



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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Over \$7K raised to benefit Summer Reading Program

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Friends of the Gatesville Public Library organization recently conducted a fundraiser in conjunction with the solar eclipse and managed to collect over \$6,000 for the public library. The group sold about 250 parking spaces at the Gatesville Civic Center for those wishing to view the eclipse and to see the telescopes brought in by NASA Ambassador Liam Finn. The parking fees, costing \$20 per space, totaled \$6,724.57

along with other donations amounting to \$456, brought in \$7,015.57 for the Gatesville Public Library.

According to library director, Shea Harp, the money raised by the Friends of the Gatesville Public Library will be used for their Summer Reading Program for children.

"Thanks to the community and city departments helping and volunteering, we couldn't have done it without them. We have more planning to do and

sponsorships to gather for the summer," Harp said. The library will release the Summer Reading Program schedule on May 1.

The Friends of the Gatesville Public Library was formed in 1961 by a group of citizens who believed that "a good public library is important to the growth and development of a community." The organization hopes to support the library by stimulating interest in the Gatesville community as well as in Coryell County.

SOLAR ECLIPSE LEAVES SPECTATORS IN AWE



ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Gatesville visitors from Minnesota set up with lawn chairs on the courthouse lawn ready to experience the 2024 total solar eclipse.

Gatesville's Block (Out the Sun) Party kicks off eclipse celebrations

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

Just before a total solar eclipse passed over Gatesville on Monday, hundreds of residents and visitors came to the courthouse square for a weekend-long celebration.

The "Block (Out the Sun) Party," which took place on April 6 and April 7, featured live music, photo props, a petting zoo, art show, and

vendors selling a variety of food and merchandise.

"We were very pleased with the outcome of the festival," Eclipse Coordinator Cheri Shepherd said. "On Saturday, we saw mostly local residents with a few visitors. On Sunday, we really noticed that the visitors were arriving."

Shepherd said the festival received visitors from

across the United States and around the world who traveled to the Gatesville and Central Texas area for the total eclipse. The square featured a U.S. and world map where visitors placed a red pin to show which state or country they call home.

The event received people from several states such

PLEASE SEE **BLOCK** | A2

Gatesville residents and visitors react to total solar eclipse

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

Across Gatesville on April 8, thousands of people stared in awe as the sky momentarily darkened.

In the ballpark fields at the Sports Complex, a crowd of nearly 1,500 erupted in cheers and applause as the moon obscured the light from the sun.

Despite uncertain weather conditions, a total solar eclipse became visible between the clouds. Viewers shared their excitement about feeling the sudden drop in temperature and witnessing the sun's glowing outer corona without special glasses.

"It was way cooler than I thought," Katja Saukkonen said. "I am a huge science fiction fan, and I thought nothing like the movies could happen on earth, but it happened."

Saukkonen traveled all the way from Norway to witness her first total solar eclipse.

"I was looking for the best places in the path of totality and came around to Gatesville and I thought, 'that's a cool name,'" Saukkonen said.

As the total eclipse crossed North America, millions of people from around the world flocked to areas



KAYLEE DUSANG | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

PLEASE SEE **ECLIPSE** | A2 Larry and Donna Polagye traveled to Gatesville from New Jersey to watch their third total solar eclipse.



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FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Congratulations to the City of Gatesville on a job well done!



BY SAM HOUSTON

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

I have tried to remember the first time I heard about the eclipse arriving in April of 2024. My recollection takes me to a meeting I had months ago with Scott Albert, the Gatesville City Manager, and Cheri Shepard, the Special Events Coordinator for the City of Gatesville.

They explained how Gatesville would be in the center of “totality” for the eclipse and they were seeking assistance from the newspaper in promoting this experience to the public. At the time, I did not have an idea of what “totality” meant in terms of an eclipse. Slowly, I began to understand that people

from all over the world would be coming to Texas to witness this once in a lifetime, astrological event; many of them coming to our town.

It did not take me long to understand the opportunity this natural event provided Gatesville. Presumably thousands of individuals would be coming to

the area, and it would be a chance to promote our community, share with the world what Gatesville has to offer, and create friendships and build relationships which would serve our community in the future.

For organizers, the first issue to discuss was how does one throw a party when you have no idea of how many people will attend? Can you imagine being given instructions to plan a dinner party and then being told the meal may be for ten people, or it might be for 500 people? Here is the real catch; you will not be told an exact number until a few hours before the meal is served. When explained in those terms it makes me want to laugh at its folly, but such is exactly the tough spot in which the City of Gatesville found itself. What sort of event do you have when you have no idea of how many people will attend?

The answer is simple, you do the best you can, with what you’ve got, and hope for the best.

The average citizen has no comprehension of the extensive amount of time and preparation that went into scheduling the events which occurred in Gatesville over the eclipse weekend. It took months of planning, organization, and structure to make sure those who did come to Gatesville would have a fun and safe experience and wish to come back. This meant police and emergency services had to plan how they would manage traffic, how they would react to an emergency fire if the streets were crowded with visitors, and how to get people to emergency medical care in case of a tragedy.

Fun events had to be planned so visitors would participate in memorable unique experiences. Folks needed to be housed and have a place to eat. It was

a huge task, and I am here to proudly proclaim our Mayor and City Council, City Manager, Police Chief, Fire Chief, and all the city staff did a wonderful job to make sure our guests were safe and enjoyed a wonderful taste of Gatesville hospitality. They knocked it out of the park! This event could not have happened without their service to the citizens of Gatesville and their dedication to duty.

I must specifically mention my friend Cheri Shepard, who wrote columns for the newspaper, attended tons of meetings, organized, promoted, brought people together, and otherwise oversaw a huge event and did so tirelessly and with enthusiasm. It was my joy to work with her, and I sincerely appreciate her herculean efforts to make the eclipse a special day in Gatesville.

I am 100% confident that a host of people came to Gatesville on April 8 who

had never been there before. They came to witness the eclipse and walked away smiling at the awesomeness of a total eclipse and the hospitality and welcoming nature of our community. The eclipse may have been a time for the sun to darken, but it was a time for Gatesville to shine, and that is exactly what she did. Gatesville demonstrated it can plan an event, the city will support exciting events, and so will the community. My friends, that is success.

This was a big weekend for Gatesville. Thanks to everyone who helped or participated. This is a new beginning of a bright future for our community. Good job to everyone!

Thought for the day: The charm of a small town is the silent symphony of its unspoken unity. Munia Khan

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

BLOCK

FROM PAGE A1

as Utah, Oregon, Idaho, North Carolina, Virginia, California, and New Mexico, among others. International visitors arrived from Japan, Norway, New Zealand, San Salvador, Columbia, United Kingdom, Amsterdam, and Bulgaria.

“It was amazing to see all of these people enjoying our little downtown festival and admiring our courthouse,” Shepherd said.

Owners of local businesses and organizations who lined the courthouse square also benefited from the crowds - from meeting new people to a surge in

sales.

Mel Bailey, owner of Nipa Truck, said it was the most eggrolls she had ever sold.

“It was a very good event,” Bailey said. “It was probably one of my busiest sales times ever.”

By Sunday, Bailey said she sold out of all the eggrolls she made ahead of the festival. To prepare for the eclipse on Monday, she had to make around 800 eggrolls.

Bailey also set up two of her food trucks on Monday for eclipse events at Higginbotham’s Brothers and Coryell Community Church. On Saturday, April 13, Nipa Truck will attend The Texas Food Truck Showdown in downtown Waco.

“Overall, it really did test

me as a food truck owner to see how much I could actually do,” Bailey said.

Local artist Bindie Patel recently opened her business, SketchClick Arts, on April 1. She said the festival was her first experience as a vendor.

“I really enjoyed meeting new people,” Patel said. “The sales were just a bonus to be honest.”

Although Patel works in healthcare, she said she always wanted to become an artist. At the event, Patel sold souvenir magnets and photo prints that she designed for the eclipse in Gatesville.

View available products from SketchClick Arts through their Facebook page, SketchClick Arts.



KAYLEE DUSANG | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

A jazz band performs in the middle of the courthouse square.

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ECLIPSE

FROM PAGE A1

within the path of totality.

Anysia Palmer and Othalia Walcott made the last-minute decision to drive to Gatesville from Houston, which received only about 95% of coverage.

“Honestly, I can’t believe we made the decision to come out here. This is probably one of the coolest moments of my life,” Palmer said.

“This is the most amazing thing I’ve ever seen,” Walcott said. “I don’t think I could have ever imagined that this is what it was going to be like.”

Heidi Viets and her daughter, Ruby Viets, 10, traveled from Ontario, Canada to Los Angeles where they took a road trip all the way to Austin. Because of possible storms in Austin, Heidi said they decided to drive up to Gatesville that morning.

“We feel really lucky that we found this awesome gathering of people in the park,” Heidi said.

Ruby said she enjoyed watching her first total eclipse.

“When I first saw it, I was like, ‘I hope the clouds go away,’” Ruby said. “But it was so awesome.”

Andreas Ritters, who traveled with Ruby and Heidi, is an astrophysics researcher at The University of Hong Kong who experienced his fifth eclipse on Monday.

“For me, it’s just one of the most beautiful things

I’ve ever seen,” Ritters said. “The corona and the flares and prominences - you don’t see these ever.”

Gatesville locals also attended the viewing event, such as Sandy Vessels, who invited her niece from San Diego, California.

“It’s pretty interesting. I’m glad we got to have it,” Vessels said. “We were worried about the clouds and everything we’ve been getting, but those seem to be getting out of the way. I’m more happy for my niece to be able to see it, because it means a lot to her.”

Karen Brown, another Gatesville resident, said they have been waiting for this moment for a long time.

“It’s wonderful to know that little Gatesville is now so popular, and all these people came so far to see us,” Brown said.

NASA ambassador Liam Finn helped guide observers through the different phases of the eclipse. Once the moon aligned with the sun and earth, he pointed out various aspects of totality.

“If you look around, you’ll see the 360 degrees sunset,” Finn said, directing everyone’s gazes to the horizon.

Finn also pointed out Venus, which appeared to the right of the total eclipse.

As part of the Eclipse LightSound Project, Finn also utilized a device among his equipment that played the eclipse to music, allowing those who are visually impaired to hear totality.

“For anyone who is visually impaired, they can

come over here and they can actually listen to the solar eclipse if (they) can’t see it,” Finn said.

Finn also set up a screen on the field that projected the image of the sun, so people could watch phases of the eclipse without needing to look up at the sky. Several visitors also set up their own telescopes throughout the field to get a closer look at the eclipse.

“Being able to see those prominences with your eyes and not needing a special scope is not something you get to do very often,” said Arica Flores of a total solar eclipse. Flores, who is president of the Ford Amateur Astronomy Club in Michigan, also answered questions about the eclipse with visitors.

The gathering at the Sports Complex was hosted by the Friends of the Gatesville Public Library. All proceeds from parking reservations will be donated to the library’s summer reading program.

“I am so impressed with how our community, and especially the city and volunteers, came out and showed support,” said Shea Harp, director of the Gatesville Public Library. “You could see how our community welcomed, essentially, the entire world into our city that day.”

The next total solar eclipse that will cross North America will be on Aug. 23, 2044.

FROM MY FRONT PORCH

The first amendment assures the right to speak; it does not mean people have to agree with you



BY SAM HOUSTON

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

Some towns are currently in the middle of a political campaign. It is the constitutional right of each voter to be able discuss and discern the pros and cons of candidates or propositions like bond issues, and from this discernment, people determine how they wish to vote.

