doubles point in their 13th match. The Mavericks won the first two doubles matches on Courts 1-2, as Tara Gorinsek and Mariana Manyoma-Velasquez defeated Makantasi and Maretha Burger 6-3 on Court 1, and Bruna Casasampere and Francisca Vergara took down Boisson and Morales

6-1 on Court 2. Lorca and Persson picked up a win on Court 3 for the Texans 6-4 over Ana Paula Jimenez and Sarina Reinertsen. Lorca and Persson are now 9-1 together.

UTA started singles play with a victory to go up 2-0 in the team score, which was the last point they'd take on the day. The Mavericks' Casasampere defeated Adeliya Mukhutdinova 6-4 6-4 on Court 6.

The Texans then rattled off five straight victories, with all five matches three-set affairs.

First, Makantasi defeated Manyoma-Velasquez 2-6 6-3 6-4 on Court 3 to improve to 11-2 on the year.

Then, Persson snapped a five-match losing streak with a comeback win of her own, taking it on the top court 1-6 6-4 6-3 over Gorinsek.

Morales' comeback was next, winning on Court 5 3-6 6-2 6-4 against Vergara. This was Morales' second singles match of the year and her first victory this season.

On Court 2 in front of a

strong showing of Texan Nation, Boisson clinched the team victory 6-7(5) 6-4 6-4 over Reinertsen. Boisson is now 9-4 overall, 9-3 at the No. 2 position.

Lorca finished with the fifth straight singles win on Court 4, defeating Paula Jimenez 7-6(6) 4-6 4-1. The match was retired due to an injury to Paula Jimenez. Lorca improved her team-leading singles record to 12-1.

Just five regular season matches remain for the Texans before the WAC Tournament, four of which will happen in Stephenville. The Texans announced Saturday they will open the new Tarleton Tennis Facility Thursday for their match against Utah Tech at 11 a.m. There will be a pre-match ribbon cutting ceremony at 10:30 a.m.

“We are excited to come back home and play on our new courts Thursday,” Douglas-Miron said. “We hope to see everyone out there and I know the girls will put on a good show.”



COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Texans ended up with five singles victories to come back and take down UT Arlington 5-2 on the road.

Cade breaks school record for women's pole vault

Tarleton State University WACO – Hannah Cade highlighted the Texans' time at the 2024 Clyde Hart Invitational as she broke the school record for the women's pole vault previously held by current Texan and teammate Sage Barmettler.

March 22-23, 12 student-athletes moved into the top-10 all-time in program history across 12 different events.

FIELD

Cade set the new mark to beat for the women's pole vault Friday afternoon on the Brazos in Waco after vaulting 4.00 meters and finishing sixth at the 2024 Clyde Hart Invitational. She took the school record from current teammate and Texan Sage Barmettler who set the record at 3.72 meters during the 2023 season.

Sofia DeGroot moved to fourth all-time in program history in two different events with the first being in the women's long jump. She turned in a jump of 5.93 meters finishing seventh

in Waco taking over fourth all-time from Texan Hall of Famer Lacey Adkisson (2003, 5.92 meters). DeGroot then moved to fourth all-time in the women's triple jump following her leap of 12.14 meters as she took fifth place at the Invitational. Brianna Arline (2021) previously held fourth all-time with a jump of 11.97 meters.

Kassidy Kirkpatrick rounded out the women's field side of things as she entered the top-10 all-time in program history for the women's high jump. Kirkpatrick jumped 1.68 meters moving her into 10th all-time.

Two athletes on the men's side both now sit in the top-10 all-time in program history in the men's pole vault. Jacob Thomas is now third all-time following his vault of 4.90 meters as he finished eighth in Waco. Aston Kollatschny turned in a vault of 4.45 meters to move into the top-10 at 10th.

TRACK

Seven athletes put themselves in the top-10 all-time

in program history after their weekend in Waco.

Starting with the women, Morgan Lamberson is now just one away from the school record in the women's 800 meter as she ran a 2:12.31 putting her second all-time behind former Texan Jenna Brazeal (2022, 2:12.13). She finished fourth at the 2024 Clyde Hart Invitational. Lamberson also moved into the top-10 in the women's 1500 meter as she crossed the finish line with a time of 4:38.24.

Taylor McFarland moved herself into the top-10 all-time in two different events following her performances this weekend. She sits just one spot away from a school record in the women's 400 meter as she finished with a time of 55.09 sitting behind current Texan and teammate Hanna Dudley (2023, 55.03). McFarland cracked the top-10 for the women's 200 meter dash following her time of 24.62 meters.

Sage Lancaster trailed just a couple seconds behind teammate Lamberson as

Lancaster moved to fifth all-time in the women's 1500 meter with a time of 4:40.55. Former Texan Brazeal (2023) sits between the two at fourth all-time with a time of 4:39.37.

Bryah Davis rounded things out for the women's portion of the track events as she moved to seventh all-time in the women's 100 meter dash following her time of 11.87.

Three student-athletes on the men's side put their names in the record books.

Angel Gomez and Angel Contreras both sit in the top-10 in the men's 1500 meter. Contreras crossed the finish line with a time of 3:52.86 moving him to sixth all-time and finished fourth at the 2024 Clyde Hart Invitational. Gomez followed not far behind turning in a time of 3:56.55 and moving to ninth all-time and finishing eighth in Waco.

Caterrin Cox closed things out for the Texans moving to fifth all-time in the men's 110 meter hurdles with a time of 14.27.



COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Hannah Cade highlighted the Texans' time at the 2024 Clyde Hart Invitational as she broke the school record for the women's pole vault previously held by current Texan and teammate Sage Barmettler.

Tarleton State record-breaking season comes to an end

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — The Tarleton State Texans men's basketball team saw its season come to an end at the hands of the Purdue Fort Wayne Mastodons, 73-72 in the semifinal round of The College Insider.com Postseason Tournament March, 25 in Wisdom Gym.

The Texans' record-breaking season broke the D1 era record with 25 wins and 16 conference wins. Tarleton reached the semifinals of both the WAC Tournament and the CIT presented by BSN SPORTS for the first time in school history. Tarleton State hosted its first division I post-season by hosting the CIT the past two weeks. With the win, the Mastodons advance to the championship to take on Norfolk State.

For the first time this season, Adam Moussa led the Texans in scoring with 16 points, 11 coming in the sec-

ond half alone. Four Texans scored in double figures with Moussa leading the 26-point bench effort. Devon Barnes added 14 points while Jakorie Smith (13) and KiAndre Gaddy (10) also reached double digits.

Smith led the team with seven boards and three steals. Moussa notched a game-high four assists and tied Traivar Jackson for the team lead in blocks.

In a high scoring first half, the Texans led for all but the first 44 seconds. With the Mastodons leading, 4-3, Barnes gave the Texans the lead for the remainder of the half, sinking the first Texan triple of the game. Barnes claimed the defensive board and took it coast-to-coast for his own mini 5-0 run.

With the Texans leading 13-10, back-to-back buckets by the Texan bench increased the Texans' lead to 18-10. Izzy Miles drained his fifth three of the season followed

by a Moussa mid-range jumper. Purdue FW executed an 8-0 run via a pair of triples and a layup to knot the game at 18.

Tarleton led 24-20 before using its longest run of the half to open up its biggest lead of the first 20. Originated by a Jackson three-point play, Moussa followed with a triple almost a minute-and-a-half later. The final point of the Texans' run came when Smith made the back end of his two free throw attempts, to give the Purple and White a 31-20 lead.

Yet again, the Mastodons closed their deficit quickly with Anthony Roberts nailing a pair of back-to-back triples to cut the Texans' lead to five with just over six minutes remaining in the half, 33-26. The teams swapped baskets over the next few minutes with Tarleton's lead never growing above eight. A mini 4-0 run by Smith gave the Texans a 39-30 lead with 2:38 to go.

In the final two minutes, Purdue FW outscored the Texans 6-2 with Tarleton taking a 41-36 lead into the break. Both teams shot 45% from the floor, with the edge in triples going to Purdue FW. No individuals scored more than nine in the first 20.

The Mastodons controlled the second half coming right out of the locker room. Purdue FW cut its deficit to just a point with back-to-back buckets, 41-40. Three-pointers by Smith and Williams gave the Texans their largest lead of the half, 48-42, with 14:39 remaining.

Purdue FW battled over the next eight minutes tying the game five times, but never gaining the lead. With the Texans leading, 58-56, Purdue FW grabbed its first lead after the break on an 11-0 run. Four different players contributed in the run including a triple by Anthony Roberts. The Mastodons reached their largest lead of the night,

67-58.

