



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

SATURDAY | April 6, 2024

\$1.00



SERVING CORYELL COUNTY SINCE 1881 | VOLUME 122, No. 20, ISSN No. 0894-4954

Gatesville declares local state of emergency ahead of solar eclipse

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

The City of Gatesville has issued a declaration of emergency and disaster to prepare for the total solar eclipse that is expected to bring an influx of visitors to the area on Monday.

Mayor Gary Chumley signed the declaration on Wednesday, which is effective immediately for seven days unless extended by the Gatesville City Council.

Because the population is expected to double, if not triple in size, the city could experience severe traffic congestion in the days leading up to and following the eclipse. Over-capacity on roads

and highways could put a strain on local infrastructure and resources, including emergency response teams, hospital systems, and cause grocery and fuel shortages.

"The declaration better allows city personnel to look after public interest, safety, and well-being," Chumley said.

With the declaration, the city can request state assistance if needed regarding emergency services and supplies.

Coryell County also issued a declaration of local disaster on April 4, ahead of the total eclipse. Mayor of Killeen, Debbie Nash-King, also issued a local

state of emergency for the City of Killeen on Tuesday.

The declaration says it will allow the Gatesville Chief of Police to temporarily close city streets for public safety reasons. The city will also temporarily allow boondock camping in Faunt Le Roy Park for the event.

Gatesville, along with other Central Texas towns, is in the path of totality for the total solar eclipse. The first contact of the eclipse is expected to occur at 12:19 p.m. and reach totality by 1:36 p.m.

The National Weather Service currently predicts partly cloudy conditions and a chance of thunder-

storms in Gatesville on April 8. Although cloudy weather can affect viewing conditions, many parts of the eclipse may still be visible to viewers.

Despite weather forecasts, Chumley urges residents to still take precautions by being aware of increased traffic and to avoid traveling on Monday afternoon. He adds to fuel up vehicles and to purchase sufficient groceries, medications, and supplies in advance of the event.

"We have to operate under the assumption that we will see an eclipse," Chumley said.

2 MORE DAYS...



ANNUAL CROSS WALK HELD ON GOOD FRIDAY



ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

The annual community cross walk was held on Good Friday, March 29. The three-mile cross walk began at the First Methodist Church and ended at Coryell Community Church (CCC). Various turns were taken carrying the cross, so that everyone had the chance to walk with it. During the walk, the group prayed for all surrounding schools and staff, first responders (fire department, law enforcement, and EMS), the military, the local judicial system and its leaders, state and federal leaders, as well as for service organizations like Righteous Roots. After the conclusion of the cross walk, the community attended a worship rally which was held in the prayer garden at Coryell Community Church (CCC). "The cross walk is important for several reasons," Webb said. "It serves as a time of remembrance and celebration for the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ."

NASA ambassador visits Gatesville during eclipse

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

NASA Solar System Ambassador Liam Finn and his team will be present in Gatesville for the total solar eclipse on Monday, April 8.

Cheri Shepherd, Gatesville's Special Events Coordinator, commented, "We are thrilled to have Liam and his team in Gatesville as a part of our community celebration over the weekend and observation on Monday."

On Saturday, April 6, Finn and his team of ambassadors will provide a sold-out educational presentation called Syzygy at 6 p.m. in the Gatesville City Auditorium. According to Shepherd, "All 500 of the free tickets to this Saturday presentation have been claimed, but you still have a couple of ways to hear him speak. Ticket holders will be instructed to be at the city auditorium by 5:45 p.m. on Saturday evening. Shortly

before the 6 p.m. presentation, we will release any unclaimed seats to the public, first come/first served."

Those attending Finn's presentation will learn about the different types of solar eclipses, annular eclipses, and partial eclipses. He will discuss the unique features of each type and what to expect to see during each. Finn will also examine how modern science has advanced our understanding of these celestial events and provide tips and advice for viewing solar eclipses safely and effectively.

"Whether you are an experienced skywatcher or a newcomer to astronomy, this presentation on Syzygy and the upcoming American solar eclipse promises to be an informative and exciting journey into the cosmos to prepare you for the event on April 8th," Shepherd said.

PLEASE SEE NASA | A2

City council approves policy for honorary street names

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

Gatesville residents can now honor renowned community members by adding a special sign to city streets.

The new policy was approved by the Gatesville City Council on March 26. The purpose of the program is to provide residents with an opportunity to commemorate individuals or groups who have made a notable impact on the com-

munity. The honorary street signs will not alter current addresses or street names but allow the placement of a special street sign above existing street signs.

City Secretary Wendy Cole said the honorary street name is a separate program from the street renaming policy that was approved by the city council in December 2022. The renaming policy allows streets to be

renamed based on the new name's historical, cultural, or social significance, according to a previous article by The Messenger.

"This will just put a sign on top of a sign," Cole said. "It's not going to change (the) address, street, anything."

Applicants must pay \$250 to cover the design, installation, and maintenance of the signs. According to the

new policy, the honorary sign will be on display for two years, and then will be donated to the applicant or honoree's family.

To receive a designation, applicants must explain what the honoree's contributions are to the city. This includes their cultural and historical impact, humanitarian efforts, distinguished career, and geographic relationship to the street.

The policy pertains to public streets within the city limits of Gatesville. The designation is limited to a one-block section of the street, and each intersection will be limited to one honorary sign.

For those requesting placements adjacent to a U.S. highway or Main Street, applicants will need to adhere to the Texas Department of Transportation

regarding traffic safety and space availability, the policy states.

Each honorary street sign must be approved by the Gatesville City Council. The city will review the street designations case-by-case with a maximum of two honorary signs available per calendar year.

To view the full policy and application, visit www.gatesvilletx.com/documents



Raising up disciples of Christ through love, service & example

Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:30 am
Sunday School 9:30 am

2600 E. Main, Gatesville, TX
(254) 865-2520

www.fumcgatesville.org

Gatesville
FIRST METHODIST CHURCH
Love. Service. Example.

NASA
FROM PAGE A1



COURTESY PHOTO

NASA Solar System Ambassador Liam Finn

Liam Finn is originally from Ireland and now resides in Michigan. He is the NASA/JPL Solar System Ambassador, Vice President of the Great Lakes Association of Astronomy Clubs, the Planetarian at Henry Ford College, and an avid astronomer. Finn is passionate about STEM outreach and enjoys explaining the workings of the cosmos. While you can still find Liam Finn looking through telescopes, these days he wants to know more about how things work. He does numerous

outreach events and talks both under the night sky and indoors with NASA/JPL, his local astronomy club, local colleges, and universities. For more than 25 years, the NASA Solar System Ambassadors program has been a public engagement effort that works with motivated volunteers across the nation to communicate the science and excitement of NASA's space exploration missions and discoveries with the people in their communities. Today, the Solar System Ambassadors program

has more than 1,100 dedicated volunteers, reaching more than 11 million people through both live and online events in their communities. For those unable to attend Finn's educational talk at the city auditorium, they can see him on the day of the eclipse with his team who plan to set up viewing equipment (including telescopes, special cameras, and projection equipment) at the City of Gatesville Sports Complex where they will collect data for NASA.



Children's author to present eclipse story time

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

After experiencing a total solar eclipse in 2017, Jayme Sandberg set out to write a story that helps children and parents understand the once-in-a-lifetime experience. Now, Sandberg finds herself chasing the next total eclipse on April 8 here in Gatesville. As part of the city's Block (Out the Sun) Party, Sandberg looks forward to sharing her first children's book, "Total Solar Eclipse: A Stellar Friendship Story," with the community through a story time event on April 6. "I just felt called to helping parents experience the total solar eclipse the best way possible," Sandberg said. "Both in preparing for it and capturing the special memory of whatever their experience happens to be." At first, Sandberg

was skeptical about the eclipse expected to cross her small town in Nebraska nearly seven years ago. Once she witnessed totality alongside her young children, she knew she wanted to create a picture book to prepare others ahead of the next total eclipse in 2024. "A total solar eclipse is for everyone, and I wanted to create an approachable book about it that could get people excited about it even if they don't have that interest already in STEM or space, because it's kind of like a gateway to that interest," Sandberg said. The story combines a tale of friendship with lessons about the phenomenon of a total solar eclipse. It not only teaches children how to watch a total eclipse safely, but also explores the unexpected ways friends shine when they work together.

Although the book focuses on the rare occurrence of a total solar eclipse, readers can learn from its themes on friendship and emotions at any time. "Truly, for all of us, to be reminded that we can shine in different ways when we work together in communication and friendship and even believing the best in someone and their intentions rather than expecting the worst all the time," she said. "I think that's a lesson that is actually a good reminder for all ages." Sandberg said the book also features a special page at the end where families can write down their memories about their experience with the eclipse. "I think it's also important to capture the memory of this special moment in time no matter what it is, because thousands of

people are coming to your community just like they came to my community in 2017," Sandberg said. Published in July 2023, "Total Solar Eclipse: A Stellar Friendship Story" is listed as a bestseller in children's books on Amazon. Visitors can purchase the book for \$10 during the eclipse story time, which will take place at the 1854 Mercantile at 206 S 7th Street on April 6. Starting at 6:30 p.m., the event will feature crafts, snacks, and a book signing and reading by Sandberg. In true story time fashion, children are encouraged to wear their pajamas. Admission is free. "I'm so excited for the invitation, and I can't wait to meet the people of Gatesville when I come in just a couple days," Sandberg said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JAYME SANDBERG

Children's author Jayme Sandberg will visit Gatesville to host an eclipse story time at the 1854 Mercantile on April 6.

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS LLC
TIPPING THE SCALES IN YOUR FAVOR

COMMEMORATE THE UNFORGETTABLE ECLIPSE EVENT WITH A SPECIAL "ECLIPSE EDITION" 1 OZ FINE SILVER ROUND



MON-FRI 9A-5P & SAT 9A-1P

FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Living life in a small town in Texas: Where kindness is not lost



BY SAM HOUSTON

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

Living in a small town is simply different than living in the big city.

If you desire to be close to a vibrant nightlife, dine in a multitude and variety of restaurants, or go to professional ball games and musical entertainment, it would be much wiser to live in the D-FW area rather than some small town in rural Texas. The hustle and bustle of the “big city” provides an energy and rhythm

that excites and motivates. Lots of young people are driven to live there and experience all it has to offer.

After all, there are also more job opportunities in the metroplex than in rural areas, and usually at a higher wage. If you are single, there is a larger pool from which to seek a companion. Urban areas offer a greater

chance to experience the arts, emerge in a wide range of cultures and ethnicities, and greater shopping opportunities.

Despite all these positives, there are arguably negatives to life in the metroplex. Traffic is the first one that springs to mind. I see people scramble on U.S. Highway 75, Interstate Highway 635, or the President George Bush Turnpike, and I wonder how they bear the constant rush, the stress of getting to their job on time, and the isolation of spending hours of their week simply getting to and from work. It's not something which I envy.

All the hustle and bustle make me wonder how often the urban dwellers get to engage with their neighbors and share this journey we call life — or are they so busy running from one event to the other they miss

the blessing of community?

The small town I live in is growing. Occasionally, old timers will complain about the changes. They are frustrated with having to wait in line, or road construction, or building new schools to accommodate the growth in students. They yearn for the slower pace of yesteryear, and I understand why. There is something peaceful and pleasurable about a small town's slower pace and taking the time to interact with your neighbors.

Just this past week, I was leaving the office about 5:15. The building where I work sits on a very busy thoroughfare. There are plans being made by TxDOT to widen the road to remedy the traffic ills, but it will not happen for some four or five years to come. Currently, during busy times of the day, the street

can seem like it is in the heart of Dallas with traffic backed up. There is simply too much congestion.

What I have come to realize is that I have never had to wait more than a few moments before having access to turn on the road. I simply drive to the exit of my parking lot and some nice member of my community will “wave me in” and allow me to get in line. This happens every night. Without fail, before one or two cars pass, someone waves me on to the roadway, even though it slows their trip. I can't help but believe if I was trying to get out on a busy street in Fort Worth or Dallas, other drivers would ignore me or look away.

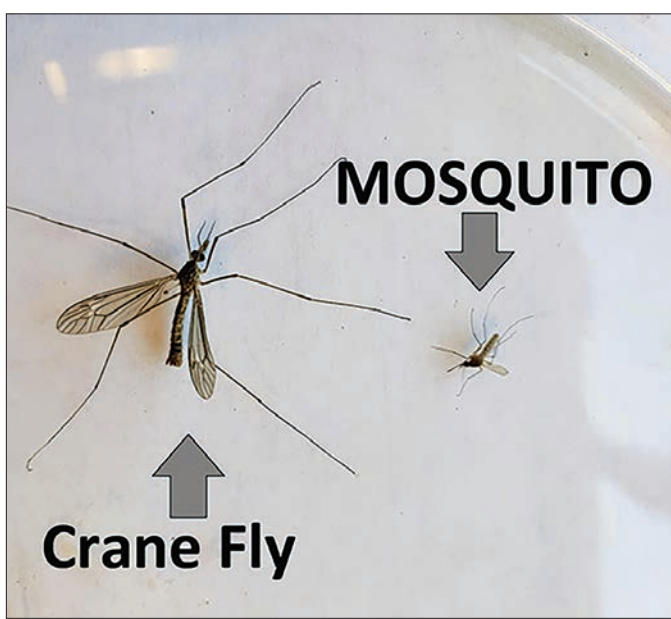
Letting someone get on the highway is not tantamount to curing cancer or solving world hunger but it does denote a sense of community and kindness,

which permeates nearly all the drivers in my town. Thank goodness they happily show kindness and give a quick wave to acknowledge their community members in need of a very small favor. Such a random act of kindness is indicative of a mindset which is in all Texas small towns: Help your neighbor when you can.

I hope our communities grow. I wish for prosperity and a better life for us all as our world changes, but I sure hope we never lose that little bit of kindness that makes us special.

Thought for the day: Kindness is a gift everyone can afford to give.

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



Crane Fly vs. Mosquito

COURTESY PHOTO

Everything's bigger in Texas?

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Texas size mosquitos? In spring in central Texas, large mosquito-like insects become increasingly apparent, usually appearing in mass numbers.

In Gatesville and Coryell County, these pesky insects have recently begun to swarm, and those not familiar with them often think they are extremely large mosquitos. In fact, they are not mosquitos but are categorized as “crane flies,” which are delicate, gentle insects that are harmless and do not carry disease.

Common misconceptions about the pesky insects are that they eat mosquitos

or bite humans as regular mosquitos would.

Crane flies are generally known as nectar feeders, which often helps with the pollination process. It has been reported that, as adults, they have short lives - usually lasting one week or maybe two. They live most of their lives in the larval stage, merging as flying insects for only a few days as they look for a mate. The insect will mature into adulthood, mate, and then die.

Adult crane flies do not feed. The larvae are the only feeding forms. They feed on roots of grasses and decaying organic matter. The food sources for the larvae

remain abundant in certain regions the insects inhabit. They are often found in moist areas following spring rains, which allows them to emerge in large masses. They are considered to be valuable to the ecosystem of the soil.

Female crane flies have extended abdomens, which house eggs and are capped with an ovipositor. Although these ovipositors appear similar to stingers, they are harmless and are only used for reproductive purposes.

Scientists have confirmed that the winged creatures are often attracted to lights and end up swarming around front porch lights

and, at night, around windows where light appears.

In the United States, crane flies are also known as Jimmy Spinners, Mosquito Eaters, Mosquito Nippers, Gollywhoppers, and Gallinippers. They are known as “Daddy Long Legs” in the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, South Africa, Ireland, and New Zealand.

To avoid crane flies as potential houseguests, experts advise that your window screens are sealed and that you keep your doors shut. If, by chance, they make entry into your home, remember they are quite harmless.

Folks around town



COURTESY PHOTO

Mike Halsema

Say hello to our neighbor, Mike Halsema!

Say hello to our neighbor, Mike Halsema! Mike is the Finance and Human Resources Director for the City of Gatesville. He has been in his position since Jan. 2021. “I enjoy working with everyone at the city and meeting new people in the community,” Halsema said. He moved to Gatesville from Denton County with his wife in 2021. He enjoys the small town feel as well as the locally-owned restaurants. “I also love the car show on the square and have been going since I moved here,” Halsema said.

Mike reads The Gatesville Messenger and said, “I like the Messenger's focus on the community and surrounding areas. I think it is vital to have a local newspaper.”

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

NEW SIGN GRACES DOWNTOWN GATESVILLE



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Those driving along Main Street near the courthouse square will notice a Gatesville sign located in the “green space” between the Coryell County Appraisal Office and Graves Florist. The City of Gatesville's Special Events Coordinator, Cheri Shepherd, said, “I had seen similar signs in other cities and had been wanting one for Gatesville. When we started eclipse planning, I thought it was the perfect time and would give people a place to take a photo.” Shepherd said that she went to Dave Christian at Higginbothams to see if they would help and that they offered to donate the materials and labor. “Higginbothams designed, donated the supplies, built, delivered, and set it up,” said Civic Center Manager, Morgan Smart. Shepherd pointed out that, if you look, there are spurs on the side of the “I” and it has the phases of the eclipse above it so you can say, “Here I am under the eclipse in the middle of Gatesville!”

O & J SUPERIOR PLUMBING

RMP M41774

CAMERA LOCATOR RPZ Backflow

Jeff Tesar
Office: (254) 404-2242

Shops • Garages • Houses • Agriculture • Commercial

405-595-0770

<p>30'x40'x10' ..\$20,400</p> <p>30'x40'x12' ..\$22,600</p> <p>30'x50'x10' ..\$24,600</p> <p>30'x50'x12' ..\$26,700</p> <p>With 4" Concrete, Fully Insulated, 1-Commercial Overhead Door, 1-Entry Door, #1 29 Ga. 40yr. Painted Metal, Built on your level site. Additional Sizes Available. Mileage or Higher Concrete Prices May Apply.</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;">Gober Post</p> <p style="font-weight: bold;">Frame Buildings</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Protect Your Home and Property!! Make Sure Your Contractor is Following the Law. Ask For General Liability and Works Comp. Insurance</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; font-weight: bold;">www.goberconstruction.com</p>
---	--

2024 TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE

What you need to know



Eyes on the eclipse



BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

As reported on the Mayo Clinic website, Dr. William Brown stated that staring directly at the sun can seriously damage your eyes if you aren't using specifically designed eclipse glasses.

Dr. Brown noted that the only time the sun can be viewed without proper safety glasses will be during the total eclipse - that short time when the moon covers the sun completely. "The sun is so intense. Regular sunglasses only absorb maybe 90% of the sunlight and the light in our environment. Eclipse glasses absorb more like 99.9999%," says Dr. Brown.

He continued, "I liken it to a camera flash. When a camera flashes, you get this afterimage because the rods and the cones [in your eyes] have to recover from that. When you're staring at the sun, they don't have a chance to recover, and they may

totally be lost due to the damage that can occur from looking at the sun."

"When we have intense light the eyes don't have the ability to recover, and we can lose visual function. Depending upon the length of time that we're staring at that bright light, it can either be temporary loss or it can be permanent loss. So, that's that danger of looking at the sun [during the eclipse]," Dr. Brown said.

According to Prevent-Blindness.org, the symptoms that can occur from looking at a solar eclipse without proper eye protection can include: loss of central vision (solar retinopathy), distorted vision, and altered color vision.

The NASA website suggests that when watching a solar eclipse directly with your eyes you must look through safe solar viewing glasses (eclipse glasses). Eclipse glasses are NOT regular sunglasses. No matter how dark, they are not safe for viewing the sun. Safe

solar viewers are thousands of times darker and should comply with the ISO 12312-2 international standard.

NASA advises that eclipse glasses or handheld viewers should be examined before use to make sure they are not torn, scratched, or otherwise damaged. If damage is found, the device should be discarded.

It is also advised NOT to use eclipse glasses or handheld viewers with cameras, binoculars, or telescopes. Those devices require different types of solar filters.

PreventBlindness.org also gave the following tips on how NOT to watch the solar eclipse:

- Do NOT use your camera viewfinder: Never look at a solar eclipse through the optical viewfinder of a camera. It can damage your eyes in the same way as looking directly at the sun.

- Do NOT use unsafe filters: Unless specifically designed for viewing a solar eclipse. Solar filters designed for eyepieces that come with inexpensive telescopes are also unsafe.

The public is advised to be careful when viewing the solar eclipse on April 8th due to the risk of permanently damaging your eyes.

ECLIPSE ART EXHIBIT ON SQUARE



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

An art exhibit called "Art in the Shadow," which appears in the windows of Leaird's, was recently visited by Coryell Retired School Personnel president Gail Johnson. The eclipse artwork has been provided by GISD art students and by other Gatesville and Coryell County residents. The display will officially open at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 6. For those wishing to see the art display, they can visit Leaird's, which is located at 108 S. 6th Street on the courthouse square.

Alert CCSO about large gatherings

Staff Reports

Ahead of the total solar eclipse on April 8, the Coryell County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) is asking residents to let them know if they will expect a large gathering of people on their property, which will help their deputies respond to emergencies.

The sheriff's office said in a Facebook post that if

they know the locations of the gatherings, they can better stage deputies and resources to assist with any potential emergencies. They ask residents to notify them about gatherings with 25 or more people.

Because Gatesville is a prime viewing spot for the eclipse, the sheriff's office said they are aware that many who reside or own property in the county will

allow camping on their land.

Residents can contact the Coryell County Sheriff's Office at 254-865-5911 ext. 530 or 531, or by email at CCSOdispatch@coryellsheriff.com.

"We want everyone to enjoy the eclipse celebrations safely," the sheriff's office wrote via Facebook.

Gatesville Airport prepares for Total Eclipse on April 8

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

With the Total Eclipse soon to be in Gatesville's path, the Gatesville Municipal Airport has been preparing for an influx of visitors from around the country.

The recently established "Gatesville Pilot's Association" has been making way in their plans for the eclipse.

Member of the Gatesville Pilot's Association, Ken Mallach, said, "What I told our group when we were getting together was that this was a chance to show Gatesville that we are serious about supporting the airport."

Mallach is retired from the United States Air Force after 25 years of service and served with the Fort Hood Fire Department for 18 years before retiring. He is now a private pilot at Gatesville Municipal Airport and has been flying for over three years now.

With only having an approximate estimate of the number of planes that will be flying in, the city's Eclipse Coordinator Cheri Shepherd has set up an online form for those who will be traveling by plane to the event.

"On the city website, on the airport page, we put out some information and said that if you are flying in, please let us know," Shepherd said.

As of right now, there are 30 registrants who have signed up to visit Gatesville for the eclipse from out of state. The states include Florida, California, Colorado, and North Carolina.

According to Shepherd, as she has seen on social media, many people are planning to wait until the 10-day forecast comes out to make their decision on if they are planning to travel or not.

"What we expect is that 10 days before the eclipse, all of a sudden, we are going to see a bunch of things start moving faster," Shepherd said.

As the preparations are still unfolding, the airport, along with the City of Gatesville, are preparing in advance by adding portable restrooms, trash cans, ways to access food, and efficient public transportation.

"We have people that we know will fly in on Saturday and Sunday and some that will fly in on Monday and fly out," Shepherd said. "On Saturday and Sunday, some of the people are going to camp next to their planes."

"We have had to think about where the planes will park when they land, so we went to the Pilot's Association and said, 'what do we need to do, and can you help us,'" Shepherd said.

Between the City of Gatesville and the Pilot's Association, the two organizations will work together to have the airport ready in time for the Total Eclipse on April 8.

"We realize that those people coming in are going to have some issues to deal with, and we want everyone that comes to Gatesville, however they get here, to have the very best experience possible," Shepherd said.

Mallach expressed that

the main priority will be to keep everyone safe.

"We are drawing up plans for where people are going to camp and put a temporary taxi way across the grass fields, so when it comes time for everyone to leave it will be more efficient and expedient," Mallach said.

Mallach explained that at the moment the airport only has one taxi way, and if people are leaving, everyone will get packed together, because only two planes are allowed at a time.

"We are going to make sure that the grass is mowed short, and we have surveyed it already, so it is pretty level," Mallach said. "It is just a matter of doing it."

"People who go to air events like this and do camping often taxi through fields," Mallach said.

Shepherd explained that some pilots use tents that go over the wing of a plane when camping.

"This is just something that pilots are accustomed to doing," Shepherd said.

A hanger party is planned for Sunday afternoon on April 7 for visitors flying in.

"We get together every so often at the airport and talk about our favorite subject, flying. We barbecue and talk out at the airport, it's just a pilot get-together," Mallach said. "Hopefully, we will get a lot of pilots who are coming in to camp, and we are going to have a meet and greet."

Once visitors arrive at the airport by plane, fuel will be available, but Shepherd ex-



PHOTO COURTESY OF KEN MALLACH

Air traffic over Gatesville Airport.

plained that the pilots have been told that the supplies are limited.

"We want to make sure that our fuel tank is full, because you never know what might happen or who will come in," Mallach said.

As a lot of pilots will be flying in the morning of the eclipse on Monday, April 8, the airport will host a pancake breakfast for the visitors as well as a hot dog lunch.

"Our group is hoping that we get a good turnout," Mallach said.

When flying in, visitors will need to be mindful of restricted airspace, as Gatesville is located next to Fort Cavazos.

"Matter of fact, as you take off on runway one-seven, if you keep flying straight, aircraft will be in restricted airspace, so pilots have to turn out either left or right pretty quick,"

Mallach said. "There are all sorts of things that pilots do to stay safe."

Mallach said that it is expected that immediately after the eclipse people will be jumping in their planes to go home.

"We are hoping that it doesn't rain," Mallach said. "We want to make sure that everybody gets out in a timely fashion; we don't want a big backup like they are expecting on the highways."

"One of our members, Dick Butler, flew out to see the 2017 eclipse, and he saw what happened there," Mallach said. "He said they had hundreds of planes show up at a little airport like Gatesville."

When discussing the advantages of flying versus driving to Gatesville for the eclipse, Mallach explained that flying is quicker and possibly easier than driving

a car as well as the love and joy of flying.

"People want to experience totality," Mallach said. "Whether it is by car or flying, people want to go."

"I have always been in the role of helping people and I always enjoy helping people," Mallach said. "Getting out here and helping fellow aviators, getting to meet them, and hearing their stories is going to be fun."

The Gatesville Pilot's Association is always looking for new members. To become a member, contact the association on Facebook by searching Gatesville Pilot's Association.

For further details regarding airport preparations, contact the City of Gatesville at 254-865-8951.

The Gatesville Municipal Airport is located at 137 Airport Road.



The stages of a total solar eclipse.

What to expect during a total solar eclipse

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

After months of waiting to catch the upcoming total solar eclipse, many people might wonder what they will experience when it finally arrives.

A total eclipse occurs when the earth, moon, and sun line up in space, leading to a several minutes of darkness when the moon blocks the sun. The development of a total eclipse occurs in several stages. According to NASA, the moon spends approximately one hour gradually covering the sun.

During the partial phases of the eclipse, people might notice shadows of small solar crescents on the ground. It is essential to use protective solar glasses during this stage of the eclipse.

About 15 minutes before totality, the light will begin to change and grow darker. According to NASA, "The light may look eerie or strange. Even if it's cloudy and you can't see the sun, the skies will still grow darker."

The natural environment might also notice the gradual shift. This includes changes in wildlife be-

havior, such as birds and insects that act like night or dusk is approaching.