With any election, there is a great deal of commentary, which is spewed out by the public. Some of it is factual, some of it is created in such a way to slant facts to a certain side of a proposition, and other political diatribes are nothing more than downright misrepresentation or intentional lies. Because of our first amendment, all these forms of free speech may be uttered.

It is unlawful and unwise to attempt to silence speech, even speech which is an outright lie. The founding fathers believed an educated populace should be able to listen to all viewpoints, cipher through the words and revelations, and conclude what is best because they had looked at all sides of an issue.

Unfortunately, with the advent of artificial intel-

ligence and mass information delivery systems like social media and the web, false information is injected into political discussion and can be done in ways which can confuse and muddle the actual issues. It seems Americans are having a tougher time ascertaining what is true and what is a misrepresentation. They also seem to be unwilling to practice discernment.

Recently, I read a post on social media where a man asserted there must be a lot of "kickbacks" in the local school bond issue, because, in his experience, when so many people are working so hard to get something passed, there had to be kickbacks involved. Upon reading the man's declaration, many immediately responded and asked what specific evidence the man had that supported such an assertion. People wanted to know who was receiving kickbacks and how the man knew such kickbacks existed. The man responded that such a situation had been his experience, and

he had seen such "graft" happen before. When asked what specific examples he had of past elections where graft had taken place, the man did not, or could not, answer. He continued saying he wasn't going to answer more questions because he felt like others were trampling his first amendment rights to speak what he believed. Herein lies the problem.

No one was trampling on the man's right to express his opinion. He spoke his peace and did so just as anyone else who was on the social media platform. He was upset because when he was questioned to explain his position, he had little or no evidence or facts to support his beliefs. He stated, "Well, that is my view, and I am voting no because of it." He sought shelter behind the first amendment, saying people were trying to muffle him, but the truth is he was upset because people did not adapt their positions and join him in thinking exactly the way he did. It made no difference to

the man that he could not support his assertions, and when challenged, he failed to cite underlying persuasive facts which supported his views. He was upset because people did not think exactly like him. This was further evidenced when he proclaimed he was a "true" member of his party and those who did not agree with him were "fake" party members; and worse, members of the other party who were infiltrating the "good people" like him. It made no difference if someone viewed the world differently, if the assumptions which he based his opinion were false or inaccurate or were fabricated lies designed to unite people under a false pretense. He is certainly entitled to hold his beliefs, no matter how misguided others may think they are, but that doesn't mean the rest of the community need blindly follow.

The first amendment is an important part of our way of life. Speaking out, standing up is part of the American spirit. Another

important part of that American spirit is standing up and challenging someone who makes unsubstantiated allegations or false arguments and exposing those statements for the falsehoods they are. Everyone has a right to speak but it doesn't mean everyone has to agree with you, and it certainly doesn't mean if you don't agree with the speaker, you are the enemy. Such are the thoughts of little minds. Such thoughts are not based on actual civil discussion, but rather on control and power and those who blindly seek it.

Thought for the day: *"Everyone is in favor of free speech. Hardly a day passes without its being extolled, but some people's idea of it is that they are free to say what they like, but if anyone says anything back, that is an outrage."*

-Winston Churchill

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



KAYLEE DUSANG | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

JoAnn Sugg and CASA Outreach Coordinator, Fiona Williams, at the Exchange Club weekly meeting on April 4.

Exchange Club kicks off national program with CASA speaker

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

The Exchange Club of Gatesville is recognizing National Child Abuse Prevention Month throughout April.

For their first meeting of the month on April 4, the Exchange Club invited a representative from CASA of Bell & Coryell Counties, a nonprofit that provides a court appointed volunteer to become the voice for a child who has entered the foster care system after experiencing abuse and

neglect.

CASA Outreach Coordinator Fiona Williams shared what it means to become a volunteer and how they advocate for children going through the process of finding a safe, permanent home.

"We're going in and looking for what's in the best interest for the child," Williams said.

According to CASA's website, a volunteer advocate helps the court make better-informed deci-

sions about a child's case. Volunteer responsibilities include researching case records and speaking to individuals involved in a child's life, such as family members, teachers, doctors, lawyers, and social workers. They also monitor the child's progress throughout the case and advocate for the child's needs in court, school, appointments, and more.

To learn more about CASA of Bell & Coryell counties or how to become

a volunteer, visit casabell-coryell.org/volunteer

Speakers for the remainder of April include AWARE Central Texas who spoke on April 11, Coryell County Rainbow Room on April 18, and the Coryell County Child Welfare Board on April 25.

The Exchange Club meets at 7 a.m. on Thursdays at Junction 36.

Folks around town



COURTESY PHOTO

Jennifer Newton

Say hello to our neighbor, Jennifer Newton!

Jennifer has been the Coryell County Clerk since 2021.

"I am honored to have been elected by the citizens as the Coryell County Clerk," Newton said. "The most fun and rewarding part of my job is being there for the citizens through the most important facets of their lives."

She has called Gatesville her home since 2002 and admitted her favorite thing about our town is the community: "When this community unites, their power becomes unlimited," Newton said.

Jennifer reads The Gatesville Messenger and expressed, "The Gatesville Messenger is how I stay up to date with everything going on in our town; from news to events, The Gatesville Messenger is there."

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

MEMBER 2024

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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DEADLINES:

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

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

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

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

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OUR MISSION: The Gatesville Messenger shall provide news and insights to our readers through the independent and impartial presentation of information that educates, enriches and entertains. We are proud to be a community newspaper committed to the people we serve.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

As Eclipse at the Crosses attendants look up to the heavens to view the total solar eclipse at full totality, solar powered lights illuminate the crosses, confused by the darkness. About 600 onlookers were on the church grounds.

MOUND NEWS

Alison meets family



BY BARBARA HOPSON

Mound News Correspondent

Little Miss Alison Joy David, of Roanoke, made her very first appearance for the first time in her life in Mound to meet all the rest of her Hopson families and many cousins at the home of her great-aunt, Barbara Sue Hopson. Alison is the baby daughter of Zach and McKenzie David.

McKenzie and her daughter, Alison Joy David, spent a few days in Mound with Frank and Susie Hopson.

Scott Stephens, who attends Texas Tech University in Lubbock, spent a few days with his grandparents, Ray and John Stephens.

Mound Ladies Bible Study group are meeting at White Mound Baptist Church Youth Building every Tuesday morning at 10 a.m. The group is currently studying in the book of Acts, Chapter 8. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy their fellowship.

Eric and Liz McCorkle hosted a spring pool party on Sunday, April 7, for the family of Kevin and Teri Miller of Woodland Park, CO, and their children, Nekoda Scott, Canyon Joshua, Ian Nathaniel, Caleb Daniel, Caleb Miller, Autumn Grace, Eliza Joy, Serene Eliana, and Eliza Miller.

Tammy Roe, of Nemo, spent the day Sunday visiting with her mother, Mrs. Beth Haines in Gatesville and with David and Pam Hopson and family in Mound.

Several people of Mound attended the 2024 Sunday Eclipse Festival on the square in Gatesville with

live worship, testimonies, salvations, a prayer tent, healings, and baptisms.

The Eakin Family Reunion was held at the home of Don and Sue Jones Saturday through Wednesday. There were around 60 people in attendance. They had a lot of fun playing games, eating, enjoying time spent together, planting trees in memory of loved ones who passed, and watching the eclipse. They came from Oregon, Arizona, Washington, Maryland, and Texas.

Neil and Christly Helms, of Red Oak, spent the weekend at the home of Robert and Carolyn Blakley.

Thomas Belt helped emcee the County 4-H Talent Showcase on Monday, April 1. Thomas, along with Kinsley and Allie McPherson, presented their 4-H Educational Presentations on Thursday, the 4th at our county level with 35 kids from all over the county who competed.

They are all doing a great job leading and competing in 4-H. Kinsley and Allie both competed Saturday at the District 8, 4-H Horse Judging Contest. Kinsley's team placed third and qualified for State.

Eclipse at the Crosses draws crowd

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Dr. Eric Moffett, the lead pastor at Coryell Community Church, recently reflected on the total solar eclipse event known as "Eclipse at the Crosses," which was held on the church grounds.

Despite the fact that totality was somewhat shielded by clouds, Moffett commented that those in attendance were caught by "a few breathtaking glimpses of the moon covering the sun."

Moffett also mentioned the moment when the city was shrouded in darkness and the three crosses,

controlled by a daylight sensor, suddenly lit up in the darkness. "Reminding us of God's great love for us. It was an overwhelming and beautiful experience," he said.

Reflecting on those in attendance, Moffett said that the vast majority were out-of-town guests who were grateful to find a welcoming and family-safe place to view the eclipse. He also mentioned that the church included visitors from Wales, France, Italy, and Canada along with visitors from many U.S. states, including California,

Colorado, New Jersey, Arizona, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Florida, Mississippi, Missouri, Louisiana, and all points of interest.

Moffett pointed out that the church parking lot was fully reserved, but that some visitors changed their plans at the last minute due to the potential cloud cover. "Overall, we had over 600 people in attendance. It was difficult to get a good count, because we were spread all over our campus throughout the day," he said.

"The eclipse was a rare opportunity to show the love of Jesus to people



from all over the world and the United States without ever leaving Gatesville. What we have, we want to use to share the love of Jesus with our community. Each person, no matter who you are or what you've been through is welcome here," Moffett said.

"We would like to offer a word of thanks to our guests who joined us and our vendors who came and shared their gifts with us. We also want to give a huge thanks to our selfless volunteers who worked our CCC concession team."



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Country Music Hall of Fame, April 19

Submitted item

The Gatesville Country Music Hall of Fame is proud to announce their monthly free concert for April 2024. The concert will begin at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 19, at the Gatesville City Auditorium located at 110 N 8th Street in Gatesville.

This month's show will feature classic country and swing music for your listening pleasure. In addition to our regulars, we will be featuring special guests who represent some of the

best local talent in Central Texas. All are welcome and, as always, there is no admittance fee to enjoy the show. Come and bring the kids to enjoy our family friendly show.

Jonesboro VFD to hold BBQ luncheon

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 will be 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)

Coryell County commissioners approved a contract with the Texas Department of Transportation to acquire land for the Gatesville City/County airport expansion project.

Plans were underway for the 2004 Spring Into Fashion Style Show, sponsored by local businesses in conjunction with the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce.

The Jonesboro Independent School District board officially hired Randy Savage as its new superintendent.

The Texas Department of Transportation will soon begin a project to apply an emulsion mix (preventative maintenance) to the surface of roadways in Bosque, Coryell, Falls, Hill, Limestone, and McLennan counties.

30 YEARS AGO (1994)

Fort Gates residents were to decide Fort Gates' future as a city.

Retired Baylor Bears football coach, Colton Davidson, was to be roasted at the Coryell activities complex.

The first reunion of former students at Carver High School was set to be held that summer.

40 YEARS AGO (1984)

Willie Clarke, the first black to run for Gatesville ISD's school board, was the biggest winner in the trustee election.

Gatesville City Council installed Bob Brown, John Ward, and Jack Smith as newly elected council members.

The Jonesboro PTA held their Spring Carnival. The theme was "Over the Rainbow."

The Evant Athletic Booster Club was set to sponsor a variety show, plus a play called "A Hillbilly Wedding."