Tarleton State responded in the final four minutes with a 10-0 run to regain the lead, 70-69. Barnes started the resurgence with a made free throw followed by a pair of Smith free throws. Trailing 69-63, Moussa hit a pull-up triple with 1:55 remaining to bring the Texans within three. The Texans forced a Mastodon turnover and Barnes drove the lane for a layup to cut the deficit to one with just 1:24 to go.

Another turnover caused by Williams resulted in Moussa sinking a pair of free throws to take a 70-69 lead with 46 ticks left. The Mastodons drove down the floor for a layup to give the Mastodons the advantage once again. Barnes made a pair of free throws after drawing the foul far from the basket to give the Texans the lead again, 72-71 with 30 remaining.

In the final 30 seconds, the Mastodons found the bottom

of the net after a bucket in the paint to take the lead for the final time. The Texans came up the floor where Williams was unable to get his triple to fall, but Moussa grabbed the offensive board. A questionable whistle signaled a timeout called by the Texans that drew confusion on its origin, but alas, the Texans had the ball with 4.82 seconds to go on a sideline inbound. The ball found the hands of Smith but his floating hook shot hit the rim giving the Mastodons the 73-72 victory.

Tarleton State shot 39.3% from the floor and 30.4% from deep, both marks were bested by the Mastodons. The Texans won the turnover battle yet again, 15-13 but lost the battle of the boards, 40-35.

Head coach Billy Gillispie will resume the head coaching role next season after his contract was extended through the 2025-26 season.

EDUCATION

Gatesville ★ Evant ★ Jonesboro ★ Oglesby

2024 Student Heroes Award nominations being sought

Staff Reports

Nominations are now open for the 2024 Student Heroes Award.

Approved by the State Board of Education (SBOE) in 2015, this award highlights Texas public school students participating in impactful volunteer service in their communities.

Since the award's inception, nearly 120 Texas public school students

with a heart for service have been named Student Heroes. Fifteen students, one per state board district, receive the award each year, with contributions ranging from initiating inclusive programs for seniors and students with disabilities to facilitating fundraisers for kids receiving medical treatment.

The SBOE encourages students, teachers, administrators, and community mem-

bers, to nominate any Texas public school students who exemplify the core value of selfless service.

To be nominated for this award, the volunteer service project performed by a public or charter school student must not be associated with any curriculum requirement, a school service project, or community program.

The nomination period is from Monday, Feb. 19 and

will end on Saturday, May 4, at 5 p.m., central time.

When completing the Student Heroes nomination form, be sure to include all required information, such as the nominee's permission to be nominated and have his or her information shared publicly. The nomination form must include an essay submitted by the nominator describing the nominee's outstanding volunteerism and how it

benefited others.

A parent or guardian signature is required for nominees under the age of 18 years old.

The student who earns this award will receive a plaque and a medal from their SBOE district member.

The award presentation typically occurs at a local school assembly, an organization meeting, or in a classroom. The exact date, time, and location of

the presentation will be determined by the local school district or campus in coordination with the SBOE member. Up to 15 students, one from each SBOE member, may be recognized.

For further details or to fill out a nomination form, visit tea.texas.gov, and type Student Heroes Award in the search bar at the top of the webpage.

EISD to host donkey basketball April 2

Staff Reports

Donkey basketball will be hosted on Tuesday, April 2, at 7 p.m. in Evant Independent School District's gymnasium.

There will be two games held, featuring four teams. The first game will be the pink team versus the green team, and the second game will be the blue team versus the red team.

A concession stand will be run by the junior class.

Tickets went on sale on Thursday, March 21, and can be purchased for \$10

a ticket from two different locations including Evant ISD's central office and the First National Bank of Evant. Tickets can be bought at the door on the day of the event for \$15 per person.

Pre-school age and younger are free.

Proceeds will benefit the Evant ISD athletics department.

For further details, contact Evant ISD at 254-471-5536.

Evant ISD is located at 339 Memory Lane in Evant.

OGLESBY STUDENTS TREATED TO EASTER EGG HUNT



COURTESY PHOTO

This past week the elementary students at Oglesby Independent School District held an Easter egg hunt indoors due to the chance of thunderstorms. Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students had a special visit from the Easter bunny while hunting for eggs in the school library and gymnasium.

Gatesville High to hold freshman night

Staff Reports

Gatesville High School invites all students who are in the class of 2028 to attend freshman night on Thursday, April 11.

Freshman night will be from 6-7 p.m. in the Gatesville High School auditorium.

This will be a time for students and parents to meet and visit with the

campus administration team, teachers, program directors, and club facilitators to see what the upcoming school year has to offer.

For further details, contact Gatesville High School at 254-865-8281.

Gatesville High School is located at 205 S. Lovers Lane.

OISD BOARD RECOGNIZES AG SCIENCE TEACHER, STUDENTS



COURTESY PHOTO

At a recent Oglesby Independent School District board meeting, the board welcomed Glenda Johnson, agricultural science teacher, along with her students. The students who were present participated in the county show and the agricultural mechanics show this season. Johnson discussed various topics regarding how the students did during both shows. Pictured is Johnson with her students.

JISD prom is April 13

Staff Reports

Jonesboro Independent School District recently announced that its annual prom celebration will be held on Saturday, April 13.

The prom will take place at the Jonesboro Community Center at 7 p.m.

From 6:30-7 p.m. there will be an opportunity for all students to get their pictures taken at the com-

munity center.

The event will feature games, food, a live DJ, door prizes, and a 360-photo booth.

The prom king, queen, prince, and princess will all be announced before the evening concludes.

For further details, contact Jonesboro ISD at 254-463-2111.

The Jonesboro Community Center is located at 11625 TX-36 in Jonesboro.

GHS Baccalaureate ceremony May 19

Staff Reports

Seniors of Gatesville High School and their families are invited to attend the Baccalaureate ceremony on Sunday, May 19, at 2 p.m. in the Gatesville High School Auditorium.

The Baccalaureate is an annual program that is put together and hosted by local pastors of the community.

It is a faith-based program consisting of special

music, prayer, scripture reading, and a sermon. Seniors who choose to attend will receive a positive and uplifting message for their future.

Seniors need to be sure to wear formal attire along with their cap and gown.

The service is an optional program for graduating seniors and their families.

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

GHS HIVE GROUP VISIT BITTY AND BEAÚS



COURTESY PHOTO

On Saturday, March 23, the Gatesville High School Hive Transition students took a field trip to Bitty and Beau's in Waco. The students had a great experience and were able to relate their responsibilities with the Stinger Café to this business.

JONESBORO ONE-ACT PLAY



Jonesboro ISD One-Act Play advances to bi-district.

COURTESY PHOTO

Jonesboro advances to bi-district

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

The One Act Play program at Jonesboro Independent School District won third place in a recent competition held at Abbot High School and will be advancing to bi-district.

Various students came home with awards, including Maggie Gillis and Peyton Williamson, All-Star Cast award; Luke Maxwell and Hunter Beaty, Honorable Mention award; and Antonella Rodriguez, All-Star Crew award.

One Act Play director Kimberly Foy is in her first year of leading the program at Jonesboro ISD.

"I am so excited for them and so proud of them," Foy said. "They have given up countless hours to learn lines and rehearse."

VICTORIA AT 18

The play is called, "Victoria at 18" and is about a clash of wills between Victoria and her mother, the strong-willed Duchess of Kent, who has always refused to let her daughter grow up.

"They were given their scripts in November, but practices really began in January," Foy said.

The program includes nine cast members and four crew members total.

"Everything we do is after school hours, and all of them are involved in other activities," Foy said. "I am so proud of them for making One Act Play a priority."

Foy expressed how her students are so much fun to work with, and that they have really made their characters come to life.

There will be a community performance at a later date with more details to come.

For further details, Jonesboro ISD can be reached at 254-463-2111.

EVANT ONE-ACT PLAY



Pictured is the cast and crew of Evant Independent School District's One-Act Play team.

COURTESY PHOTO

Evant competes at bi-district

Staff Reports

The One-Act Play team of Evant Independent School District recently competed in a bi-district competition and came home with many

awards.

Awards include:

- Cason Ingram, All Star Cast
- Aubrey Kelley, Honorable Mention All Star Cast

Harley Weeks, All Star Crew

For further information, contact Evant ISD at 254-471-5536.

GT STUDENTS VISIT MAYBORN MUSEUM



Sixth grade Gifted and Talented students at Gatesville Intermediate School recently took a field trip to the Mayborn Museum to learn about the upcoming Total Eclipse. The students spent their time viewing the planetarium and space theater with various topics discussed. Pictured are the students in front of the Frank W. & Sue Mayborn Planetarium and Space Theater.