According to the Weather Channel, people could experience changes in the weather. During the 2017 total eclipse, many locations reported a 5 to 15 degrees drop in temperature, and that the winds changed direction.

The weather can make a difference in the appearance of a total eclipse. If the skies are cloudy or rainy, it can obscure the view. NASA recommends checking the weather before choosing a spot to watch the eclipse.

However, if the weather is clear, the moon's shadow will begin to become visible one to three minutes before the total eclipse. On clear, light-colored surfaces one might also notice "shadow bands" from the sun. NASA describes this phenomenon as light from the thin, crescent sun that "produces faint, rippling waves of light and dark."

Just before totality, the moon and sun will create a diamond ring effect called "Baily's Beads" where slivers of sunlight will shine through the valleys and craters of the moon.

Once the eclipse reaches totality, the sun's outer layer, known as the corona, will be visible from behind the moon. This is the only stage of the eclipse where it is considered safe to remove eye protection.

One might also notice bright pink spots at the sun's edges. According to the San Francisco Exploratorium, these spots are large loops of plasma that rise from the sun's surface called "prominences."

Along with the covered sun, viewers might also notice bright stars, planets, and a glow known as a

360-degree sunset during totality.

While the length of total solar eclipses varies, the one on April 8 will last 4 minutes and 28 seconds max in places near the centerline of totality. The 2024 Great American Eclipse website says that the total eclipse first enters Texas near the Mexico border at 1:27 p.m. and leaves the Oklahoma and Arkansas border at 1:49 p.m.

For more information, visit science.nasa.gov/eclipses.

Where to view the 2024 Great American Eclipse

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

On April 8, Gatesville will witness 4 minutes and 23.9 seconds of a total solar eclipse. Because this rare occurrence will not cross North America again until 2044, viewers will want to find the best spot to witness the historic event.

For those seeking a spot to watch the total eclipse with friends, family, and their community, here's a list of events and watch parties happening in and around Gatesville on the day of the eclipse:

Gatesville Sports Complex

Visitors and residents are invited to view the eclipse from Hyles Field where NASA ambassadors will bring their equipment and interact with the public. Friends of the Gatesville Public Library will offer paid parking at the Gatesville Civic Center and the

Sports Complex parking lots beginning at 7 a.m. Chairs, telescopes, cameras, and coolers are allowed.

Reserve a parking space at gatesvillexclipse.com/eclipseviewing

Eclipse at the Crosses

Coryell Community Church is holding a free eclipse viewing event in their parking lot from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event includes food trucks, games, entertainment, worship, and more. While parking is free, the church asks attendees to reserve a parking spot.

Reserve a parking space here: <https://subsplash.com/coryellcommunity-church/lb/ev/+kgw7326>

The Last Drive-In Picture Show

Witness the total eclipse at The Last Drive-In Picture Show located off 2912 State Highway 36. The watch party will feature food,

mini golf, eclipse swag, and other activities. Gates will open at 10 a.m.

Each ticket includes premium parking for one vehicle with up to six passengers and two pairs of eclipse glasses for \$24.24. Tickets are available through The Last Drive-In Picture Show's Facebook page.

Higginbotham Brothers
Higginbotham Brothers will open their doors for an eclipse extravaganza that includes food trucks, door prizes, vendors, with flowers and hanging baskets for sale.

Store hours are 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, visit Gatesville's Higginbotham Brothers Facebook page.

For those hoping to catch the eclipse farther away from town, several local ranches and parks are also

holding events, including:

6S River Ranch

6S River Ranch on Old Georgetown Road is offering activities throughout the weekend of the eclipse, but visitors can also purchase day-of eclipse passes. The ranch will provide a variety of entertainment and food options, including live music, BBQ and other food vendors, horseback riding, fishing, and more.

Eclipse glasses and parking are included in ticket pricing. Search "Solar Eclipse Viewing at 6S River Ranch" on Eventbrite.com to purchase weekend or day passes.

Dove Nest Estate

The Dove Nest Estate event venue on County Road 342 will host camping and activities throughout the weekend of the eclipse. Events on Sunday, April 7 and Monday, April 8 will

include music, food, lawn games, and movies. The venue also allows guests to bring their ATVs or offroad vehicles to explore over 15 miles of trails on the property.

Daily passes are \$10. Visit Eventbrite.com and search for "Solar Eclipse Party at Dove Nest Estate" to purchase tickets and for more information on lodging and camping options.

LandJRanch

LandJRanch on King Ranch Road will host campers throughout the weekend and welcomes day-of-eclipse visitors. Activities include live music, volleyball, fishing, corn hole, food trucks, and more.

Day passes are available for \$20 when purchased in advance or \$25 when purchased the weekend of April 6-8.

Search for "LandJRanch

2024 Solar Eclipse Party" at Eventbrite.com to purchase passes or reserve a camping spot.

To ensure you don't miss the total eclipse, an interactive map showing its direct path through the region can also be found on coryell-county.org.

Editor's note: A version of this article that ran in The Gatesville Messenger's eclipse special section on March 30 featured a viewing event at McKamie Stadium. This event has been canceled. Tickets will be transferred to the viewing event at the Gatesville Sports Complex and Civic Center. For more information, reach out to Shea Harp at The Gatesville Public Library: 254-223-4338

Local officials and services prepare for Total Eclipse

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

The total solar eclipse that will pass directly through the center of Gatesville is nearly upon us, which means city officials and services throughout the community have been preparing for April 8.

As Gatesville will be a prime viewing location for travelers throughout the United States, the population will expect a sudden increase.

"This event has never occurred in Gatesville's recorded history and has the potential to be the biggest event our town has ever seen," Gatesville Police Chief Brad Hunt said. "It is an opportunity to shine for our city government, local businesses, and for all residents of Gatesville."

The centerline of the eclipse will pass directly through Gatesville and will be one of the longer durations of totality in the State of Texas, at four minutes, twenty-three point nine seconds.

"We have conducted extensive research into the 2017 total eclipse that crossed a smaller portion of the U.S., speaking to local and state governments in Wyoming and Illinois about their experiences," Hunt said. "We paid close attention to their lessons learned

and have planned accordingly for the additional people coming to town, as well as the traffic issues we expect will occur."

"The lessons from 2017 taught us that, regardless of whether we hosted local events, people would come to town," Hunt said. "So, we began planning things for people to do on the day of the event and the weekend preceding it, to give our visitors a unique way to experience Gatesville."

The Gatesville Police Department and the City of Gatesville have made several statements regarding the eclipse about how a safe event equals a good event.

Hunt expressed that he expects greatly increased traffic through the weekend, with some delays likely.

"We have been planning for over a year and, now that we are less than four weeks away, we feel like we are more than ready for the day of the eclipse to arrive," Hunt said.

Hunt explained that the Gatesville Police Department is doubling their patrol presence the week of the eclipse as well as working with area partners and nearby cities to plan for any potential emergencies, such as Coryell County Sher-

iff's Office, Fort Cavazos, Texas Department of Public Safety, and others.

The city has increased their workforce at both the police and fire departments in preparation for the increased number of people through the weekend and on April 8, as well as collaborating with local and state partners for some time to ensure that the community will have the resources necessary to provide services throughout the event.

The Gatesville Police Department is working with the Texas Department of Transportation and surrounding communities to prepare traffic control and public safety plans.

The biggest traffic concerns include congestion on U.S. Highway 84 and State Highway 36, two major highways utilized by emergency vehicles and that lead to larger cities like Waco and Temple.

He added that his team will remain in contact with local entities including the fire department, EMS, and law enforcement in the area.

Recommendations for citizens when it comes to preparing for severe traffic includes having a full tank of gas, carrying a tire repair kit and emergency supplies

in the vehicle, and staying off the road during the evening of Monday, April 8.

"On Monday, April 8 from about 2 p.m. through the rest of the night, we expect drastic delays on all city streets and highways throughout our region," Hunt said. "We are asking folks to pre-plan for significant delays on the afternoon of Monday, April 8."

The Gatesville Police Department and the City of Gatesville are encouraging locals to sign up for Code Red Alerts to their cell phone, which is how pertinent information will be relayed about traffic or other topics.

The Code Red signup can be found on the city webpage at <https://www.gatesvilletx.com/>, under "How DO I?" tab.

The Gatesville Volunteer Fire Department, under the leadership of Chief Billy Vaden will be sure to have extra personnel on duty from Friday, April 5, to Tuesday, April 9.

A command post vehicle will be on standby during the downtown event on Saturday, April 6 and Sunday, April 7, as well as at the Sports Complex for the NASA event on Monday, April 8. The VFD will also be available to assist with

any incident responses as needed.

The Gatesville VFD can be reached by contacting 254-865-6416.

The City of Gatesville Street Department Director Jim Shepard will have all personnel on duty from Friday, April 5, to Tuesday, April 9. The street department will have staging cones and barricades at various event locations from Friday, April 5, to Monday, April 8, as well as assisting with any incident responses as needed.

The Gatesville Parks and Recreation Department Director Seth Phillips will have all personnel on duty from Friday, April 5, to Tuesday, April 9.

The department will be primarily monitoring the camping grounds at Faunt Le Roy Park from Friday, April 5, to Tuesday, April 9, while also checking on all other city parks during that timeframe. They will be assisting with the NASA event, which will be located at the Sports Complex on Monday, April 8, and with any incident responses as needed.

There will be clean-ups conducted at each city park throughout the month of March to prepare for the event in early April.

Water Distribution Direc-

tors Chad Newman and Zeb Veazy will make sure that all personnel are on duty from Friday, April 5, to Tuesday, April 9. Their main responsibility will be to monitor water usage throughout the community and to adjust any levels as needed with increased demand. Throughout the month of March, the water distribution team has been preparing systems for increased usage from Saturday, April 6, to Tuesday, April 9.

Bobby Buster, Director of the Water Waste Department with the City of Gatesville, has made sure that all personnel will be on duty from Friday, April 5, to Tuesday, April 9. The department will mainly be focusing on the wastewater output and adjusting plant operations as needed with increased demand. Systems are being prepared during the month of March for increased usage from Saturday, April 6, to Tuesday, April 9.

Miguel Gamez with the Building Department is completing preparations at the City Auditorium for the NASA presentation, which expects high traffic.

Civic Manager Morgan Smart is coordinating

ECLIPSE

FROM PAGE A5

with the Friends of the Public Library, city staff, the Gatesville Police Department, the parks, and the Gatesville Volunteer Fire Department, for the event to be held at the Sports Complex on Monday, April 8.

Director Shea Harp with the Gatesville Public Library is coordinating with the Friends of the Public Library to host an event at the Sports Complex on Monday, April 8. Harp will be assisting with the education and eclipse glasses distribution during the month of March as well leading up to the weekend event. She will be hosting the NASA presentation with Liam Finn at the City Auditorium on Saturday, April 6.

Nursing home Hillside Medical Lodge will have its parking lot entrance blocked off to all visitors except for the families of the residents on Monday, April 8.

Eclipse glasses and a party will be provided to the residents of Hillside Medical Lodge.

Coryell Health and RehabLiving at the Meadows will provide eclipse viewing glasses for all residents and staff. The clinic, emergency medical services (EMS), and the emergency room will be fully staffed.

Police Chief Brad Hunt explained that lanes will be open for EMS services to travel to emergencies at Hillside Medical Lodge and RehabLiving at the Meadows.

For further details regarding the City of Gatesville's preparations for the Total Eclipse, contact 254-865-8951.

Visit www.gatesvilletxeclipse.com for more information about Gatesville's preparations for the eclipse.

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

TUMBLEWEED SMITH

Bret's Eclipse Party



BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH

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

Bret Cali has the general store at Bend, a small place near the Colorado River south of San Saba. It has beer and music and the flavor of Luckenbach.

"Some people say it's the new Luckenbach," says Bret. "It's kind of hard to find, like Luckenbach. Hondo Crouch, who owned the new Luckenbach, said if you can't find it, you're not supposed to be there."

Bret's entrepreneurial talents have taken him all over the world in several different types of endeavors, including a landscaping company in England.

This time it's throwing a big eclipse party the first weekend in April at Lometa, not far from Bend.

"I'm calling it The Sun Festival," says Bret. "It's at the Lometa Fair Grounds, about 80 to 100 acres. I have plenty of clean porta-potties, a big sound crew, and quite a few awesome artists who will be performing Friday, Saturday,

and Sunday before the total eclipse on Monday the 8th of April. Ray Wylie Hubbard will appear at 8 p.m. Sunday night. I'm trying to mix up the music a little bit, because these people are from all over the world. So, I've got reggae, world music, and of course some Texas country. There won't be any music during the eclipse."

The center of Texas is considered prime viewing for the eclipse, and tons of activities are planned for the millions of visitors who are expected to come to the area.

"I'm making sure the people who come to my event have everything they need on site, so they won't have to leave. That includes a variety of food and plenty of ice. We'll have all sorts of vendors. Goods and services in all these areas are going to be wiped out. Cars are going to be

backed up on all the roads. Getting to places will be very difficult. Security is going to be tight with two helicopter staging areas. We're right next to Lampasas, one of the epicenters for viewing. NASA has named it one of the prime areas. All hotel rooms in Lampasas were booked two years ago. I was real lucky to get the festival grounds. I'm not expecting a wild crowd. I want to keep it relaxed and not overcrowded. We'll probably have some people sitting around a fire playing guitars in the evening. The park itself is beautiful."

Bret has staged musical events most of his adult life, so he knows what's involved. He's planning on at least a thousand people showing up.

"I'm charging half, or less than half, of what other people are charging. For one person, camping for

two nights, seeing all the shows and everything, it's \$250. I'm giving the city half of that."

The stage is at the bottom of a hill, so the viewpoint to watch the bands is ideal. Musical groups scheduled to appear in Lometa are Two Tons of Steel, The Paul Logan Band, and Gus Clark on Friday; The Bode Barker Band, Thomas Michael Riley, Ryan Glenn and The Honky Tonk Heat, plus The Lampasas All Stars on Saturday; Ray Wylie Hubbard, Watusi World Music, and Round the Roots Rid-dim on Sunday. Joe King Carrasco and Rochelle, and the Sidewinders, will perform after the eclipse on Monday. In addition, there will be open jams daily and nightly. Visitors are encouraged to bring their own instruments. The Lometa Regional Park is on US Highway 183 in Lometa.

MOUND NEWS

Martha Ann Lawhorn honored for her birthday



BY BARBARA HOPSON

Mound News Correspondent

Mrs. Martha Ann Lawhorn was honored for her birthday on Saturday. It was hosted by Elizabeth Phillips. Those attending were Ryan Phillips, Zoie Rhoades, and Craig, LaWanda and Rhett Lawhorn of Temple.

Mrs. Doris Hoff, of Gatesville, visited during the week in Mound with Martha Lawhorn.

Jerry and Paula Bomar had all their children and grandchildren home for the Easter holidays.

Mound Cowboy Church had their annual Easter breakfast, service, and egg hunt. There were 300 in attendance.

The Carothers Family had their Easter lunch hosted by Bobby and Nelda Carothers. Good food and fellowship were enjoyed by all. Those in attendance were family members and

friends: Cooper Shackelford, future grandson-in-law, fiancé of Caleigh Carothers, plus Meghan Justice, of Temple, a friend of Skyler Carothers.

Emma Blakley came home on Thursday night from College Station for Easter weekend.

On Friday, Emma Blakley spent the day in Pearl with Bettie Blakley.

On Saturday, the Blakley family went to Montgomery for Carolyn's great-nephew, Riley Reed's, first birthday party at the home of Reed and Katelyn Griffith.

On Sunday, the Blakley

and the Helms family spent Easter in Pearl with Mrs. Bettie Blakley.

The Hopson family had their annual Easter lunch hosted by Barbara Hopson. Good food and fellowship were enjoyed by all. After lunch we had a big Easter Egg Hunt. Afterward, some of the Hopson family played dominoes. The entertainment was by David and Loyd Hopson and Zach Long.

Those who have birthdays this coming weekend are Alison Moffett and Sandra Varner.



THE GRAIN

PRESENTS





APRIL 20th, 2024

110 S. Bell st
HAMILTON, TX

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



MELANIE J FINANCIAL, LLC

stronger together

73rd annual National Day of Prayer to be held May 2

Submitted Item

The First Methodist Church of Gatesville is extending a warm invitation to you and your congregation to join hands in supporting the National Day of Prayer, an event that promises to be a powerful gathering of believers across the nation.

The church will host the National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 2, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. in its sanctuary and chapel.

The church is honored to sponsor this annual event, and we

extend an open invitation to all churches in the community to participate.

On this sacred day, our doors will be wide open, and we encourage everyone to join us in person if possible. However, we understand that physical attendance may not be feasible for all, and we warmly welcome those who wish to join us in spirit.

This year, the National Day of Prayer carries the theme "Lift Up the World - Light Up the World." This theme is beautifully exemplified in the 2024 National

Prayer, skillfully crafted by Kathy Branzell. The power of collective prayer can truly illuminate the world with hope, love, and unity.

In preparation for this significant event, we invite you to join us for 40 days of prayer starting on March 23, as we dedicate this time to seeking the Lord's guidance, wisdom, and blessings.

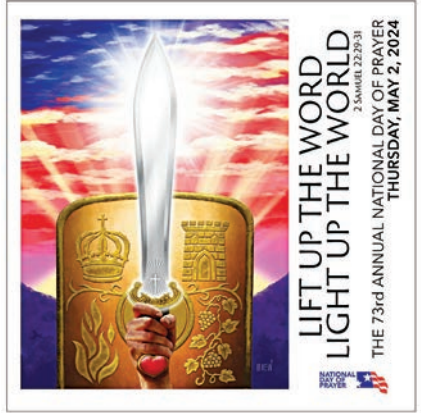
We believe our collective prayers will have a profound impact not only on our community, but also on our nation.

Let us come together as one body, lifting our voices in prayer

and supplication for our nation, our communities, and the world.

As the body of Christ, we have the privilege and responsibility to be the light that dispels darkness. May our prayers resonate with the love and compassion of our Savior, touching hearts and transforming lives.

More information, including the 2024 National Prayer and 40 Days of Prayer, can be found at <https://www.nationaldayof-prayer.org/>, or contact Joyce Talbott at 254-223-0032.



OBITUARIES

Edna Rueter

Oct. 25, 1934 - March 30, 2024

Edna Rueter, age 89, of Gatesville, went to be with her Lord and Savior on Saturday, March 30, 2024.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 2, at Scott's Funeral Home. Interment followed at Proctor Cemetery at 2 p.m.

Edna Fern Lowry Rueter was born on Oct. 25, 1934, in Comanche, to the late Oscar and Beatrice Graham Lowry. She was raised and attended school in Corpus Christie, moving to Gatesville in her junior year of high school. She graduated from Gatesville High School in 1953. After high school, she moved to Dallas and worked as a clerk for an insurance company before moving back to Gatesville and

going to work for Phillips in McGregor. In 1958, with the birth of her first child, she transitioned to a stay-at-home mom for the remainder of her years. During that time, she not only raised her children, but also helped take care of grandchildren and tended to the family ranch and cattle. In her later years, she loved attending all the great-grandchildren's sporting events and other activities. She also enjoyed entertaining family gatherings.

Edna was preceded in death by her parents. She is survived by her son, Dale Rueter, and wife, Pam; daughter, Beverly Peña, and husband, Ricky; brother, Jack Lowry; grandchildren, Carly Ta-



tum, Morgan Keeton, Kayla Bushong, Trent Rueter, Keegan Peña; and eleven great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the Proctor Cemetery Association, c/o Randy Chisholm, 751 Comanche CR 335, Dublin, Texas 76446.

Ruth Evelyn McGaugh

July 26, 1936 - March 31, 2024

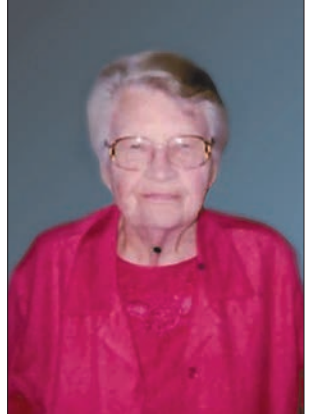
Ruth Evelyn (Wilson) McGaugh passed away on March 31, 2024 in Gatesville.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 13, at Scott's Funeral Home with Tim Hunter officiating. The family will receive visitors one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Interment will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, April 18, at Central Texas Veterans Cemetery in Killeen.

Ruth McGaugh was born on July 26, 1936, in Hobart, Oklahoma to Ernest James Wilson and Maudie Pearl (Stubbs) Wilson. Ruth married Roy Lee McGaugh on May 21, 1954 in Valley View. Roy preceded her in death on March 12, 2019.

Ruth enjoyed playing basketball in her youth. She also enjoyed wildflowers, road trips, and old-time country music. Ruth was a dedicated wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Ruth will be remembered for being loving, kind, generous, friendly, hard-working, helpful, and hospitable. Ruth was a member of Gatesville Church of Christ. She had a deep knowledge of the scriptures and was a lover of God, Christ, and the church.

Ruth is survived by her children, Rhonna (Sissy) Carter of Izoro; Steve McGaugh, and wife, Linda, of Izoro; Tim McGaugh and wife, Jana, of Sanger; Roy McGaugh and wife, Sara,



of Izoro; Joy McGaugh Puente of Fairhope, Alabama; 13 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, Ruth requested donations be made to the Sunset International Bible Institute, 3723 34th Street, Lubbock, TX 79410-2895.

Murphree Cemetery Association to meet April 28

Submitted item

The annual business meeting of the Murphree Cemetery Association in Evant has been scheduled

for 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 28, at the First National Bank Civic Room in Evant. The agenda will include a financial report, the

election of one officer and one director, and a report on the maintenance of the cemetery.

The attendance of all

interested parties is encouraged and appreciated.

Those who are unable to attend, but need to make their annual maintenance

payment, may send a check, made out to Murphree Cemetery Association, P.O. Box 144, Evant, TX 76525. The maintenance fee is \$10

per grave and, purchased but unoccupied, grave site.

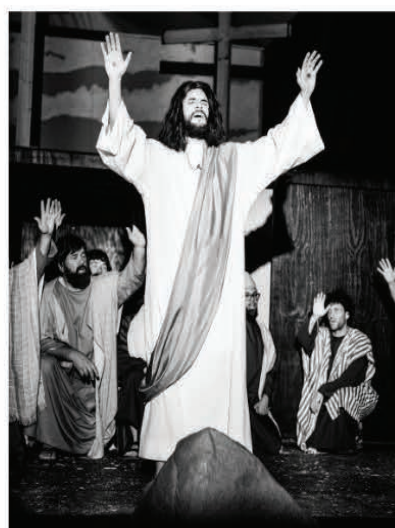
If there are any questions, please direct them to Scott Marwitz at 254-749-3932.

TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH

WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE GATESVILLE COMMUNITY FOR BEING A PART OF PASSION 2024: "THEE GIFT." IT WAS A JOY TO HAVE THE PEOPLE OF GATESVILLE JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM TO HEAR THE STORY OF JESUS' LIFE, DEATH, AND RESURRECTION.

Trinity Baptist Church would also like to thank all of the Trinity body for all the hours they put into building, practicing, setting up, preparing, and praying for "Thee Gift." The service and love you put into telling this story is a great blessing.

You are invited to Eclipse Sunday:
April 7: 10:30 AM
under the tent at
1506 W Main St.



Join us next year for Passion 2025: April 17, 18, and 19th!

PEARL NEWS

Churches in Pearl report good attendance on Easter Sunday



BY BETSY CLARK

Pearl News Correspondent

All the churches in Pearl reported big attendances for their Easter services last week.

The Pearl Church of Christ (C of C) even had to bring in chairs for the 102 souls that day! Of course,

everyone said that Edward Schaub "knocked it out of the park" with his lesson, and he and Judy just bring

joy and love wherever they go ... especially in their "home" at Pearl. The Pearl C of C also reported that it was wonderful to see Roy and Debbie Harris, their family, and a host of friends fill the pews once again. The Wilkinson, Cummings, Perkins, and Carswell families also made a huge showing that day. Linda Ray said it was like a big family reunion. Of course, Linda got her traditional dousing of confetti eggs during the Easter Egg hunt. She'll be shaking off confetti until VBS starts the last week in May. (She loves it.) Pearl knows that children are our future, and we want to provide them with

all the happy memories that keep them coming back for generations. There's no place like Pearl.

The Pearl Church of Christ will hold its annual VBS May 27 through May 31, from 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 C of C VBS is epic, and you don't want to miss it.

Okay, everyone. You need to get this read and get out the door to head for Pearl, because this is the big Pearl Bluegrass and Pearl Cottage Bookstore Day. The Bluegrass Kitchen has yummy

homemade food for sale at very reasonable prices, and the Pearl Cottage Bookstore has lots of new items. The Stage Show begins around 1 p.m. at The Pearl Community Center with jamming going on all day. Admission is free. Also, at the bookstore, there are about 40 pairs of new and like new women's sandals, sizes 7.5 and 8, available—just in time for spring. Don't forget about the over 6,000 books—you need a lot of those for your summer reading. The bookstore is open from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. I can't say it enough—there's no place like Pearl!

Upcoming speakers at the Pearl Church of Christ: 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) also at 10:30 a.m. Dr. Patterson is a native of Hamilton.

This week's Bible verses come from Matthew 18:20—"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." 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 betsyclarck47@yahoo.com.

City of Gatesville plans for 8th annual Earth Day event

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

The City of Gatesville is planning its eighth annual Earth Day event for fifth grade students of the Gatesville Independent School District, which will be held on Friday, April 19, at the Gatesville Civic Center.

The first Earth Day hosted by the city was held in 2016 and is designed to educate local youth on how to be sustainable and save the environment.

The purpose of this event is to help educate our children on recycling, reusing, reduction, and sustainability.

It is anticipated that approximately 200 students will attend the event.

Students will arrive at the event at 12 p.m., and the day will conclude around

3 p.m.

There will be several organizations from Ft. Cavazos present to discuss different topics concerning the environment. Presentations will be given by Adaptive & Integrative management, Cen-Tex Sustainability Community Partnership, Ft. Cavazos DPW Environmental, Ft. Cavazos Cultural Resources, Ft. Cavazos Natural Resources, Ft. Cavazos Water, Agri-Life Extension of Gatesville, City of Nolanville, CTC Mayborn Planetarium & Space, CTCOG & KTMPO, Keep Copperas Cove Beautiful, Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation, Whitney Lake State Park Rangers, and the Cen-Tex Reptile & Wildlife Rescue.

The students will be allowed to participate in the

presentations.

Each presenter will have a ten-to-twelve-minute presentation. Then the stu-



dents will rotate to the next presentation station, and 4-H Ambassadors will be

there assisting the teachers with getting the students from station to station as well.

dessert for taking time to assist the teachers with the children during the event.

The Texas 4-H Foundation County Grant Program gave the city a grant last year to be used within a two-year time frame.

Liz Reinhardt with the City of Gatesville expressed that the event is important because it teaches our youth to invest in the planet, gain knowledge of how to recycle, reduce, reuse, and to be sustainable.

Each student will be provided with a drawstring backpack that will be fully loaded with prizes and will be used to carry their giveaways in.

The city is using the monetary and in-kind donations given by the community to provide giveaways for the children to help support

the event. All funds and giveaways will be strictly used for the benefit of the students.