The Powell Supply Company advertised conventional economy tires for \$23.95 apiece.

50 YEARS AGO (1974) Gatesville Jaycees took 23 underprivileged local children to the Shrine Circus in Waco.

The City of Gatesville received a \$24,119.33 check from the state comptroller for city tax collections.

Jonesboro kindergarten students visited the Gatesville Public Library.

Gatesville Jaycees presented awards to newly installed officers, Ronnie Rhodes and Mike Blanchard.

PEARL NEWS

Pearl Community Fellowship Church to host memorial service



BY BETSY CLARK

Pearl News Correspondent

A memorial service will be held for Regina Medart at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 27, at the Pearl Community Fellowship Church on FM 183 in Pearl. Everyone is invited to attend.

We extend our deepest condolences to the

McGaugh family at the passing of Ruth McGaugh.

The details on her services are as follows: Ruth Evelyn (Wilson) McGaugh passed away on March 31, in Gatesville. Funeral services will be held at 11 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.

Eclipse Day in Pearl saw a host of people from far-away places, such as California, Colorado, Georgia, Montana, New Mexico, and Germany. One of the ladies

from San Diego, California attended the Pearl Church of Christ on April 7 and told everyone what a lovely church it is. She also said that everyone in Pearl is so hospitable and are such wonderful people. I've been telling you for years now—there's no place like Pearl!

The next Pearl Bluegrass event and Pearl Cottage Bookstore Day will be May 4. The bluegrass event usually has jammers the evening before. The bookstore opens at 9 a.m. on that Saturday and closes at 3 p.m. Everyone is always invited, so mark your calendars.

The Pearl Church of Christ will hold its annual

VBS May 27 through May 31, 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. each day. The theme this year is "Jesus loves You!" Be sure and mark your calendars, and please tell all your friends and family. The Pearl Church of Christ VBS is epic, and you don't want to miss it!

Upcoming speaker at the Pearl Church of Christ: Dr. Charles Patterson, retired Superintendent of the Killeen ISD and currently ministering and living in Corsicana, will speak on April 21. Dr. Patterson is a native of Hamilton.

This week's Bible verses come from Genesis 12:1-3---The Lord had said to

Abram, "Go from your country, your people, and your father's household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." 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

The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of April 3 - April 9. 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 on 865-7201.

CITY OF GATESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

April 3
12:07 p.m., wanted person/stolen property was reported in the 500 block of E. Leon Street.
3 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 1600 block of Waco Street.
10:12 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 300 block of S. 5th Street.
April 4
7:33 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1600 block of Waco Street.
12:46 p.m., harassment was reported in the 1600 block of St. Louis Street.
8:16 p.m., a threat was reported in the 200 block of

S. 34th Street.
April 5
6:41 a.m., a theft was reported in the 100 block of S. 23rd Street.
9:26 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 1200 block of E. Main Street.
10:10 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 300 block of S. State Highway 36 Bypass.
April 6
12:09 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 4300 block of S. State Highway 36.
8:27 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 200 block of N. Lovers Lane.
2:40 p.m., criminal

mischief was reported in the 100 block of Mulberry Avenue.
April 7
4:30 p.m., an intoxicated driver was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Highway 36.
8:47 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 300 block of Veteran's Memorial Loop.
April 8
7:38 a.m., a theft was reported in the 1200 block of E. Main Street.
6:20 p.m., a theft was reported in the 300 block of S. 6th Street.
April 9
7:46 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the

200 block of S. Levita Road.
11:53 a.m., a burglary was reported in the 600 block of E. Leon Street.
5:03 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 2000 block of St. Louis Street.
CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
April 3
7:07 a.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 100 block of Boone Avenue.
10:30 a.m., a vehicle fire was reported in the 13,000 block of FM 107.
3:20 p.m., harassment was reported in the 4200 block of County Road 107.
April 4
10:41 a.m., animal neglect was reported on E. Highway

84, West of FM 1996.
12:38 p.m., an abandoned vehicle was reported on FM 183 and FM 1690.
2:28 p.m., human trafficking was reported in the 500 block of E. Leon Street.
April 5
10:49 a.m., criminal mischief was reported on Lutheran Church Road.
3:19 p.m., an out-of-control burn was reported in the 10,300 block of FM 215.
11:46 p.m., a prowler was reported in the 4300 block of S. Highway 36.
April 6
8:33 a.m., an attempted break-in was reported on Sykes Drive.
10:42 a.m., a structure

fire was reported in the 2600 block of Snow Road.
12:15 p.m., a stolen vehicle was reported in the 6400 block of E. U.S. Highway 84.
April 7
12:45 a.m., a minor accident was reported in the 900 block of Old Pidcoke Road.
6:10 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 7900 block of Harmon Road.
April 8
11:02 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported on FM 107.
11:48 a.m., illegal burning was reported in the 1000 block of E. Highway 84.



THE GRAIN

PRESENTS





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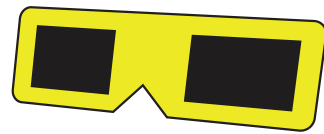
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A LOOK BACK AT THE TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE



APRIL 8, 2024

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ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

The James family traveled from southeastern Colorado to experience the eclipse at the Gatesville Municipal Airport. This family of eight traveled in two planes, a 1964 Cessna 172 and a 1964 Cherokee 235. They planned to head back home immediately after the eclipse.



KAYLEE DUSANG | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Waco digital artist, Carrie Baggett, showcases her photography featuring landmarks in Coryell County.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CARLY SNODDY KEY

A concert was held at Bare Bones BBQ/Bone Yard on Friday evening to kick off the eclipse celebration in Gatesville. The kickoff party featured live entertainment from Stoney Larue and American Merit.



ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

An individual who has been on a 60-year-round trip to watch every eclipse he possibly can. He is a pilot from New Mexico and traveled to Gatesville by car with his two yorkies, (left) Tea and (right) Crumpet. He explained that in 1964, he found a book of his grandfathers with all the future eclipses listed inside, and since then he has made it his goal to experience every eclipse. He expressed that this total eclipse is a special one since it will be his very last, so he wanted to view it somewhere that felt like home.



KAYLEE DUSANG | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Kaleigh Glasgow (left) at the Candy Pet Palace booth gives a face painting to Addley Hauck (right).



KAYLEE DUSANG | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Rich Gilleland traveled from Idaho with his family to watch the total solar eclipse.



ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Visitors from California, Colorado, and Houston viewing the first contact of the total eclipse on the court-house square.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Chamber president Mason Matthews shows off his roping skills to visitors at the Block Out the Sun party.



KAYLEE DUSANG | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Local artist Elaine Fitch uses color pencil and watercolor to create images related to Coryell County and the eclipse.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Solar eclipse watchers relax on the lawn during the Eclipse at the Crosses event at Coryell Community Church.



KAYLEE DUSANG | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Long-time friends since high school, Larry Shaper from Vermont (left), and Lester Lefkowitz from New York (right) at the Gatesville Sports Complex on Monday getting ready to watch the total eclipse.



ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

A couple from Houston is pictured with their telescope, ready to experience the total solar eclipse at Raby Park.



ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Visitors from Arizona and New Mexico spent their day at Raby Park to celebrate the total solar eclipse.

NEWS FROM ECLIPSEVILLE

Thanks for helping turn Gatesville into "Eclipseville"



BY CHERI SHEPHERD
City of Gatesville Eclipse Coordinator

As Special Events Coordinator for the City of Gatesville, I want to express my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the following:

Police Chief Brad Hunt for his sincere care and concern for our community and visitors and his leadership in the process, which were key to making this a successful event.

Fire Chief Billy Vaden, whose experience and connections were crucial to planning this event. He and

his crews assisted everywhere that we had people gathered, and they stood ready for any emergencies.

Parks and Recreation Director Seth Phillips and his entire crew who worked thoughtfully and tirelessly to make sure all our visitors had a great experience and left with a positive impres-

sion of our community. **Librarian Shea Harp** and the Friends of the Gatesville Public Library for hosting the NASA presentation on Saturday evening and for holding an incredibly successful viewing event at the sports complex on Monday.

Morgan Smart was truly my right hand throughout all of this. She put in many hours leading up to and throughout the festival weekend.

Former Street Department Director Jim Shepard played an important role in the planning process, and interim Brent Kirchmeyer and his team did a great job of stepping in and making sure that the final preparations went smoothly.

Thank you to **City Manager Scott Albert** for allowing me to take on this role and to all the City Staff and Council for their support. Special thanks to **Mayor**

Chumley for his involvement and guidance in this process. Thanks to all the community volunteers and business support.

Carla Manning's experience in organizing community events was invaluable in planning for the weekend festival and she worked many long hours to help make that a success.

Sarah Jo Poynter handled the festival's social media needs and assisted in planning, as well as helped at the event. Susie Meelbusch helped with promotion and with activities on the square.

Yvonne Williams chaired a successful art show, which was one of the highlights of the weekend. Leairds Furniture & Appliances was a wonderful host for this event.

Chamber President Mason Mathews and his wife Tif-

fany worked the entire weekend at our information table and helped welcome visitors. JoAnn Sugg was a huge help with the festival, especially with the food vendors. Volunteers Cherry Braziel, Billy Byron, and Julie Mathews were on hand to make the weekend go smoothly.

Kristi Roberts, Lauren Morrell, and Marsha Streiber worked to bring our churches together to put on a Sunday praise and worship time.

Thank you to **The Gatesville Messenger** for their dedication to covering all aspects of our planning for this event and for helping keep our community informed.

Monica Hinds organized the motorcycle show, and Hinds Jewelry provided prizes.

Higginbotham's provided our Gatesville sign.

The Feed Mill, Dindi and Alan McDonald, and Marie Dominquez loaned us photo props.

Kim Hill at United Country and Teresa Johnson at Front Porch Realty loaned ATVs for our volunteers to use as shuttles and to navigate the grounds.

Soldiers from Ft. Cavazos manned our roadblocks and completed trash patrol duties.

Thank you to the **Gatesville Pilots group, Ken Malach, and Pete Wesson** for taking care of our airport visitors. I would not have known what to do without you.

There were so many more supporters, encouragers, and volunteers.

Thank you to each one of you. You are the best! Without your help the Gatesville Eclipse events would not have been the success they were.

CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

AGENCIES BLASTED OVER WILDFIRE OVERSIGHT

State agencies and regulators were heavily criticized at a Texas legislative hearing for failing to communicate during the deadly Panhandle wildfires, the Texas Tribune reported.

The three-day hearing, held in Pampa, investigated the Smokehouse Creek fire and others that burned more than a million acres, destroyed hundreds of homes, killed up to 10,000 cattle and resulted in two deaths.

State Rep. Ben King, R-Canadian, chaired the committee and said the hearing was difficult but necessary.

"You may not like the line of questions or the tone of questions, but we are here for answers," King

told representatives of the state's regulatory agencies last week. "It's not a personal attack on you or your agencies, but it's time for answers."

Xcel Energy has acknowledged that a fallen power line ignited the Smokehouse Creek fire. The company hired by Xcel to perform safety inspections - Osmose Utilities Services - declined to participate in last week's hearings.

Mike Hoke, with the Public Utilities Commission, said the agency doesn't conduct inspections. Instead, it relies on the utility companies to hire its own inspectors. He said utility companies can hire whoever they wish to inspect utility poles with any oversight from the PUC.

The legislative committee is expected to publish its results and recommendations for any legislative changes by May 1.