COURTESY PHOTO



Happy
Easter
Weekend
March 30-3, 2024

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

SETARE GEG THNU

Answer: Easter egg hunt



BUNNIES ARE A SYMBOL OF NEW LIFE. THIS IS WHY THEY ARE ASSOCIATED WITH EASTER.



Hippity-hoppity, Easter is just around the corner, arriving on March 31st this year! This egg-citing holiday brings joy and delight to kids all over the world as they embark on festive adventures and celebrate the spirit of renewal.

Easter Sunday is the highlight of the celebration, and children eagerly anticipate the time-honored tradition of Easter egg hunts. Colorful eggs, carefully hid-

den in gardens and parks, transform into treasures waiting to be discovered. Kids grab their baskets, ready to fill them with eggs adorned in pastel hues, each one holding the promise of delightful surprises.

The Easter Bunny, that whimsical creature with long ears and a fluffy tail, plays a central role in the festivities. Children imagine the bunny hopping from house to house, leaving behind baskets filled with goodies for those who

have been especially good.

Decorating eggs is a cherished Easter activity, allowing kids to showcase their creativity. Whether dipped in vibrant dyes, adorned with stickers, or transformed into little works of art, these eggs become festive symbols of the season.

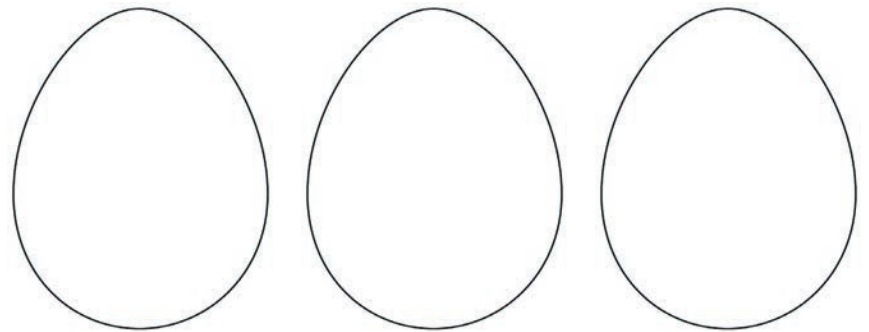
Easter is also a time for reflection and gratitude. Families often attend special church services, celebrating the renewal of hope and the joy of new beginnings. It's a day for families

to come together, share delicious meals, and appreciate the love that binds them.

As flowers bloom and the weather warms, Easter is a wonderful time for kids to revel in the beauty of nature, spend time outdoors, and indulge in delicious treats that mark this special occasion. So, on March 31st, let the egg-citement unfold, and may your Easter be filled with laughter, love, and the joy of new beginnings

COLOR
Time

Color and
decorate your
own Eggs



THE
GATESVILLE
MESSENGER

TO SPONSOR THE CORYELL KIDS PAGES,
CALL KAITLYN AT 254-865-5212.

Gatesville Elementary flips for the eclipse art project

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

GISD Superintendent, Dr. Barrett Pollard, recently commented on the upcoming "Block out the Sun" party and the upcoming art exhibit that will be held on the courthouse square. "Cheri Shepherd has done a wonderful job of coordinating the eclipse event for Gatesville. Our community is so lucky to have Cheri brainstorming ideas like the 'Art in the Shadow' exhibit," Pollard said.

He continued, "When she asked if our students would be interested in creating eclipse artwork, we jumped at the chance to get them involved. Each campus art teacher helped to get students participating in this project."

At Gatesville Elementary, art teacher Christeena Herring began thinking about the eclipse artwork project. "I started thinking about what rhymes with eclipse. FLIPS! I came up with the phrase 'Gatesville Elementary is doing flips for the eclipse.'" Herring had all of her students draw themselves doing a flip. "Then we cut out anything that had to do with Gatesville and Coryell County from The Gatesville Messenger. Several teachers gave me their old newspapers to use," she said. "The students enjoyed looking through the newspapers. One of the 2nd grade students, while carefully reading through the paper, asked me if he should 'cut out this guy,' and I looked at it and discovered it was our superintendent, Dr. Barrett Pollard. I

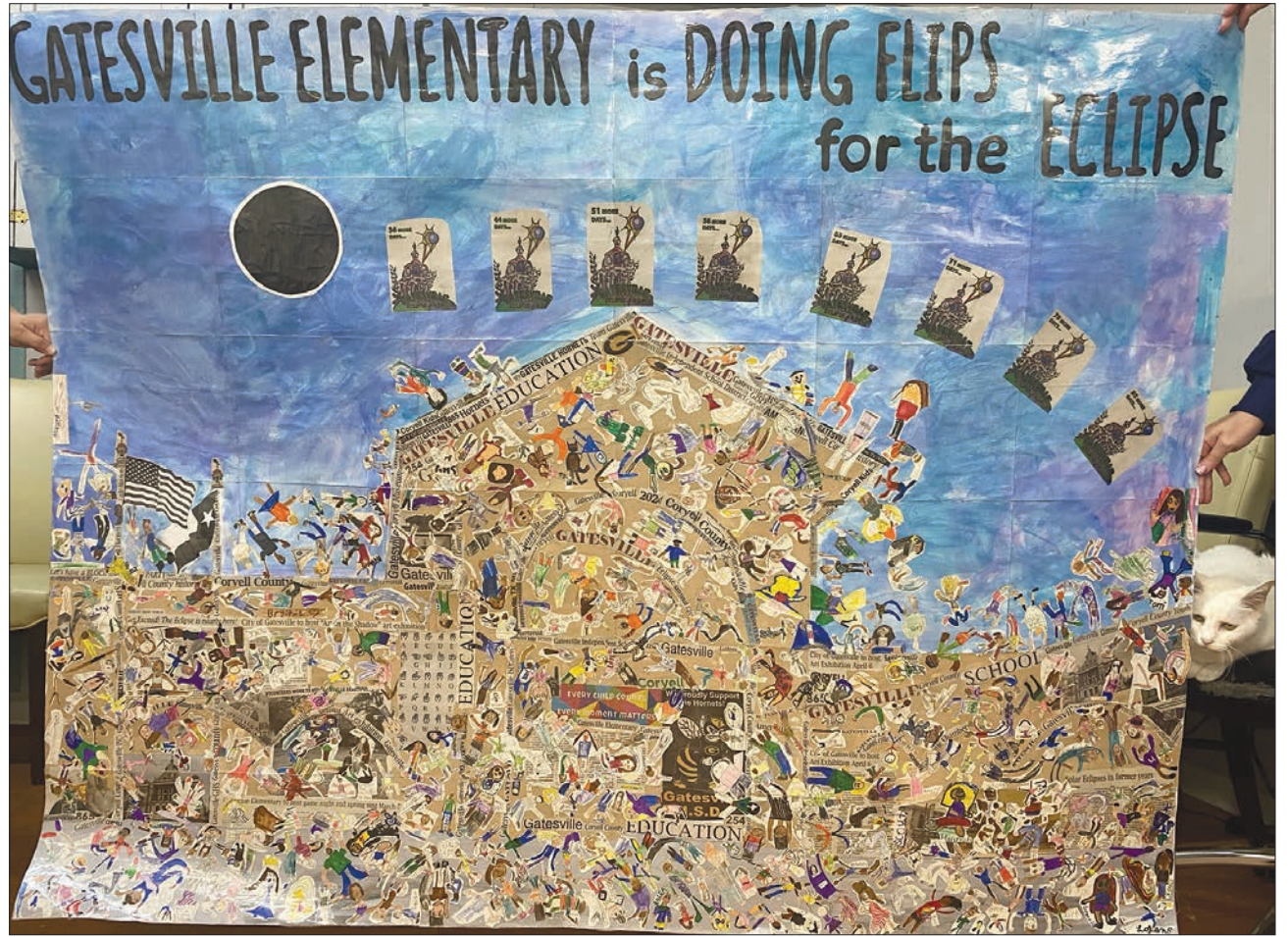
said, 'yes, cut him out too,' so he is included in the collage," Herring said.

The collage became an instant success and was displayed for a time in the foyer of the school. A sign below the artwork read: "Our students worked so hard on this eclipse art project. We have even included our superintendent, Dr. Pollard, in our artwork. Can you find him? # where is Dr. Pollard?"

Dr. Pollard responded by saying, "Teena Herring's art students at the elementary did a fantastic job of creating some really innovative artwork."

GISD's Community Outreach Leader, Michelle Martin, was so impressed with the elementary's artwork, that she decided to have it reproduced poster size and plans to sell them at Gatesville's "Block out the Sun" party, which will be held on the courthouse square on Saturday, April 6. The posters will be sold for \$25, and the proceeds will go toward school supplies and in part to the art department at Gatesville Elementary. Posters can be pre-ordered by contacting Michelle Martin at 254-865-8281, extension 5855.