Any monetary gift can be given, and any giveaway items can be given if they are safe for the kids.

"Some local businesses donated monetary gifts for this event," Reinhardt said.

The city will recognize your business or organization for donating by placing your logo or business name on the Earth Day T-shirts.

For further details or questions, contact City of Gatesville Development Coordinator Liz Reinhardt at 254-220-4419, or by email at lreinhardt@gatesvilletx.com.

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

Wreaths Across America and the Military Order of the World Wars Forge Partnership to Honor Veterans

Press Release

Wreaths Across America (WAA) proudly announces the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW), solidifying a partnership aimed at bolstering support for veterans and their families across the nation.

Established in 2007, WAA has become synonymous with its annual wreath-laying ceremonies each December. However, its mission to

remember the fallen, honor those who serve, and teach the next generation the value of freedom is year-long. WAA has participating locations in over 4,220 communities nationwide, engaging volunteers in educational initiatives and sharing veteran stories of service and sacrifice.

MOWW traces its roots back to 1918 when returning U.S. military officers sought to continue their service and camaraderie beyond the battlefield.

Incorporated in 1919 as the American Officers of the Great War, the organization evolved into the MOWW, steadfastly upholding its commitment to patriotism, good citizenship, and national security. With a century-long legacy, MOWW remains dedicated to fostering responsible citizenship, youth leadership, and veteran support.

Karen Worcester, executive director of Wreaths Across America, remarked, "The partnership between

Wreaths Across America and the Military Order of the World Wars symbolizes a collective dedication to preserving the legacies of our nation's heroes. Together, we will continue to inspire patriotism and honor those who have served."

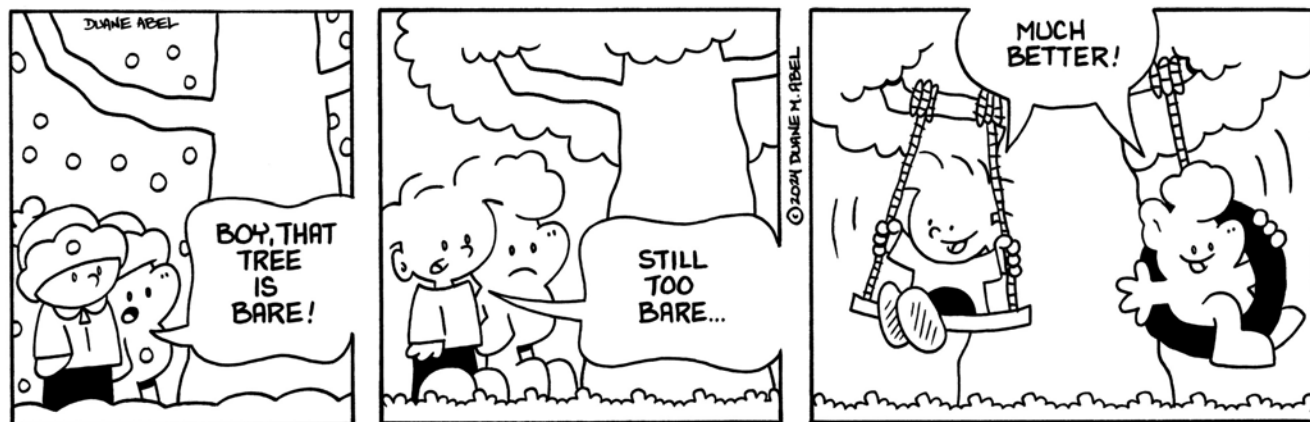
Reflecting on the collaboration, MOWW's leadership emphasized the significance of joining forces to uphold shared values and advance common objectives. "Our alliance with

Wreaths Across America represents a powerful union of purpose," said BG Victor S. Perez, U.S. Army (ret), Commander-In-Chief, MOWW. "By honoring our veterans and promoting responsible citizenship, we strive to uphold the ideals that define our nation."

The signed MOU between WAA and MOWW underscores a shared commitment to engage members and volunteers in joint community service activities to raise awareness for

their respective missions. Through this collaboration, MOWW will extend its support to WAA's Group Sponsorship Program, further amplifying initiatives to honor veterans and educate future generations. WAA will share details about MOWW's programs by highlighting members active in the mission via a monthly feature on "Wreaths Across America Radio."

ZED by Duane M. Abel



www.corkeycomics.com

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.

Whatever happened to ...

20 YEARS AGO (2004)

The Carson and Barnes Circus came to Gatesville. Brett McKibbin started work as the new chief appraiser in the Coryell County Appraisal District office.

The youth choir from Stavenger, Norway visited the Laerdal plant in Gatesville for a tour and concert.

Gatesville Masonic Lodge 197 presented a 50-year pin and certificate to Paul Bromser.

A retirement reception was held for Gatesville Police Department Senior Corporal Richard (Rick) Colwell.

30 YEARS AGO (1994)

Retired Baylor Bears football coach Cotton Davidson prepared to be roasted later in the month at the Coryell Activities Complex.

The Coryell Chapter of the American Red Cross held its annual Celebrity Dinner at the Coryell Activi-

ties Complex.

The Gatesville Lions Club was set to conduct an all-out drive to sell quality blind-made merchandise to area residents and businesses.

Sonic advertised an 89-cent hamburger.

Jim Tranum bought Gatesville Ford dealership from Mark Schnorrenberg.

40 YEARS AGO (1984)

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce named Dr.

Kermit Jones Citizen of the Year.

The Coryell Memorial Hospital Auxiliary was set to host their annual style show and luncheon.

Tracy Marie Rhoades was presented with a certificate as Exchange Club Youth of the Month.

A spring revival took place at the First Baptist Church in Flat.

Oglesby High School's sophomore class sponsored

a "farewell dance" - the last dance to be held in their gym, which was to be torn down.

50 YEARS AGO (1974)

Gatesville Junior High students were to be entertained by comedian Sam Gaines at an assembly program.

Gatesville Lions Club members opened their annual two-day sale of mops and brooms manufactured by blind workmen in Texas

Lighthouses for the Blind.

Peggy H. Williams, the first woman to seek Gatesville's highest office, won a close race for city mayor.

Bob Miller was honored as the town's 1973 Citizen of the Year at the Greater Gatesville Chamber of Commerce banquet.

Gatesville High School's Future Farmer chapter was to hold its annual father-son banquet.

Coryell County

DEVOTIONAL PAGE



THIS DEVOTIONAL DIRECTORY IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THESE BUSINESSES.

TUG UTILITIES
 305 Memorial Drive, Suite B
 Gatesville, Texas 76528
 Phone: 254-248-1151

Church & Family Go Together

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

HEART

JEREMIAH 29:13

JHL CONSTRUCTION

GATESVILLE, TEXAS
 (254) 865-8489

Eastwood Baptist Church
"Sharing, caring & inspiring for Jesus"

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 AM
 SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:50 AM
 WEDNESDAY SERVICES 6:00 PM

2518 East Main Street • Gatesville, Texas 76528
 254-865-2948 • www.ebcgatesville.org

Tim Beck's
Maytag Home Appliance Center
 4829 E. US Hwy. 84, Gatesville • 254-865-5705

NAME BRAND SALES:

MAYTAG

Whirlpool • Amana • Kitchen Aid

ADVERTISE With us

Coryell Feed & Supply

213 Main Street • (254) 865-6315

Leaird's Furniture & Appliance
"A Central Texas Tradition Since 1898"

108 S. 6th St., Gatesville, TX | (254) 865-2615
 www.leairdsfurniture.com

McDonald's

2302 Main Street
 Gatesville, TX
 (254) 865-8884

ADVERTISE ON THIS PAGE FOR ONLY \$12.00 PER WEEK! CALL 254-865-5212.

SUNDAY WORSHIP COME AS YOU ARE!

BAPTIST BETHEL HEIGHTS BAPTIST
 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 1116; 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 evenings: 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 McConnaughay, 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 Saturday at 8 a.m. Inside: 3075 FM 931, outside: 2000 CR 321. Mailing address: P.O. Box 103, Mound, TX 76558.

CATHOLIC OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC CHURCH
 Rev. Jayaraju Polishetty; 1108 W. Main, Gatesville; Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m. (English) & 12 p.m. (Spanish Mass), Tuesdays at 12:15 p.m. & Wednesday-Friday at 7 a.m.

CHURCH OF CHRIST CEDAR RIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Deral McWhorter, minister; 104 Cedar Ridge, Gatesville; Sunday worship 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.

EVANT CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Will Vann, Preacher; 310 W. Brooks Dr., Evant; Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday worship 10:20 a.m. & 12:30 p.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

FORT GATES CHURCH OF CHRIST
 4605 St. Hwy. 36 S., Gatesville; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.

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

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

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

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

CHURCH OF GOD CORNERSTONE CHURCH OF GOD EMANUEL
 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.

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

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

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

GATESVILLE UNITED METHODISTS
 All are welcome. Meetings 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at J&M BBQ. For more information, call 254-223-0665.

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

PIDCOKE METHODIST
 Rev. Pete Harris; Hwy. 116 N., Pidcoke; Sunday worship service 10 a.m.; 254-677-6242.

MORMON CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LATTER-DAY SAINTS
 206 S. 26th St., Gatesville; Sacrament services Sundays 10 a.m., Sunday School 10 a.m

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

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

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

COVER2COVER MINISTRIES
 Pastor: Rev. Brandy Spiker, Sunday service 10 a.m. & 6 p.m., Wednesdays 6 p.m.

407 SH-36, Ste. 4 & 5, Gatesville.

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

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

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

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

LEVITA BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
 4460 FM 930, Levita; Sunday worship 10:45 am.

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

PEARL COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP
 6735 FM 183, Pearl; Sunday Services 9 a.m.

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

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

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

PRESBYTERIAN THE PRESBYTERIAN 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, Gatesville.

SPANISH BIENVENIDOS AL HOGAR DE DIOS
 Domingos a partir de las 2:00 p.m. Te esperamos! 6226 E. Hwy. 84, Gatesville.

WESLEYAN CORYELL VALLEY CHURCH
 Worship Saturdays 5 p.m., Bible fellowship Sundays 10 a.m.; 4995 FM 929

INTER-DENOMINATIONAL BOOTS-N-SADDLE COWBOY CHURCH
 Max Gunn, pastor; 254-216-1537; 10 miles west of Gatesville on HWY 84; Sundays 10:30 a.m.; Wednesdays 7 p.m.; Youth Sunday Service 9:45 a.m.

HIGHWAY 2 HEAVEN BIKER CHURCH
 Monty & Tammy VanHorn, pastors; 1608 W. Main St., Gatesville; Sunday Praise & Worship 11 am, Wednesday Bible Study Rally-6 p.m.; 254-865-4076.

Conventional prescription filling Immunizations • Health screenings Medication Compounding

Gatesville Drug Co.

Delivery Available Drive Thru Curbside Pick Up

254-865-2417
 2513 S. State TX 36

First Baptist Church
 — GATESVILLE, TEXAS —

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.
 SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:45 A.M.

912 E. Main St. | 254.865.2014
 www.fbcgatesville.com

Lawn & Garden • Tools • Paint Plumbing • Electrical Outdoor Living • Much More

2820 S. State Hwy. 36
 Gatesville, TX 76528
 254-865-6900

Haynes Jewelry

Serving Gatesville Since 1971

Watch & Jewelry Repair
 Circle E Candles

103 C. Hwy. 36 Bypass North
 Gatesville, Texas 76528
 254-865-6131

WholeHouse
 PEST MANAGEMENT

Professional expertise for all pest control needs in Central Texas!

FREE ESTIMATES: (254) 865-9926

GRIB'S CONSTRUCTION & SEPTIC TANK SERVICE

STATE CERTIFIED INSTALLER OF SEPTIC SYSTEMS

ASPHALT • DIRTWORK • GRAVEL ROADS & DRIVES • BACKHOE & MAINTAINER

OWNER: GARY GRIBBLE
 254-865-1236 254-248-4171

GOSSETT TRANSMISSION SERVICE

JIM GOSSETT RAY GOSSETT

1900 Main St.
 Gatesville, TX 76528 254-865-5791

The Presbyterian Church
 Rev. Dr. Buddy Wheat, DMin., Pastor

1110 E. Main Street
 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
 (254) 865-2520 • www.fumcgatesville.org

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

CLASSIFIEDS

015
FARM & RANCH

Hay cutting and baling, 5x5 1/2 round bales, net wrapped. Larry Riddle 254-248-2205
00030719

Backhoe, Dozer, Maintainer, Dump Truck: brush clearing, roads, driveways, waterlines, pits, demolition, fence row clearing, culverts. Small jobs ok. Ben Roberts, 254-248-4707 or 254-865-5754. 00030704

045
SERVICES

Central Texas Landscaping & Services, LLC: Mowing, Landscaping, Brush Clearing, Trash Clean Up, Pipe Fence Painting (Ospho), Road Installation. John Capella, 254-216-3684. Licensed & Insured. 00030710

TREE WORKS Tree Service: tree trimming, removal & stump grinding. Free estimates. Call Lloyd, (254)223-3287. 00030702

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

FERGUSON ROOFING
Locally owned company serving all Central Texas area. Commercial and Residential. Free Estimates!
254-466-5128 00030700

Dry Creek Trash Service
Weekly Pickup and Roll-off container rentals
Ofc. (254) 463-4988
Cell (254) 206-1512
drycreektrashservice.com
00030701

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.**
00030705

CENTRAL TEXAS REMODELING AND HANDYMAN: Tile, sheet-rock, painting, decks, fences, flooring, windows, siding, roofing, texturing. **Cecil Woodson, 254-216-3835.** 00030706



J & S
PUMP & WELL SERVICE, LLC
254-644-1533
TX LC #59929
206 S. 7TH STREET, GATESVILLE

- ★ New Well Installation & Repair
- ★ Windmill Installation & Repair
- ★ Storage Tanks
- ★ Maintenance & Winterization
- ★ Water Treatment
- ★ Solar Powered Wells
- ★ Pipe Installation
- ★ Camera Surveys
- ★ Retrieve Items Dropped in Well

FREE QUOTES

060
GARAGE SALE
Lampasas Courtyard Square Garage Sale!
Sat., April 27, 2024, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Downtown Lampasas-Booths \$35-Food booths \$100.00.
Call 512-556-5434.
00030721

060
GARAGE SALE

GARAGE SALE: April 12 & 13, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., 9790 E. Hwy. 84. Can lights, old tools, books, puzzles, games, large cooler, dishes, old VHS tapes, home decor., old hand saws, kitchen items, ladies size L & XL clothes, size 6 ladies shoes, frames, sheets, table cloths, pillows, 2-wake boards, large tube for lake, recipe books, small table, and much more! 00030722

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

096
AUCTIONS

ONLINE AUCTION
March 26 – April 9, 2024
Estate of the Late Carol Treese

We are selling High-end Art, Furniture, Grandfather Clock, Appliances, Jewelry, Thomasville Bedroom Suit, PLUS MORE.

To view catalog, register, and bid go to
ronniegarner.com

GARNER & ASSOCIATES AUCTIONEERS

Krista Henkelman TX17486 | (254)315-8630

070
LAND & LOTS

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

045
SERVICES

099
PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE: There will be a scheduled Public Hearing of the Planning and Zoning Commission of Gatesville on Monday, April 22, 2024, at 5:30pm, in the City Council Chambers located at 110 N. 8th St., Gatesville, Texas 76528, and a scheduled Public Hearing of the City Council of Gatesville on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 5:30pm, in the City Council Chambers located at 110 N. 8th St., Gatesville, Texas 76528. The purpose of this Public Hearing is to consider the following amendments to the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance: 1. An amendment to the minimum building area requirements in certain districts, and to correct various sections to clarify applicability of Table IV: Uniform Height and Area Regulations; and 2. An amendment regarding mobile, manufactured, and modular homes. This hearing is open to the public.

BY: Liz Reinhardt 00030718

096
AUCTIONS

099
PUBLIC NOTICES

WACO - The TxDOT Waco District will be conducting a virtual public meeting for the proposed 2025-2028 Rural Transportation Improvement Program (Rural TIP). This virtual meeting offers the public an opportunity to review and comment on the proposed projects in the district. The virtual presentation and materials will be available by noon on Tuesday, April 23, 2024. Visit www.txdot.gov and keyword search: **Waco District 2024 Rural TIP** to participate virtually, review materials and provide comment.

The Rural TIP includes all projects within the Waco District, which includes McLennan, Bell, Limestone, Hill, Bosque, Hamilton, Falls and Coryell counties. The Rural TIP includes all regionally significant projects to be funded within a TxDOT District during the next four years, including those eligible for federal funding. A project in the Rural TIP is a project coming to your community and is the first step on the road to producing a Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The Rural TIP meetings are being held pursuant to Title 43, Texas Administrative Code, Section 16.102, which calls for an opportunity for public comment concerning the program.

Comments must be received or postmarked by **Friday, May 10, 2024**, to be included in the official public meeting record. Comments may be provided in the following manners:

Online
Email
Mail: TxDOT Waco District Office
Attn: Rural TIP
100 South Loop Drive
Waco, TX 76704

All meetings, both in person and online, will be conducted in English. If you have special communication or accommodation needs, or have a need for an interpreter, a request can be made. If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can also be made to accommodate most needs. Please call (254) 867-2700 at least five working days prior to the meeting you would like to attend. Please be aware that advance notice is requested as some accommodations may require time for TxDOT to arrange. For media inquiries, contact TxDOT's Public Information Officer at Jacob.Smith@txdot.gov or (254) 867-2836. 00030717

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

099
PUBLIC NOTICES

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

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

ATTORNEY OR PERSON FILING CAUSE
ALLEN D. PLACE, JR.
109 S. 7TH ST.
GATESVILLE, TX 76528

TO DECEDENT'S UNKNOWN HEIRS
UNKNOWN ADDRESS
UNKNOWN STATE

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF CORYELL
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF JOSEPH WELDON LACROIX, DECEASED. CAUSE NO 24-10977, COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS. JACKIE OLSON FILED IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS ON THE 26TH DAY OF MARCH 2024. APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP SAID JOSEPH WELDON LACROIX, 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 APRIL 2024, AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS. ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN SAID ESTATE ARE HEREBY CITED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW 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 AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS THE 26TH DAY OF MARCH 2024.

JENNIFER NEWTON
CORYELL COUNTY CLERK
CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS
BY: K. PALLEY 00030713

Need to Place a Classified Ad?

Call 865-5212
116 S. 6th Street
Gatesville, TX
(on the square)



CLASSIFIEDS

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 resumé HR@JRoof.com
00030709

NOW HIRING: TTG Utilities, Inc. M-F, fulltime receptionist, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Must be able to speak, read, and write in Spanish. Please call 254-248-1151 to schedule an interview. TTG is a drug-free employer.

00030716

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



Physical Therapist Asst – PRN

CNA/NA – FT, all Shifts

CMA/CNA – FT, all Shifts

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:

- Matching 457B investments
- Health, Dental, Life and supplemental Insurances
- Paid Vacation & Sick Leave
- 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

Job summaries at
www.CoryellHealth.org

102 **REAL ESTATE**

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, April 13th

Time: 10am-2pm
1408 Woodville Dr.
Gatesville, TX 76528

3 BR, 2 Bath, Man Cave/She Shed, Storage building, Detached Garage
List Price: \$359,000





United Country Hill Country Pros Real Estate

Jerry George | Realtor
254-457-9399 Cell
254-248-0809 Office
Jerry@hillcountrypros.com
Hillcountrypros.com

Kim Hill-Broker



Burks REAL ESTATE

Evant, TX
Office: 254-471-5738

Calvin Burks - Broker
(254) 865-3601

Lindy Burks **Johnny Burks**
(254) 206-0643 (254) 223-0833

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

Delivering BIG News



The Gatesville **MESSENGER** Reliable Reporting
Valuable Advertising
www.gatesvillemessenger.com Local Events
116 S. 6th St. • 254-865-5212 School & Sports

SUDOKU

Puzzle answers from the March 30, 2024 issue.

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

RECIPE

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

Chicken Rochambeau

BY PEGGY MITTEL

- 8 boned chicken breasts
- 1 c. red cooking wine
- salt and pepper
- 2 c. chicken stock
- flour
- 1 T. Worcestershire sauce
- 1 ½ sticks butter
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 c. minced green onions
- dash cayenne pepper
- 1 tsp. minced garlic
- 3 T. flour
- 1 c. fresh mushrooms, sliced

Season chicken with salt and pepper and dust with flour. Brown quickly in hot butter. Remove from pan and place in baking dish. Add onion, garlic, and mushrooms to frying pan. Sauté 5 minutes. Stir in flour. Add liquids and seasoning. Cool for 5 minutes, stirring. Pour over chicken. Cover and bake at 375 about one hour.

The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of March 27 – April 2. 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 27
1:29 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 100 block of North 19th Street.
2:07 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of North 14th Street.
5:05 p.m., a burglary was reported in the 100 block of Woodcreek Drive.
9:05 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 3500 block of East Main Street.

March 28
12:57 p.m., a burglary was reported in the 3000 block of South State Highway 36.
2:15 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2500 block of East Main Street.
10:58 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 200 block of FM 116.
11:04 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 400 block of South 14th Street.

March 29
11:46 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2800 block of South State Highway 36.
12:23 p.m., suspicious

activity was reported in the 2500 block of East Main Street.
12:36 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 3300 block of East Main Street.
8:01 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 1600 block of East Main Street.

March 30
1:02 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 2000 block of Waco Street.
2:59 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1200 block of Golf Course Road.
9:16 a.m., a threat was reported in the 1300 block of North State Highway 36 Bypass.
11:02 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 300 block of South 8th Street.

March 31
6:46 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1300 block of North State Highway 36 Bypass.
12:04 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 400 block of South 7th Street.
5:43 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of Elm Lane.
8:20 p.m., suspicious

activity was reported in the 900 block of Bridge Street.

April 1
12:21 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 1200 block of Pleasant Street.
7:47 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1300 block of North State Highway 36 Bypass.
10:19 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 200 block of North 27th Street.
11:52 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 4000 block of South State Highway 36.
April 2
12:17 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2900 block of South State Highway 36.
5:25 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2700 block of South State Highway 36.
7:03 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 2700 block of South State Highway 36.
10:29 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 200 block of South Lovers Lane.

CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

March 27
7:58 a.m., a theft was reported in the 100 block of Knowles Road.
9:56 a.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 2000 block of Old Fort Gates Road.
4:10 p.m., a recovered stolen vehicle was reported on Little River.
4:11 p.m., fraud was reported in the 500 block of East Leon Street.

March 28
5:46 p.m., an assault was reported in the 2500 block of FM 1783.
7:44 p.m., terroristic threats were reported in the 4700 block of Slater Road.
8:07 p.m., a theft was reported in the 900 block of Bluestem Dr.
9:25 p.m., shots fired were reported in the 100 block of Los Indios.

March 29
2:30 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 2900 block of Mimosa.
10:41 p.m., suspicious activity was reported on South Highway 36 toward Flat.
11:47 p.m., suspicious

persons were reported in the 10,800 block of South Highway 36.
11:58 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 300 block of FM 107.

March 30
7:47 a.m., missing livestock were reported in the 100 block of Harrell Drive.
9:38 a.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 1200 block of Mountain Road.
3:45 p.m., a domestic dispute was reported in the 2600 block of Twin Hills.
7:01 p.m., a neighbor dispute was reported in the 800 block of Rocky Lane.

March 31
2:05 a.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 8200 block of FM 182.
2:10 p.m., illegal burning was reported in the 100 block of Harrell Drive.
2:56 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 500 block of County Road 321.
6:11 p.m., trespassing was reported in the 100 block of Knowles Road.

April 1
8:41 a.m., theft of livestock was reported in the 500 block of County Road

339.
4:05 p.m., burglary of a building was reported in the 2700 block of Mulberry Drive.
7:01 p.m., a domestic dispute was reported in the 800 block of Rocky Lane.
8:29 p.m., a threat was reported in the 100 block of Knowles Road.

April 2
12:15 a.m., suspicious persons were reported on Highway 36 in the Holiday Inn area.
7:55 a.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of Knowles Road.
8:50 a.m., an alarm was reported in the 500 block of Nathan Drive.
4:24 p.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 400 block of Thomas Street.

988

SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

PASSION 2024: Thee Gift presented during Easter weekend

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

All throughout Easter weekend, Trinity Baptist Church presented its play, "Passion 2024: Thee Gift", March 28-30.

The free event gave the community of Gatesville the chance to experience a live action story of Jesus'

life, with the trial, crucifixion, and the resurrection.

The play consisted of 12 scenes and was told from the point of view of Grandfather John as he explained his experience with the last days of Jesus to his grandsons Elijah and Abel.

The event featured live

performances, live actors, live animals, and live music as well as a walk through on the streets of Jerusalem.

For further information, contact Trinity Baptist Church at 254-865-8495.

Trinity Baptist Church is located at 1506 West Main Street in Gatesville.



COURTESY PHOTO

Volunteers performed a free, live action play about the story of Jesus during Easter weekend.

1st Place Winner



COURTESY PHOTO BY CELIA SELLERS

The Gatesville Messenger's second annual Bonnets in Bloom bluebonnet photo contest, sponsored by The First National Bank of Central Texas, is in full swing. Celia Sellers' photograph, taken on Hwy. 84 in Gatesville, was selected as the second weekly winner. The Bluebonnets and other wild flowers along the roadways paint a beautiful Texas landscape. Sellers 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.gatesvillemessenger.com today.



Settle for nothing less than the *FIRST*.

fnbct.bank 254-216-6042



Ear, Nose or Throat Problems?

CORYELL HEALTH HAS YOU COVERED

For over 20 years, our new ENT, Dr. Bradford Holland, MD, has been providing high-quality ENT care to patients of all ages.



Dr. Ashley Brindley, Au.D., has practiced audiology in Central Texas for over nine years for both adults and children.

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS IN GATESVILLE

(254) 865-2166
CoryellHealth.org



PHYSICIAN HOME LOANS

YOUR RX FOR *Success!*

Available to eligible Medical Doctors, Medical Residents, Full-time Medical Instructors, and Physician Fellows.