FIRST HUMAN CASE OF BIRD FLU IN TEXAS DETECTED

The first human case of avian influenza in Texas was reported last week by the Texas Department of State Health Services.

It came after contact with infected dairy cattle and is only the second case of a human being infected with bird flu in the United States.

"The risk to the general public is believed to be low; however, people with close contact with affected animals suspected of having avian influenza A(H5N1) have a higher risk of infection," the alert from DSHS said.

Symptoms can include a fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, headaches, fatigue, eye redness, shortness of breath, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, or seizures. The alert urged health care providers who see someone who may have the virus to immediately

contact their local health department.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture said the commercial milk supply is considered safe, and that milk from infected cattle is being dumped.

STATE'S LAWYER SAYS IMMIGRATION LAW MAYBE 'WENT TOO FAR'

An attorney defending a new state law allowing law enforcement officials to arrest people who cross the border illegally told a panel of federal judges the law possibly "went too far." The Dallas Morning News reported. The 5th U.S. Circuit of Appeals previously halted enforcement of the law and is now hearing arguments over its legality.

"What Texas has done here is they have looked at the Supreme Court's precedent and they have tried to develop a statute that goes up to the line of Supreme Court precedent but no further," Texas Solicitor General Aaron Nielson said. "Now to be fair, maybe Texas went too far, and that is the question this court is going to have to decide." The U.S. Justice Depart-

ment is arguing that Texas is trying to usurp the federal government's authority to enforce immigration laws, while the state says it wants to work with the federal government.

STATE ECONOMY AGAIN EXPANDS FASTER THAN NATION

The state's economy continues to grow faster than the nation as a whole. Data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis indicates gross domestic product for Texas grew in 2023 at an annual rate of 5.7%, more than double the national average of 2.5%. The state also continues to lead the nation in job creation, adding almost 50,000 new jobs in February.

"Texas is again outpacing the nation in economic expansion and job growth thanks to the best business climate and the strongest workforce in America," Gov. Greg Abbott said.

While Texas outpaced the national average for GDP growth, a few states posted higher percentage increases - Nevada, Utah and Idaho.

DISTRACTED DRIVING IS

DEADLY DRIVING, TXDOT REMINDS

Driving the vast highways of Texas can become a bit tiresome, often with hundreds of miles before reaching one's destination. But the Texas Department of Transportation is urging drivers to resist the urge to check that ping of the phone to read a text message or watch the latest social media video a friend sent.

TxDOT reported nearly 400 people died on Texas roadways last year because of distracted driving, and nearly 2,800 suffered serious injuries.

"Any loss of life is tragic, but imagine killing or seriously injuring someone else because you thought you could text and drive at the same time," said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. "When you're behind the wheel, you need to be focused on only one thing: driving. Looking at your phone, eating, or adjusting your music can wait until you're safely parked.

Texting while driving is not only dangerous; it's a crime to be caught reading, writing, or sending a text while driving, and can cost a driver a \$200 fine. Many cities also outlaw the use of a handheld device while driving.

INTERNET SUBSIDY FUND IS GOING BROKE

A federal subsidy that provided \$30 monthly for internet service is about to run out of money, the Tribune reported. The subsidy was part of the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and helped 1.7 million Texas households save money on their internet bills. South Texas households had a higher-than-average rate of participation.

The subsidy funding is scheduled to run out in May. Congress has failed to act despite calls for the program to receive additional funding.

Some broadband advocates worry terminating the program could jeopardize future broadband investments.

"If we build the infrastructure but then all these people lose internet access, we are going to be taking one step forward and two steps back," Kelly Garbee, executive director of Texas Rural Funders, a nonprofit focused on rural philanthropy, told the Tribune. "It is important to take a long view."

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches, Lufkin and Cedar Park. Email: gborder@texaspress.com.

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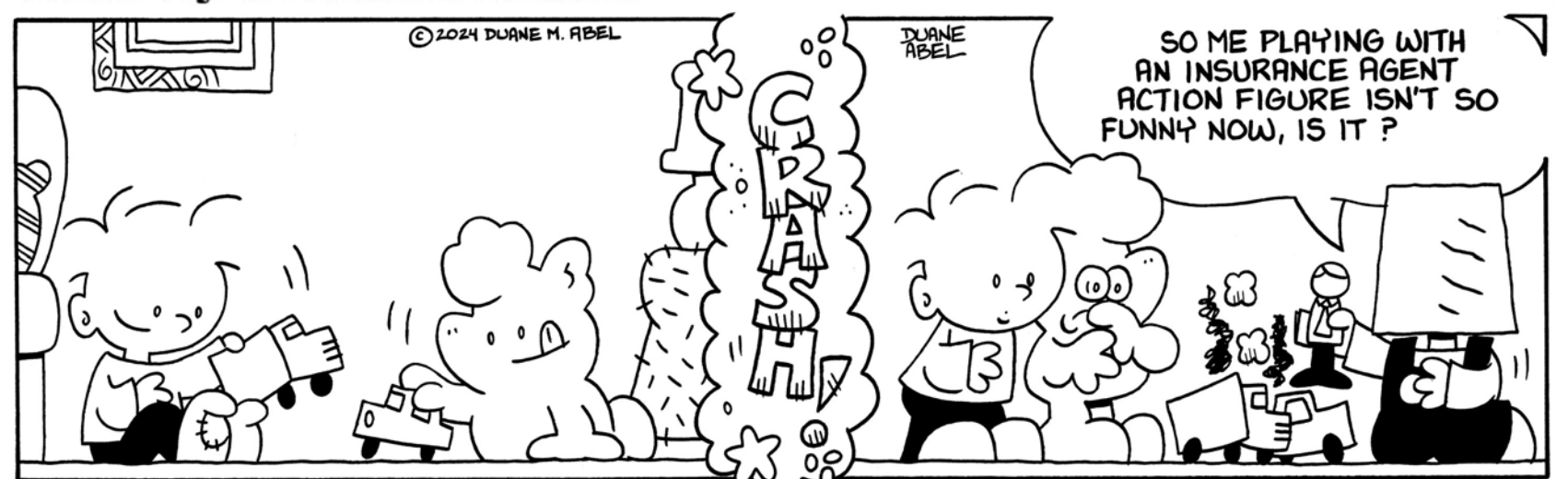
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BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH

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

Israel Compos of Pecos has the nickname Pody. "Pody was a sheep dog, and when I was in school, I used to have long straight hair that covered my eyes most of the time," he says. "So, my classmates started calling me Pody, and the name stuck."

After a career in law enforcement, Pody opened a barbecue restaurant. "We started off cooking two briskets a day, maybe; then a gentleman by the name of Daniel Vaughn came by who was writing a book titled "THE PROPHETS OF SMOKED MEAT." He was just driv-

ing through here because he likes country music, and Charlie Robinson is one of his favorite singers and songwriters. Charlie Robinson did a song called "THE LIGHTS OF LOVING COUNTY." Mr. Vaughn was going to Loving County to take some pictures that would match some of

the lyrics in the song. He stopped in here, took some pictures, and the next thing I know, I'm in his book. Two years later he gets the job at Texas Monthly as barbecue editor. Then he comes back and puts us in the top fifty barbecue restaurants in Texas."

Pody has made the magazine's top fifty list a few times. His creamy hominy ranks 4th in the side dish category.

"We put chopped brisket in it, and we use green chiles from Hatch, New Mexico. We call it green chile hominy. Our customers really love it, and they'll come by and buy a quart to take home with them."

He has a full menu. "Turkey, brisket, sausage, ribs, and pulled pork."

A national food critic named Pody's pulled pork among the top five in the country. He serves two types of brisket.

"We have moist, that has

a buttery type of taste, and it nearly melts in your mouth, kind of like a well marbled steak. Then we have the lean which is a little bit dryer, and the meat is more condensed, not loose like the moist. We sell more moist. That's the most popular."

He tried all sorts of wood for cooking: cherry, pecan, and others. He decided on mesquite and post oak.

"The post oak lasts a lot longer. It's a denser wood. Mesquite is great for the taste. I usually smoke briskets for about six hours. Then we let it slow cook for about ten more hours, so it takes a long time to get our meat ready."

His place is on Highway 285 next to the Pecos Rodeo Grounds. He runs it with his family and friends. He has other interests, too.

"I'm in my second term as county commissioner."

Pidcoke Cemetery Association to meet May 4

Staff Reports

The Pidcoke Cemetery Association will hold their annual meeting on Saturday, May 4, at 11 a.m. at

the pavilion.

The meeting will begin promptly at 11 a.m. with lunch and fellowship following. A folding chair might be helpful as the

pavilion cannot accommodate everyone.

Please bring drinks of your choice and a favorite picnic item to share - and don't forget desserts!

The by-laws state that the annual meeting of the Pidcoke Cemetery Association will always be held on the first Saturday of the month of May.

EIGHT MEN BAPTIZED AT HUGHES UNIT IN GATESVILLE



COURTESY PHOTOS

On the morning of Tuesday, April 2, the department and staff of the Alfred D. Hughes Unit had the chance to witness the experiences of eight close custody residents profess their faith through public baptism. Pictured on the right is a custody resident being baptized, and on the left is each of the eight residents who received a baptism. These men have grown to develop a more intimate relationship with the Lord and have found freedom in their beliefs.



Mountain Baptist Church to hold revival starting April 28

Staff Reports

Mountain Baptist Church will hold a revival from Sunday, April 28, to Wednesday, April 30, at 11 a.m.

day, May 1.

Services will begin on Sunday, April 28, at 11 a.m., which will be followed by a barbecue meal at noon and

services again that evening at 6:30 p.m.

Revival services will continue through Monday, April 29, to Wednesday,

May 1, during the evenings, beginning at 6:30 p.m. each night. There will be a light fellowship meal before each service at 5:30 p.m.

The Cherry family will present the love of Christ through music and through the preaching of God's word.

For further details, contact 254-383-2634. Mountain Baptist Church is located at 6319 East US Hwy. 84 in Gatesville.

OBITUARIES

Donna Powe

Sept. 18, 1965 - April 6, 2024

With deep sorrow, we announce the passing of Donna Powe, a wife, mother, and member of the Devine, Texas community. Donna, age 58, departed from this world on April 6, 2024.

Donna Powe was a woman who had a strong faith in God and her Lord and savior Jesus Christ. Every day she aspired to be a faithful Proverbs 31 woman and was steadfast to her daily walks in devotion. She was a woman who made friends everywhere she went, and never met a stranger.

Donna was born on Sept. 18, 1965, to June Fargason and her husband, the late David Fargason, in San Antonio. In 1999, Donna met David Powe and went on to have a loving marriage filled with many wonderful memories. She is survived in death by her children; Chelsi, and husband, Sam Hall, and Erika Temple. Stepchildren; Amanda, and husband, Eric Rodriguez, and Rebecca Powe and her husband, the late Jacob Sanchez. Eight grandchildren; Nathan Hall, Mason Hall, Oliver Rodriguez, Ryan Rodriguez, Bailey Druckhammer, Connor Druckhammer, Wyatt Powe, and Karli Joy Sanchez. Siblings; Carolyn, and husband, Travis Evermon,



Julie Pritchard, and husband, Todd Pritchard; and her favorite aunt, Cynthia Morris, and husband, Jack Morris; as well as numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

To honor Donna's life, a visitation was held in the Funeral Chapel of Primrose Funeral Services in Devine on Wednesday, April 10. Funeral services took place in the same location at 10 a.m. on Thursday, April 11. The family kindly requested that attendees wear her favorite color, pink, in lieu of traditional black attire.