The art created by GISD's art departments will be included with the artwork of other Gatesville and Coryell County artists and will be on display in the windows of Leaird's on the courthouse square beginning at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 6. Leaird's is located at 108 S. 6th Street in Gatesville.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Top photo: Gatesville Elementary artwork to celebrate the eclipse.

COURTESY PHOTO

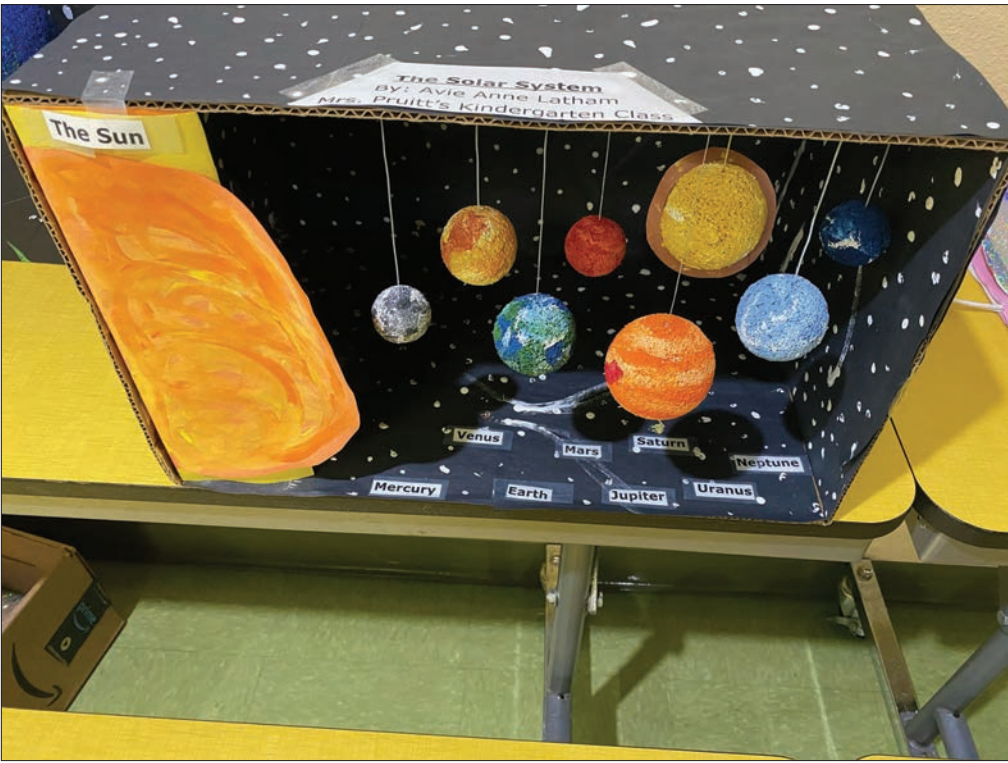
Students in Christeena Herring's art class working on the eclipse project.



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SCIENCE/BOOK FAIR HELD AT GATESVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

The Gatesville Primary School recently held a Family Science Night along with a book fair. Students and their parents were able to conduct several experiments and learn a little more about science. In preparation for the eclipse, students learned about the solar system and their planetary artwork was on display near the school library.

**GATESVILLE,
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EASTER

Worship & Celebrations

INSIDE MOVIES TO WATCH THIS EASTER SEASON | EASTER CENTERPIECE IDEAS TO BEAUTIFY THE TABLE | EASTER EGG COLORING TIPS | STORIES OF THE RESURRECTION AS TOLD IN THE GOSPELS | UNIQUE EASTER TRADITIONS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE | THE SIGNIFICANCE OF VARIOUS SYMBOLS OF EASTER | WHY IS EASTER SUNDAY SUCH AN IMPORTANT CHRISTIAN HOLIDAY? | MEANINGS BEHIND THE EASTER LILY | EXPLAINING THE MEANING OF EASTER TO CHILDREN | EXPLAINING THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS | HOP ON THESE TIPS FOR A GREAT EASTER EGG HUNT

Movies to watch this Easter season

Staff Reports

Movie-goers may not associate Easter with Hollywood blockbusters. However, there's an entire cache of films that align well with Easter. When spending time with family and friends for the Easter holiday, consider these movies.

"IT'S THE EASTER BEAGLE, CHARLIE BROWN!"

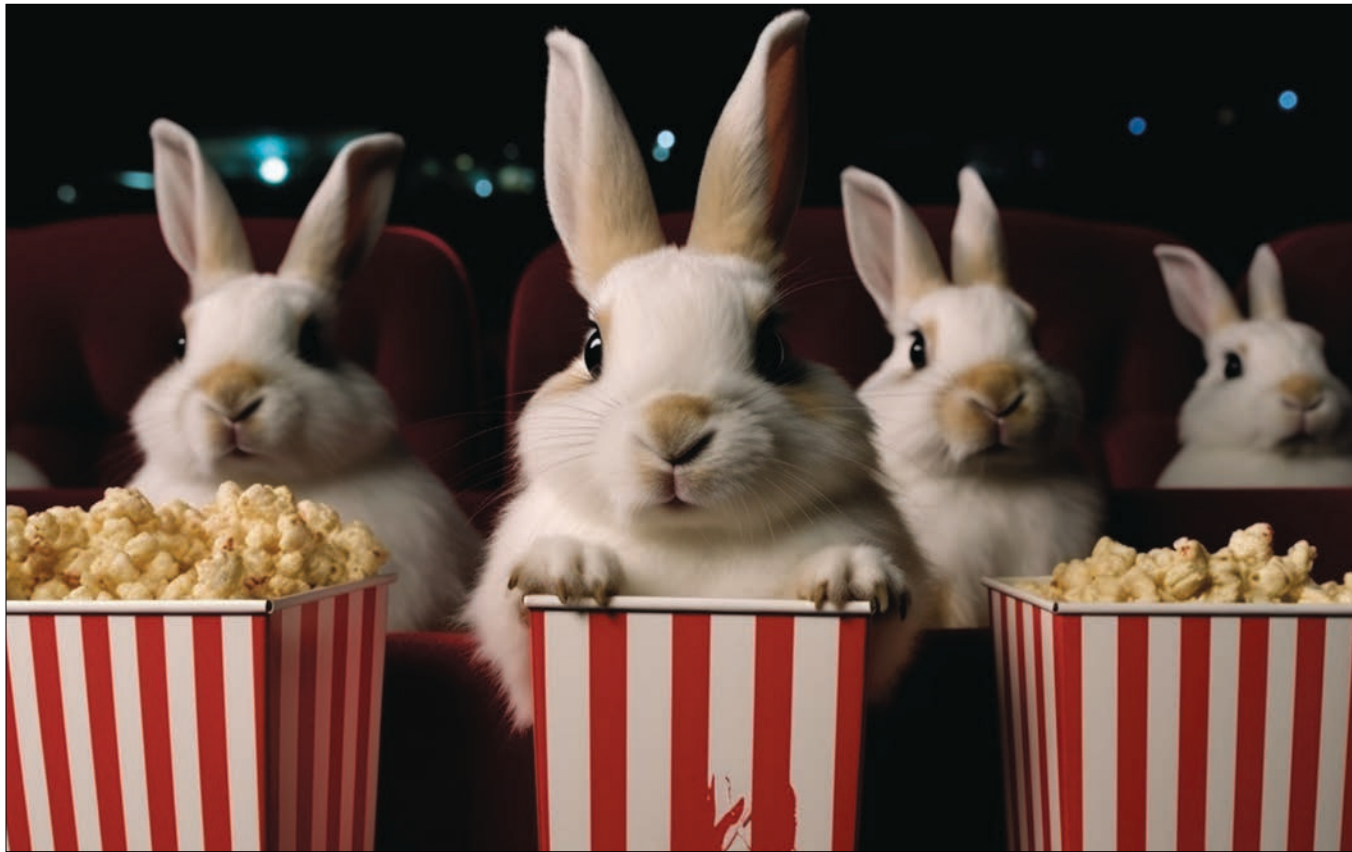
This 1974 classic puts The Peanuts' heartwarming spin on another holiday theme. The gang gets ready for Easter in the only ways they can - with lots of love and laughs.

"THE PRINCE OF EGYPT"

This 1998 animated film tells the tale of Moses and Pharaoh, and features the voices of Val Kilmer, Michelle Pfeiffer, Sandra Bullock, and Ralph Fiennes, among others.