- ✓ Up to 100% financing available
- ✓ Available across the state of Texas
- ✓ Fast and easy approval
- ✓ No PMI required
- ✓ Flexible financing terms

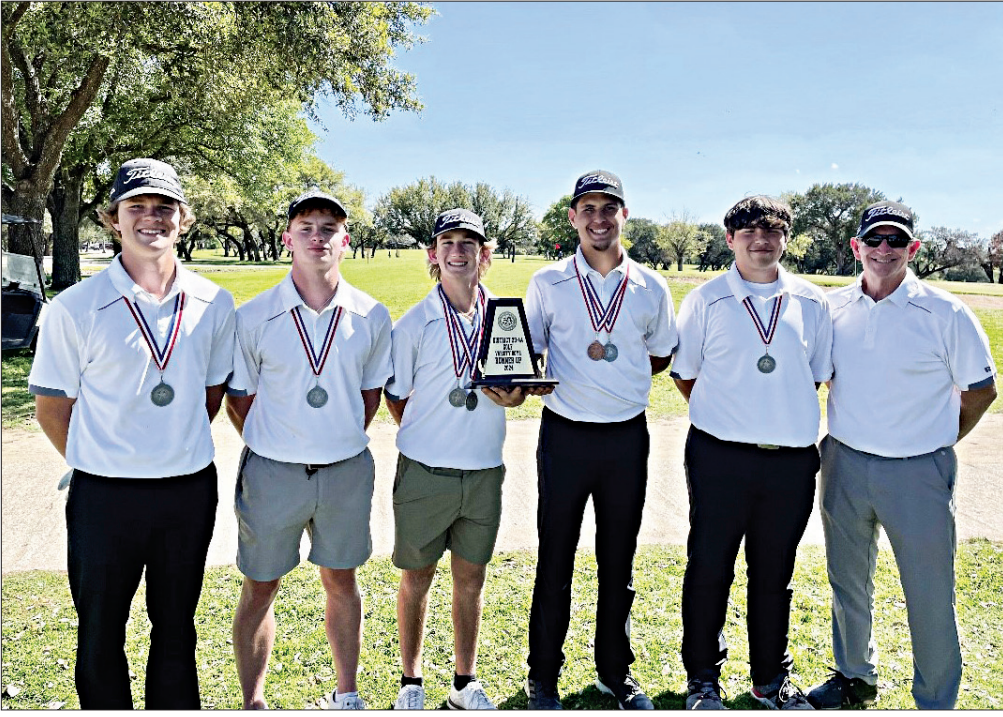


LEARN MORE
extracobanks.com/physician



Loans subject to credit approval





COURTESY PHOTO

The GHS boys varsity golf team pictured from left to right is Gage Ford, Max Healer, Caden Brister, Kasen Bankhead, Garret Sullivant, and coach Guy Dean.



COURTESY PHOTO

The GHS girls varsity golf team pictured from left to right is Hannah Bartlett, Faith McDanel, Avery Streetman, Jovi Pickard, and coach Guy Dean.

GHS varsity golf teams advance to regionals

Staff Reports

Both golf teams at Gatesville High School competed in round one, which was held at Cottonwood in Waco. Round two was held at the Lake Waco Golf Course in China Spring.

Round three was the Dis-

trict 23-4A tournament, which was held in Waco this past week.

The Hornet boys shot 334 to finish with a two-day score of 672 and finished in second place overall, claiming another trip to the regional tournament.

Caden Brister emerged as

the tourney runner-up medalist with an 80-78-158, and Kasen Bankhead shot an 81-83-164 and won a one-hole playoff to claim the third medalist spot. Max Healer shot an 85-87-172, Gage Ford shot a 92-86-178, and Garret Sullivant shot a 95-94-189, which rounded out the

Hornets' individual scoring.

For the girls, Lady Hornet Avery Streetman earned a repeat trip to regionals after shooting 98-94-192, to qualify as a medalist as well. She was the third medalist overall.

The boys' 4A-Region III tournament will be held

on Monday, April 15 and

on Tuesday, April 16 at the Bearkat Golf Course in Huntsville. It will be the Hornet boys' 21st regional appearance in the last 23 years.

The 4A-Region III girls' tournament will be held on Wednesday, April 17 and on Thursday, April 18 at the

same location in Huntsville.

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

The Bearkat Golf Course is located at 457 I-45 in Huntsville.

Hornets topple Robinson again, fall to top-ranked Cougars

BY CHRIS ALLMAN

Contributing Writer

A split of home games against Robinson and China Spring has the Gatesville baseball team sitting at 2-1 through the first three games of district play.

The Hornets fell to China Spring on April 2 after dispatching of Robinson for the second time on March 28. After an 8-0 win at Robinson, Gatesville rode the arm of ace Bralen Veazey to a 3-0 win in Gatesville to complete a season sweep of the Rockets.

Veazey used a mix of pitches to keep Robinson hitters off balance all night en route to an 11-strikeout performance. He struck out the final four Rocket hitters of the game and five of the final six hitters he faced. The Temple College-signee allowed four hits with only two leaving the infield and walked one batter.

Veazey has racked up 48 strikeouts in just over 29 in-

nings of work this season. He ranks No. 14 in strikeouts in Class 4A with that number certain to increase with at least four more regular season starts plus the postseason.

Gatesville got on the board in the top of the third inning. Miles Tull drew a walk. Then Lawson Mooney singled to right, moving Tull to third. Mooney promptly stole second base. Then Bradey James drove in Tull and Mooney on a hard-hit ball just under the glove of the Rockets' second baseman.

The Hornets added an insurance run in the bottom of the sixth when Clayton Gregory drilled a double to left field, then scored when Tull reached on an error.

Veazey's pitching counterpart in the game - Robinson's Cayden Birkes - was also excellent in allowing just three hits and striking out six. Mooney, Gregory, and Gehrig Keeton had all three Gatesville hits, and

each drew a walk in the game. James and Veazey also drew walks.

Despite a loss to China Spring, the Hornets are still in contention for a district title. The wins over Robinson mean that Gatesville will hold the tie-breaker over the Rockets in the event the two teams are tied in the standings at the end of the season.

In their 14-0 loss to China Spring, the Hornets simply picked a bad night to have a bad night against the state's top-ranked 4A team.

After going 20 straight innings without an error over their last three games, the Hornets committed three errors in the loss to the Cougars. An error in the first inning helped China Spring jump out to a 2-0 lead. Then they busted it open with a nine-run second inning that featured two more errors.

Mooney had two singles to up his average to .309 for the season. The senior catcher is in pursuit of the third .300



LAYTH TAYLOR | HIDE MEDIA GROUP

Gatesville Hornets gathered for a moment of silence before their game on Tuesday at home.

season of his career after hitting .340 as a freshman in 2021 and .303 as a junior in 2023. He missed the entire 2022 season due to injury.

Keeton doubled for Gatesville's only other hit of the night.

The Hornets visited China Spring for a rematch on April

5 before hitting the road to face Connally on April 9.

For more photos, visit www.gatesvillemessenger.com.

Lady Hornets softball dominates China Spring

Staff Reports

The Lady Hornets varsity softball team played against China Spring at home on Tuesday, April 2, where they won 12-1.

Madison Hester was dominant in the circle, as they rang up 11 strikeouts in Lady Hornets' 12-1 victory over China Spring earlier this week. Hester allowed two hits and one run over five innings while walking none.

The Lady Hornets won after seven runs in the sec-

ond inning. An error scored one run; Kallie Featherston singled, scoring one run; Grace Carothers grounded out, scoring one run; Kinlee Gardner singled, scoring one run; Raylee Glover homered to center field, scoring two runs; and Megan Mehaffey scored after tagging up.

Another run was added in the third after Gardner lined out.

Brilee Ford hit a solo home run to right field in the bottom of the fourth for the Lady Hornets.

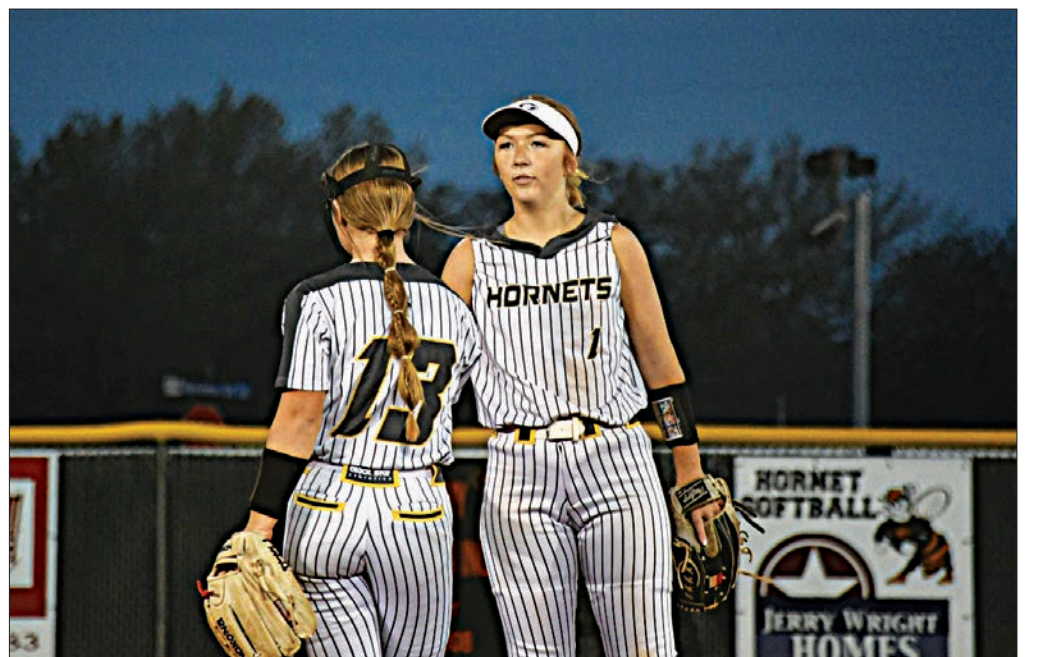
Together, the Lady Hor-

nets completed 14 hits in the game. Mehaffey led the team with three hits in four at bats. Ford and Featherston each collected multiple hits for the team.

Glover made the most plays with 11.

The Lady Hornets softball team will travel to China Spring for their next game on Friday, April 5. The game will commence at 7 p.m.

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



COURTESY PHOTO BY CHELSEA JOHNSON

Megan Mehaffey (right) and Madison Hester (left) are pictured on the pitcher's mound at a recent home game against China Spring.



O & J SUPERIOR PLUMBING

CAMERA LOCATOR RPZ Backflow

RMP M41774

Give us a call for all your plumbing needs!

Jeff Tesar
Office: (254) 404-2242



GISD cheer to hold sponsorships for new Buzz costume

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

With the many new additions to the cheer program, one of those new additions will be a new custom one-of-a-kind Buzz costume to match the logo of the school.

Cheer directors Amber Colson and Cassie Perez both expressed how they are excited for the new Buzz costume as it will represent Gatesville Independent School District with pride and honor.

The costume will be purchased through tiered sponsorship, which will include different options for those wanting to donate to the program.

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

The tiered sponsorship options are:

Platinum Sponsor: This sponsor will be \$2,500 and will include a platinum sponsor sign displayed at the football field, a Gatesville High School cheer sponsor plaque to display at your business, a Gatesville High School cheer swag bag, a business of the week shoutout on social media, your logo on Gatesville High School's cheer website, and your business's name will be announced as the platinum sponsor at home varsity football games.

Gold Sponsor: This sponsor will be \$1,000 and will include a sponsor photo of Gatesville High School's cheer team to display at your business, a Gatesville High School cheer swag bag, a business of the week shoutout on social media, your logo on Gatesville High School's cheer website, and your business's name will be announced as the gold sponsor at home varsity football games.

Silver Sponsor: This sponsor will be \$500 and will include a sponsor photo of the Gatesville High School cheer team to display at your business, a Gatesville High School cheer magnet, two shoutouts on social media, your logo on Gatesville High School's cheer website, and your business's name listed as the silver sponsor on the sponsorship sign.

Bronze Sponsor: This sponsor will be \$250 and will include a sponsor photo of the Gatesville High School cheer team to display at your business, a Gatesville High School cheer magnet, a shoutout on social media, and your business's name listed as the bronze sponsor on the sponsorship sign.

sponsorship sign.

Any Sponsor: Any other sponsor will receive a thank you note from the Gatesville High School cheer program as well as a Gatesville High School cheer magnet.

The deadline to sponsor will be on Sunday, June 30. 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, (and) 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."

For further details on what is received with each sponsor contact Amber Colson at acolson@gatesvilleisd.org.

Gatesville Country Club to host tournament

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Country Club will host a three-person shamble on Wednesday, April 20 and on Thursday, April 21.

This will be a preflighted tournament at \$540 a team.

Tee times will be at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. There will be a shotgun start both days of the shamble.

There will be a cash payout after the tournament to the winners.

Handicaps will need to present their home course and course number. All handicaps will be verified.

Private carts are welcome, and there will be carts available to rent.

Sign up for the shamble at the clubhouses or contact the Gatesville Country Club at 254-865-6917.

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

Results from Evant and Oglesby ISD track meets

EVANT ELKS
Submitted Item

The Evant track team competed in the Priddy Pirate Relays on March 28, where various students placed.

Brinlea Bates: Triple Jump, second place, 28' 7."

100-Meter Dash, 14.48, personal record.

200-Meter Dash, 31.4, personal record.

400-Meter Dash, 1:12.

Daritza Escamilla: 100-Meter Hurdles, 21.19, personal record.

300-Meter Hurdles, 1:00.15, personal record.

Bella Kolajo: Shot Put, 22' 8."

Daisy Morales: Shot Put, 21' 4."

Hailey Neri: 800-Meter Dash, 3:03.

1600-Meter Dash, 6:45, third place.

3200-Meter Dash, 16:13, second place.

Bree Ramirez: Shot Put, 24' 8", sixth place.

Discus, 81' 8", third place.

Maya Reynolds:

100-Meter Dash, 14.7.

Molly Waldrum: Triple Jump, 24' 10."

Mariela Zarate: Shot Put, 19' 9."

Wyatt Hitt: Triple Jump, 35' 6.5, personal record.

Long Jump, 17' 6", personal record.

100-Meter Dash, 12.53.

200-Meter Dash, 26.5.

Cameron McGilvary: Long Jump, 17' 2.5, personal record.

100-Meter Dash, 12.86.

200-Meter Dash, 26.0, personal record.

Cristian Morales-Lopez: 100-Meter Dash, 12.75, personal record.

400-Meter Dash, 1:08, personal record.

Dylan Price: 400-Meter Dash, 59.8.

200-Meter Dash, 26.7, personal record.

Triple Jump, 33' 4.5, personal record.

Long Jump, 15' 7."

Adrian Rodriguez: 400-Meter dash, 1:18, personal record.

OGLESBY JH BOYS
By Tom Norrell

On Thursday, the Oglesby junior high boys and girls track teams competed in a District 25-A meet. The boys placed second and received 141 points total as a team.

100-Meter Dash Kegan Redford, fourth place, 4 points.

400-Meter Dash Evan Williamson, first place, 60:16, 10 points.

800-Meter Dash Jayce Aaron, first place, 2:33:96, 10 points.

Rancher Jeffcoat, third place, 2:48:74, 6 points.

2400-Meter Run Couper Wulfkhule, second place, 9:42:00, 8 points.

Liam Ammerman, fifth place, 10:35, 2 points.

1600-Meter Run Couper Wulfkhule, second place, 5:24:24, 8 points.

Liam Ammerman, fifth place, 6:35:81, 2 points.

300-Meter Hurdles Holdyn Goff, second place, 49:20, 8 points.

Hunter Insall, sixth place, 57:83, 1 point.

Long Jump Evan Williamson, second place, 16'-4 1/2", 8 points.

Kegan Redford, fourth place, 15'-6 1/2", 4 points.

Jayce Aaron, sixth place, 14'-11", 1 point.

Shot Put Mason Marquez, second place, 36' 3 1/2", 8 points.

High Jump Evan Williamson, third place, 5', 6 points.

Triple Jump Jayce Aaron, third place, 33' 8", 6 points.

Pole Vault Holdyn Goff, first place, 8'0", 10 points.

4x10 Meter Relay Kegan Redford, Holdyn Goff, Jayce Aaron, and Evan Williamson placed second as a team with a time of 50.68 seconds and received a total of 16 points.

4x200 Meter Relay Couper Wulfkhule, Rancher Jeffcoat, Blayze Fisher, and Ranger Dalton placed fourth as a team and received a total of eight points.

4x400 Meter Relay Kegan Redford, Holdyn Goff, Jayce Aaron, and Evan Williamson placed second as a team with a time of

4:08:77 and received a total of 16 points.

OGLESBY GIRLS

100-Meter Dash Abigail Insall, third place, 14:56, 6 points.

Scarlet Aaron, fifth place, 24:66, 2 points.

200-Meter Dash Abigail Insall, sixth place, 32:45, 1 point.

400-Meter Dash Abigail Insall, first place, 1:12:49, 10 points.

Cierra Ingram, second place, 1:14:14, 8 points.

800-Meter Run Vicky Mejia, second place, 3:00:83, 8 points.

1600-Meter Run Vicky Mejia, second place, 6:29:51, 8 points.

Adelyn Gomez, fifth place, 7:52:93, 2 points.

Long Jump Scarlet Aaron, fifth place, 2 points.

Shot Put Delany Marfa, sixth place, 25'7 1/2", 1 point.

Discus Delany Marfa, fourth place, 59'0", 4 points.

CLASS OF 2024

ATTENTION

Parents, Grandparents, & Loved Ones

Tell your special graduates how proud you are of them in the special section "CLASS OF 2024" to be published in The Gatesville Messenger **May 18, 2024** and distributed at the graduation ceremony.

Scan this QR code to get started!

Joey

Congratulations on your achievements! Remember to take life just one pitch at a time!

We are so proud of you!

Grandma & Grandpa

\$55.00

includes color

2 col. x 4" ad (actual size)

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

April 29, 2024

Settle for nothing less than the *FIRST*.

fnbct.bank 254-216-6042

MARCH 18 - APRIL 22

GRAND PRIZE WINNER*

\$200 Cash

Bluebonnet T-Shirt

Year long subscription to the The Gatesville Messenger
Submitted photo on front page and feature story

*announced on April 26

CLICK TO SUBMIT

WINNERS SELECTED WEEKLY

All submitted photos to be featured on the Gatesville Messenger website with winners chosen weekly.

Weekly winners will receive a **Bluebonnet T-Shirt**, their photo featured on social media, and a **free subscription** to the newspaper!

Visit our website for more info

www.gatesvillemessenger.com

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Texan Baseball takes Easter Weekend series

Tarleton State University

Tarleton State finished the weekend 2-1 after a hard loss Saturday, March 30.

Tarleton State (15-13, 5-7 WAC) fell short in extra innings to Stephen F. Austin (4-25, 1-11 WAC) to see a 6-5 final close out to the series.

Freshman Braydon Risley got the start for the Texans giving up four runs on seven hits, one walk and five strikeouts in 4.0 innings. Jake Burcham (L, 1-3) closed out the game giving up one run on one hit, two walks and one strikeout in 1.1 innings.

Elian Balmaceda started on the mound for the Lumberjacks with no runs on one hit, six walks and six strikeouts in 4.2 innings. Caleb Rutledge (W, 1-1) took the last 1.0 inning giving up no runs on one hit, one walk and no strikeouts.

Tarleton State compiled five runs on 10 hits with doubles from Cris Enriquez and Cole Mears and a pair of stolen bases from Ike Shirey and Mason Hammonds. The Texans

left 16 runners stranded throughout the duration of the afternoon.

SFA totaled six runs on nine hits with three home runs and a pair of stolen bases.

The first inning saw the home team on the board first with a single, followed by a groundout to advance the runner and a second single to bring a solo run home.

In the bottom of the third, a homer from the leadoff tallied the lone run for SFA for a 2-0 score.

Another pair of runs came in for the 'Jacks in the bottom of the fourth on a two-run home run.

The bottom of the fifth saw another home run for SFA to put the Texans down by five runs.

Tarleton State came alive in the top of the seventh with a couple of singles from Hammonds and Mears. Brandon Howell walked to load the bases and Trace Morrison was hit by a pitch to send the first run in. A two RBI single from Kooper Shook chipped



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Tarleton State Baseball finished weekend 2-1 after a hard loss Saturday, March 30.

away at the deficit for a 5-3 score.

Hammonds got the ball rolling in the eighth inning with a single to put a runner on for the visitors. With two outs recorded, Mears

doubled to center field and advanced to third on the throw as Hammonds came in to make it a one-run ball game. Enriquez kept packing on the punches with an RBI double to tie it up at 5-5.

The next three innings were scoreless but in the bottom of the 11th inning, SFA's leadoff hitter was hit by a pitch and the two-hole of the inning walked. A sacrifice bunt saw both runners

advance. An intentional walk loaded the bases and a fielder's choice brought the final run home for the Lumberjacks to snap their 24-game losing streak at 6-5 in extra innings.

Texans take 3rd, place 3 in top-20, led by Huidobro as runner-up at The Big Texan

Tarleton State University

KERRVILLE - The Texans had been playing some of their best golf of the season entering The Big Texan, but they elevated their game even further with a third place result March 24 and 25.

It marked Tarleton's third straight top-10 outing as it had three finish in the top-20, two in the top-10, and Alvaro Huidobro take silver at the tournament hosted by UTRGV at Riverhill Country Club in Kerrville.

Huidobro turned in a career-best tournament outing of -7 (70, 67, 72) to take tied-second. This made back-to-back top-five finishes for him to see that starting to pay off. It was good to see the guys fight through the wind yesterday and we are close to turning the corner of closing out. We have a short turnaround before we head to Chambers Bay, so we will get things cleaned up before we tee it up in Seattle."

Carson Gallaher placed in

the top-10, carding -2 (69, 75, 70) for tied-ninth. His tied-ninth finish ties his best since joining the Purple and White. Max Bengtsson placed tied-20th at +3 (74, 75, 70), the fourth time over his last five tournaments he's finished in the top-20. Cristobal Sepulveda at +11 (74, 77, 76, tied-56th) and Chandler Barch at +12 (73, 81, 74, tied-61st) rounded out the Texan group.

"It was an overall good performance as a team and it was awesome to see Alvaro turn the corner with back-to-back top-five's," head coach Chance Cain said. "He's been putting a lot of work in his game and it's been great for him to see that starting to pay off. It was good to see the guys fight through the wind yesterday and we are close to turning the corner of closing out. We have a short turnaround before we head to Chambers Bay, so we will get things cleaned up before we tee it up in Seattle."

Huidobro led the 89-man field after 36 holes played Monday. He entered Tuesday ahead by four strokes at -7 following his second round -5 (67), which was a career-best round for him. In his previous tournament, he had matched a career-best round at -4 (68). The medalist at The Big Texan was UTRGV's Javier Neira, who pulled out a 64 in the final round to win by four strokes at -11.

Huidobro had just four bogeys across 54 holes, with one in each of the first two rounds. He was spotless through his first nine holes Monday with two birdies, and in his career-best round, he responded from a bogey on his second hole with perfect play over the next 16, six birdies and 10 pars. He wrapped up his tournament with 14 pars, two birdies and two bogeys.

He had the second most pars in the entire tournament with 39 and was second in Par 4 scoring at

-4 (3.87 average score per instance).

Gallaher also started his tournament with near perfect play, turning in a spotless first 13 holes with 10 pars and three birdies. He had the tied-fifth most birdies overall with 13 and the tied-fifth best score on Par 3s at +1.

Bengtsson went unscathed through his first 12 holes of the tournament, with nine pars and three birdies. In his second round, he eagled the fourth hole, a Par 5 548-yarder. For the tournament, Bengtsson was tied-second in Par 5 scoring at -7 (4.42 score per instance).

Barch was tied-fifth in Par 3 scoring (+1) and had the tied-seventh most birdies (12).

As a team, Tarleton holed the second most birdies (55), and was second on Par 5s (-20). The Texans took third in the team standings for the second time this season.



PHOTO COURTESY OF COURTESY TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

The Texans had been playing some of their best golf of the season entering The Big Texan

First and second year Tarleton courses now offered at Fort Worth Campus

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — First- and second-year courses will now be offered at Tarleton State University's Fort Worth campus along Chisholm Trail Parkway starting this fall, the university announced recently.

The new course offerings will be available for 24 undergraduate programs, with more expected in 2025. These programs will join the established upper-level and graduate degree opportunities. As a result of today's announcement, future first-year students can now attend Tarleton State in Stephenville or Fort Worth.

"Creating this level of access and opportunity to students at our Fort Worth

campus is critical," said Tarleton State President Dr. James Hurley. "The addition of these lower-level courses continues to display our commitment to meeting workforce needs in the nation's fastest growing metropolitan city. I am proud of everyone on our team for working together to make this a reality."

As part of the growth, lower-division courses from the College of Education, College of Health Sciences, School of Kinesiology, College of Liberal and Fine Arts, and the Dr. Sam Pack College of Business will now be offered face-to-face in Fort Worth.

Program examples include accounting, general business, human resource

management, marketing, information technology, communication sciences and disorders, sport management, nutrition science, pre-nursing, social work, communication studies, criminal justice, education and psychology.

Prospective students can begin their journey toward attending Tarleton Fort Worth by visiting the university website to view a full list of available programs and to apply. Class registration is also now available.

"One of our greatest hopes for expanding academic offerings at Tarleton Fort Worth is to provide an additional option for access, opportunity and affordability," said Dr. Rachael Capua, Dean of Tarleton Fort Worth

and Vice President for External Operations. "We stand ready to serve students, our community and existing Tarleton Texans as we embark on an exciting new journey for this growing 80-acre master plan."

The first building on Tarleton State's Fort Worth campus opened in August 2019, with construction for a second building underway. Providing more than 100,000 square feet of classroom and specialized lab space, the new four-story Interprofessional Education (IPE) Building is scheduled to open this summer, with classes starting in August. The state-of-the-art space will aim to increase access to quality healthcare and education, two press-

ing needs in the region and beyond.

Classroom, laboratory and collaboration areas will be housed in the IPE Building, along with high-fidelity simulation and clinical skills suites. These learning spaces will generate hands-on training opportunities and instruction for students. The building will also house a room providing seating for 250 guests to host community-wide events, workshops, lectures and programming.

With Tarleton State celebrating its 125th anniversary this fall, Tarleton Fort Worth will welcome its inaugural first- and second-year classes. Enrollment projections at Tarleton Fort Worth are expected to reach up to

10,000 students within the next six years, in line with Tarleton Forward 2030: Our Future-Focused Strategic Plan.

A founding member of The Texas A&M System, Tarleton State is breaking records — in enrollment, research, scholarship, athletics, philanthropy and engagement — while transforming the lives of nearly 17,000 students in Stephenville, Fort Worth, Waco, Bryan and online. True to Tarleton's values of excellence, integrity and respect, academic programs emphasize real world learning and address regional, state and national needs.

EDUCATION

Gatesville ★ Evant ★ Jonesboro ★ Oglesby

Coryell Health to offer free physicals to GISD athletes

Staff Reports

On Wednesday, April 24, local hospital Coryell Health will offer free physicals to students at Gatesville Independent School District.

The physicals are for the upcoming 2024 to 2025 school year and

are available to current sixth through 11th grade students.

The physicals will be held at Coryell Health Clinic from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Physical exams are required every two years for participation in UIL extracurricular activities,

including athletes, band, cheer, dance, and other school-sponsored activities.

For further details, contact Tatianna Navarro by email at tnavarro@gatesvilleisd.org.

Coryell Health Clinic is located at 1507 West Main Street in Gatesville.

Gatesville Junior High instrument tryouts to be held April 13

Staff Reports

All incoming sixth grade students who are interested in being in band are invited to attend instrument tryouts.

There are two different dates for the tryouts. On Saturday, April 13 tryouts will be held in the Gatesville High School Band

Hall from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and on Thursday, April 18 tryouts will be held in the Gatesville Intermediate music rooms from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

These events are designed to pair each student with the correct and most comfortable instrument for them so

they can play to their full potential.

For further information, contact Gatesville Junior High at 254-865-8271.

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

Gatesville Intermediate School is located at 311 Hornet Way in Gatesville.

GISD STAFF SPOTLIGHT



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

From left to right, LeighAnn Goodwin, Dr. Barrett Pollard, Michael Kunkel, Earnest Hamil, Alicia Meharg, Bridget Register, and Angie Pearson.