If you would like to share a memory, or express your condolences, you may do so at www.primrosefuneralservices.com

Arrangements are under the care of Primrose Funeral Services, 303 W. College Ave., Devine, TX 78016.

Linda Tucker Bell

Aug. 16, 1955 - April 5, 2024

Linda Bell, age 68, of Gatesville, passed away on Friday, April 5, 2024.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. Thursday, April 11, at Scott's Funeral Home with Minister Justin Hall officiating. Interment followed at Onion Creek Memorial Park in Austin at 11 a.m. on Friday, April 12.

Linda Tucker Bell was born on Aug. 16, 1955, to Melvin Tucker Sr. and Eldena Perkins in Austin. She grew up and attended school in Austin, graduating from William B. Travis High School in 1973. She worked in the lending department at American Bank in Austin before accepting a position as a clerk for the Texas State Comptroller's Office, where she eventually retired in 1992.

Linda loved her friends and enjoyed entertaining every chance she had. She had a giving heart and never met a stranger. She was loved by many and was always quick to give



a compliment. She may have been tiny but was extremely mighty. She was a member of the Gatesville Church of Christ.

Linda was preceded in death by her father, Melvin Tucker; and brother, Billy Tucker and wife, Joy.

She is survived by her mother, Eldena Tucker; sister, Darlene Tucker; and brother, Melvin Tucker, Jr.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 6704, Hagerstown, MD 21741, or to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

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Residential & Commercial Service • Installation
Refrigeration
Servicing All Brands
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Darrel Schuman - Owner
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TACL427524C www.schumansair.com

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Weekly Pickup and Roll-off container rentals
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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 Landscaping & Services, LLC:
Mowing, Landscaping, Brush Clearing, Trash Clean Up, Pipe Fence Painting (Ospho), Road Installation. John Capella, 254-216-3684. Licensed & Insured.
00030710

045
SERVICES

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

HUNT FENCING: Farm & Ranch Fence, Residential, Corrals, Automatic Solar Gates, Custom Entryways & Gates, Welding Projects. John Hunt, Owner, (254)248-2613
00030728

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

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

099
PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO DISTRICT RULES

The Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District ("MTGCD") Board of Directors will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, May 9 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at 930 N. Wolfe Nursery Rd., Stephenville, TX 76401. All interested parties are invited to attend.

AGENDA: The following items of business will be discussed, considered, and potentially acted upon by the Board of Directors of the Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District:

1. Call hearing to order and establish a quorum.
2. Public hearing on Proposed Amendments to District Rules. The proposed amendments to the District Rules include changes and additions to: a. Well Registration and Permit Application Processing. b. Rules Compliance Policy/Civil Penalty Schedule. c. Fees for Violations of District Rules. 3. Receive public comments on Proposed Amendments to District Rules. Any person who desires to appear at the hearing and present comment or other information on the proposed Amendments to District Rules may do so in person, by counsel, or both. Comments may be presented verbally or in written form. Limits may be placed on the amount of time that each person is allowed to present verbal comments. The hearing posted in this notice may be receded from day to day or continued where appropriate.
4. Discuss, consider, and/or action on Proposed Amendments to District Rules. Changes may be made to the proposed District Rules based upon comments received or made at the hearing, and the rules may be adopted with or without such changes without further notice or hearing.
5. Adjourn, recess, or continue rulemaking hearing; written record may be left open for limited time.

A copy of the proposed Amendments to the District Rules may be requested by email at wells@middletrinitygcd.org, and is available at MTGCD's website www.middletrinitygcd.org, and may be reviewed or copied at 930 N. Wolfe Nursery Rd., Stephenville, TX 76401/ Any person who wishes to receive more detailed information on this notice of the proposed District Rules should contact the General Manager, at 254-965-6705.
00030734

099
PUBLIC NOTICES

CITATION BY PUBLICATION FC 103.010 SAPCR THE STATE OF TEXAS: IN INTEREST OF AL & DL CAUSE NO. CCL-23-55230 IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

TO: DANIEL LOMAYESVA SR, Respondent, Greeting:

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after the date you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. In addition to filing a written answer with the clerk, you may be required to make initial disclosures to the other parties of this suit. These disclosures generally must be made no later than 30 days after you file your answer with the clerk. Find out more at TexasLawHelp.org."

**If posted at the courthouse door the written answer shall be filed by 10:00 AM on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days following the 7th day of posting. The petition of COLLIN JACKSON DAVIS, Petitioner was filed in the COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF Coryell County, Texas on the 11/02/2023 against DANIEL LOMAYESVA SR., Respondent and entitled in the above entitled cause. The date and birth of the child/children who is/are the subject of the suit is/are: CHILD'S/CHILDREN'S NAME(S): ALIONA LOMAYESVA, DANIEL LOMAYESVA. PLACE OF BIRTH/DATE OF BIRTH, 02/28/2009, 08/10/2010. The Court has authority in this suit to render an order in the child's (children's) interest that will be binding on you, including the termination of the Parent-child Relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's (children's) adoption." ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT AT GATESVILLE, CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS, ON THIS THE 26th day of March, 2024. Attorney for Petitioner or Petitioner: COLLIN JACKSON DAVIS-PRO SE, 1801 N. MAIN ST. COPPERAS COVE, TEXAS 76522. Clerk of the Court: Becky Moore, District Clerk, P.O. Box 4, Gatesville, Texas 76528, Coryell County, Texas. By: Lonna Gossett, Deputy
00030714

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF JERRY CHARLES HOFFMAN, DECEASED. CAUSE NO-2410993, COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS, ON THE 5TH DAY OF APRIL 2024, APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP AND FOR LETTERS OF INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION SAID JERRY CHARLES HOFFMAN, DECEASED.

099
PUBLIC NOTICES

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 15TH 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.

JENNIFER NEWTON CORYELL COUNTY CLERK CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

BY: K. PALLEY

00030730

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Charles Ivy Shepherd were issued on April 10, 2024 in Cause No. 24-10978 pending in the County Court at Law of Coryell County, Texas, to Tony Shepherd.

All persons having claims against the estate, which is presently being administered, are required to submit them, within the time and manner prescribed by law, and before the estate is closed, addressed as follows:

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

Dated the 10th day of April 10, 2024.

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

00030737

099
PUBLIC NOTICES

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

ATTORNEY OR PERSON FILING CAUSE KAREN M. VILLANUEVA 2106 BIRD CREEK DR. TEMPLE, TX 76502

TO: DECEDENT'S UNKNOWN HEIRS UNKNOWN ADDRESS UNKNOWN STATE

THE STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF CORYELL

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF JERRY CHARLES HOFFMAN, DECEASED. CAUSE NO-2410993, COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS, ON THE 5TH DAY OF APRIL 2024, APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP AND FOR LETTERS OF INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION SAID JERRY CHARLES HOFFMAN, DECEASED.

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00030737

099
PUBLIC NOTICES

CITATION BY PUBLICATION - TRC109&114. THE STATE OF TEXAS: U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS SUCCESSOR IN THE INTEREST 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

Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year Floodplain:

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals on 4/13/2024: This is to give notice that the City of Oglesby has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection. The activity is funded under the CDBG Program and administered by the TDA ERR #(CDV23-0345). The City proposes a Water Infrastructure Improvements project, including Administrative and Engineering fees and services, for improvements at three water wells and two water connection sites. The improvements to the water wells will consist of replacing aged pumps, improving the site and electricals, and complete all associated appurtenances. The improvements at the water connection sites will be installing a new vault, pipe, pressure-reducing valve, bypass valves, and complete all associated appurtenances. The project is occurring across the City of Oglesby, Coryell County, Texas. The only portion of the project within the 100-year floodplain is the Water Connection #2 site located approximately 270 feet north of the Jordan Road and E Walker Ave intersection (31.421267°, -97.504698°). For additional information on project locations, please reference the contact information below and request the project's ERR. According to FEMA Panel No. 48099C0325F effective date 2/17/2010, the project shall include activities within approximately 0.16 acres of the 100-year floodplain (Zone A). The natural and beneficial functions and values of the floodplain potentially affected by the proposed activity include floodwater storage and conveyance, groundwater recharge, erosion control, surface water quality maintenance, biological productivity, fish and wildlife habitats, harvest for wild & cultivated products, recreational, educational, scientific, historic, and cultural opportunities. The City has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to be taken to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial values: a reduction in scope, alternate locations, and no action. The scope and location of project activities were chosen based on minimum improvements necessary to correct the health and safety risks existing facilities pose to the natural and human environment. Because the proposed project location contains the area most in need of improvements, the alternatives considered would preclude the correction of these risks. The best action is to proceed with the project as planned utilizing best management practices to protect the natural landscapes that serve to maintain or restore natural hydrology through infiltration and protect the proposed improvements from flood damage. All state and local floodplain protection procedures will be followed. Additionally, there shall be no significant increase in impervious surface and the project area will be restored to pre-project conditions upon completion. The City of Oglesby has reevaluated the alternatives to building in the floodplain and has determined that it has no practicable alternative. Environmental files that document compliance with steps 3 through 6 of Executive Order 11988 are available for public inspection, review, and copying upon request during regular business hours at the City Hall. There are three primary purposes for this notice: (1) People who may be affected by activities in floodplains and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas; (2) An adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas; and (3) As a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk. Written comments must be received on or before 4/22/2024 by the City of Oglesby at P.O. Box 185, Oglesby, TX 76561-0185 or 120 Main Street, Oglesby, Texas 76561-0185, (254) 470-2944. Attention: Dan Markum, Mayor. A full description of the project may also be reviewed during regular business hours at the same address.

Comments may also be submitted via email to jthompson@oglesby-texas.com CC: sean.martineau@grantworks.net.
00030735.

CLASSIFIEDS

099
PUBLIC NOTICES

099
PUBLIC NOTICES

099
PUBLIC NOTICES

037
HELP WANTED

037
HELP WANTED

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality



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

RENEWAL

PERMIT NO. WQ0010176002

APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION. City of Gatesville, 803 East Main Street, Gatesville, Texas 76528, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a renewal of Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0010176002, which authorizes the discharge of treated domestic wastewater at an annual average flow not to exceed 2,700,000 gallons per day. TCEQ received this application on August 28, 2023.

The facility is located at 402 Stillhouse Road, in Coryell County, Texas 76528. The treated effluent is discharged to Stillhouse Branch, thence to Brazos River Above Belton Lake in Segment No. 1259 of the Brazos River Basin. The unclassified receiving water use is minimal aquatic life use for Stillhouse Branch. The designated uses for Segment No. 1259 are primary contact recreation, public water supply, and high aquatic life use. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and is not part of the application or notice. For the exact location, refer to the application.
<https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-97.751666,31.445&level=18>

The TCEQ Executive Director has completed the technical review of the application and prepared a draft permit. The draft permit, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the facility must operate. The Executive Director has made a preliminary decision that this permit, if issued, meets all statutory and regulatory requirements. The permit application, Executive Director's preliminary decision, and draft permit are available for viewing and copying at Gatesville City Hall, 803 Main Street, Gatesville, Texas.

ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE NOTICE. Alternative language notice in Spanish is available at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/plain-language-summaries-and-public-notices>. El aviso de idioma alternativo en español está disponible en <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/plain-language-summaries-and-public-notices>.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Further information may also be obtained from City of Gatesville at the address stated above or by calling Mr. Robert Bustert, at 254-865-8951.