"HOP"

This combination of live action and animation tells the story of the Easter Bunny's teenage son "E.B.," who wants to move to L.A. to pursue his passion for music, rather than be



COURTESY PHOTO

When spending time with family and friends for the Easter holiday, consider these movies.

next in line for the family business.

"THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD"

This 1965 epic tells the story of Jesus of Nazareth and follows His life from

the nativity through to the crucifixion. At a whopping four hours and 20 minutes, it may be best to watch this in sessions, especially when

watching with youngsters.

"THE DOG WHO SAVED EASTER"

A cuddly canine makes it

his business to save Easter when three criminals try to sabotage it in this 2014 film. Mario Lopez voices the pup "Zeus" in this family-friendly flick.

"THE TEN COMMANDMENTS"

Audiences continue to enjoy this beloved 1956 film starring Charlton Heston as Moses every Easter. With stunning special effects of the Burning Bush and parting of the Red Sea in the era before CGI, this story of faith wows audiences every time.

"THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST"

Released in 2004 and directed by Mel Gibson, this movie chronicles the final twelve hours of Jesus' agony. The movie doesn't shy away from violence as it attempts to bring audiences closer to the suffering of Christ, which earned it an R rating. This is likely a film for adults only.

Easter presents a time when families can enjoy religious-themed movies that share stories of faith or fun flicks with positive messages.

Easter egg coloring tips

Staff Reports

Coloring Easter eggs is a time-honored tradition dating back more than 2,500 years. There is evidence that people living in the ancient settlement of Trypillia dyed eggs. Ancient Persians also were believed to paint eggs for Nowruz (Persian New Year).

Christians adopted similar traditions to symbolize aspects of the Easter story. Originally Christians dyed eggs red to represent the

blood of Jesus Christ that was shed on the cross, according to Chase Oaks Church. Good Housekeeping reports early Christian missionaries adapted the dying tradition to include more egg colors to represent different aspects of the Easter story. Yellow represented the resurrection, blue represented love and red remained a symbol of Christ's blood.

Whether families dye eggs to symbolize the Easter mira-

cle or simply for fun, the following are some coloring tips to enhance the process.

PREVENT CRACKED EGGS

Most colored eggs are hard-boiled. To prevent cracking during the boiling process, add a teaspoon of vinegar and a tablespoon of salt to the boiling water. Additional anti-cracking measures include rubbing half a lemon on each

PLEASE SEE **COLORING** | C4



COURTESY PHOTO

Everything from watercolor paint to acrylics to decoupage can be used to cover eggs in vivid colors. Egg decorators also can use colored yarns, fabric or stickers. Search for creative materials to set Easter eggs apart this year.

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Easter centerpiece ideas to beautify the table



Staff Reports

Easter is a springtime holiday that marks a prime opportunity to cast off the remnants of winter weather and dress a home in bright, colorful hues.

Come Easter, tulips and daffodils may be sprouting, lilies are on display in churches and many other spring touches are incorporated into home decor. Celebrants who will be hosting their families or more intimate Easter gatherings can extend the eye-catching improvements to the dining table. Easter centerpieces are a prime way to add color and ambiance to interior designs.

Here's a look at various ways to decorate the table

for Easter celebrations.

CARROT-FILLED CONTAINER

Embrace an Easter bunny theme by hanging a bundle of carrots inside a glass vase or bowl and topping with orange, yellow and other spring-themed flowers and greenery.

PUSSY WILLOW BASKET

Weave pussy willow stems into a basket shape or braid them together to make a ring. Then fill with colored Easter eggs or flower petals.

NESTED FLOWERS

Purchase a wooden or wicker basket and weave or glue small twigs onto it. This will give it the look of a natu-

ral bird's nest, which is one of the markers of the spring season. The nest can cradle spring blooms, such as tulips, or hold Easter eggs.

EASTER BUNNY GARDEN

Fill a shallow ceramic bowl with floral design moss or another green filler. Place a gold-foil chocolate bunny or a ceramic rabbit in the center and put small tealight candles and a small glass canister of pastel-colored candy eggs to complete the picture.

TAKE A 'PEEP'

Marshmallow Peeps® are an Easter staple and they can have a place outside of Easter baskets. Line a small

vase with Peeps. Place cut flowers inside for a festive centerpiece.

RAINY DAY DÉCOR

April showers bring May flowers. Put that sentiment on display by purchasing an inexpensive pair of brightly colored rubber rain boots. Place cut fresh tulips into narrow glass vases and then slip the vases inside of the boots for a festive and funny table conversation piece.

FLOATING FLOWERS

Poke the stem of a flower into a square of bubble wrap. Place into a small fishbowl filled with water and watch the flowers float on top. Tint the water a pastel hue if

desired.

PAINTED PINECONE BOUQUET

If you have pine cones left over from Christmas decorations or a pile that the kids may have collected from the yard, paint them in bright colors for an Easter makeover. Place in the container of your choice and add some faux or real greenery to complete the bouquet picture.

Dining tables can be incorporated into Easter decor. There are many different creative options for crafting centerpieces guests will adore.

Unique Easter traditions from around the globe

Staff Reports

Easter Sunday is a significant day on the Christian calendar. Easter Sunday will be celebrated on March 31, 2024, and many of those celebrations will feature some notable traditions. Some traditions are undoubtedly familiar to practicing Christians, while others might come as a surprise. As Easter approaches, faithful Christians and others intrigued by the holiday can consider these notable traditions from around the globe.

EASTER WITCHES

Witches are typically associated with Halloween, but they play a role in celebrating Easter in Finland. According to the Finland Promotion Board, Easter traditions in the northern European nation feature a mixture of religious references with customs related

to the arrival of spring. It's not unheard of for young Finnish children, particularly girls, to dress up as Easter witches the Sunday before Easter and go from door to door requesting treats in exchange for offerings designed to drive away evil spirits. The FPB notes that it's even common for children in western Finland to don their witch outfits and roam on Easter Sunday.

FIREWORKS IN FLORENCE

The folk tradition of Scoppio del Carro ("Explosion of the Cart") takes place in Florence, Italy. The Uffizi Gallery reports that this tradition can be traced to the First Crusade in 1099. During the first Easter in Jerusalem, Crusaders gave the blessed fire to the people as a symbol of purification. That custom has endured in Florence, where each Easter

Sunday morning around 10 a.m. a candle is lit in the church of Santi Apostoli. That same candle is then used to light an antique cart loaded with fireworks, marking the beginning of a display that lasts around 20 minutes.

THE CARPETS OF SEMANA SANTA

Carpets might not be the first thing most Easter celebrants think of when pondering the holiday, but that might be the case for anyone who's ever spent the holiday in Antigua, Guatemala. Guatemala's Semana Santa ("Easter Festival") features detailed carpets of colored sawdust adorning a Good Friday processional route.

Preparation for the colorful and stunning display begins months in advance as the intricate carpets require ample time to produce.

WHIPS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Among the more unique Easter traditions takes place each Easter Monday in the Czech Republic. In adherence to this tradition, known locally as pomlázka, boys, and sometimes men, gather willow branches and braid them together into whips. The whips are then decorated with ribbons before boys vis-



it girls (or men visit women) who they know and lightly tap them with the whips. The tradition is believed to bring women luck,

and fertility. These are just some of the unique traditions many Christians adhere to as part of their Easter celebrations.

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Luke 24:6

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Stories of the Resurrection as told in the Gospels



John 20: 1-10 Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.

Staff reports

Easter is a holy day on the Christian calendar that commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The resurrection of Jesus is described in the Gospels of the New Testament, which millions of Christians read every year, especially during the Lenten season, which is a 40-day period that directly precedes Easter Sunday.

The Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John comprise the canonical Gospels. Each book can help Christians understand and connect with the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The following are passages from each of the canonical Gospels that help to tell the story of the resurrection of Jesus.

MATTHEW 28: 1-10

Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the

first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. And behold, Jesus met

them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

MARK 16: 2-7

And very early in the morning, the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun. And they said among themselves, "Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre?" And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great. And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted. And he saith unto them, "Be not affrighted: ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is

not here: behold the place where they laid him. But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you."

LUKE 24: 1-12

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

PLEASE SEE **GOSPELS** | C7

While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he



COURTESY PHOTO

By covering portions of the bare eggs before dipping into color, people can create unique designs.

COLORING

FROM PAGE C2

shell before boiling.

BOIL EGGS AND COOL COMPLETELY

It takes roughly 10 minutes to hard-boil an egg. Fill a pot with enough water to submerge the eggs, then bring it to a boil over medium-high heat. Gently lower the eggs into the water with a slotted spoon. Cover, reduce the heat to a simmer, and cook for 10 minutes. Drain the eggs and cool in a bowl of water or run under cold tap water.