Kunkel, Hamil shine in staff spotlight

Staff reports

During the March 25 meeting of the GISD Board of Trustees, two educators were singled out for their extraordinary skills.

Michael Kunkel and Earnest Hamil have been teaching partners at Gatesville Intermediate for several years now in the life skills classrooms. They are reliable employees who are a source of great stability for our students and the intermediate campus. LeighAnn Goodwin stated,

“They do an outstanding job of working with some of our most at-risk and high-needs students. They go above and beyond to meet the unique needs of their students. Their job is not easy, yet they do it willingly. Their care for students is evident in everything they do. Both the district and the students are lucky to have them.”

Bridget Register explained, “Mr. Kunkel and Mr. Hamil both have such a dedicated heart for their

students. They offer hands-on activities and incorporate positive behavior strategies to help students be successful. Not only do they know their students’ strengths and weaknesses, but they focus on the students’ interests to prepare them for their future. It is amazing to see the growth of their students in maturity and confidence and as learners from 4th grade to 6th grade. Please help us honor Michael Kunkel and Earnest Hamil.”

JOHNSON VETERINARY SERVICES
Gerald D. Johnson, DVM
 254-784-5151
LIVESTOCK & EQUINE
 Mobile Veterinary Services

MEMBER 2024
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

McGregor Research Center
FIELD DAY
WEDNESDAY, MAY 1
 773 AG FARM RD, MCGREGOR, TX

8:30 a.m.	Registration Staff	11:30 a.m.	Lunch Sponsored by McGregor General Store
9:00 a.m.	Welcome Ryon Walker, Ph.D., McGregor Research Center	12:15 p.m.	Research Tour Stops
9:10 a.m.	McGregor Center Update: Research, Infrastructure, Cow Herd Ryon Walker, Ph.D., McGregor Research Center		Research Tour Stops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using technology to detect age of branding scars (Dr. Doug Tolleson) Using Smart Technology with replacement heifers grazing cool-season annuals (Dr. Bill Pinchak, Dr. Gordon Carstens, Dr. Keara O'Reilly) Developing replacement heifers in confined feeding systems (Dr. Reinaldo Cooke)
9:30 a.m.	Rebuilding the Cow Herd: Making High Leverage Decisions Clay Mathis, Ph.D., Head, Texas A&M Department of Animal Science	2:15 p.m.	
10:15 a.m.	Fueling Success: Optimizing Nutrition in the Era of Record Cattle Prices Jon DeClerck, Ph.D., Purina Animal Nutrition	3:00 p.m.	Adjourn
11:00 a.m.	Administrative Updates Cliff Lamb, Ph.D., Director of Agrilife Research; Clay Mathis, Ph.D., Head, Dept. of Animal Science; Andy Herring, Ph.D. Interim Assoc. Extension Dept Head		

PLEASE PRE-REGISTER BY APRIL 22 (FOR MEAL COUNT)

Register with Priscilla by phone at 254-840-2878 or email at priscilla.dowell@ag.tamu.edu

GISD STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

From left to right, GHS Principal Liz Shoaf, Paisley Wells, Anna Phillips, Coral Bryant, Nahdiah Appleton, Eli Alvarez, Roman Wallace, Katie Hopson, Memphis Wells, Devyn Ayala, Cherith Wells, and Dr. Timothy Klingler (not pictured: Nevin Benning & Ranyah Garraway).

GHS Choir recognized by GISD board

Staff Reports

During the board meeting of the Gatesville Independent School District, the GHS choir was acknowledged by the board for their recent accomplishments. GISD Superintendent Dr. Barrett Pollard issued the following statement of praise about the choir:

One of the most elite accomplishments as a high school musician is to earn a seat in one of the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) All-State ensembles (choir, band, orchestra) and get to be a part of the convention in February. Over 16,000 choir students state-wide start

this process in the summer/fall, and through three rounds of intense auditions, only 600 will make an all-state ensemble. Specifically, in the Small School All-State Mixed Choir, there were over 2,200 who started the process, and only 112 seats in that choir. Ultimately, GHS placed two students in the All-State Choir, and one 1st Alternate (this is a school record). Anna Phillips placed 3rd chair in alto. Paisley Wells placed 3rd chair in tenor. Memphis Wells placed 5th chair in bass, making him 1st alternate, as our area only gets four seats in the All-State Choir from each voice part. In February, we took 21

students to the Regional UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest, and all of them received either a superior or excellent rating. Those who performed a Class 1 “advanced” solo and received a superior rating have advanced to the Texas State Solo & Ensemble Contest, and we are proud to say we have 11 who are going to state. (this is another school record). Those 11 students are: Eli Alvarez, Devyn Ayala, Nahdiah Appleton, Nevin Benning, Coral Bryant, Ranya Garraway, Katie Hopson, Anna Phillips, Paisley Wells, Roman Wallace, and Memphis Wells.

New Rules for Cross Country/ Walking Track area

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

The Gatesville Independent School District Board of Trustees met on Monday, March 25, and discussed several issues pertaining to the district, including new rules that need to be implemented at the GISD Cross Country/Walking Track area.

GISD Superintendent Dr. Barrett Pollard related to the board that most citizens use the walking track appropriately and cause no issues. However, there are some instances when people loiter around the track, have unleashed dogs, or walk right through a group

of students who are on the track for PE classes, athletics, or science courses.

"Recently, we had one gentleman who was loitering and, when asked to leave, cursed at a staff member," Dr. Pollard said.

According to Dr. Pollard, several signs are going to be made and posted around the walking track with a list of rules that are to be followed on the GISD property. The Walking Track Rules include: 1. All dogs must be on a leash. 2. Pick up after your dog. 3. No loitering. 4. If students are present, avoid their immediate area.

In addition to the signs, Dr. Pollard said that they

are going to have the school police officers on duty to patrol the walking track area more frequently and to encourage teachers who periodically use that area to request the school police officer to accompany them.

"We hope that these rules resolve our issues, so we do not have to place additional restrictions on the track," Pollard said. "The Cross Country/Walking Track has been a great addition for the school district and the community. We have a large group of citizens who use the walking track frequently. I am so pleased at how many people take advantage of it," he said.



NEW WALKING TRACK RULES

1. All dogs must be on a leash.
2. Pick up after your dog.
3. No loitering.
4. If students are present, avoid their immediate area.

DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

The cross country/walking track at Gatesville Independent School District.

Oglesby ISD students receive various awards

Staff Reports

The students at Oglesby Independent School District recently received a plethora of awards regarding the third nine weeks.

The awards include:

PREKINDERGARTEN

Academic (Math): Kase Korts and Forrest Wegenast.

Academic (Language Arts): Na'ryah Smith and Ivy Earle.

Academic (Both Math and Language Arts): Kolt Beard, Shyloh Snyder, Christopher Bass, and Laikyn Goff.

Perfect Attendance: Ivy Earle.

Empathy: Kolt Beard.

Tiger: Eoin Wade.

KINDERGARTEN

Academic: Gracie Hess, Jack Hughes, Brantley West, Alex Williamson, and Adaline McGough.

Perfect Attendance: Kinley Brinkley, Kamor'ah Jackson, Kye Martinez, and Tucker

Taylor.

Empathy: Grayson Mainez. **Perseverance:** Keagan Campbell.

Tiger: Jaxxon Hooker.

FIRST GRADE

A Honor Roll: Noah Crell, Jordan Gann, Maya Martinez, Brooks Seymour, Lincoln Taylor, and Paisley Wisheart.

A/B: Stran Hill, Anderson Hopkins, Madison Lechler, and Annaya Smith.

Perfect Attendance: Madilyn Miller.

Empathy: Madison Lechler.

Perseverance: Lincoln Taylor.

Tiger: Jon Key.

SECOND GRADE

A Honor Roll: Xander Goff, Brennan Hill, Chad Kasting, Max Martinez, and Crystal Mejia.

A/B: Dixon Bond, Cole Cockrell, Ranger Jeffcoat, Lucas Tamayo, Saylor McGovern, Brody Smith, Christian Tamayo, Jaylynn

Taylor, and Freddy Vandiver.

Perfect Attendance: Dixon Beard, Chad Kasting, Max Martinez, Karen O'Campo, Brody Smith, and Cole Cockrell.

Empathy: Dixon Bond. **Perseverance:** Ranger Jeffcoat.

Tiger: Brody Smith.

THIRD GRADE

A Honor Roll: Maddie Chapman, Ariel Crell, Braxton Herry, and Kimberly Uribe.

A/B: Seattle Donaldson, Caymbri Fisher, Kinzlee Gray, Maverick Hughes, Kynnidee Martin, Briley Martinez, Jaxon Melton, Radlee Nichols, Ansley Riley, and Thomas Riley.

Perfect Attendance: Madilyn Hopkins, Jaxon Melton, Radlee Nichols, and Thomas Riley.

Empathy: Ansley Riley. **Perseverance:** Mckynzlynn Brand.

Tiger: Radlee Nichols.

FOURTH GRADE

A Honor Roll: Bentley Goff, Abram Shaw, Allie Thompson, and Judd Wulfkhule.

A/B: Colton Anderson, Dylan Chrisner, Colton Finch, Grayson Hopkins, Jayden Howard, Hudson Seymour.

Perfect Attendance: Colton Anderson, Bentley Goff, Barrett Miller, and Judd Wulfkhule.

Empathy: Allie Thompson. **Perseverance:** Colton Anderson.

Tiger: Brayden Roedler.

FIFTH GRADE

A Honor Roll: Judson Marquez, Jana Ortiz, and Dexter Veraza Solis.

A/B: Kristy Anderson, Arell Augeri, Slayton Fisher, Jasmine Gonzalez, Brook Hamilton, Joseph Hamilton, Jayden Hopkins, Aubree Jaccard, Rainie Owens, McKayla Regan, Gracie Thompson, Fernando Uribe, and AJ Martin.

Perfect Attendance: Kristy Anderson, Savanna Bingham, Jayden Hopkins, McKayla Regan, and Fernando Uribe.

Empathy: Jana Ortiz.

Perseverance: Slayton Fisher.

Tiger: Jana Ortiz.

JUNIOR HIGH

A Honor Roll: Sterlin De La Torre, Abigail Insall, Scarlet Aaron, Holdyn Goff.

A/B: Ayleen Aviles, Perla Coca, Brylee Griffith, Hunter Insall, Chayson Leverett, Adilyn Margoitta, Brody Martinez, Victoria Mejia, Rancher Jeffcoat, Caiden Brinkley, Brynley Peryear, Alisyn Smith, Akram Abdelwahab, Blayze Fisher, Evan Williamson, and Makenzie Wright.

Perfect Attendance: Rancher Jeffcoat.

HIGH SCHOOL


A Honor Roll: Caitlyn Battreal, Alisa Contreras, Sydney Felan, Hanna McFadden,

Autumn Meyers, Presley Robinson, Allisyn Uribe, Andrea Licea, Taetym Sanders, Drake LeBlanc, Landon Robinson, Cash Lee, and Landon Williamson.

A/B: Jaxon Markum, Aiden Oxford, Kelsey Ritchie, Jace Seymour, Abram Shaw, Zarah Wisehart, Hadley Glass, Gracee Isaacks, Jordan Smith, EJ Aviles, Alexah Battreal, Alex Castillo, Rian Chapman, Hunter Ewing, Kyler Fossett, Jayda Gonzalez, Marlee Henderson, Blissany Ramos, Roselyn Ritchie, Jakson Tippit, Johnny Gomez, Addi Hamilton, Ian Philipp, and Hunter Walter.

Perfect Attendance: Caitlyn Battreal, Presley Robinson, Samuel Ortiz, Kyler Fossett, and Addi Hamilton.

For further information, contact Oglesby ISD at 254-456-2271.



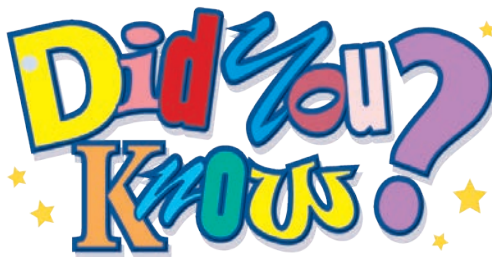
National Pajama Day

Get ready to snuggle up in your coziest PJs because National Pajama Day is here on Saturday, April 6th! It's the perfect excuse to turn your usual routine into a comfy adventure.

On this special day, kids everywhere can swap their regular clothes for their favorite pajamas. Whether covered in funny prints, superheroes, or cuddly animals, pajamas become the star of the fashion show. National Pajama Day is not just about feeling cozy; it's a chance to express your unique style and have fun with your sleepwear.


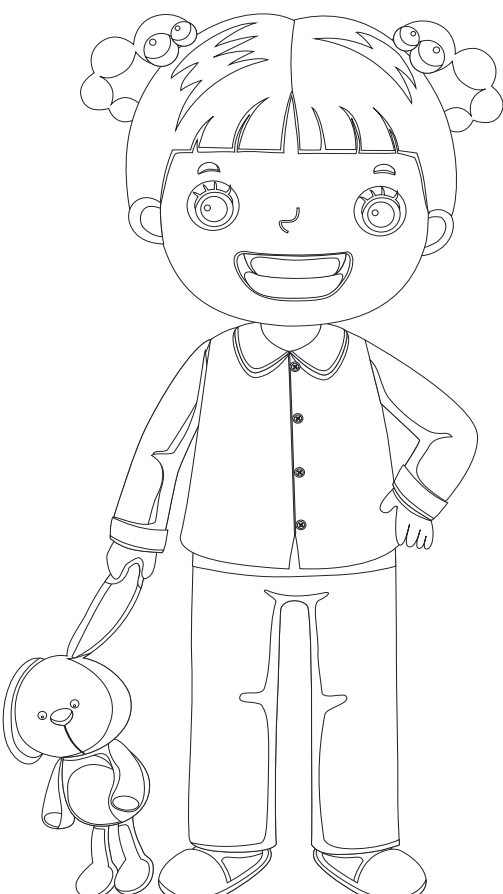
Even better, National Pajama Day falls on a Saturday, so you can enjoy the comfort of your PJs all day long! Whether you're playing games, reading a book, or having a movie marathon, it's a day to relax and be yourself in the comfiest fashion possible.

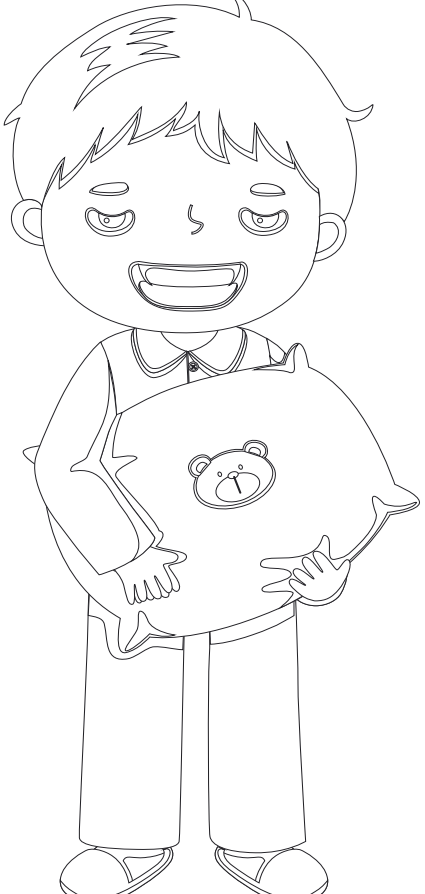
So, mark your calendar for April 6th, grab your snuggliest PJs, and get ready for a day filled with comfort, laughter, and the joy of National Pajama Day!




FOOTED PYJAMAS AREN'T ALWAYS FOR KIDS:


They actually started out as something designed for adults. The first versions were made when people began sewing socks to the bottom of their pyjamas. It wasn't to just keep their feet warm; it was to prevent bugs like termites from nibbling on their toes.





1. Movie Marathon
12. Scavenger Hunt
2. Board Games
13. DIY Spa Day
3. Puzzle Time
14. Video Game Tournament
4. Indoor Fort Building
15. Plant a Mini Indoor Garden
5. Baking Party
16. Family Yoga
6. Crafting Corner
17. Picnic Indoors
7. Storytime
18. Kitchen Science Experiments
8. Virtual Hangout
19. Photobook Creation
9. Karaoke Session
20. Write and Perform a Play
10. Family Photoshoot
11. Pajama Fashion Show



**To sponsor the Coryell Kids ads,
call Kaitlyn at 254-865-5212.**

Retired School Personnel learn what to look for during eclipse

Submitted by: Marsha Lee

Members of Coryell Retired School Personnel (CRSP) met on Thursday, March 28, at Rancher's Steakhouse.

The program, entitled "A Space-tacular Eclipse Program," was presented by Cheri Shepherd, our City of Gatesville Eclipse Coordinator. Cheri is a graduate of Jonesboro High School and Tarleton University. She began her career as a teacher in Cranfills Gap. She continued teaching in Jonesboro ISD, China Spring, and then moved to management at a Waco private school. Next, Cheri had a lengthy career in the title insurance business. She finally ended up working for the City of Gatesville for seven years, promoting the community and the Civic Center and coordinating special events. She had planned to retire, but she was asked to stay on and help coordinate eclipse activities for 2024.

As eclipse coordinator, she has been very busy for the last year promoting eclipse information for the city. At the very beginning of preparations, she met

with Police Chief Brad Hunt and others to set down a list of priorities, the first of which was public safety.

She explained, "Gatesville has never experienced something quite like this before. Larger cities and towns with universities or colleges may have experience with a greater influx of traffic on various occasions, but Gatesville has not." She added, "The police department is doubling its patrol presence the week of the eclipse and is working with area partners and nearby cities to plan for any potential emergencies. These include the Coryell Sheriff's Office, Fort Cavazos, Texas Department of Public Safety, and others. The Fire Department has also increased its workforce." The biggest traffic concerns include congestion of U.S. Highway 84 and State Highway 36, two major highways that are utilized by emergency vehicles and that lead to larger cities like Waco and Temple. The Hospital, EMS, Ambulance Service, and medical clinics are also preparing for possible additional needs,

small or large. Local businesses, restaurants, service stations, banks (ATM's), grocers, motels, camping and RV Parks, and many others are working together to be prepared. "In short, the whole town is involved!"

Cheri has contacted cities in the path of the 2017 eclipse to gather facts that would help our planning for the 2024 eclipse. She explained, "No one knows exactly how many people to expect. It's hard to imagine, because we've never had something that potentially will bring this many visitors into our community. However, estimates range anywhere between 5,000-20,000 visitors." She continued, "Our motels have been booked for a while, and campers and R-V parks are full. Neighboring areas such as Mother Neff Park are full, and part of Faunt Leroy Park has been set aside for tents, campers, and parking." Gatesville has heard from out-of-state groups who are planning to come to Gatesville (Oregon, Wyoming, Colorado, and California, for example), as well as some groups or

individuals from outside the U.S. (Canada, Ireland, Britain, Scotland, and Norway, etc.). Some of these are planning to stay overnight in other cities like Dallas on Sunday night, then drive into Gatesville early Monday morning. These people may not be staying here overnight or for several days, but this will definitely add to our traffic congestion on Monday." Cheri's other duties have involved informing residents, sharing educational information, helping visitors, and alerting first responders for the public's safety.

"On Saturday, April 6th, many activities will be going on to help make this event fun, special, and memorable for our visitors as well as our community," continued Cheri. "These will include (1) BLOCK (out the Sun) PARTY downtown festival running from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday. There will be a petting zoo, kids' games, painting with a twist, goat roping, cornhole, pickleball, disc golf, entertainment on main stage, and agricultural exhibit (free admission); (2) Signings by book authors at 1854 Mercantile; (3) "Syzygy" NASA presentation by Liam Finn at City Auditorium (sold out); (4) Pearl Bluegrass Festival at 1 p.m. at Old Pearl school auditorium; (5) "Art in the Shadow" Show at Leaird's Furniture Store from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; and (6) Museum Tour, 60 visitors at a time, starting at 10 a.m." Evening activities have also been available at Junction on Route 36, Bare Bones Bar-B-Q, and Texas Station Events Center.

In addition to the extensive list of activities and plans that are being made by churches, businesses, restaurants, grocery stores, local organizations, and community leaders, on April 8, the day of the eclipse, several venues will be offering parking places for those wanting to view the eclipse. They are also offering opportunities to worship, games and activities for kids and adults, food or food trucks, and viewing of the eclipse. Some of these locations include Gatesville Sports Complex, Coryell Commu-



Cheri Shepherd (pictured left) is shown with CRSP president Gail Johnson during a program about the upcoming total solar eclipse.

COURTESY PHOTO

nity Church with "Eclipse at the Crosses," Last Drive-In Picture Show, Hyles Field, Gatesville Public Library, Gatesville Civic Center, and Higginbotham Brothers. For those hoping to view the eclipse a little farther from town, several local ranches and parks have offered visitors a place to stay for the weekend and/or to come view the eclipse. They offer a wide range of entertainment and food for their visitors as well. These venues include 65 River Ranch on Old Georgetown Road, Dove Nest on CR 342, LandJRanch on King Ranch Road, Dragon Stone Ranch at 2501 CR 137, and Mother Neff Park.

In closing, Cheri offered and briefly explained a list of special things to watch for during the eclipse. Her list included the following: (1) sun's corona, outer layer of sun's atmosphere; (2) solar flares, intense burst of radiation coming from release of energy associated with sun spots; (3) Bailey's beads, arc of bright spots shining through edges during eclipse; (4)

Diamond Ring effect, occurring at beginning and end of eclipse when last bits of sunlight shine like a ring; (5) surroundings, darkness or colors; (6) shadow bands, thin wavy lines on plain ground surfaces; (7) wildlife behavior; (8) temperature changes; (9) visibility of larger stars or even planets during period of totality. For more information provided by the Gatesville Messenger and Cheri Shepherd, see website: gatesvilleclipse.com.

Again, Cheri stated the objective that our special events planners had in mind from the very start. "We wanted to give people something fun to do, we wanted them to be here, and we wanted them to leave here with a great impression of the little town we live in. We hope our townspeople will participate in activities during the weekend, get out and meet some of our visitors, have fun, and enjoy this unique experience."

COLLEGE CAREER DISCUSSION



COURTESY PHOTO

The SSG Calhoun and the MSG Augustin are pictured with students at Ogleby Independent School District. This past week both groups spoke with the eighth grade College Career Connections class about the army. They also held discussions with a sixth-grade social studies class about their experiences in the Middle East, such as the culture, religion, schools, and even some interesting wildlife. Their final stop allowed them to play various math board games with some of the fifth-grade students that were created in Mrs. Martin's class.

We'll Buy Your Gold & Silver
 Coins, Jewelry, Etc. for Cash!
GOLD & SILVER PRICES
 GOLD (XAU/USD 4/4/24).....\$2288.60
 SILVER (XAG/USD 4/4/24).....\$26.79
Robert L. Berry, 512-810-1002
 DBA Christian Brothers Ltd., An Ebay Store
 Serving the Gatesville & Goldthwaite areas
 716 E. Leon St., Gatesville, TX 76528 | Mon.-Fri., 9-5 & Sat., 9-1

Clifton Livestock
 3199 Hwy. 6, Clifton, Texas 254-675-7717
 HAULING AVAILABLE ANY DAY:
 JARED HUNT 254 223 2486
SALE EVERY WEDNESDAY AT NOON
4-3-24 SALE

Weigh Bulls	125-163	Cow Calf Pairs	2475-3050
Weigh Cows	96-146	Bred Cows	1785-2575
		Replacement Bulls	NO TEST

#1 Type Steers	#1 Type Heifers
200-300 lb. NO TEST	200-300 lb. NO TEST
301-400 lb. 330-407.50	301-400 lb. 285-322.50
401-500 lb. 285-347.50	401-500 lb. 263-317.50
501-600 lb. 250-312.50	501-600 lb. 240-287
601-700 lb. 245-270	600-700 lb. 217-259

ANDY'S SALE BARN CAFE
 WEDNESDAYS @ 11 AM - BUFFET • BURGERS • SANDWICHES

BASTROP DENTURE AND IMPLANT CENTER
NOW OFFERING "Standard Dental Implants" for \$995
 Walk-ins Welcome
CHECK OUR WEBSITE
bastropdentureandimplant.com
 For Information And Prices
 FREE Consultation
 Call For Appointment
 Gregory Kon D.D.S. • Orville Sadler, C.D.T.
 301 Hwy. 71 West, Suite 102 • Bastrop, Texas 78602
 Toll Free 1-866-584-6900 • Local 512-303-6900
 Hours M-F 7am - 3pm

WACO CARDIOLOGY ASSOCIATES

Andrew Day, M.D., F.A.C.C.
 will be seeing patients every month at the **Coryell Specialty Clinic**
 If you feel that you may need a cardiovascular evaluation, please contact your primary care physician about referring you for an appointment with **Waco Cardiology Associates • (254) 399-5400. Caring for the hearts of Central Texas.**
 www.WacoCardiology.com

Serving All Of Central Texas Area

FERGUSON ROOFING
 Locally Owned Company
Free Estimates
Call 254-466-5128
 COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL

Market Days
SATURDAY • 9AM-NOON
APRIL 13TH
 Cotton Belt Depot Parking Lot
 2307 S. Hwy. 36, Gatesville, TX

 Vendors can sign up under the Market Days tab at www.gatesvillechamber.com or stop by the Chamber office M-F from 9AM-2PM.
 Held the 2nd Saturday of each month, March-December.

Local • Honest • Community
Subscribe Today
 254-865-5212

GATESVILLE JR. HIGH BAND RECEIVES SUPERIOR RATING

COURTESY PHOTO

On Wednesday, March 27, the Gatesville Junior High Honor Band competed in a Concert and Sight-Reading Evaluation. The band received a superior rating for the evaluation, which resulted in a Sweepstakes award for the band program.



Pre-K and Kindergarten Round Up announced

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Primary School recently announced the registration dates for kindergarten and pre-K registration for the 2024-2025 school year.

Kindergarten students must be 5 years old on Sept. 1, 2024. Registration will be on Wednesday, April 17, from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.

The registration location for kindergarten will be at the north entrance of the Gatesville Primary facing the football stadium.

Registration for pre-K will be on Wednesday, April 17, from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Registration will be at the north entrance of the Primary School facing the football stadium. Pre-K students must be 4 years old on

Sept. 1, 2024.

Items that the Primary School will need for registration include:

1. Official birth certificate with raised seal (not the hospital certificate)
2. Social Security card
3. Complete, validated immunization record including four-year boosters
4. Picture I.D. of parent enrolling child (driver's license)
5. Proof of residency (utility bill, lease contract)
6. Proof of income for household - 3 months of pay stubs (pre-K only)

For additional information or if you have any questions, please contact the Gatesville Primary Office at 254-865-7264.

ELEMENTARY BLUEBONNETS



COURTESY PHOTO

Second Grade students in Mrs. Wolff's class at Gatesville Elementary School are pictured in the various bluebonnets that have bloomed during the month of March. Bluebonnets happen to be the State Flower of Texas and were established as the state flower on March 7, 1901.