Issuance Date: April 1, 2024

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

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

- Physical Therapist Asst – PRN
- CNA/NA – FT, all Shifts
- CMA/CNA – FT, all Shifts

**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@coryellhealthi.org

Job summaries at
www.CoryellHealth.org

NOW HIRING

HOME HEALTH:

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

ASSISTED/INDEPENDENT LIVING:

- CNA-FT & PRN – all Shifts
- CMA – PRN

MEDICAL CLINIC:

- CMA/LVN – FT
- CCMA
- LVN – PRN

CULINARY:

- Patient Dining Associate
- Retail Café Server
- Cook
- Kitchen Manager
- Cashier
- Dishwasher

DIALYSIS:

- LVN – PT; RN Charge
- Nurse – FT

EMPLOYEE HEALTH:

- Employee Health RN

EMS:

- Paramedic – FT & PRN

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT:

- RN – FT Nightshift
- PRN – all shifts

HOUSEKEEPING:

- Housekeepers – FT

ICU:

- RN – FT all shifts

INFECTION PREVENTION:

- BSN-RN – FT
- Preferable Certified Infection Control & Epidemiology

LAB:

- Medical Laboratory Technician – FT and PT or PRN
- Point of Care Assistant – FT

MED/ SURG:

- RN or LVN – FT and PRN

MILLS COUNTY MEDICAL CLINIC:

- LVN

RADIOLOGY:

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

SURGERY:

- Certified Scrub Technician
- Cath Lab RN
- Pre-Op/PACU RN

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

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

Job summaries at
www.CoryellHealth.org

Burks

REAL ESTATE

Evant, TX
Office: 254-471-5738

Calvin Burks - Broker
(254) 865-3601

Lindy Burks
(254) 206-0643

Johnny Burks
(254) 223-0833

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

RECIPE

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

MEXICAN CRESCENTS

BY KATHIE BROWN

- 1 lb. ground turkey or hamburger
- 2 cans refrigerator crescents
- 1 lb. Jimmy Dean sausage (regular)
- 2 c. grated cheese

Combine meat and brown. Flatten the crescent in a triangle. Spoon on 1 tbs. of meat and 2 tsp. of cheese in the middle of the crescent. (Amount of meat and cheese will vary depending on the size of the flattened crescent). Fold sides of the crescent over the top of the meat and cheese and seal crescent closed. Repeat until all crescents have been used. Bake at 375 for 10-12 minutes or until golden brown. Makes 16 Mexican crescents. To half recipe, use only one can of crescents and ½ the meat mixture. Freeze remaining meat for next meal.

You never know what you might find...

CARS -- TRUCKS

BOATS -- PETS

FURNITURE

JOBS -- TOOLS

HOUSES -- PETS

RV's -- PLUMBERS

CARPENTERS

SUDOKU

3					2		
			3	2	9	6	
1			4	7			5
6	5	8		4	3		
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Puzzle answers from the April 6, 2024 issue.

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

Puzzle by websudoku.com



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Gatesville Public Library director Shea Harp helps Pam Wright to locate the town in New Zealand where she and her husband Ian reside. Those from out-of-state and out-of-country were encouraged to place dots on the map from where they came from to attend the eclipse.

New Zealand couple visit Gatesville to witness total solar eclipse

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Strolling through the Block Out the Sun Party booths on the courthouse square was a very friendly lady named Pam Wright who had travelled along with her husband, Ian, over 7,558 miles to witness the total solar eclipse in Gatesville on April 8th.

Wright and her husband reside in the city of Nelson, which is located on the South Island of New Zealand. She said that she and her husband decided to make plans to attend the eclipse in Gatesville about a year ago.

"My husband is into astronomy, and he said I should experience one

[eclipse] in my life... which is getting shorter all the time. So, this is the first eclipse for me," Wright said.

To reach the United States, the couple travelled from Auckland, New Zealand on a 13 ½ hour flight to Houston where they rented a car and drove to Gatesville.

Prior to the eclipse, with all the forecast about clouds, she said, "Well, Gatesville is on the center line, and we thought it was going to be an issue, and so about a week ago, after seeing the issue and after seeing the forecast, we thought we would just stick with Gatesville. My husband thinks it will be

an interesting experience - along with a piece of cloud."

"We have lunar eclipses quite regularly, but this is going to be interesting," she said. Wright continued, "The thing I'm looking forward to is the sounds and the silence and the way the animals will react. If we can find a place that we can see it coming and hopefully see some deer or something coming out and reacting, I would be happy."

When asked about their stay in Gatesville, Wright said, "It's such a cool town, and everyone's so friendly. I love it. It's nice to be in a small town."



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Gatesville Police Chief Brad Hunt is pictured with NASA Ambassador Liam Finn who was speaking about the solar eclipse at the Gatesville City Auditorium.

Post eclipse reflections by Gatesville Police Chief Hunt

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Following the total solar eclipse that was witnessed last Monday, in which Gatesville was expecting a massive influx of visitors, Gatesville Police Chief Brad Hunt commented on the historic eclipse weekend from the police department's perspective.

Regarding the high volume of traffic that was expected, Hunt said, "Traffic certainly did not pan out across our area, nor across the state, as expected, which was a blessing. I spoke to leaders throughout the day on Sunday and Monday in Waco, Copperas Cove, Hillsboro, Temple, Bosque County, and others who stated the same. We saw some local congestion on Monday morning, as people seemed to quickly shift their plans based on the forecasted cloud cover. We ended up being one of the recommended places in Texas for clearer skies. So, on Monday, between about 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., there was a large influx of day trippers into our town. After the event, traffic was heavier than usual until about 4 p.m., and it then went back to relatively normal."

The Block out the Sun Party that was held on the courthouse square the Saturday and Sunday prior to the eclipse was commented on by Chief Hunt, "Our crowds were lighter than we'd hoped, but that was likely due to the existing or forecast weather. Nothing usual

occurred. Cheri Shepherd and her event volunteers did an amazing job, and I received many comments about how organized and fun the event turned out."

Chief Hunt addressed the department's early planning stages for the eclipse. "Our goal from day one of planning was to make sure our citizens and visitors had a safe and organized experience. Our planning focused on the issues related to the number of people we knew would come here, since we were directly in the centerline of the totality, regardless of whether we advertised ourselves as a destination. Our events were designed to give those folks a safe and fun place to be, and we met that goal. I stated that a safe eclipse is a successful eclipse, and we met that goal as well. From the perspective of public safety, we were more than ready. For the sake of our local businesses and economy, I was actually hopeful for more visitors than we eventually saw."

According to Hunt, due to the expected influx of visitors to the area, the Gatesville Police Department received additional law enforcement assistance. "All our available Gatesville Police Officers took part in patrolling day and night, as well as five Officers from Stephenville PD, three Officers from Gatesville ISD PD, two of our Reserve Officers, and one Dispatcher loaned to us via a mutual aid agree-

ment with the Central Texas Council of Governments."

The Gatesville Police Chief was able to visit with many of the eclipse visitors who arrived in the community. "It is hard to put into words how amazing it was to visit with folks from around the U.S. and the world. I met folks from Washington D.C. to Oregon, and south Texas to Michigan. I had great conversations with folks from Ireland, Korea, Norway, Australia, Ireland, Scotland, and many other countries. Every single person I talked to mentioned how wonderful the people of Gatesville had been, how friendly everyone was, and how much they appreciated being here in our community."

Chief Hunt said that he is very appreciative of the support of city and county officials and for those who have worked for months/years to ensure that this past week was a success.

When asked why he believed that it was important for the community to experience the solar eclipse event, Hunt replied, "I would put that as 'the world got the chance to experience our community.' I had said to our department heads and my folks that this was our time to shine, and I am happy to report that we did so. Our city, county, businesses, and community received countless positive reviews from visitors."



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Lady Eagles softball determined to make playoffs

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

The Jonesboro Lady Eagles softball team has powered through their season standing at 11-7 overall, as well as being 5-1 in district play.

"The Jonesboro Lady Eagles are an extremely young and talented team, with only one senior on the roster this year and potentially having eight returners next year," coach Amanda LeCroy said. "The future is bright with this group."

The team's overall batting average is .504, an OBP of .606, eight home runs, and 144 RBI.

LeCroy expressed that the season started off a little bumpy in Round Rock at the 4A/5A tournament, but the girls still competed very well and continue to do so.

"It has started to come together, as we are 9-1 in our last 10 games," LeCroy said. "These young ladies have stepped up and have played very well together."

It's tough for other teams to pitch to the Lady Eagles when the whole lineup can potentially deliver at any swing.

"We don't have an easy out in our lineup," LeCroy said. "Our ability to

produce runs and move runners is what gets us ahead in most games."

Defensively, the team has come together over the last few weeks as well.

LeCroy admitted that being able to make routine plays is huge, and that they are big on keeping things simple in practice. During practice, the girls focus on reps and work on little things to not over-complicate anything.

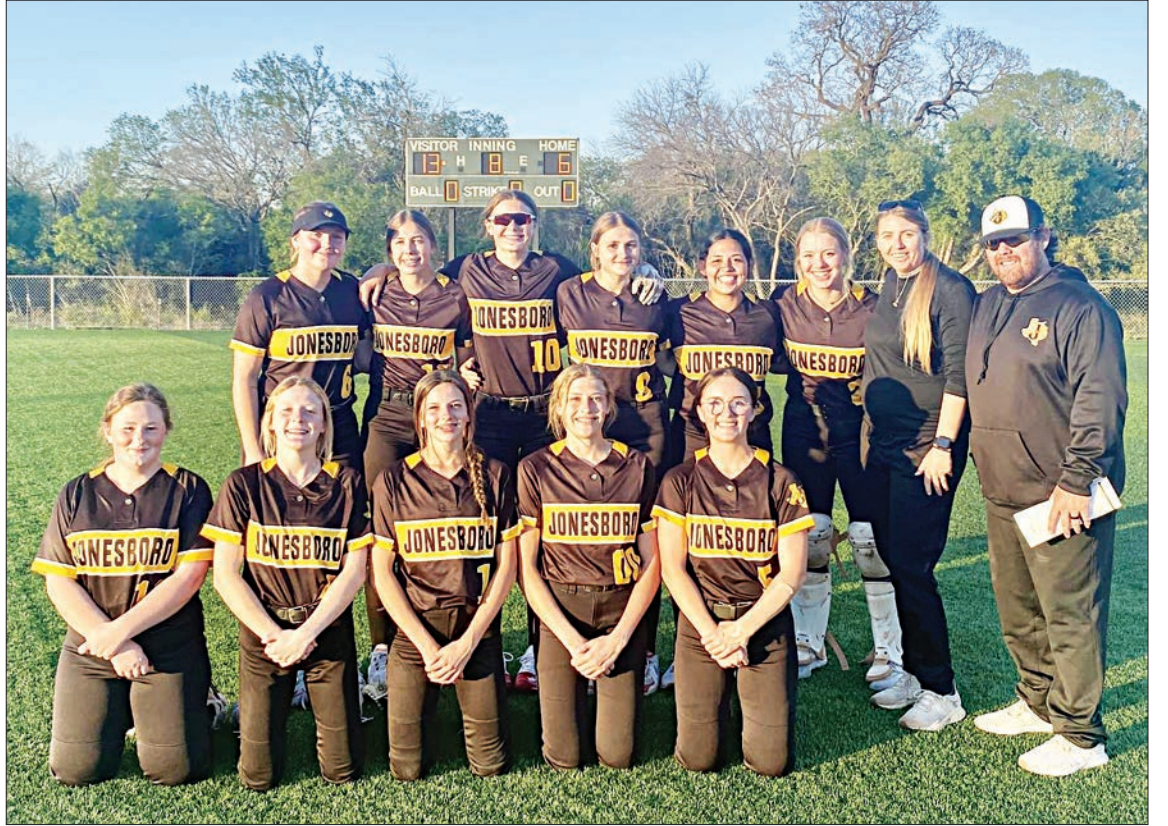
"We want our kids to be able to go out and execute and play with a clear mind," LeCroy said.