DON'T FORGET THE VINEGAR

Whether you use colored dye tablets or drops of food coloring from the pantry, use a mix of water and vinegar in the coloring solution. According to Education.com, food coloring is an acid dye and bonds using hydrogen. This chemical process only works in an acidic environment. Vinegar is added to water to make it more acidic and help the dyes adhere more strongly to the eggs and produce brighter colors.

STICK TO WHITE EGGS

Stores sell both brown and white eggs. The species of chicken determines whether the eggs will be white or brown. When coloring eggs, it might be better to purchase white eggs, as the dyes will show up more vividly on the white shells.

CREATE DISTINCTIVE DESIGNS

By covering portions of the bare eggs before dipping into color, people can create unique designs. Things like masking tape, rubber bands, wax (or crayons), and even twine can be used. The dye will only take on the uncovered areas, leaving white behind.

DYES ARE NOT THE ONLY WAY TO COLOR EGGS

Everything from watercolor paint to acrylics to decoupage can be used to cover eggs in vivid colors. Egg decorators also can use colored yarns, fabric or stickers. Search for creative materials to set Easter eggs apart this year.

Coloring eggs is a popular Easter tradition, and there are many ways to ensure this beloved activity produces beautiful results.

*He is not here:
for he is Risen,
as he said.*

—MATTHEW 28:6

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Explaining the Stations of the Cross

Staff Reports

Tradition features prominently in Holy Week celebrations. The week leading up to Easter Sunday, Holy Week is a sacred time for faithful Christians. The Stations of the Cross are one of the traditions that many Christians feel bolsters their faith and brings them closer to God.

WHAT ARE THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS?

According to Catholic

Online, the Stations of the Cross are a 14-step devotion that commemorates Jesus Christ's last day on Earth as a man. Each of the 14 stations focus on a specific event of Jesus's last day as a man.

WHERE CAN THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS BE FOUND?

Stations of the Cross are typically found in churches. Many times the Stations adorn the interior wall of a

church, and Catholic Online notes they're often depicted using small icons or images. Some churches with sizable exterior grounds may arrange larger Stations along footpaths in yards or gardens on the premises.

WHEN DO PEOPLE MOST COMMONLY PRAY THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS?

Lent is the most common time to pray the Stations of

the Cross, and some churches hold weekly prayer sessions on Wednesdays and Fridays during this time of year.

WHAT ARE THE 14 STATIONS?

- Catholic Online notes the 14 Stations of the Cross are:
1. Jesus is condemned to death
 2. Jesus carries the cross
 3. Jesus falls for the first time
 4. Jesus meets with His

5. Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry the cross
6. Veronica wipes the face of Jesus
7. Jesus falls a second time
8. Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem
9. Jesus falls a third time
10. Jesus's clothes are taken away
11. Jesus is nailed to the cross
12. Jesus dies on the cross
13. The body of Jesus is

taken down from the cross

14. Jesus is laid in the tomb
The Stations of the Cross are an important Easter tradition that shed light on Jesus's resurrection. Individuals interested in praying the Stations of the Cross are urged to contact a local church so they can engage in this moving Christian tradition.

Meanings behind the Easter lily

Staff Reports

Easter symbols and traditions help make the holiday familiar and special. Eggs, hot cross buns and frilly church dresses help paint the picture, and so does a delicate and beautiful white flower.

The Easter lily plant is native to both Taiwan and the Ryukyu Islands of Japan. The plant's flowering season begins in April and ends in June. The plant produces pure white flowers on top of long stems. Easter lilies often adorn homes and church altars during this time of year.

Tradition states that the Easter lily originated in the Garden of Eden from the teardrops of Eve that spread when she and Adam were cast out of the garden. These were believed to be tears of repentance.

Historians and biblical scholars say that the lily has always been highly regarded in the Christian Church. Jesus even references the flower in Luke 12:27, stating "Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that

Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these." Legend has it that, after Jesus' death and resurrection, lilies were found growing in the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus is said to have prayed before his crucifixion. They were believed to have sprung up from a drop of sweat from his brow when his head was bent in prayer.

In Easter celebrations, the lily represents Christ's Resurrection, and thusly new birth and new life. The delicate, white blooms can be viewed as pure, innocent and untainted by the world.

The flower itself is used in various ways to tell the resurrection story. The bulb is buried in the ground as a representation of Christ's tomb. The trumpet-shaped fragrant flowers also announce life after death, since bulbed flowers often regrow year after year, according to the religious resource All About Jesus. And the trumpet shape signifies the angel Gabriel's trumpet call.

It's common for Easter lilies to decorate homes, churches, gardens, and more throughout the Easter season.



COURTESY PHOTO

Tradition states that the Easter lily originated in the Garden of Eden from the teardrops of Eve that spread when she and Adam were cast out of the garden. In Easter celebrations, the lily represents Christ's Resurrection, and thusly new birth and new life. The delicate, white blooms can be viewed as pure, innocent and untainted by the world.



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Hop on these tips for a great Easter egg hunt

Staff Reports

Egg hunts are a traditional component of many people's Easter celebrations. Children often delight in searching for eggs around the house or in the backyard. Egg hunts are so popular that they have become a component of many town-sponsored festivities. In fact, the White House hosts its annual Easter Egg Roll each year.

There are many ways to make Easter egg hunts more enjoyable and productive for participants of all ages. Try these "eggcellent" ideas.

DESIGNATE A CLEAR HUNTING AREA

Young children can grow frustrated searching for eggs in large areas. Set parameters for the search area that are manageable depending

on the ages of the children participating. If you'll be in a large yard or field, tape off the search area perimeter.

VARY THE PRIZES

Candy, candy and more candy seems to be the name of the game on Easter. But too many sweets can lead to stomach aches for young Easter celebrants. Instead, mix and match the prizes contained in the eggs. Candy can be in some, money in others, and perhaps small toys in a few eggs. Another clever idea is to mix the egg hunt with charades. Put charade prompts in some eggs so that kids have to act out what they read inside for added fun.

SPECIAL PRIVILEGE EGG

Hide one egg that gives the finder the opportunity for a

special honor. It may include getting the first slice of the holiday ham or being able to choose a movie that the entire family watches together after dinner.

LABEL EGGS FOR EQUITY

When there are children across a wide range of ages, label the eggs with the children's names or utilize a color-coded system to ensure that everyone has an equal shot at finding eggs.

KEEP A MASTER LIST

It can be hard to remember where each egg is hidden, so keep a running list of where they are or take photos with a phone of the hiding spots. This way you're not left to discover a chocolate-filled egg teeming with ants come summertime.

MAKE CUSTOM BASKETS

Children will need something to carry their eggs. Prior to the egg hunt, let them decorate bags or baskets with Easter trinkets for custom creations.

Easter egg hunts are a time-honored tradition. The opportunities for fun are endless when families plan accordingly.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Egg hunts are so popular that they have become a component of many town-sponsored festivities.



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The significance of various symbols of Easter

Staff reports

Easter Sunday is a day when Christians across the globe celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Data from the Pew Research Center indicates there are approximately 2.4 billion Christians across the globe, which accounts for nearly one-third of the global population.

Though certain Christians groups do not celebrate Easter, many consider it the holiest day of the year. Given that significance, it's no surprise Easter is steeped in symbolism. The following are some of the many symbols of Easter and what they represent to faithful Christians across the globe.

EGGS

Eggs might now be more instantly associated with Easter egg hunts for children, but the American Bible Society notes that eggs are symbolic of more than just fun for kids. Eggs represent the new life that's symbolic of spring, which is when Easter occurs in the northern hemisphere. Christians view eggs as a reminder of the resurrection of

Jesus. Interestingly, though colored eggs are often seen as a fun Easter activity for kids, the ABS notes that the tradition dates back to the early days of Christianity, when red-colored eggs were used to represent the resurrection.

CRUCIFIX

The crucifix, which is a distinct representation of a cross with Jesus Christ on it, is symbolic of the crucifixion and subsequent resurrection of Jesus. The ABS notes that the resurrection of Jesus symbolizes his victory over the power of sin and death.

THE LAMB

Jesus is referred to in the Bible as the "Lamb of God" (Revelation 5:6-14), so the lamb is another important Easter symbol for Christians. In addition, in John (1:29), Jesus is referred to by John the Baptist as the "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world."