Business Directory

Billy Latham
Sales



WHITT
Building Supplies

Office (254) 865-2190
Cell: (254) 216-1516
billy@wbsupplies.com

1411 N. Hwy. 36 Bypass
Gatesville, Texas 76528

R & M Fencing & Dozing

FREE ESTIMATES

Fence Row Clearing
Barbed Wire
Custom Pipe Fencing
Entryways & Corrals
Barns & Metal Buildings
Residential Fencing
Game Fencing
Dozer Work Available

LARRY RIDDLE
254-248-2205

JOYCE MCADAMS
254-248-4318



GOSSETT
TRANSMISSION SERVICE

P.O. Box 291 • 1900 Main St.
Gatesville, TX 76528

JIM GOSSETT
RAY GOSSETT

254-865-5791



DOZER WORK
LAND CLEARING
ADD-ONS

REMODELING
METAL BUILDINGS
WOOD FRAMING

TC BROOKSHIRE, OWNER

(254) 223-1817 (254) 216-9572



Tyler Powell
254-223-3551

Zach Hodges
254-383-6267

120 Reno Rd.
Gatesville, TX 76528

Master Lic. No. M-42617

midtexplumbing@gmail.com



WHITT
Building Supplies

Brandon Latham
Owner / President

1411 N. Hwy. 36 Bypass
Gatesville, Texas 76528

mobile: 254-223-1723
Office: 254-865-2190

GRIBS CONSTRUCTION
State Certified Installer of Septic Systems

BACKHOE & DIRT WORK
GRAVEL • ASPHALT
ROADS • DRIVES

Owner--Gary Gribble



2000 VIOLET LANE
GATESVILLE, TX 76528

254-248-4171

FERGUSON
ROOFING

Serving Central Texas

Locally Owned Company
COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL

Free Estimates.....254-466-5128



O & J SUPERIOR
PLUMBING

RMP M41774

CAMERA LOCATOR
RPZ Backflow

Jeff Tesar
Office: (254) 404-2242



PROGRESSIVE
Shawn Camp Insurance, Inc.


Home • Auto • Motorcycle • Boat/Personal Watercraft

Call Amy or Shawn today for a price quote and insure your peace of mind.

2707 E. HWY. 190
COPPERAS RIVER, TX 76522
SHAWNCAMPINSURANCE@HOTMAIL.COM

Tel 254-865-2002
Fax 254-547-5778

CHRIS WINKLER
SALES



WHITT
Building Supplies

1411 N. Hwy. 36 Bypass
Gatesville, Texas 76528

254.865.2190 Office
254.444.9040 Cell
254.865.9137 Fax
chris.winkler@whittbuildingsupplies.com

Jaydie Dixon
Owner



DIXON
ROOFING

FREE ESTIMATES Residential & Commercial
Insurance Claims Specialist

254.248.4053 P.O. Box 67, Gatesville, TX

EASTER EGG HUNTS AND CELEBRATIONS

Below: The Gatesville Primary School held an Easter egg hunt for students on the Tommy Davidson Field at McKamie Stadium. Hundreds and hundreds of plastic eggs covered the entire field and were picked up by the excited hunters. The pre-k and kindergarten students were joined on the field by the Easter Bunny and by soldiers from Fort Cavazos.

Top right: The Meadows at RehabLiving also celebrated with an Easter egg hunt for children and their residents were able to enjoy the company of the children who were there.

Middle right: On Good Friday, Righteous Roots Crisis Resource Center participated in the annual egg hunt that is sponsored by Spur Nutrition. The hunt was located around the Coryell County Courthouse Square and was attended by various youth within the community. The Easter bunny was present to visit with the children, as well as having a prize table for the kids.

Bottom right: Hillside Medical Lodge also celebrated Easter with their residents which included live rabbits, a community-wide egg hunt and more.



COURTESY PHOTO



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER



COURTESY PHOTO BY MELANIE WEBB



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Hometown ^{HF} Floors

LARGE SELECTION OF TILE

as well as Carpet, Vinyl, Laminate and Wood Flooring and Professional Installation.

We've Got You Covered!



206 S. 7th Street, Gatesville • 254-248-1192

To all of those that participated in Texas Station Spring Fest 2024....

This event is a massive undertaking for us that would not be possible without the support of this unbelievable community. A special thank you to those who helped us plan and run the events for your hard work. To our vendors, event participants, and patrons, you are the ingredients that allow us to grow and come back each year.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR LOCAL SPONSORS!



- * SPUR- GATSVILLE
- * DODGE/JEEP/RAM/CHRYSLER
- * F8 TECHNOLOGY
- * FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF GATESVILLE
- * MAYBERRY METAL CONSTRUCTION
- * BIG BOYS CONSTRUCTION
- * FRONT PORCH REALTY-KANDI LUENSMANN
- * GATESVILLE DRUG- KEVIN GEORGE
- * LEON RIVER PREMIUM BEEF

THANK YOU! -- FROM KAYLIE & DEAN
TEXAS STATION EVENT CENTER
305 Old Fort Gates Rd - Gatesville - 254/223/4445



Get your message HEARD!



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Advertise with us

254•865•5212



WELCOME TO ECLIPSEVILLE



GATESVILLE
ECLIPSE 4.8.24

March 30, 2024
THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

BLOCK *out the sun* **PARTY**

4/6/2024 - 4/7/2024

FREE ADMISSION

Entertainment Games Activities
Art Show Author Showcase Vendors
FAMILY FRIENDLY FUN



Sat., April 6, 2024 - 10 AM - 8 PM
Sun., April 7, 2024 - 10 AM - 6 PM
Downtown Gatesville, TX

Eclipse Safety Tips from *Coryell Health*

Be prepared for the total solar eclipse on **Monday, April 8th** with these safety tips:

- Make sure that your eclipse glasses comply with the ISO 12312-2 standard
- Wear plenty of sunscreen, a hat and protective clothing
- Do not use cameras, binoculars or telescopes without a solar filter attached to the lens
- Drink lots of water
- Use eclipse glasses, not regular sunglasses



This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity in Gatesville.
Stay safe and make it count!

What is a Total Eclipse?

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

On Monday, April 8, a total solar eclipse will cross North America, passing over Mexico, the United States, and Canada.

A total solar eclipse happens when the moon passes between the sun and earth, completely blocking the face of the Sun.

According to NASA, "The sky will darken as if it were dawn or dusk."

For this celestial event, the longest period of darkness will occur for about two minutes and 40 seconds. The last time the U.S. saw a total eclipse was in 1979.

Exactly how the sun, moon, and earth align determines what kind of eclipse we see.

With a Total Eclipse, the moon moves directly in front of the sun and barely covers the solar disk. This allows observers in the center of the moon's shadow to briefly see the sun's outer atmosphere, the corona, which is too dim to see when the bright solar disk is not covered.

The shadow that the moon casts has two main parts, which are the darker inner shadow called the umbra and a fainter outer shadow called the penumbra. Within the umbra, the sun's light is completely blocked. In the penumbra, the sun's light is only partially blocked.

To see a total solar eclipse, an observer must be within the umbra. Observers in the penumbra will witness a partial eclipse, with only part of the sun covered by

the moon. Those outside the moon's shadow will see no eclipse at all.

As the shadow extends away from the moon, the umbra narrows or gets smaller. By the time it reaches earth, the umbra covers a relatively small area on our planet compared to the penumbra. That means the area that experiences a total eclipse is much smaller than the area that experiences a partial eclipse. A typical umbral path may be less than 50 miles wide, while the penumbral zone can span a thousand miles or more.

Because earth is continuously rotating, and the moon is constantly moving in its orbit, the moon's shadow will travel across earth's surface, tracing a path. This is called the eclipse path. Within this area is a smaller path traced by the umbra, called the path of totality. The rapid movement of the moon in its orbit causes the shadow of the moon to sweep across the face of earth in just four to five hours. At any location along the path of totality, the total phase of a solar eclipse may last only a few minutes, or even less.

This will be the last total solar eclipse visible from the United States until August of 2044.

For further information, visit science.nasa.gov.



606 E. Leon Street
Gatesville, TX 76528

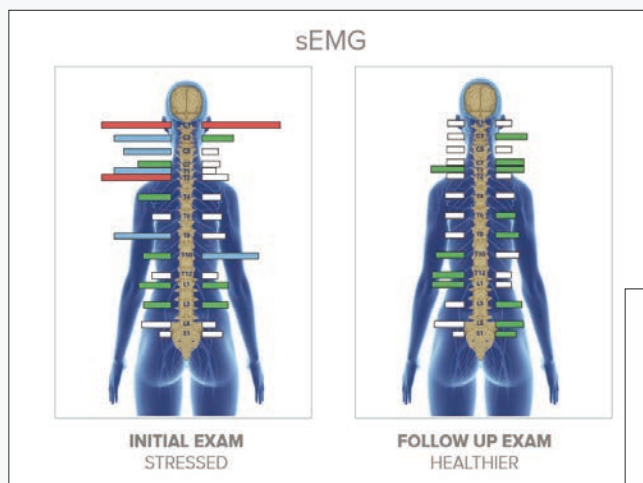
OFFICE HOURS:
Monday-Wednesday
8:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Thursday
8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Friday
8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

254-248-1335

www.hillcrestchiropracticclinics.com

New Patient Special - \$25.00

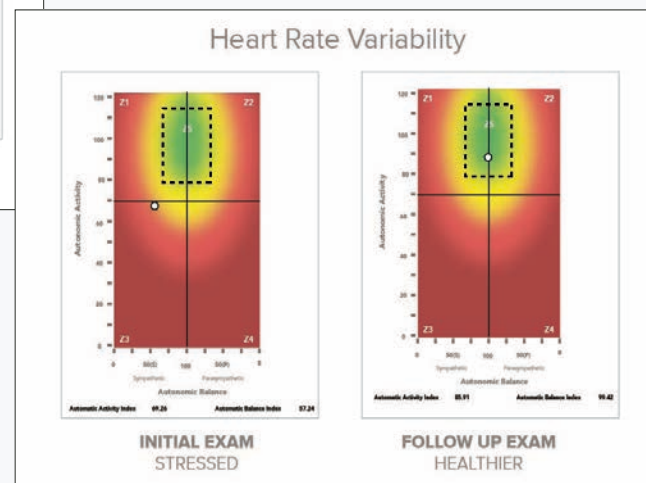
Consultation, Examination, X-ray, Neuro Scan & Report of Findings



Our doctors are trained to diagnose and treat injuries and disorders that involve the nervous system, muscles and bones. Receiving regular chiropractic adjustments can help the body function at its optimal potential.

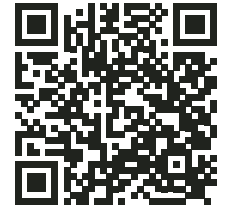
WE CAN HELP WITH:

SPORTS INJURIES
MATERNITY CARE
CHIROPRACTIC CARE FOR KIDS
WELLNESS CARE

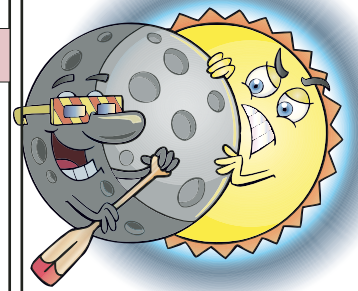


ECLIPSE Weekend Events

APRIL



FRIDAY	5	SATURDAY	6	SUNDAY	7	MONDAY	8	TUESDAY	9
April Pearl BlueGrass Jam & Solar Eclipse									
Eclipse Camping in Gatesville									
STONEY LARUE at the Bone Yard presented by Bare Bones BBQ	BLOCK >out the sun< PARTY								
	Landy Joyce Ranchtx Solar Eclipse Weekend Event								
	Junction 36 Eclipse Party								
				Eclipse Ranch Party					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art in the Shadow - Leaird's Furniture and Appliance • Author's Showcase @ 1854 Mercantile • Eclipse Story Time @ 1854 Mercantile 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar Slam Open Pickleball Tournament @ Raby Park • Total Eclipse Watch Party • Eclipse @ Texas Station Event Ctr 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eclipse Watch Parking @ Gatesville Civic Center • WYSIWYG Acres Eclipse Watch Party • Eclipse at the Drive In Cigars for Eclipse 		



BARE BONES BBQ presents **STONEY LARUE** **APRIL 5TH**

photo credit: Richard Edward Photography

AT THE BONE YARD
Gatesville, TX

Tickets available at Bare Bones BBQ or online at barebonesbarbeque.com

ECLIPSE KICKOFF PARTY

4305 S. HWY. 36, GATESVILLE, TX 254-248-1441

Our Hometowns **SPUR** Front Porch Realty

254-223-9200 DRIVE THE DIFFERENCE 254-865-6991

The FEED MILL

NEW HOURS:
Tues.-Wed. 10:30am-2pm
Thurs.-Mon. 10:30-8pm

108 N. 6th Street
Gatesville, TX 76528
(254) 865-9450

Restaurant ★ Catering

Eyes on the eclipse

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

As reported on the Mayo Clinic website, Dr. William Brown stated that staring directly at the sun can seriously damage your eyes if you aren't using specifically designed eclipse glasses.

Dr. Brown noted that the only time the sun can be viewed without proper safety glasses will be during the total eclipse - that short time when the moon covers the sun completely. "The sun is so intense. Regular sunglasses only absorb maybe 90 percent of the sunlight and the light in our environment. Eclipse glasses absorb more like 99.9999 percent," says Dr. Brown.

He continued, "I liken it to a camera flash. When a camera flashes, you get this afterimage because the rods and the cones [in your eyes] have to recover from that. When you're staring at the sun, they don't have a chance to recover, and they may totally be lost due to the damage that can occur from looking at the sun."

"When we have intense light, the eyes don't have the ability to recover, and we can lose visual function. Depending upon the length of time that we're staring at

that bright light, it can either be temporary loss or it can be permanent loss. So, that's that danger of looking at the sun [during the eclipse]," Dr. Brown said.

According to PreventBlindness.org, the symptoms that can occur from looking at a solar eclipse without proper eye protection can include: loss of central vision (solar retinopathy), distorted vision, and altered color vision.

The NASA website suggests that when watching a solar eclipse directly with your eyes you must look through safe solar viewing glasses (eclipse glasses). Eclipse glasses are NOT regular sunglasses. No matter how dark, they are not safe for viewing the sun. Safe solar viewers are thousands of times dark and should comply with the ISO 12312-2 international standard.

NASA advises that eclipse glasses or handheld viewers should be examined before use to make sure they are not torn, scratched, or otherwise damaged. If damage is found, the device should be discarded.

It is also advised NOT to use eclipse glasses or handheld viewers with cameras, binoculars, or telescopes. Those

devices require different types of solar filters.

PreventBlindness.org also gave the following tips on how NOT to watch the solar eclipse:

- Do NOT use your camera viewfinder: Never look at a solar eclipse through the optical viewfinder of a camera. It can damage your eyes in the same way as looking directly at the sun.
- Do NOT use unsafe filters: Unless specifically designed for viewing a solar eclipse. Solar filters designed for eyepieces that come with inexpensive telescopes are also unsafe.

The public is advised to be careful when viewing the solar eclipse on April 8th due to the risk of permanently damaging your eyes.



COURTESY PHOTO

Staring directly at the sun can seriously damage your eyes if you aren't using specifically designed eclipse glasses.

Quinton & Sons
Towing LLC



24 HOUR SERVICE
254-865-6269 EXT. 3

AUTO PARTS & AUTO GLASS
SHIPPING AVAILABLE

4621 E. US HWY. 84, GATESVILLE, TX 76528

MAIN STREET TOBACCO

Two fully-stocked Humidors
Large selection of Cigarettes
Pipe Tobacco


**COMING
SOON**

**WE'RE MOVING
TO 2514 S. HWY. 36
AND ADDING A
CIGAR LOUNGE!**



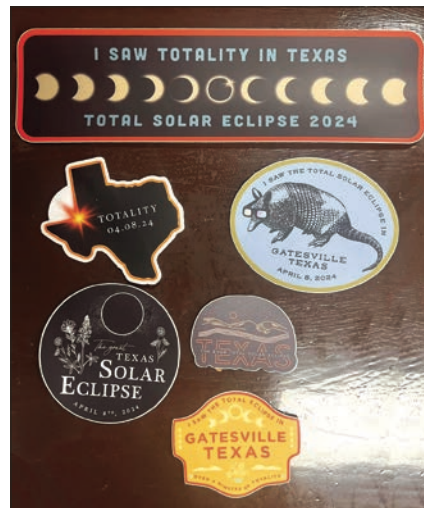
Current Location: 2213 E Main Street, Gatesville, TX
(254) 248-1301

SOLAR ECLIPSE MERCH FOR EVERYONE!

T-SHIRTS • TUMBLERS • GLASSES
STICKERS • BOOKS • MORE

1854
Mercantile Boutique

206 S. 7th Street
Gatesville, Tx
254-206-9515



Come see all the latest trends and fashions!

- Jewelry
- Designer T-Shirts
- Purses/Duffle Bags
- Jeans
- Designer Ball Caps
- Children's Clothing
- Shoes
- Skinny Syrups
- Womens Clothing
- Home/Car Fragrances

Get ready for the eclipse with Gatesville's Block (Out the Sun) Party

BY KAYLEE DUSANG

Staff writer

kaylee@gatesvillemessenger.com

For those looking for ways to celebrate the 2024 Great American Eclipse, Gatesville's pre-eclipse festival provides an opportunity to gather and enjoy some local entertainment.

The "Block (Out the Sun) Party" will take place in the downtown square during Saturday and Sunday leading up to the total eclipse on Monday, April 8. The festival will feature a variety of food trucks, vendors, and various activities for kids and adults.

"Some cities have planned large events in the hopes of drawing in a large number of visitors. We approached our plans a little differently," Eclipse Coordinator Cheri Shepherd said. "We knew that a certain number of people would be com-

ing to Gatesville, regardless of what we planned. We wanted to make sure that our residents and visitors had the best possible experience during and leading up to the eclipse."

Activities include a petting zoo, painting with a twist, goat roping, photo props, pickleball and cornhole tournaments, live music, and more. Visitors will also have a chance to view and support local artists through the "Art in the Shadow" exhibit that will feature various mediums of Texas and eclipse themed artwork.

With thousands of out-of-town visitors expected to arrive in Gatesville, the festival will also be an opportunity to support local businesses and organizations.

"It was an opportunity to educate and entertain residents and visitors while allowing small businesses and non-profits to benefit," Shepherd said.

The event will be held Saturday, April

6, from 10am-8pm and Sunday, April 7, from 10am-6pm. Admission to the festival is free.

After the event on Saturday, NASA ambassador, Liam Finn, will provide a sold-out educational presentation called Syzygy at 6 p.m. in the Gatesville City Auditorium. Ticket holders should arrive by 5:45 p.m. Any seats that are unclaimed shortly before 6 p.m. will be released to the public first come, first served.

However, for those missing out on the talk, NASA representatives will return on the day of the eclipse to set up viewing equipment at the Gatesville Sports Complex baseball fields and will share educational information with visitors. Reserve parking at GatesvilleTxEclipse.com.

"As plans have evolved, I think the festival will be an opportunity for residents and visitors to make some won-

derful memories surrounding the eclipse experience," Shepherd said.

For more updates about the festival and to sign up as a volunteer or vendor, visit www.gatesvilletxeclipse.com/block-out-the-sun-party



THE Pink Pearl
BOUTIQUE

COME SEE US ON THE
SQUARE
M-F 11-6 & SAT 10-4

600 E. LEON STREET
GATESVILLE, TX
254-383-5941

FIRST TEXAS AGENCY
INSURANCE

SINCE 1968

BRIAN EDWARDS
254-865-2242

FARM & RANCH
AUTO • HOME • LIFE • COMMERCIAL

WWW.FIRSTTXAGENCY.COM

ECLIPSE WEEKEND



APRIL 5TH - 8TH



- **EXCLUSIVE ECLIPSE FESTIVAL:** APRIL 7TH, 5-9PM

1-HOUR INTERACTIVE ANIMAL EXPERIENCE 5-6PM: FEATURING - GIRAFFES, LEMURS, PYGMY HIPPOS & MORE! ALSO ENJOY DANCING, LIVE MUSIC, BEVERAGES, LOCAL CUISINE AND OTHER EXCITING ACTIVITIES!

- **PRIVATE ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS**

APRIL 5TH - 7TH

- **LODGING & RV CAMPSITES**

APRIL 5TH - 9TH

- **LIVE MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT**

- **EXOTIC ANIMALS FOR ADOPTION**

CALL FOR RESERVATIONS (254) 499-2003
OR VISIT US AT:

DRAGONSTONERANCH.COM

2591 County Road 137 Gatesville, TX



Follow us on     





Hill Country Pros

YOUR TOP CHOICE FOR TEXAS PROPERTY

www.hillcountrypros.com



Experience the ultimate real estate journey with UCRE | Hill Country Pros

Located in Gatesville, TX, our dedicated team specializes in residential, land, farm, and ranch properties, providing outstanding value to both buyers and sellers. Serving as your access point to the Texas lifestyle, we prioritize ethics, integrity, and exceeding expectations. With our marketing proficiency and national resources, enjoy seamless transactions and maximum exposure. Count on UCRE | Hill Country Pros for unparalleled expertise and service in the Central Texas market.

Call 254-277-1820



We Handle All Plumbing Problems



All Licensed Plumbers
Commercial & Residential
Camera Locator
RPZ Backflow



O & J SUPERIOR PLUMBING

(254) 404-2242

We answer our phone Calls!

Owner: Jeff Tesar

License# RMP M41774

Sawdust & Splinters



**Rocking across Texas
With Chairs, Gliders, and Swings**
254-248-1219

High-quality Outdoor Furniture



We are a wholesaler but we do sell to the public.

Our company has been in business for over 25 years and is one of the largest outdoor furniture manufacturers in Texas. Everything is made from scratch here in Gatesville and delivered all over the state, as well as a couple of stores in New Mexico, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Kansas and Colorado.

314 Fm 116, Gatesville, Texas 76528 | sawdustandsplinters.net | Email: matt@sawdustandsplinters.net

TURNERSVILLE
Community Center



Visit our website for availability
www.TvilleCC.com

A FAMILY-FRIENDLY
GATHERING PLACE FOR
RECREATION, COMMUNITY,
EDUCATION, AND THE ARTS.



Rent Our Space

Turnersville Community Center is the ideal setting for corporate and non-profit events, weddings, receptions, and family celebrations.



FULL KITCHEN • DINING ROOM
STAGE • ASSEMBLY ROOM
BRIDAL ROOM

8113 FM 182, GATESVILLE, TX 76528

Contact Chelcie Ayers
(254) 494-0010 | Turnersvillestampede@gmail.com



#1

2558 E. Main St.
Gatesville, TX 76528
254-865-5820

#2

1020 W. McGregor Dr.
McGregor, TX 76657
254-840-7001

#3

2320 S. State Hwy. 36
Gatesville, TX 76528
254-404-2090

THE CARE YOU NEED, WHEN YOU NEED IT.

CLINIC CARE, QUICK CARE & EMERGENCY CARE: WHICH ONE IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

CLINIC CARE

Clinic or Routine Care is regular care you get from your personal care physician. You may also have a same-day appointment for urgent medical problems.

Routine non-urgent care:

- Regular & Sports Physicals
- Well-Child & Medicare Visits
- Preventative/Pre-Op Screenings
- Prescription Refills
- Vaccinations
- Follow-Up Visits

Same day appointments for:

- Common Illnesses - colds/flu, stomach virus, ear aches, sore throats
- migraines
- urinary/bladder infections
- fever/rashes
- sprains
- back pain
- minor cuts/burns
- minor broken bones

Coryell Health Medical Clinic, Bldg 2
Call 254-865-2166 for an appointment, advice
or to speak with a nurse

QUICK CARE

QUICK CARE WALK-IN CLINIC treats non-life-threatening medical problems. (Including but not limited to):

Common illnesses:

- Colds/flu
- Stomach virus
- Vomiting
- Ear aches
- Sore throats
- Urinary and bladder infections

Common injuries:

- Simple cuts/burns
- Minor sprains
- Contusions, mild concussions
- Migraines, dizziness
- Insect bites, stings & poison ivy
- Pink eye
- Abdominal pain
- STD screening
- Simple foreign body removal
- Children who are 3 months or older

Coryell Health Medical Clinic, Bldg 2
227 Memorial Dr. Bldg. 2 Gatesville, TX 76528
M-F 10am-8pm, Sat 8am-6pm, Closed Sun Holidays

EMERGENCY CARE

Emergency Care when you need care right away. Symptoms that may indicate an emergency medical condition include:

- Chest pain, heart attack, or palpitations
- Sudden onset of severe abdominal pain
- Severe allergic reaction or anaphylaxis
- Severe shortness of breath
- Trauma
- Severe pain
- Head injuries
- Accidental poisoning
- Chemical exposure
- Loss of consciousness or shock
- Eye injuries
- Foreign body removal
- Severe burns
- Coughing or vomiting blood

Symptoms of a stroke: numbness in the face, arm or leg, slurred speech, sudden dizziness/weakness, loss of coordination/balance, sudden vision changes, severe headache

Coryell Health | Emergency Room
1507 W Main St, Gatesville, TX 76528
OPEN 24 hours a day 7 days a week



While Coryell Health is here to care for you, The American Academy of Ophthalmology states that there is no treatment for solar retinopathy, which is why it is so important to wear eye protection during the eclipse.



WHERE YOU ALWAYS FEEL AT HOME

CoryellHealth.org



April 8 • 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

ECLIPSE DAY OPEN HOUSE

FOOD TRUCKS • RAFFLE • DOOR PRIZES
ECLIPSE SAVINGS
WACO 100 & KWTX LIVE REMOTES



(254) 865-7117

225 Hwy. 36 N Bypass
Gatesville, Texas 76528
www.gatesvillerv.com

Local officials and services prepare for total eclipse

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH

Staff Writer
alex@gatesvillemessenger.com

The total solar eclipse that will pass directly through the center of Gatesville is nearly upon us, which means city officials and services throughout the community have been preparing for April 8.

As Gatesville will be a prime viewing location for travelers throughout the United States, the population will expect a sudden increase.

"This event has never occurred in Gatesville's recorded history and has the potential to be the biggest event our town has ever seen," Gatesville Police Chief Brad Hunt said. "It is an opportunity to shine for our city government, local businesses, and for all residents of Gatesville."

The centerline of the eclipse will pass directly through Gatesville and will be one of the longer durations of totality in the State of Texas, at 4 minutes, 23.9 seconds.

"We have conducted extensive research into the 2017 total eclipse that crossed

a smaller portion of the U.S., speaking to local and state governments in Wyoming and Illinois about their experiences," Hunt said. "We paid close attention to their lessons learned and have planned accordingly for the additional people coming to town, as well as the traffic issues we expect will occur."

"The lessons from 2017 taught us that, regardless of whether we hosted local events, people would come to town," Hunt said. "So, we began planning things for people to do on the day of the event and the weekend preceding it, to give our visitors a unique way to experience Gatesville."

The Gatesville Police Department and the City of Gatesville have made several statements regarding the eclipse about how a safe event equals a good event.

Hunt expressed that he expects greatly increased traffic through the weekend, with some delays likely.

"We have been planning for over a year and, now that we are less than four weeks away, we feel like we are more than ready for the day of the eclipse to arrive," Hunt said.

Hunt explained that the Gatesville Police Department is doubling their patrol presence the week of the eclipse as well as

working with area partners and nearby cities to plan for any potential emergencies, such as Coryell County Sheriff's Office, Fort Cavazos, Texas Department of Public Safety, and others.