"We're looking to make a deep run this year for the playoffs, but we know we have to take it one game at a time, one inning at a time, and one pitch at a time," LeCroy said. "There is still a lot left of the season, and there are things we are still working on to make sure we compete on all aspects of the game."

The Lady Eagles will compete in their next game at home versus Covington Independent School District's softball team on Tuesday, April 16.

Jonesboro ISD is located at 14909 East State Hwy. 36 in Jonesboro.

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



The Jonesboro Lady Eagles softball team is pictured after defeating Blum ISD this past week.

COURTESY PHOTO

Gatesville High School track teams advance to area meet

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, April 3, and on Thursday, April 4, various athletes on both the boys and girls track teams won the chance to advance to the upcoming area meet.

The Lady Hornets finished strong in sixth place overall with 58 points total. The junior varsity team also finished in sixth place with a total of 23 points.

Lady Hornet athletes Barrett Boyd, Vania Martinez, Riley Higginbotham, and Lana Tyson earned area-meet passes after being in the top four finishes at the district 23-4A meet.

Boyd won the pole vault (11'6") and advanced in both of her hurdling races. She finished second in the 100-meter hurdles (15.6), and third in the 300 hur-

dles (48.09). Martinez was a double qualifier after claiming silver medals in the 3200-meter run (11:50) and the 1600-meter run (5:27). Higginbotham placed fourth in the 3200-meter run (12:21). Tyson won fourth place in the 400-meter dash (1:03).

Other Gatesville High School competitors include Marin Segraves, 5th place pole vault (8'6"); Addison Taylor, 6th place high jump (5'0"); and Hannah Aguilar shot put (31'4"). The team of Boyd, Tyson, Charlie Ferris, and Paige Sentillas finished with a time of 4:21 in the 4 x 400 relay. The team of Jaylyn Pickens, Riley Aaron, Ryleigh Eaton, and Sentillas finished with a time of 53.1 in the 4 x 100 relay. The team of Aaron, Eaton, Tyson and Sentillas finished with a time of

1:51 in the 4 x 200 relay.

The Gatesville High School boys track team finished as the runner-up. The Hornets totaled 133 points and qualified 14 athletes in 13 different events for the area meet. The junior varsity team totaled 91 points and finished in fifth place overall.

Gatesville High School claimed gold medals in five events including Zach Bryant, discus (134'1"); Justin Muegge, 800-meter run (2:00); Daniel Gonzales, 400-meter run (49.7); Cory Burns, 200-meter run (22); and the team of Tommy Aaron, Daniel Gonzales, Cory Burns, and Lawson Mooney finished with a time of 43.2 in the 4 x 100 relay.

Other area-meet qualifiers include Zach Bryant, 2nd place shot put (43'11.5"); Amos Phillips, pole vault

(13'6"); Holton Bolfling, 3rd place pole vault (13'0"); Lawson Mooney, 100-meter dash (11.3); Cameron Thompson, 400-meter run (51.3) and the 800-meter run (2:00); Jack Armstrong, 1600-meter run (4:43). Kase Cox, 4th place long jump (20'0.5") and triple jump (42'2.5"). The team of Nevin Benning, Thompson, Gonzales, and Phillips in the 4 x 400 relay (3:29). The team of Mooney, Cory Burns, and Brady Gist in the 4 x 200 relay (1:31). Hornet Caleb Saxon won fifth place in the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 46.1, as well as winning sixth place in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 20.3.

At the district 23-4A/24-4A area meet in Lago Vista on Wednesday, April 10, Gatesville High School had a total of 18 athletes that

competed for a chance to advance to the regional meet.

The girls' varsity track team had four athletes compete in six different events. The Lady Hornets included Barrett Boyd, pole vault, 100-meter hurdles, and the 300-meter hurdles; Riley Higginbotham, 3200-meter run; Vania Martinez, 3200-meter run and the 1600-meter run; and Lana Tyson, 400-meter run.

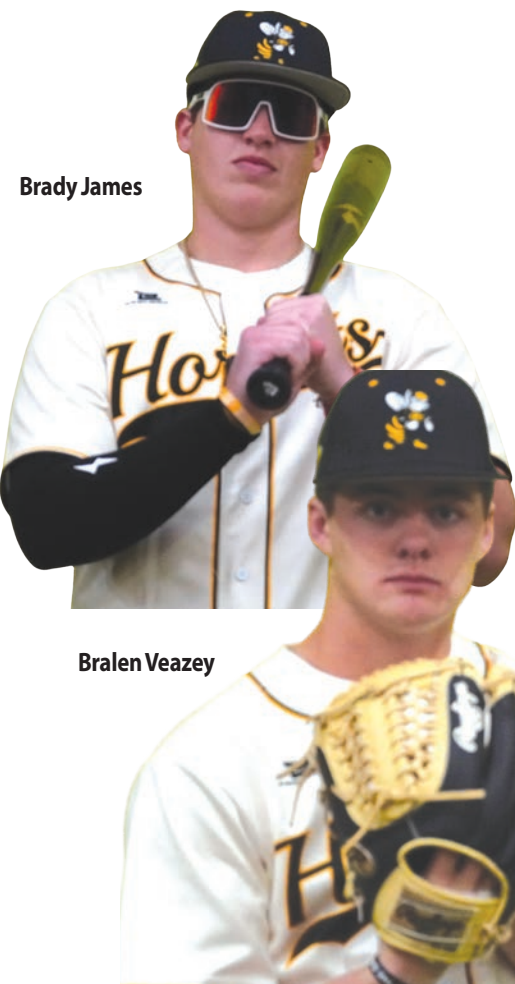
The boys' varsity track team had 14 athletes compete in 13 different events. The Hornets included Tommy Aaron, alternate; Jack Armstrong, 1600-meter run; Nevin Benning, 4 x 400 relay; Holton Bolfling, pole vault; Zach Bryant, discus and shot put; Cory Burns, 200-meter dash, 4 x 100 relay, and the 4 x 200 relay; Cy Burns, 4 x 200 relay; Kase Cox, long jump

and triple jump; Brady Gist, 4 x 200 relay; Daniel Gonzales, 400, 4 x 100 relay and the 4 x 400 relay; Lawson Mooney, 100-meter dash, 4 x 100 relay, and the 4 x 200 relay; Justin Muegge, 800-meter run and the 4 x 400 relay; Amos Phillips, pole vault; Caleb Saxon, alternate; Cameron Thompson, 400-meter run and the 4 x 400 relay; Ricky Villagrana, 4 x 100 relay; and Memphis Wells, alternate.

The top 4 finishers in each event will advance to the regional competition.

The results are soon to come. For further information, contact Gatesville High School at 254-865-8281.

Hornets fall to China Spring, series opener against Connally postponed



Brady James

Bralen Veazey

CHRIS ALLMAN
Contributing Writer

Gatesville baseball dropped a 12-4 decision to top-ranked China Spring on April 5 - then had their scheduled series-opener against Connally rained out on April 9.

The Hornets and Cadets met at Connally on April 11, then again in Gatesville on April 12.

In their loss to the Cougars - the state's No. 1 ranked 4A team - the Hornets fell behind 8-0 before battling back in the top of the fifth inning.

After John Ibarra single walks from Sean Aguilar and Lawson Mooney, Bralen Veazey double to right driving in three runs. Bradey James followed with a double - his second of the

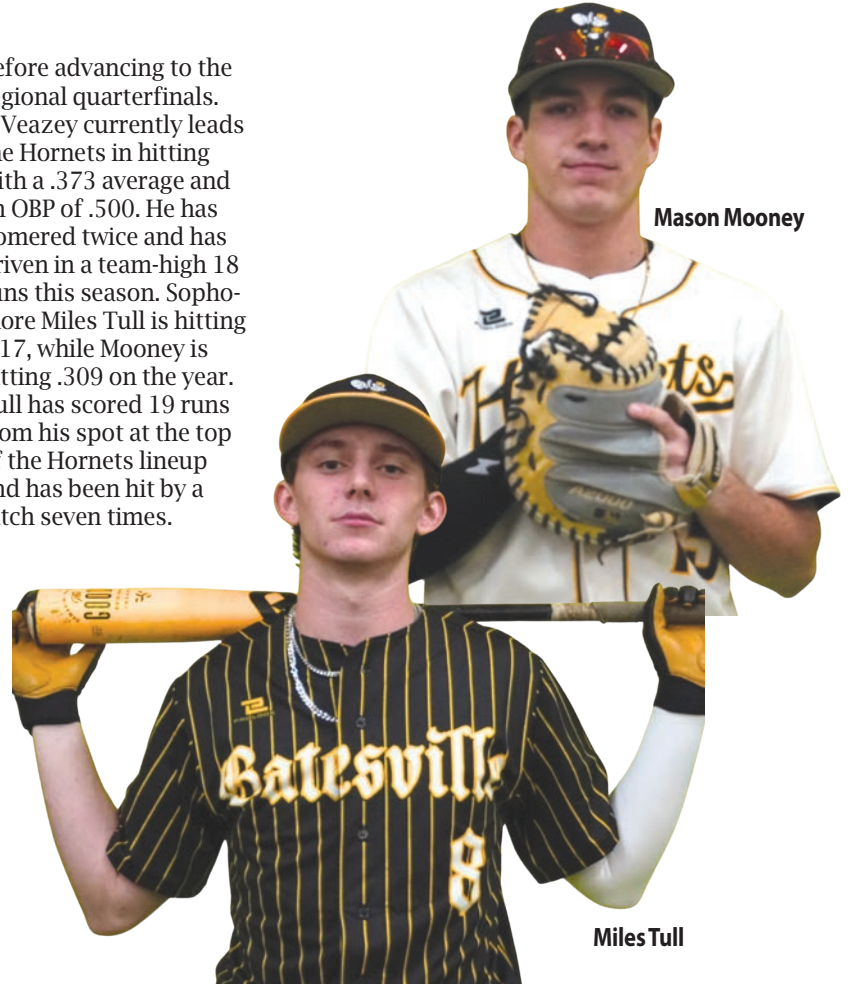
night - to score Veazey and make the score 8-4.

The loss puts the Hornets at 2-2 in district as they head into a series with the 0-4 Cadets. China Spring sits atop the league standings at 4-0 with Salado currently in second at 4-1. The Eagles dropped their first district contest 5-3 against Robinson on April 9. The Rockets are 3-2 in district, while La Vega is also 0-4.

Following their series with the Cadets, Gatesville will take on Salado then finish the regular season with two games against La Vega. Last season, Gatesville split with the Eagles, and another split in 2024 would likely put the Hornets in the drivers seat for the number two seed out of 23-4A in the playoffs. Gatesville finished fourth in the standings in 2023

before advancing to the regional quarterfinals.