EASTER BUNNY

Another symbol, like Easter eggs, that people could be forgiven for mistaking as purely secular, the Easter Bunny is not entirely separate

from the spiritual meaning of the holiday. As noted, Easter, even though it's a moveable feast, takes place in spring in the northern hemisphere each year. Spring is symbolic of rebirth, and the hare was a symbol of fertility among the ancient pagans. The spirit of rebirth associated with rabbits, particularly in spring, also is reminiscent of the resurrection of Jesus from his tomb.

Easter is celebrated across the globe. Those celebrations feature many significant religious symbols that have withstood the test of time.



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EASTER SCHEDULE

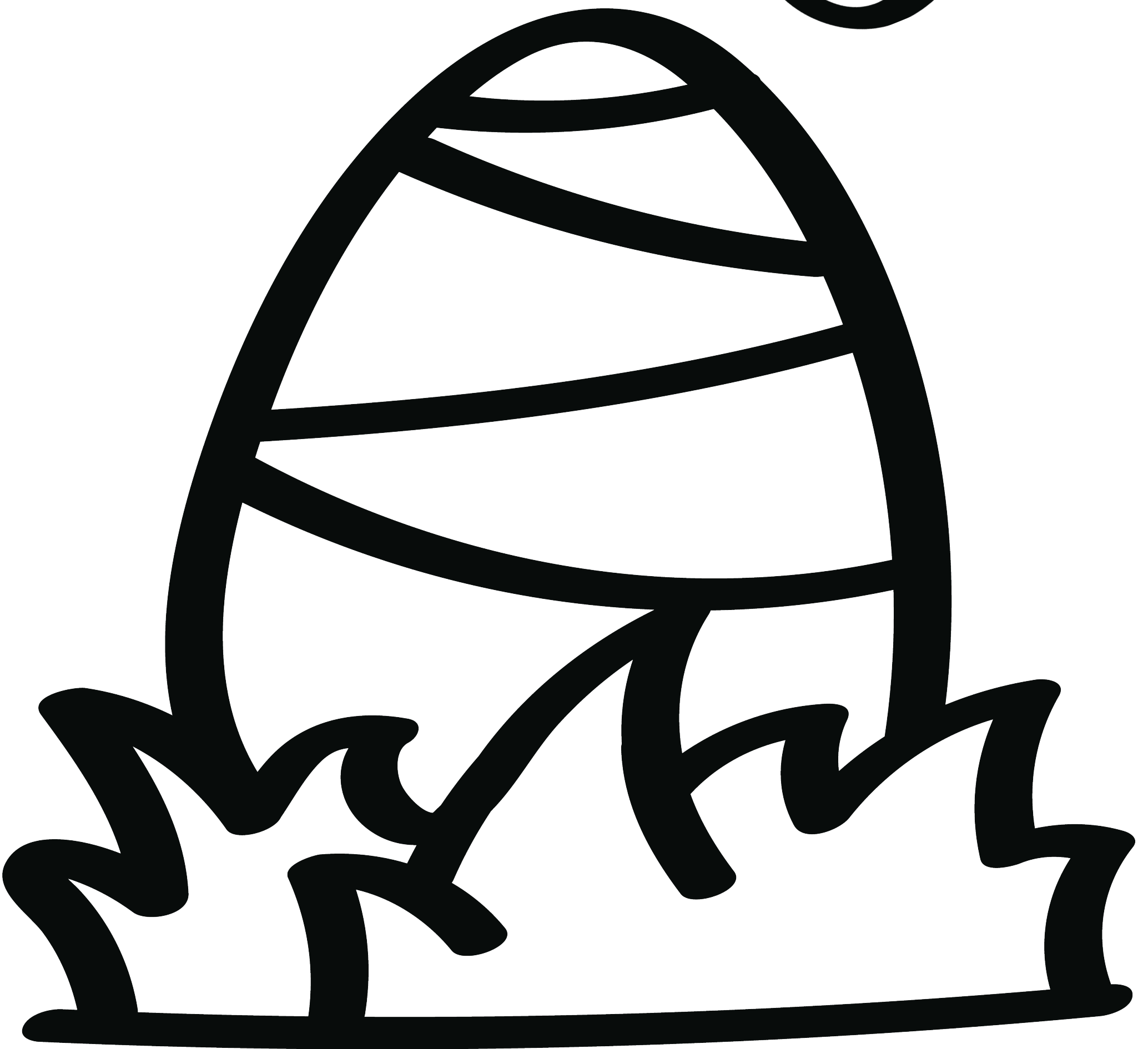
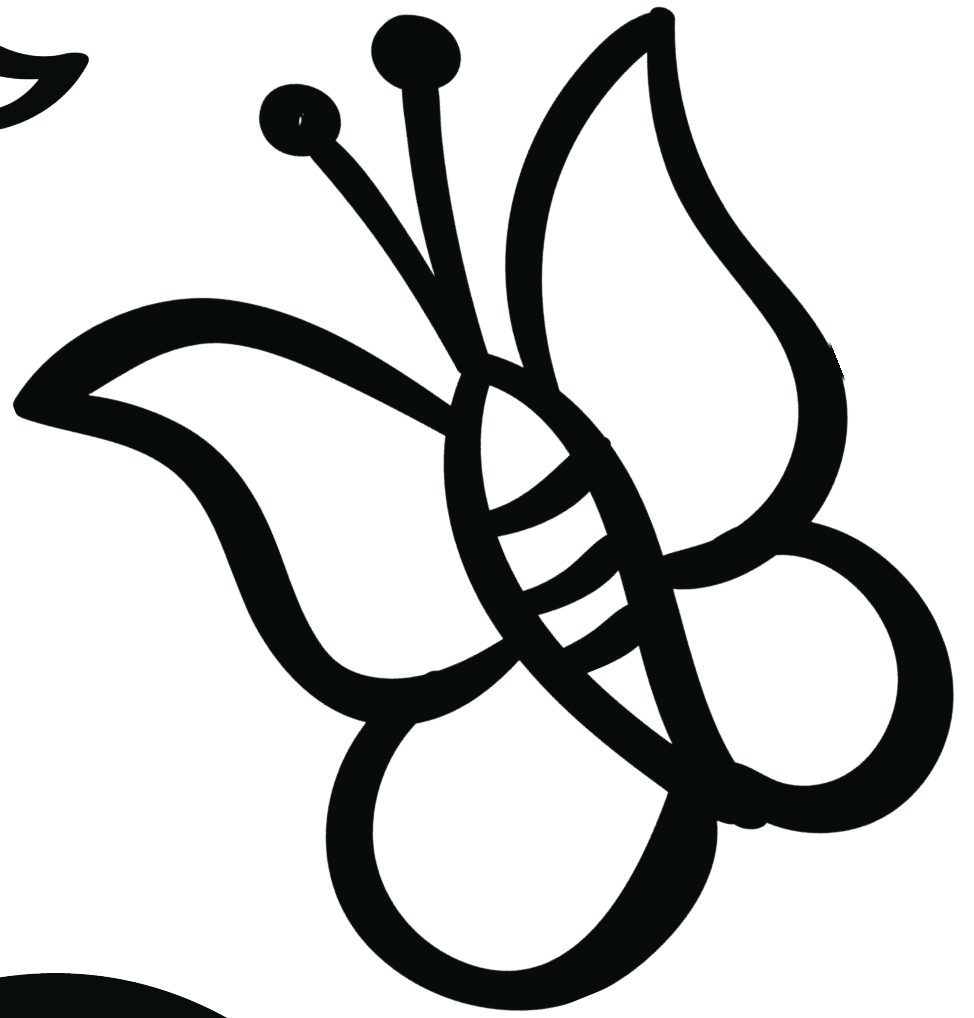
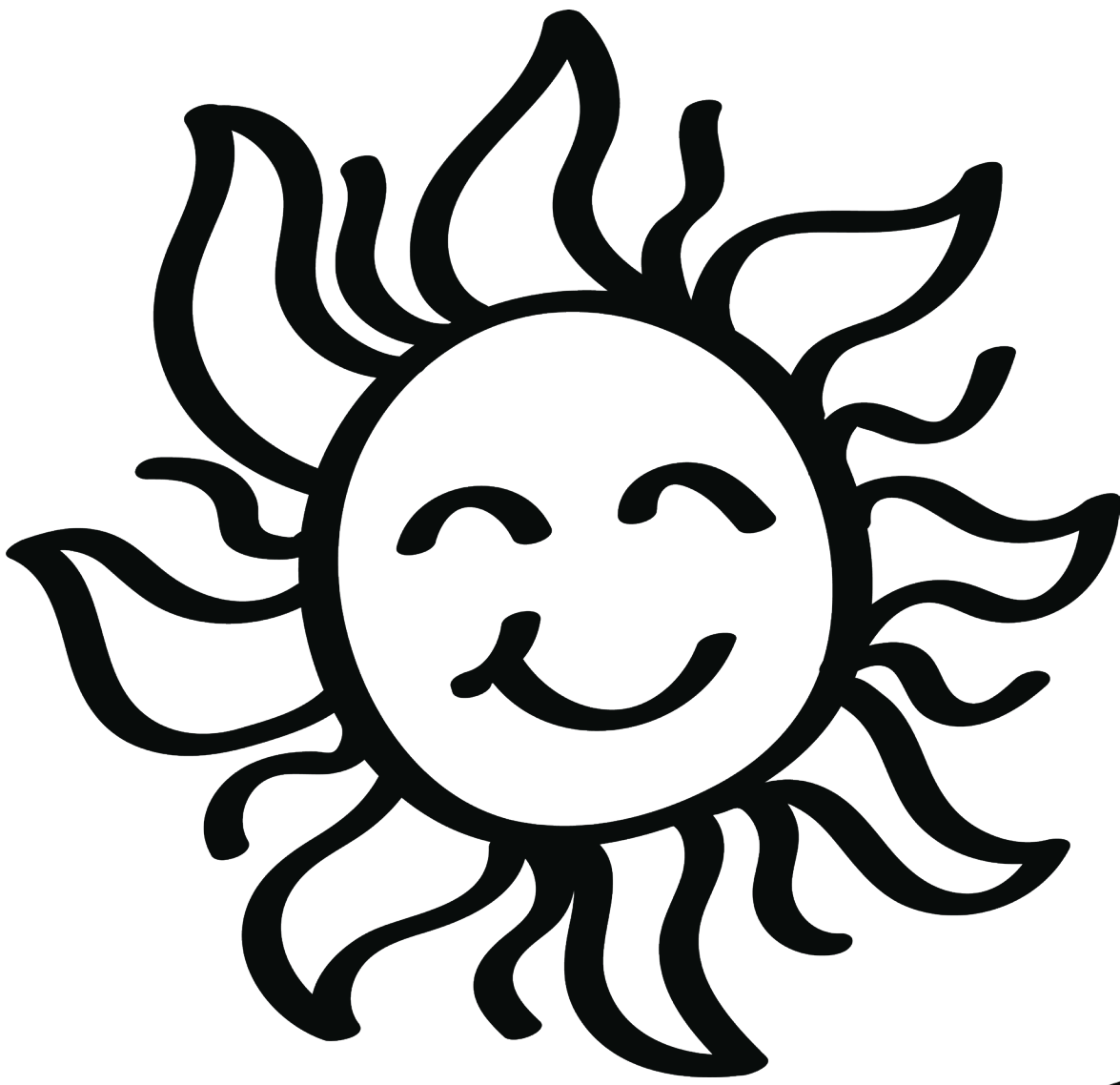
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7:30 am	SON RISE service
8:00 am	Fellowship Breakfast
10:00 am	Bible Study
11:00 am	Resurrection Celebration
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CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION

Color Time



Get ready for Easter fun! Above is a delightful Easter artwork just waiting for your colorful touch. Imagine vibrant Easter eggs hiding in lush green grass, a beautiful butterfly passing by, and the bright sun shining on the day. Grab your favorite crayons, markers, or colored pencils, and let your creativity shine! Fill this page with bright colors, patterns, and designs to create your own masterpiece. Don't forget to add your special Easter touches! Happy coloring!

Explaining the meaning of Easter to children

Staff Reports

Explaining Easter to children can be a delicate matter, especially for very young children who may not fully understand the tenets of the Christian faith. Although Easter ends with Jesus Christ emerging from his tomb, prior to this glorious miracle there are subjects of betrayal, suffering and death. These religious messages can confound when commingled with the imagery of bunnies delivering chocolates, chicks and pastel-hued eggs. How do well-meaning parents relay the message of Easter without scaring or confusing children?

TEMPER THE MESSAGE TO THE AUDIENCE

A child's age bears consideration when gauging just how much to share about Easter. Between Palm Sunday, when Jesus triumphantly entered Jerusalem, to Easter Sunday's Resurrection, the story of Easter features torture and

death - which are topics not easily digested by anyone, especially children. Even the core symbol of the Christian faith - the crucifix - is shocking.

For the youngest children, the extent of the torture and betrayal can be muted. For example, parents may say that Jesus was bullied and made fun of and that people didn't believe him when he spoke. Parents can note that even some of the closest friends to Jesus had their doubts. This may be easier for kids to digest because it's something they may relate to.

Children may not understand the death on the cross; it's even challenging for adults to wrap their minds around that visual. It briefly can be mentioned that he was placed on a cross, as was customary during that era, but forgo the finer details.

FOCUS ON THE RESURRECTION

Parents will not want to talk about death without



COURTESY PHOTO

These religious messages can confound when commingled with the imagery of bunnies delivering chocolates, chicks and pastel-hued eggs.

ending on the high note of Jesus' Resurrection. Remind children that Christ's death was temporary and that He now always will be with adults and children. Read passages from scripture that exemplify the Good News and the happy components of the Easter celebration.

EXPLAIN SECULAR IMAGES

Young children may be more focused on the commercial images of Easter rather than the religious ones. Parents may want to gear symbolism toward the religious explanations and focus their traditions thusly. Baking hot cross buns can be fun and showcase the cruci-

fix. Explain how eggs are representative of Jesus Christ's new life when coloring them is another way to cut through mixed messages.

READ BOOKS

Some authors already have taken the challenge out of explaining Easter to children. Visit a religious bookseller,

the church or a book store to find Easter stories geared to children.

Parents can decide how to explain Easter to their children. Many moms and dads have found that focusing on the joyful aspects of Christ's resurrection story is a simple, enjoyable way to explain Easter.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John comprise the canonical Gospels.

GOSPELS

FROM PAGE C4

was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise." And they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stoop-

ing and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened.

JOHN 20: 1-10

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. Both of them were running to-

gether, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes.

Easter Sunday
March 31, 2024
 Sunday School ✦ 9:30 a.m.
 Worship ✦ 10:45 a.m.

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Why is Easter Sunday such an important Christian holiday?



COURTESY PHOTO
Easter is part of the redemptive plan of mankind. It is worthy of celebration.

Staff Reports

Christians around the world fill church pews on Easter Sunday to participate in one of the most holy and important celebrations of the liturgical year. Although every Sunday presents opportunities to share in the word of God, Easter Sunday is an especially significant date on the Christian calendar.

Each Easter, Christians celebrate the miracle of Christ's defeat over death through his resurrection and ascension to his father's side in heaven. However awe-inspiring, Easter is much more than this event and its retelling. Easter actually is the

core of the Christian religion as it has come to be known, including inspiring the rituals and teachings that have been shared for nearly 2,000 years. Without the events that unfolded during Holy Week, the Christian faith would not exist as it was prophesied. Christ's selfless sacrifice on the cross for others' sins, as well as his miraculous resurrection, are the anchors upon which all of Christianity has been built.

In 1 Corinthians 15:17, St. Paul wrote, "And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins." Pope Benedict XVI similarly summa-

rized St. Paul's words, indicating that if the resurrection were taken away, it may be possible to piece together ideas about God and men, but the Christian faith would be "dead." In his book, Jesus of Nazareth, Pope Benedict further wrote, "Jesus would be a failed religious leader. he would then remain purely human, and his authority would extend only so far as his message is of interest to us."

According to Christianity.com, Easter is part of the redemptive plan of mankind. It is worthy of celebration because it proved to people that Jesus is the Son of God. This gives Christians confidence

that there is life after death, and they will have the same power working in them that raised Jesus from the dead.

Out of Holy Week and Easter also came the start of Christian masses. On Holy Thursday, Jesus introduced his disciples to the bread that they ate at the Last Supper as "his body" and the wine as "his blood." This would serve as the basis for the Christian celebration of Holy Communion, which remains a vital component of the faith and religious services.

Easter is a significant date on the Christian calendar that inspires Christians across the globe to celebrate their faith.



COURTESY PHOTO
Christians celebrate the miracle of Christ's defeat over death through his resurrection and ascension



Happy Easter

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Happy Easter

I am the resurrection and the life

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Happy Easter

SONIC

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Easter Sunrise Service

Sunday, March 31
7:00 AM
At the Prayer Garden/Three Cross @ CCC
Hosted by the Gatesville Ministerial Association

Easter Worship Service

Sunday, March 31
11:00 AM
at
The Presbyterian Church Gatesville

The Presbyterian Church

"ECO: A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians"

1110 E. Main, Gatesville, TX
254-865-5328
pastorbuddy@embarqmail.com

Rev. Dr. Buddy Wheat, DMin., Pastor