The city has increased their workforce at both the police and fire departments in preparation for the increased number of people through the weekend and on April 8, as well as collaborating with local and state partners for some time to ensure that the community will have the resources necessary to provide services throughout the event.

The Gatesville Police Department is working with the Texas Department of Transportation and surrounding communities to prepare traffic control and public safety plans.

The biggest traffic concerns include congestion on U.S. Highway 84 and State Highway 36, two major highways utilized by emergency vehicles and that lead to larger cities like Waco and Temple.

He added that his team will remain in contact with local entities including the fire department, EMS, and law enforcement in the area.

Recommendations for citizens when it comes to preparing for severe traffic includes having a full tank of gas, carrying

I Got Lost



AND ENDED UP SOMEWHERE ELSE

SOMEWHERE ELSE BAR


ADULT BEVERAGES & FOOD

Mon. 3-9 p.m.
Tues.-Thurs. 3-10 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. 3 p.m.-1 a.m.
Sunday 2-9 p.m.

3109 S. State Hwy. 36
Gatesville
254-248-1446



Ages 21 & Up







Charles D. Jageler, TX Post 42

American Legion

214 Watts Lane, Gatesville • (254)865-4134
Mon.-Sat. 7am-9pm

Veterans & Active Duty Service Members Welcome

Must be at least 21 years old with I.D. No cover charge.



Window Tinting & Truck Accessories

Aloha is your one-stop shop for car, truck, and SUV parts.
We carry the largest inventory of:

- suspensions
- exhaust systems
- intake kits
- winches
- tires
- wheels
- CD players
- amplifiers
- speakers
- much more

All of our products are from the most popular and trusted brands in the electronics and off-road community.

SERVING CENTRAL TEXAS SINCE 2004

901 E. MAIN ST, GATESVILLE, TX • 254-865-4007

COPPERAS COVE: 254-542-8468 (TINT)

a tire repair kit and emergency supplies in the vehicle, and staying off the road during the evening of Monday, April 8.

“On Monday, April 8 from about 2 p.m. through the rest of the night, we expect drastic delays on all city streets and highways throughout our region,” Hunt said. “We are asking folks to pre-plan for significant delays on the afternoon of Monday, April 8.”

The Gatesville Police Department and the City of Gatesville are encouraging locals to sign up for Code Red Alerts to their cell phone, which is how pertinent information will be relayed about traffic or other topics.

The Code Red signup can be found on the city webpage at <https://www.gatesvilletx.com/>, under “How DO I?” tab.

The Gatesville Volunteer Fire Department, under the leadership of Chief Billy Vaden will be sure to have extra personnel on duty from Friday, April 5, to Tuesday, April 9.

A command post vehicle will be on standby during the downtown event on Saturday, April 6 and Sunday, April 7, as well as at the Sports Complex for the NASA event on Monday, April 8. The VFD will also be available to assist with any incident responses as needed.

The Gatesville VFD can be reached by contacting 254-865-6416.

The City of Gatesville Street Department Director Jim Shepard will have all per-

sonnel on duty from Friday, April 5, to Tuesday, April 9. The street department will have staging cones and barricades at various event locations from Friday, April 5, to Monday, April 8, as well as assisting with any incident responses as needed.

The Gatesville Parks and Recreation Department Director Seth Phillips will have all personnel on duty from Friday, April 5, to Tuesday, April 9. The department will be primarily monitoring the camping grounds at Faunt Le Roy Park from Friday, April 5, to Tuesday, April 9, while also checking on all other city parks during that timeframe. They will be assisting with the NASA event, which will be located at the Sports Complex on Monday, April 8, and with any incident responses as needed.

There will be clean-ups conducted at each city park throughout the month of March to prepare for the event in early April.

Water Distribution Directors Chad Newman and Zeb Veazy will make sure that all personnel are on duty from Friday, April 5, to Tuesday, April 9. Their main responsibility will be to monitor water usage throughout the community and to adjust any levels as needed with increased demand. Throughout the month of March, the water distribution team has been preparing systems for increased usage from Saturday, April 6, to Tuesday, April 9.

Bobby Buster, Director of the Water

Waste Department with the City of Gatesville, has made sure that all personnel will be on duty from Friday, April 5, to Tuesday, April 9. The department will mainly be focusing on the wastewater output and adjusting plant operations as needed with increased demand. Systems are being prepared during the month of March for increased usage from Saturday, April 6, to Tuesday, April 9.

Miguel Gamez with the Building Department is completing preparations at the City Auditorium for the NASA presentation, which expects high traffic.

Civic Manager Morgan Smart is coordinating with the Friends of the Public Library, city staff, the Gatesville Police Department, the parks, and the Gatesville Volunteer Fire Department, for the event to be held at the Sports Complex on Monday, April 8.

Director Shea Harp with the Gatesville Public Library is coordinating with the Friends of the Public Library to host an event at the Sports Complex on Monday, April 8. Harp will be assisting with the education and eclipse glasses distribution during the month of March as well leading up to the weekend event. She will be hosting the NASA presentation with Liam Finn at the City Auditorium on Saturday, April 6.

Nursing home Hillside Medical Lodge will have its parking lot entrance blocked off to all visitors except for the families of

the residents on Monday, April 8.

Police Chief Brad Hunt explained that lanes will be open for EMS services to travel to emergencies at Hillside Medical Lodge and RehabLiving at the Meadows.

For further details regarding the City of Gatesville’s preparations for the Total Eclipse, contact 254-865-8951.

Visit www.gatesvilletxeclipse.com for more information about Gatesville’s preparations for the eclipse.

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



Spur Solar Sales Event



106 S. Hwy. 36 Bypass N., Gatesville, TX 76528
Sales: 254-223-6252 | Service: 254-223-6451 | Parts: 254-223-6273



HILLSIDE

MEDICAL LODGE



REHABILITATION FOR POST-HOSPITAL STAY

Our skilled rehabilitation team provides personalized therapy for pain management, surgical recovery, mobility and balance as well as injury rehabilitation. We also provide long-term and respite care.

*For more information or to tour our state-of-the-art building,
call Director of Public Relations Susie Meelbusch at (254) 383-2307.*

**WE ACCEPT ALL INSURANCES, MEDICARE TRADITIONAL, MEDICARE
REPLACEMENT PLANS, MEDICAID, AND MEDICAID PENDING.**

300 S. Hwy. 36 Bypass | Gatesville, TX 76528 | www.hillside.ml.com

*Every dog
deserves to look
and feel its best!*



Helping you take care of your furry friends!

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

7:30AM-6PM

Thursday 8:30AM-6PM

Saturday 8:30-1PM

Contact us for details:

1412 W. Main, Gatesville • 254-865-8400

Full-Service Grooming

- Haircuts
 - Baths & Blowouts • Flea Dips
 - Nail Trims • Ear Cleaning
- Mobile Grooming Available

Dog Boarding

- Clean, Sanitized Facility
- Non-fear Color Kennels
- Climate Controlled
- Pet First Aid and CPR Certified Staff
- Potty Breaks and Playtime

We must have proof of vaccinations before grooming and boarding. Ask for details.

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.CANDYPETPALACE.COM

**YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS
ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EVENT!**

HBC
TEXAS BORN. TEXAS BUILT. SINCE 1881.
**HIGGINBOTHAM
BROTHERS**

**ECLIPSE
EXTRAVAGANZA**



**WE'RE GOING ALL OUT!
Door Prizes • Nipa Food Truck
Sheila's Beef Jerkey • Vendors
Flowers and Hanging Baskets**

(254) 865-8820

2533 South State Hwy. 36

Store Hours:

Monday-Friday 7:30 AM -6:00 PM

Saturday 8:00 AM -4:00 PM



Find us on
Facebook

Gatesville Public Library offers Total Eclipse glasses

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Public Library is offering three ways to get glasses for the Total Eclipse that will happen in April.

One way to obtain your pair of eclipse glasses would be to check out a space- or science-related book. There will be one pair per family while supplies last.

There will be a free NASA program called SYZYGY at the City Auditorium on Saturday, April 8. To get a pair of eclipse glasses, all you would need to do is attend the event. To reserve your spot in the program, visit gatesvilletxeclipse.com/SZY.

Another way would be to purchase a parking spot at the NASA event on Saturday, April 8. Once the parking space is purchased, be sure to present your parking receipt that morning to the staff to receive your pair of glasses. For parking reservations, visit gatesvilletxeclipse.com/eclipseviewing.

For further details, contact the Gatesville Public Library at 254-865-5367.

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



Buena Vista
EVANT TX.

SAFARI. CABINS. RV.

254-791-5441
1830 S. US HWY 281 EVANT, TX
WWW.BUENAVISTAWILDLIFESAFARI.COM

YOUR NEXT
ADVENTURE AWAITS!

What to expect during a total solar eclipse

BY KAYLEE DUSANG

Staff writer

kaylee@gatesvillemessenger.com

After months of waiting to catch the upcoming total solar eclipse, many people might wonder what they will experience when it finally arrives.

A total eclipse occurs when the earth, moon, and sun line up in space, leading to a several minutes of darkness when the moon blocks the sun. The development of a total eclipse occurs in several stages. According to NASA, the moon spends approximately one hour gradually covering the sun.

During the partial phases of the eclipse, people might notice shadows of small solar crescents on the ground. It is essential to use protective solar glasses during this

stage of the eclipse.

About 15 minutes before totality, the light will begin to change and grow darker. According to NASA, "The light may look eerie or strange. Even if it's cloudy and you can't see the sun, the skies will still grow darker."

The natural environment might also notice the gradual shift. This includes changes in wildlife behavior, such as birds and insects that act like night or dusk is approaching.

According to the Weather Channel, people could experience changes in the weather. During the 2017 total eclipse, many locations reported a 5 to 15 degrees drop in temperature and that the winds changed direction.

The weather can make a difference in the appearance of a total eclipse. If the skies are cloudy or rainy, it can obscure

the view. NASA recommends checking the weather before choosing a spot to watch the eclipse.

However, if the weather is clear, the moon's shadow will begin to become visible one to three minutes before the total eclipse. On clear, light-colored surfaces one might also notice "shadow bands" from the sun. NASA describes this phenomenon as light from the thin, crescent sun that "produces faint, rippling waves of light and dark."

Just before totality, the moon and sun will create a diamond ring effect called "Baily's Beads" where slivers of sunlight will shine through the valleys and craters of the moon.

Once the eclipse reaches totality, the sun's outer layer, known as the corona, will be visible from behind the moon. This is the only stage of the eclipse where it is

considered safe to remove eye protection.

One might also notice bright pink spots at the sun's edges. According to the San Francisco Exploratorium, these spots are large loops of plasma that rise from the sun's surface called "prominences."

Along with the covered sun, viewers might also notice bright stars, planets, and a glow known as a 360-degree sunset during totality.

While the length of total solar eclipses varies, the one on April 8 will last 4 minutes and 28 seconds max in places near the centerline of totality. The 2024 Great American Eclipse website says that the total eclipse first enters Texas near the Mexico border at 1:27 p.m. and leaves the Oklahoma and Arkansas border at 1:49 p.m.

For more information, visit science.nasa.gov/eclipses.



ECLIPSE TIMELINE

DIXON REALTY TEAM
POWERED BY
KELLER WILLIAMS
Your real estate agent for life!

254-493-8004

JANA DIXON CARPENTER, OWNER/BROKER
2510 S. Hwy. 36, Gatesville, TX 76528

EXCHANGE
THE EXCHANGE CLUB OF GATESVILLE, TX

Serving the Gatesville Community for 40 years with:
Community Service
Americanism & Veteran Projects
Prevention of Child Abuse

Join Exchange to **"Make A Difference"** in your Community!

 **Local Exchange Meetings**
Every Thursday
Junction 36 @ 7 a.m.

Local businesses prepare for total eclipse takeover

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH

Staff Writer

With the Total Eclipse upon us, businesses in Gatesville have been preparing for the chance to spotlight their establishments to welcome visitors during this celestial phenomenon.

As there are many restaurants and businesses within the community, The Gatesville Messenger has highlighted the ones that will stay open during this once in a lifetime event.

Studebakers Pizza will remain open all throughout the Total Eclipse weekend, as well as on the day of the eclipse on Monday, April 8.

On the day of the eclipse, there will be various specials for visitors and locals to enjoy and T-shirts will also be sold during that time.

A local, veteran-owned, family business, Studebakers prides itself on serving fresh homemade pizzas, salads, sub sandwiches, pastas, and a variety of ice cream and desserts.

Studebakers Pizza is located at 2701 East Main Street.

Ranchers Steak House & Grill will be open on the day of the Total Eclipse to serve their usual menu along with the salad bar.

This establishment has been in business since 1997 and is inspired by the everyday family cooking that locals grew up enjoying.

Ranchers Steak House & Grill is located at 107 TX-36 North.

The Feed Mill will be open during the weekend of the eclipse. On Sunday, April 7, it will be open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., and on Monday, April 8, from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. or possibly later depending on the outcome.

On the day of the eclipse, the restaurant will sell eclipse T-shirts and eclipse glasses as well as have an eclipse special.

"We are trying to order ahead for different things," Tana Snoddy, owner of Feed Mill said. "But then again, how do you order if you don't really know."

The establishment is preparing for the eclipse by ordering cups, food, and other necessities in advance.

The Feed Mill has been in operation since 2010 and continues to serve the community with homestyle cooking.

The Feed Mill is located at 108 North 6th Street.

Bare Bones BBQ will be open during the weekend of the Total Eclipse and will host a concert with a performance

by Stoney LaRue on Friday, April 5. The restaurant will open on the day of the eclipse on Monday, April 8.

There will be Total Eclipse glasses sold at Bare Bones BBQ as well.

Bare Bones BBQ is located at 4305 TX-36.

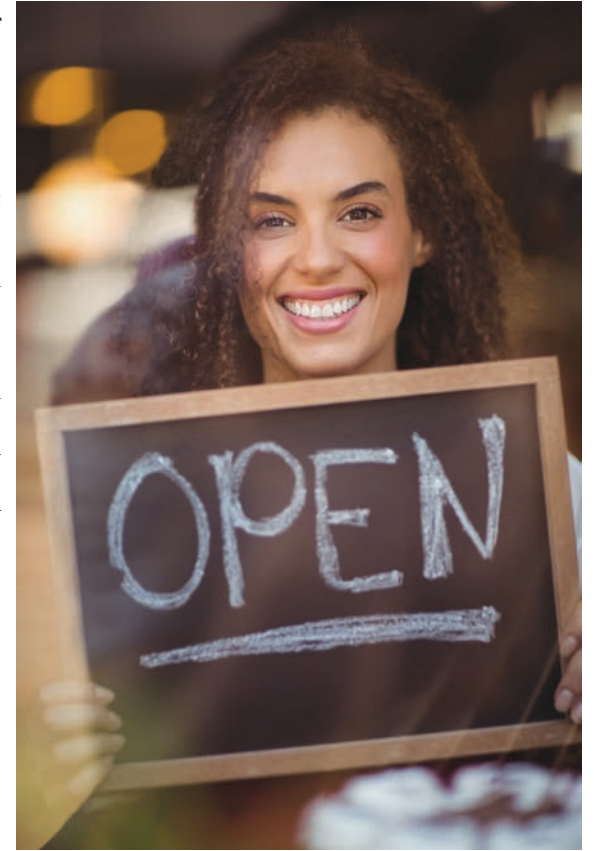
New Rodeo Mexican Grill will be open on the day of the eclipse on Monday, April 8.

They will be operating at normal hours.

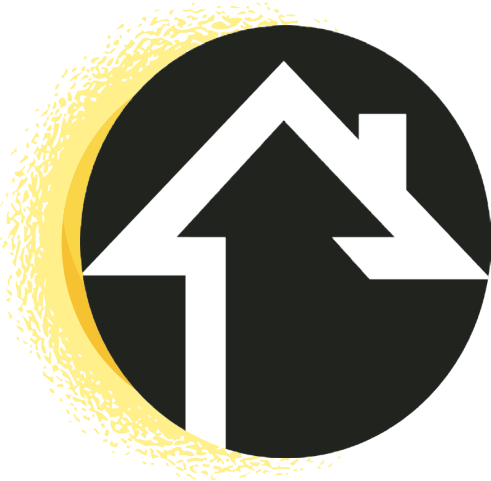
This establishment has been in business since 2013 and serves the community with authentic and traditional Mexican food.

New Rodeo Mexican Grill is located at 309 TX-36.

Visit www.gatesvilletxeclipse.com for more information about Gatesville's preparations for the eclipse.



HONOR. LOVE. SERVE. WORK.



The Heavens Declare God's....

PS 19:1 - GLORY

PS 50:6 - RIGHTEOUSNESS

PS 97:6 - RIGHTEOUSNESS

Kristi Roberts

Realtor, TX Broker/Owner, GRI, VLB, TAHS, PSA, President, On Point Realty, PLLC

714 E. LEON ST., GATESVILLE, TX 76528 | 254-248-1212

WWW.ON-POINT-REALTY.COM

ON POINT
REALTY



HOMETOWN PROFESSIONAL SERVICE FOR MORE THAN 18 YEARS!



EL TAPATIO
Mexican Restaurant

#2

1509 E. Main St., Gatesville, TX 76528
254-865-8039




We're excited to celebrate the

Eclipse

We love our community and are happy to be one of Gatesville's small businesses for 27 years. We welcome Gatesville's growth and any events that showcase how great our town is.

CHEVI'S



CHOP SHOP

~ Since 2018 ~

ON THE SQUARE:
103-B S. 7th St.
Gatesville • 254-248-3035

SPUR NUTRITION

Healthy Shakes & Energizing Drinks

103 S. 7th St., Gatesville, TX Phone #



Open Mon.-Fri. 6 a.m.-2 p.m. & Sat. 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Quality Fences for Security & Style

Barbed Wire | Custom Pipe | Entryways
Residential | Game Fencing | Solar Gates
Corrals | Barns | Dozing | Metal Buildings

R & M Fencing & Dozing

Free Estimates

Larry Riddle Joyce McAdams
254-248-2205 254-248-4318





BEAR

Real Estate Services
405 E. 3rd St., Lampasas, Texas

Residential * Farm & Ranch * Commercial

www.BuyTexas.net
512-556-9321

Serving Coryell, Lampasas, Burnet and Surrounding Counties

 Audrey Bear, Broker 512-525-9321 



Serving Coryell and surrounding counties

A FREEDOM BAIL BONDS

Financing Available
Payment Plans
Lowest Rates In Town!

120 S. 6th Street
Gatesville, TX 76528
Located In Front Of The Jail

24 HOUR SERVICE 254-865-5222
888-333-0468

Local road closures during eclipse

BY DAVID SCOTT

Staff Writer

david@gatesvillemessenger.com

Texas officials are beginning to warn Texas drivers about the major traffic surge during the total solar eclipse.

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is forecasting major congestion along the path of the eclipse in the days before, during, and after the moon completely blocks out the view of the sun.

This warning also applies to the City of Gatesville, which estimates a great number of visitors to the city and the county.

Gatesville Chief of Police, Brad Hunt, said that on Friday, April 5, through Tuesday, April 9, access to Faut Le Roy Park will be limited, to allow for camping at the park.

Hunt also stated that on Saturday, April 6, and Sunday, April 7, the only roads that will be closed will be around the courthouse square, in the same manner as they are closed for such events as Boozaar and Spur Fest.

Hunt also added that on the day of the eclipse, April 8th, the only roads in town that will be closed, potentially, are around the GISD campus. Lovers Lane will be open

from about 9 a.m. through the rest of the day, while the other campus-bordering roads, Hornet Way and 27th Street will be controlled access for the event only.

He also stated that vehicle access to the Gatesville Sports Complex and Civic Center will be limited to those who pre-purchased parking passes, though access to the fields themselves will not require any additional entry fee.

In addition, Hunt also mentioned that "US 84 and Hwy. 36, and all major TxDOT highways and FM roads will not be closed, but we've been advising folks that it will be difficult to traverse throughout the weekend, and it will likely be stop and go for several hours on the afternoon of April 8th."

During the last solar eclipse in 2017, extensive traffic jams were reported throughout the country in the days leading up to the event. According to TxDOT, some areas in Texas saw up to a 200 percent increase in traffic.

ADVICE GIVEN BY TXDOT FOR THE ECLIPSE INCLUDE:

- Expect heavy traffic and sudden stops by drivers.
- Be on alert for distracted pedestrians looking to the sky.



COURTESY PHOTO

April 6 April 7, the only roads that will be closed will be around the courthouse square

- Keep your headlights on while driving, even in the daylight.
- Do not wear eclipse glasses while driving.
- Always keep your eyes on the road. Only view the eclipse once safely parked away from the flow of traffic.

TxDOT also offered one other piece of advice - eclipse watchers should wait a

day or two before traveling back as the heaviest traffic is likely to occur just after totality ends. Heading to less densely populated cities along major highways, sacrificing a few seconds or minutes of totality at a less busy location could also be worthwhile for drivers.

For more information about road closures, contact the Gatesville Police Department at 254-865-2226.

The ultimate farm tool is ready to be yours.



M Series 57.9-141.4 Gross HP

Kubota Together we do more.

From the M60 to the M6, the Kubota M Series is part of our tractor lineup rated #1 for durability and owner experience in the U.S. as awarded by Progressive Farmer.* Available right now for a great deal.

\$0 DOWN 0% APR UP TO 48 MONTHS

VISIT US TODAY FOR THIS LIMITED-TIME OFFER

Kubota

MOORE'S SERVICE CENTER
HIGHWAY 84 EAST
STAR, TEXAS 76880
325-948-3595
www.moore-service-center.com

*Award based on 2021 Progressive Farmer Reader Insights Tractor Study. © Kubota Tractor Corporation, 2024. \$0 Down, 0% A.P.R. financing for up to 48 months on purchases of the new M60 and M4 equipment and \$0 Down, 0% A.P.R. financing for up to 48 months on purchases of M5, M6 and M6s Series equipment from participating dealers' in-stock inventory is available to qualified purchasers through Kubota Credit Corporation, U.S.A.; subject to credit approval. Example: 48 monthly payments of \$20.83 per \$1,000 financed. Offers expire 03/31/24. Terms subject to change. This material is for descriptive purposes only. Kubota disclaims all representations and warranties, express or implied, or any liability from the use of this material. For complete warranty, disclaimer, safety, incentive offer and product information, consult your Dealer or KubotaUSA.com.

DELIVERY AVAILABLE

WHITT

Building Supplies

FREE ESTIMATES

We offer a complete line of metal building systems plus a wide range of building materials.

METAL ROOFS • METAL BUILDINGS • FENCING SUPPLIES

SCREWS
INSULATION
SAKRETE
CULVERTS
REBAR

I BEAM
FLATBAR
CHANNEL
SLICK ROD
SQUARE TUBING

ANGLE IRON
RECTANGLE TUBING
PURLIN • PIPE
SUCKER ROD
CATTLE PANELS

BARBED WIRE
NET WIRE
PLUMBING SUPPLIES
ROLL UP DOORS
WALK THRU DOORS

Give us a call for all your project needs, large or small!

1411 N. Hwy. 36 Bypass | Gatesville, Texas 76528

254-865-2190

Locally Owned & Operated
Brandon Latham | Brandon@wbsupplies.com

“God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with Him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin.” 1 John 1:5-7



*Pastor Matthew, Michelle and McKinley
invite you to join us at*

Live Oak Baptist Church

Sundays

Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.
Worship at 10:30 am.

Wednesdays

Meal for Students at 5:45 pm
Children & Youth Activities at 6:15 pm
Adult Bible Study at 6:15 pm
Choir at 5:30 pm

Pastor: Matthew Hamilton | 113 FM 107, Gatesville, TX 76528 | (254) 865-5681

How will animals behave during the total solar eclipse?

BY KAYLEE DUSANG

Staff writer

kaylee@gatesvillemessenger.com

While a total solar eclipse is an exciting experience for humans, many scientists and members of the public are preparing to capture how animals will also react to the rare event.

During previous eclipses, some viewers have reported that unusual animal and insect behavior occurs once the moon passes over the sun, including claims that crickets begin to chirp, bees return to their hives, and birds fall silent. Although there is only a handful of research on the topic, a study published in the journal *Animals* found that approximately 75% of observed species at a zoo in South Carolina exhibited surprising behaviors during the Great American Eclipse in 2017.

Professor Adam Hartstone-Rose, a professor at North Carolina State University who led the study, said his team observed that many animals, including a troop of gorillas, started to engage in their nighttime routines.

“As totality set in, they started going toward their nighttime enclosure where they get their meal before they go to bed,” Hartstone-Rose said. As daylight resumed, he adds that the gorillas came back out of their enclosure.

Other animals had strange reactions to the eclipse, such as Siamang gibbons, a species of ape, that made unusual calls to each other and Galapagos tortoises that started breeding. Giraffes also galloped in what seemed like “pacing behavior” caused by stress or anxiety.

In April, Hartstone-Rose and his team will travel to the Fort Worth Zoo to learn if their research is consistent with their findings in 2017. For this study, they are enlisting help from the public by asking participants to observe animals not only at their local zoos, but also wildlife out in nature, farm animals, and pets. Known as the Solar Eclipse Safari project, willing participants can submit their observations via phone, tablet, or data collection sheets located on the project’s website.

“We are also really interested in data that’s collected not just on the path of totality, but also in any place in North America, because one of the questions that we have is – we’re building an idea that some animals have a reaction to an eclipse,” Hartstone-Rose said. “We’re

building an idea of how different animals react to an eclipse, but we’re hoping to gather enough data to be able to say what amount of eclipse is necessary to cause a behavioral change.”

Other citizen science projects include NASA’s Eclipse Soundscapes, which aims to collect sounds and sensory observations from the public to find how an eclipse might affect various ecosystems.

“Eclipses have always presented scientists with unique opportunities to learn about our solar system,” MaryKay Severino, co-lead of the Eclipse Soundscapes Project, said in a press release. “The Eclipse Soundscapes Project is not only an opportunity for NASA to gather a large amount of scientific data, it’s an opportunity for our participants to learn about the eclipse in a multi-sensory manner.”

Both projects stem from a study in the 1930s that also used public observations to reveal how an eclipse might affect wildlife.

With areas throughout Central and North Texas expected to experience several minutes of totality, many regional wildlife reserves and zoos plan to do their own observations on how animals in their parks will respond to the total eclipse.

Avery Elander, a spokesperson for the Fort Worth Zoo, said that the zoo is open to the public on April 8. Visitors are also invited to submit their observations to Hartstone-Rose’s research team.

“We expect that if changes in behavior are observed, they will likely be animals behaving like they typically would at dawn or dusk such as nest building, change in vocalizations, increased activity/feeding, or moving toward their overnight barns,” Elander said.

Director of the Cameron Park Zoo in Waco, Brendan Wiley, said they plan to closely watch the behavior of the elephants and orangutans.

“Both of those species are incredibly intelligent and perceptive, so we are naturally curious to see how they react,” Wiley

said.

Wiley adds that the zoo has a group of 200-300 wild black vultures that visit the facility during the day but depart once evening approaches.

“(We’re) curious to see if they make an early departure,” he said.

Jake Mayhew, the ranch manager for Buena Vista Wildlife Safari in Evant, said they intend to conduct some visual observations of their animals.

“Most animals are fairly based on how the sun comes up – sun phases and moon phases and things like that because that’s how they feed,” Mayhew said. “And they’re not used to sudden darkness, and that alarms them, in my opinion, is what I think happens.”

Fossil Rim Wildlife Center in Glen

Rose hopes to participate in the Eclipse Soundscapes Project by recording animal sounds with an audio device during the eclipse.

“The goal would be to help contribute to the NASA (Soundscape) project,” said Warren Lewis, Chief Marketing Officer for Fossil Rim. “We would place it in our wolf area to see how our wolves react to the eclipse.”

For those interested in helping scientists study animal behavior or how nature responds during the total solar eclipse, visit Solar Eclipse Safari at scistarter.org/solar-eclipse-safari-resources or the Eclipse Soundscapes Project at eclipse-soundscapes.org.



COURTESY PHOTO

During previous eclipses, some viewers have reported that unusual animal and insect behavior occurs once the moon passes over the sun, including claims that crickets begin to chirp, bees return to their hives, and birds fall silent.

Public Library offers free Total Eclipse glasses

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH

Staff Writer
alex@gatesvillemessenger.com

In light of the Total Eclipse which will arrive in early April, the Gatesville Public Library is offering free eclipse glasses with three different ways to obtain them.

By checking out a book at the library that is space or science-related, one pair of glasses will be given per family while supplies last.

Another way to get a pair of eclipse glasses is to attend the SYZYGY presentation on Saturday, April 6, at the City Auditorium.

If you are an astronomy enthusiast or simply curious about rare astronomical events, then this will be an informative event to attend. The presentation will feature NASA Ambassador Liam Finn who will dive into the details of the eclipse, examining the path and characteristics, as well as exploring the science behind the occurrence.

The audience will learn about the features of each type of eclipse and what you can expect to see during each one. There will be discussions about how modern science has advanced our understanding of celestial events.

There will be safety tips provided at the presentation as well.

For further details regarding the SYZYGY event, visit gatesvillexclipse.com/SZY.

The final option to obtain a pair of glasses is to purchase a parking spot at the Gatesville Civic Center/Sports Complex for the NASA event on Saturday, April 8.

The area will feature open space for unobscured viewing, public restrooms, food/merchandise, vendors, and NASA Ambassadors providing information/education on the baseball field.

Chairs, telescopes, cameras, and coolers will be allowed.

Parking spaces can be reserved beginning at 6 a.m. on the day of the eclipse. Pre-purchase of a parking space assures you a legal and safe area to park and observe, as there is ample space to move around the grounds and set up your own viewing spot.

Parking Passes cover all occupants of a standard vehicle such as a car, a pickup, or an SUV, although oversized vehicles, which include buses, recreational vehicles, or commercial trucks should email sharp@gatesvillex.com to make arrangements for a larger space.

Once the parking space is purchased, present your parking receipt that morning to the staff to receive your pair of glasses.

Be sure to save your receipt as proof of purchase, and an email will also be sent out with more details and reminders around a week before the day of the eclipse.

For parking reservations, visit gatesvillexclipse.com/eclipseviewing.

For further details, contact the Gatesville Public Library at 254-865-5367.

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

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

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



ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Pictured is Librarian Shea Harp with the Gatesville Public Library wearing the eclipse glasses that can be obtained by various ways through the establishment.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Mother Neff State Park Superintendent Melissa Chadwick displays some of the eclipse items including t-shirts and eclipse glasses that will be on sale in the park's visitor center.

Mother Neff State Park at capacity for eclipse

BY DAVID SCOTT

Staff Writer
david@gatesvillemessenger.com

Mother Neff State Park, located in the southeastern portion of Coryell County, will be one of the 31 state parks in the direct path experiencing the total solar eclipse on April 8th.

According to Mother Neff State Park Superintendent, Melissa Chadwick, no special events will be held at the park on the day of the total eclipse, although she stated that all campsites at the park have been reserved for several months. "Not as much for overnight rentals," she said.

Chadwick reported that approximately 15 campsites had been previously rented with a few that were set aside for park staff and emergency vehicles. She also mentioned that additional park security would be needed on the day of the eclipse.

According to Texas Parks and Wildlife, it is recommended to head to your designated park early to allow for heavy traffic. It is also recommended to fuel up your vehicle before coming to the park in case of traffic delays.

Chadwick stated that the "day permits" to the park became available to the public on March 8th at 8 a.m., and that in less than an hour, the day permits were sold out, which numbered 70 in total.

Mother Neff Park has approximately 90 parking places available, then again, with some set aside for staff and law enforcement officers.

"We expect to be very busy on April 8th and for several days prior to the eclipse. Additional staff, volunteers, and the first responders will be on hand to assist with the larger-than-normal visitation we are anticipating," Chadwick said.

Regarding food and water, she said, "We have asked our vending machine vendors to have items fully stocked, and there may be other items available for donations that would benefit the Mother Neff State Park Association."

"We recommend that folks check availability before heading out to any park on that day as capacity limits may be reached," she said. Texas Parks and Wildlife officials reminded park visitors that, following the eclipse, you may not be able to leave quickly, so be sure to stock up on food and drinks in case your departure is delayed by traffic.

"We are certainly looking forward to the eclipse and creating stellar memories with our visitors that will last a lifetime," Chadwick said.

For more information about Mother Neff State Park, please call 254-853-2389.

Solar Eclipses in former years

BY DAVID SCOTT

Staff Writer

david@gatesvillemessenger.com

Since day one, Texas has witnessed numerous solar eclipses.

In most recent years, it was reported in The Gatesville Messenger on March 5, 1970, that a “100-mile shadow will darken the face of the earth.” The article continued, “The largest area of the covered sun to be seen in Texas is 73.5 percent, according to the U.S. Air Force Cambridge Research Laboratory.”

In 1970, it was reported that in Gatesville the eclipse would be “lasting for more than two hours, the moon will appear to leave the surface of the sun, and the eclipse will end at 1:13 p.m.”

Also reported in the 1970 Gatesville Messenger article was that the last visible total solar eclipse in the United States had occurred in 1963, and the next total eclipse would be visible on April 8, 2024.

Once again, in 1979, The Gatesville Messenger reported another eclipse notice. “A few Gatesvilleites paused long enough in their daily doings to gaze up

into the sky. Those that did noticed something was eating the sun. What it was, was a solar eclipse.” The article continued, “Bob Scott didn’t miss it as he gazed through two exposed negatives, and Bill Herridge also took pictures constructed by a device for viewing the eclipse.”

In 1984, it was reported that Waldean Cummings, secretary of the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce, took a glimpse at the shadowed pattern of the sun as the moon separated the earth’s path from the sun causing the eclipse. An article written about the 1984 eclipse stated that “The only notable change in the sunlight was a hazy, subdued sky as the sun was only partially blocked (approximately 80%), leaving a lighted area resembling a quarter moon.”

It was also reported in 1984 that on-lookers viewed the phenomenon through welder’s helmets which were supplied by Raymond Massirer and Mike Blanchard.

Over the years, Texas has witnessed many solar eclipses, one of which, in 1878, acclaimed national attention.

In July of 1878, a group of astronomers from across the United States descend-



COURTESY PHOTO

Astronomers and their equipment set up on a farm near Fort Worth to observe the 1878 solar eclipse.

ed on a small farm just outside of Fort Worth to study and photograph a total solar eclipse. The astronomers’ discoveries were eventually published in 1879 in a book titled “Report of the Observations of the Total Solar Eclipse July 29, 1878, Made at Fort Worth, Texas.”

One of the earliest eclipses in Texas was estimated to be in the year 1397 – 626

years ago in the region now known as our state capital in Austin.

After April 8, 2024, the next solar eclipse to be witnessed in Texas will be in August of 2044.



**COMMEMORATE THE UNFORGETTABLE
ECLIPSE EVENT WITH A SPECIAL
“ECLIPSE EDITION” 1oz FINE SILVER ROUND**

716 E. LEON ST., GATESVILLE, TX 76528 • (512) 810-1002 • CBGOLDLLC.com

Where to view the 2024 Great American Eclipse

BY KAYLEE DUSANG

Staff writer

kaylee@gatesvillemessenger.com

On April 8, Gatesville will witness 4 minutes and 23.9 seconds of a total solar eclipse. Because this rare occurrence will not cross North America again until 2044, viewers will want to find the best spot to witness the historic event.

For those seeking a place to watch the total eclipse with friends, family, and their community, here's a list of events and watch parties happening in and around Gatesville on the day of the eclipse:

GATESVILLE SPORTS COMPLEX

Visitors and residents are invited to view the eclipse from Hyles Field where NASA ambassadors will bring their equipment and interact with the public. Friends of the Gatesville Public Library will offer paid parking at the Gatesville Civic Center and the Sports Complex parking lots beginning at 7 a.m. Chairs, telescopes, cameras, and coolers are allowed.

Reserve a parking space at gatesvilletxeclipse.com/eclipseviewing

MCKAMIE STADIUM

Gatesville Independent School District will host an eclipse watch party at McKamie Stadium. The event will include food, games, and eclipse information. Stadium gates open at 8 a.m. with activities starting at 9 a.m.

Tickets cost \$10 for adults and \$5 for children two years and older. Pricing includes parking plus a pair of protective solar eclipse glasses. Purchase tickets here: gatesvilleisd.revtrak.net/administration

Eclipse at the Crosses

Coryell Community Church is holding a free eclipse viewing event in their parking lot from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event includes food trucks, games, entertainment, worship, and more. While parking is free, the church asks attendees to reserve a parking spot.

Reserve a parking space here: <https://subsplash.com/coryellcommunitychurch/lb/ev/+kgw7326>

THE LAST DRIVE-IN PICTURE SHOW

Witness the total eclipse at The Last Drive-In Picture Show located off 2912

PLEASE SEE **ECLIPSE** | 23



MEXICAN GRILL & RODEO
New

TO-GO MARGARITAS

309 S. Hwy. 36
Gatesville, TX
(254) 248-0059

Come have a Margarita for the Eclipse!
Sun.-Wed. 6a.m.-10p.m. & Thurs.-Sat. 6a.m.-10:30p.m.



Shop with us for your Eclipse celebration!

HILL TOP LIQUOR

HENRY SUN, MANAGER
(254) 865-7007
3305 S. HWY. 36, GATESVILLE **MON.-SAT. 10AM-9PM**

YOUR ONE-STOP SHOP FOR ALL OF YOUR OUTDOOR POWER EQUIPMENT SALES AND SERVICE NEEDS.

HILLSIDE OUTDOORS



ECHO **HUSTLER** **CID**

EQUIPMENT SALES, RENTALS AND SERVICE
102 FM 107, Gatesville • 254-865-1000 • www.hillside-outdoors.com



LA TIENDITA

A FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED NEIGHBORHOOD CONVENIENCE STORE

BEER • LOTTO • TOBACCO • GIFTS
MEXICAN POPCICLES, CANDY & TREATS

2107 E. Main Street, Gatesville, TX • (254) 248-1112

Coryell Health total solar eclipse trips to be safe

Submitted item

The last time Texas experienced a total solar eclipse was in 1878. On Monday, April 8th, Central Texans will have the chance to witness the moon passing between the sun and the Earth for the first time in 146 years.

Viewing this once-in-a-lifetime event without proper protection can cause permanent eye damage, harm your skin and more. Follow Coryell Health's seven tips to prepare for and stay safe during this year's total solar eclipse. To download and print these eclipse safety tips, click here.

WEAR ECLIPSE GLASSES

Wearing eclipse glasses during a total solar eclipse is one of the most effective ways to shield your eyes from the sun's rays and avoid permanent damage to your vision. Regular sunglasses are not dark enough to protect your eyes during an eclipse.

Your eclipse glasses should meet the ISO 12312-2 standard and be labeled accordingly. If you don't see the ISO

12312-2 label anywhere on your glasses, they're probably counterfeit and are unsafe to wear during an eclipse. As long as they're shade 14 or darker, welding glasses or welding hoods can be a safe alternative to eclipse glasses. Don't view the eclipse through any welding glass if you can't find its shade number.

The only time it's safe to directly look at the sun during a total solar eclipse is during totality, or when the moon completely blocks the face of the sun. During the rest of the eclipse, wear proper eye protection!

PLACE SOLAR FILTERS ON YOUR CAMERA, BINOCULARS OR TELESCOPE

You must secure a solar filter over your camera, binoculars, telescope or other viewing device, even if you're wearing eclipse glasses.

Wearing eclipse glasses while looking through a viewing device will cause serious damage to your eyes if there's no solar filter attached to the lens. The concentration of the sun's rays may burn through your eclipse glasses as you're looking through the viewfinder and cause severe eye injury.

Remove the solar filter from your camera lens during totality if you're photo-

graphing the total solar eclipse. As soon as the sun begins to come into view again, place your solar filter back on your lens and put your eye protection back on.

PROTECT YOUR SKIN, TOO!

When viewing a total solar eclipse, it's critical to wear sunscreen, a hat and other protective clothing. If you're watching the entire eclipse, you may be in direct sunlight for hours, and it's essential to cover up while drinking plenty of water.

Even though the sun is partially or completely covered during the phases of a total solar eclipse, that doesn't make the sun's rays any less dangerous for your skin.

ANTICIPATE TRAFFIC

Expect heavy traffic from Thursday, April 4th to Tuesday, April 9th (especially April 8th, the day of the eclipse). Schedule any appointments, grocery shopping or gas runs accordingly. Plan ahead so you don't have to travel to errands or appointments during this period.

The nation's last total solar eclipse in 2017 saw traffic congestion in some areas lasting up to 13 hours following the eclipse's totality. According to an analysis of traffic patterns from that year, the worst traffic tends to be after the eclipse ends, and many people are attempting to leave all at once. With this in mind,

PREPARE FOR SUPPLY SHORTAGES

Stock up on the essentials before the anticipated traffic hikes starting April 4th. Fill up your tank and purchase food, wa-

ter, toiletries and other supplies at least a few days before the eclipse on April 8th. If you have any maintenance medications in need of refill, it's best to plan ahead and make sure you are well-supplied before this event.

BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS

The world doesn't stop turning while a total solar eclipse is happening. Most people's attention will be up at the sky rather than where they're walking or driving, so you've got to be aware of your surroundings.

Thousands of visitors are expected to be heading to Central Texas to watch the eclipse. It's important to focus, especially if finding your eclipse viewing spot involves navigating a large group of people.

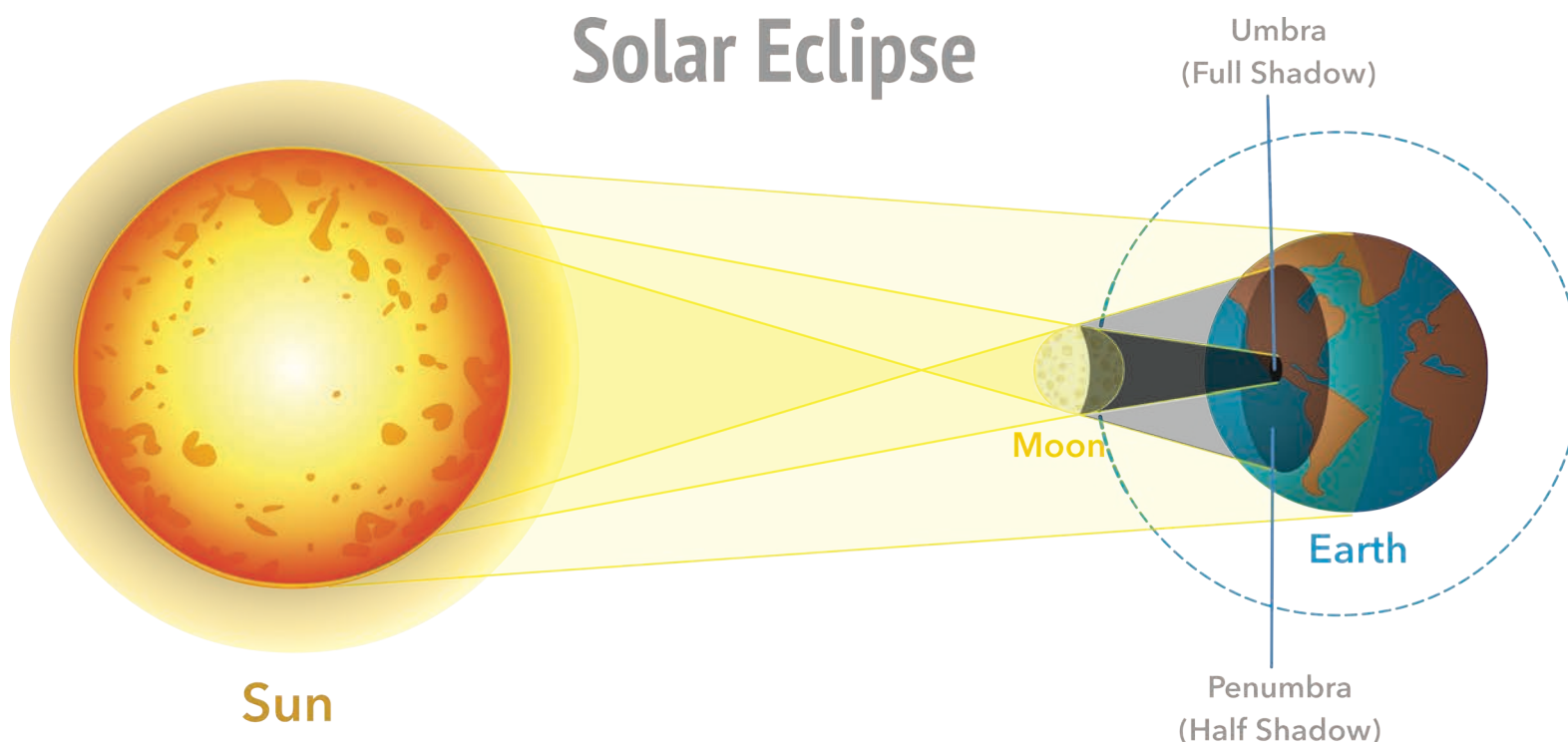
EMERGENCY SERVICES IN THE EVENT OF EYE DAMAGE

If you or someone with you suffers eye damage from the total solar eclipse, seek prompt medical attention. If you're in Gatesville, you can contact Coryell Health's emergency department at (254) 865-8251.

For more serious injuries, call 911. By following these tips, you're set to safely enjoy this year's total solar eclipse on Monday, April 8th! For more health and wellness tips, contact your Coryell Health primary care physician.



Solar Eclipse



How the Eclipse works and what causes an eclipse to occur.

**WARNING: This product contains
nicotine derived from tobacco.
Nicotine is an addictive chemical.**



Phone: 254-865-7200
101 S. 7th St.
Gatesville, TX 76528

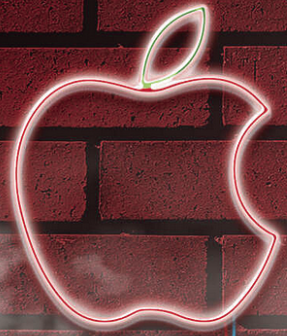
Tiffany Phipps
Owner

Kratom

**Looking forward to seeing you all at the
Block Out The Sun Party on the downtown square!**

Ages 21+





RED APPLE SMOKE SHOP

WHERE SMOKING
BECOMES AN ART



DISPOSABLES FOR
YOUR MOOD

**VAPES • CIGARS • HEMP PRODUCTS • E-CIG
JUICES • KRATOMS • EDIBLES • VAPORIZERS
MODS • NOVELTIES • MUCH MORE**



RED APPLE
SMOKESHOP



2324 BUS HWY. 36, STE. B, GATESVILLE, TX 76528



HOWDY
SMOKE & VAPE

1101 WEST MAIN ST., GATESVILLE, TX 76528

WWW.REDAPPLETX.US

21 & OLDER

ECLIPSE

FROM PAGE 19

State Highway 36. The watch party will feature food, mini golf, eclipse swag, and other activities. Gates will open at 10 a.m.

Each ticket includes premium parking for one vehicle with up to six passengers and two pairs of eclipse glasses for \$24.24. Tickets are available through The Last Drive-In Picture Show's Facebook page.

HIGGINBOTHAM BROTHERS

Higginbotham Brothers will open their doors for an eclipse extravaganza that includes food trucks, door prizes, vendors, with flowers and hanging baskets for sale.

Store hours are 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information, visit Gatesville's Higginbotham Brothers Facebook page.

For those hoping to catch the eclipse farther away from town, several local ranches and parks are also holding events, including:

6S RIVER RANCH

6S River Ranch on Old Georgetown Road is offering activities throughout the weekend of the eclipse, but visitors can also purchase day-of eclipse passes. The ranch will provide a variety of entertainment and food options, including live music, BBQ and other food vendors, horseback riding, fishing, and more.

Eclipse glasses and parking are included in ticket pricing. Search "Solar Eclipse

Viewing at 6S River Ranch" on Eventbrite.com to purchase weekend or day passes.

DOVE NEST ESTATE

The Dove Nest Estate event venue on County Road 342 will host camping and activities throughout the weekend of the eclipse. Events on Sunday, April 7 and Monday, April 8 will include music, food, lawn games, and movies. The venue also allows guests to bring their ATVs or offroad vehicles to explore over 15 miles of trails on the property.

Daily passes are \$10. Visit Eventbrite.com and search for "Solar Eclipse Party at Dove Nest Estate" to purchase tickets and for more information on lodging and camping options.

LANDJRANCH

LandJRanch on King Ranch Road will host campers throughout the weekend and welcomes day-of-eclipse visitors. Activities include live music, volleyball, fishing, corn hole, food trucks, and more.

Day passes are available for \$20 when purchased in advance or \$25 when purchased the weekend of April 6-8.

Search for "LandJRanch 2024 Solar Eclipse Party" at Eventbrite.com to purchase passes or reserve a camping spot.

Totality will begin around 1:36 p.m. To ensure you don't miss the total eclipse, an interactive map showing its direct path through the region can also be found on coryellcounty.org.



#1
1509 W. Main St.
Gatesville, TX 76528
254-865-5726

EL TAPATIO

MEXICAN RESTAURANT & TAQUERIA



PRUITT'S

Lotto - Food - Gas
BREAKFAST: 5A.M.-10A.M.
LUNCH: 9A.M.-2P.M.

Drive-Thru Beer Barn
SUN.-WED. OPEN AT NOON
THURS.-SAT. OPEN AT 10AM

Hwy. 36 & FM 929, Gatesville, TX (Next to TDCJ) • 254-865-5602

PROUDLY SERVING GATESVILLE SINCE 1971



**FULL SERVICE OIL CHANGES • ALIGNMENTS
BRAKES • DIAGNOSTICS • MORE**



2201 East Main St., Gatesville, TX 76528
Monday - Friday: 7:30am - 5:00pm



WWW.POCOAUTO.COM

Eclipse at the Crosses

BY DAVID SCOTT

Staff Writer

david@gatesvillemessenger.com

Coryell Community Church is planning to have a free event, Eclipse at the Crosses, which will be open to the public, on Monday, April 8, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. to view the solar eclipse in its totality.

“We started discussing the possibility of having this kind of event approximately a year ago when we realized the possibility of how many people were going to be in Gatesville. We immediately saw this as an opportunity to provide our community (and guests) with a family-centered environment to enjoy the eclipse. Our staff and elders have been working to prepare for the big day,” said CCC pastor, Dr. Eric Moffett.

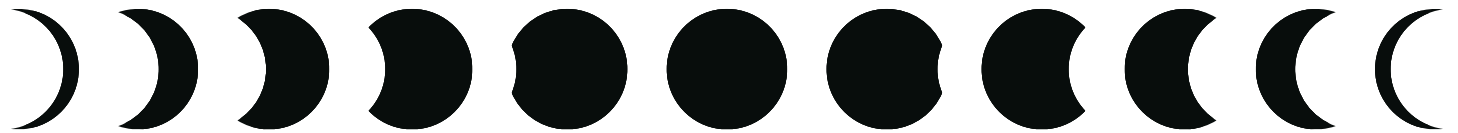
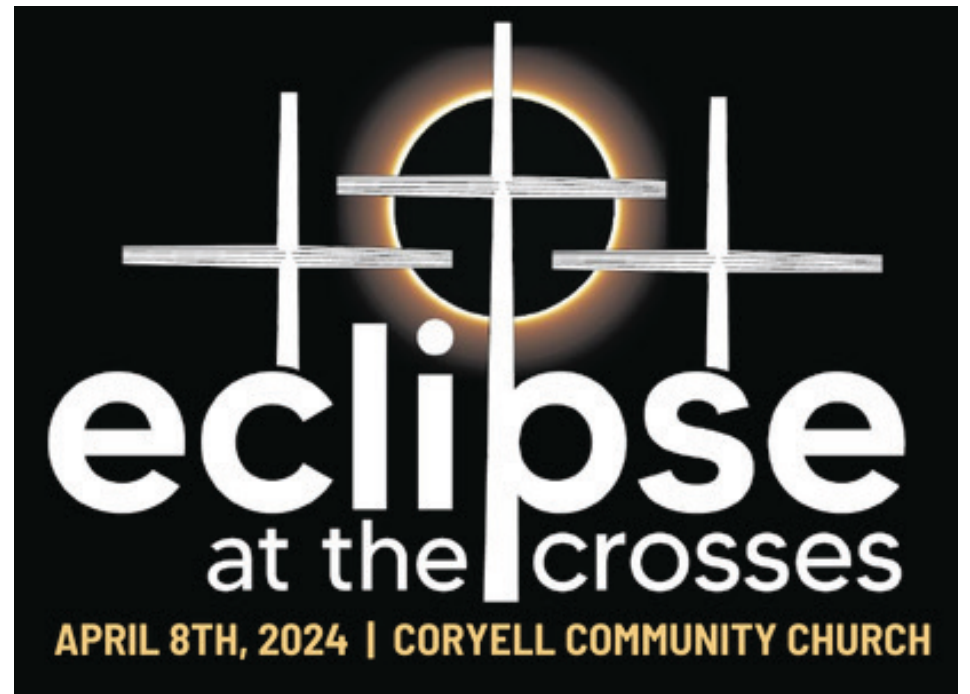
“We have 250 parking spots on our campus and right now and we have about 115 spots that are still open. The parking spots are free to reserve, and you can do so by going to www.coryell.church/events. We also have 1,000 free eclipse glasses that we will give out on the day of as well,” he said.

The event, beginning at 10 a.m., will

have corn hole, horseshoes, and GaGa ball. According to Moffett, the church’s worship team will be on hand to lead in worship prior to the time of the eclipse. Also, Christian comedian, Adam Bush, will be doing a set for those in attendance. In addition, there will be food trucks available on site.

The church playground will also be available for the children present. The CCC youth group will be helping through the day with the games.

“The eclipse is a unique opportunity for Coryell Community Church to share what we have with our community and with those visiting. We think that our campus is a beautiful and meaningful place in which to view this incredible event,” Moffett said.



THE PARROT IMPORTS

107 N. 24th St., Gatesville, TX 76528

Traditional & Rustic Home Furnishings
for every room in your home.



Phone: 254-248-1815 www.parrotgatesville.com

- ★ Pottery/Outdoor furniture & decor
- ★ New furniture
- ★ Home decor
- ★ Accent pieces
- ★ Area rugs
- ★ Cowhides
- ★ Dinnerware
- ★ Complimentary interior decorating tips