Veazey currently leads the Hornets in hitting with a .373 average and an OBP of .500. He has homered twice and has driven in a team-high 18 runs this season. Sophomore Miles Tull is hitting .317, while Mooney is hitting .309 on the year. Tull has scored 19 runs from his spot at the top of the Hornets lineup and has been hit by a pitch seven times.



Mason Mooney

Miles Tull



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GCOC to host Spring Swing Golf Classic April 27

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce has announced that their annual spring golf tournament will be held on Saturday, April 27, at the Gatesville Golf Course.

The tournament will benefit the chamber's Junior Ambassadors scholarship fund. The tournament will be a four-person scramble and will cost \$100 a player or \$360 for a team of four. Tee-time will commence

at 10 a.m., and there will be a longest drive contest, cash tournament prizes, a closest to the pin competition, and a hole-in-one prize winner. There will be a catered lunch as well as a 50/50 raffle and a silent auction.

Private carts are welcome, and rentals will be available. Sponsorships for the event are available as well, which includes the Titleist Sponsor for \$1,000 (one person limit), the Club House Sponsor for \$750, the Mid-Iron Sponsor

for \$500, the Chip-In Sponsor for \$250, the Cart Girl Sponsor for \$250, and the Par Putt Sponsor for \$100. To obtain sponsorship or to register for the tournament, contact the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce at

254-865-2617. The Gatesville Golf Course is located at 1308 Golf Course Road.

Evant Elks and Lady Elks district track meet results

Staff Reports

The girls and boys track teams of Evant Independent School District recently competed in a district track meet where they took home various awards.

The results include:
Varsity
 Jolyce Acosta: Shot Put, 23' 5.75 (PR); Discus, 77' 1.5 (PR).
 Brinlea Bates: Triple Jump, 30' 6.25, 3rd place, (PR) Area Qualifier; 4 x 100 Relay, 1:01.03, 4th place, Area Qualifier; 100 Meters, 14.9; 200 Meters, 31.7, 6th.
 Daritza Escamilla: 4 x 100 Relay, 1:01.03, 4th place, Area Qualifier; 100 Meter Hurdles, 21.09, 4th place, (PR) Area Qualifier; 300 Meter Hurdles, 1:04.12, 3rd place, Area Qualifier.
 Izzy Gandy: Shot Put, 26' 0.5, 4th place, (PR) Area Qualifier; Discus, 75' 9.25, (PR).
 Hailey Neri: 3200 Meters, 15:58.76, 3rd place, Area Qualifier; 800 Meters, 2:56.24, 4th place, Area Qualifier; 1600 Meters, 7:07.
 Bree Ramirez: Shot Put, 28' 0.25, 1st place, (PR) Area Qualifier; Discus, 89' 0.5, 1st place, Area Qualifier.
 Luwi Rodriguez: 4 x 100 Relay, 1:01.03, 4th place, Area Qualifier; 300 Meter Hurdles, 1:01.53, 2nd place, (PR) Area Qualifier.

Molly Waldrum: High Jump, 4'2; Triple Jump, 26' 7.75, 6th place, (PR).
 Harley Weeks: Long Jump, 11' 2; 4 x 100 Relay, 1:01.03, 4th place, Area Qualifier; 100 Meters, 15.4; 200 Meters, 33.2.
 Madison Wilson: 400 Meters, 1:22.33.
 Wyatt Hitt: Triple Jump, 37' 3.75, 2nd place, (PR) Area Qualifier; Long Jump, 18' 7.5, 2nd place, (PR) Area Qualifier; 100 Meters, 13.2; 200 Meters, 26.74.
 Cameron McGilvary: Triple Jump, 33' 0.5, (PR); Long Jump, 16' 0.5; 100 Meters, 13.18; 200 Meters, 28.46.
 Dylan Price: Triple Jump, 32' 2.5; 400 Meters, 58.09, (PR); 200 Meters, 28.46.
Junior Varsity
 Bella Kolajo: Shot Put, 20' 8, 3rd place; Discus, 51' 11.5, 4th place.
 Daisy Morales: Shot Put, 21' 2, 2nd place; Discus, 60' 3.25, 3rd place, (PR).
 Mariela Zarate: Discus, 61' 7, 2nd place, (PR); Shot Put, 20' 4.25, 4th place, (PR).
 Cristian Morales-Lopez: 100 Meters, 13.18, 1st place; 200 Meters, 27.94, 1st place.
 Adrian Rodriguez: 100 Meters, 16.64; 200 Meters, 33.46, 6th place.
 For further details, contact Evant ISD at 254-471-5536.



The Evant Elks and Lady Elks are pictured together at a recent track meet.

COURTESY PHOTO



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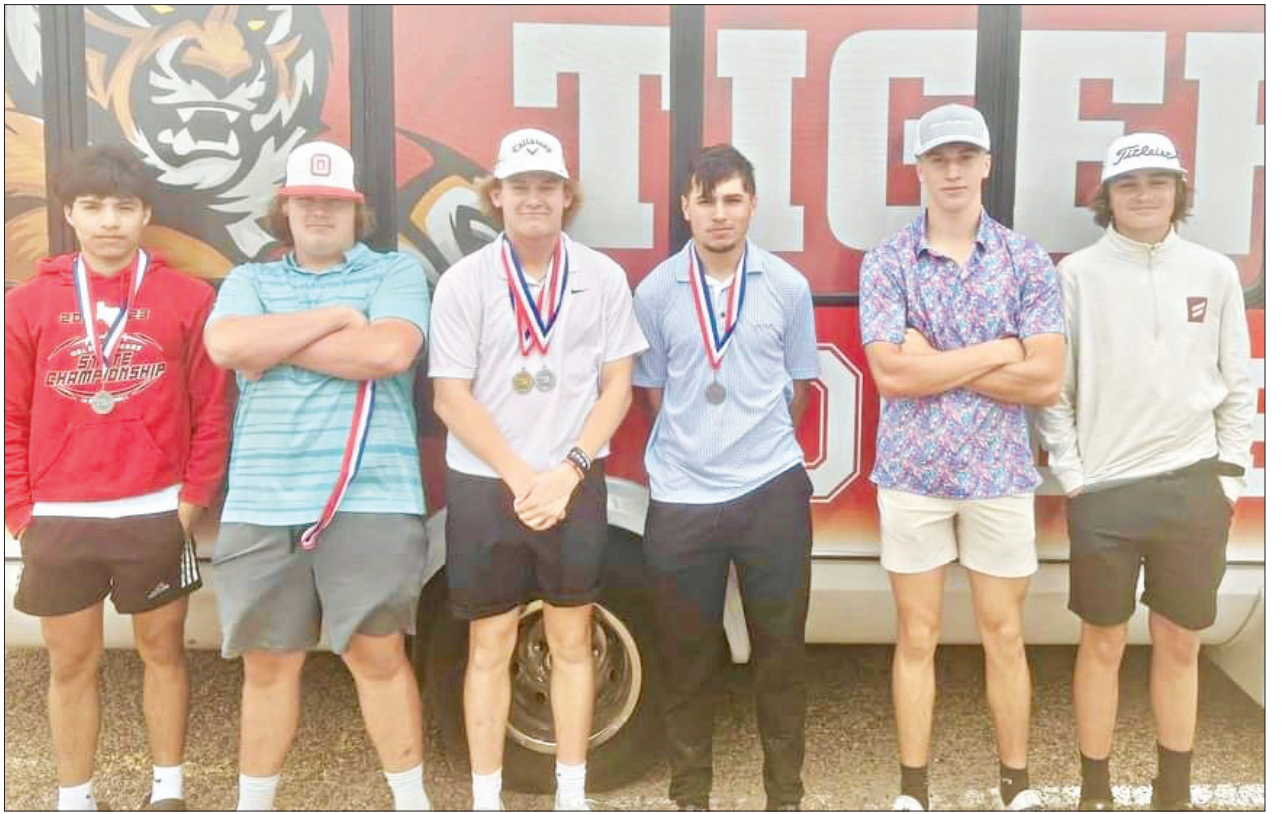




Oglesby Lady Tiger Matti Dixon



Oglesby Tiger Hunter Walter



The Oglesby ISD boys' golf team pictured from left to right is Alex Castillo, Hunter Ewing, Hunter Walter, Johnny Gomez, Kayson Campbell, and Tucker Melton. COURTESY PHOTOS

Oglesby ISD golf teams compete in district competition

Staff Reports

Both girls and boys golf teams of Oglesby Independent School District recently competed in a district tournament this past week and took home medals.

Oglesby Tigers Matti Dixon and Hunter Walter each took first place as individuals in the district competition.

The boys golf team placed second, which included Hunter Walter, Johnny Gomez, Hunter Ewing, Alex Castillo, Kayson Campbell, and Tucker Melton.

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

JHS Eagles baseball team bats up against Oglesby Tigers

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

This past week, the baseball team at Jonesboro Independent School District went up against Oglesby ISD. The Eagles fell 7-14 to Oglesby.

"We got ahead early, let a one run lead slip away, and gave up seven runs in the fifth inning to go down 14-2," Coach Brandon said. The Eagles battled back and scored five runs in the bottom of the sixth to

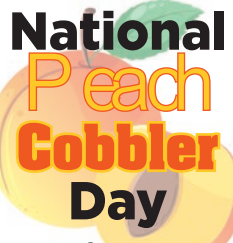
keep from getting 10 runs ruled. "Just couldn't get anything going in the seventh," Pierce said. For further details, contact Jonesboro ISD at 254-463-2111.

Coryell Health to offer free physicals to local 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 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.



April 13, 2024

National Peach Cobbler Day, celebrated on April 13th, is a delicious occasion that pays tribute to one of the most delightful desserts around - peach cobbler! This sweet and fruity treat has a special day dedicated to its scrumptious goodness.

Kids can celebrate National Peach Cobbler Day by joining in the kitchen fun. Whether it's helping mix the sweet peaches with cinnamon and sugar or assisting in creating the

perfect cobbler topping, there's a role for everyone in the family.

The best part? Once the peach cobbler is baked to golden perfection, families can gather around to enjoy the warm, gooey goodness together. Whether topped with a scoop of vanilla ice cream or a dollop of whipped cream, the possibilities for enhancing this tasty treat are endless.

Teachers might even incorporate National Peach Cobbler Day into classroom

activities, exploring the history of this beloved dessert and perhaps even organizing a mini peach cobbler baking session for a delicious learning experience.

So, on April 13th, let's celebrate National Peach Cobbler Day by indulging in the sweet flavors of this classic dessert. It's a day to savor the taste of ripe peaches, enjoy the aroma of cinnamon, and relish in the simple joy of sharing a delightful dessert with loved ones.



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Easy Peach Cobbler

Ingredients

- 1 cup white sugar
- ½ cup butter, room temperature
- 1 cup self-rising flour
- 1 cup milk
- 1 (15 ounce) can sliced peaches, with juice

Instructions

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
2. Beat sugar and butter together in a 1-quart baking dish.
3. Mix in flour and milk until smooth. Pour peaches and juice over top.
4. Bake in the preheated oven until golden brown, 25 to 30 minutes.



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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Schaefer blasts 37th home run as Texans win at SFA

Tarleton State University

NACOGDOCHES — Tarleton State (16-23, 4-8 WAC) beat Stephen F. Austin (9-29, 2-8 WAC) April 5, the first win for the Texans at the SFA Softball Field since April 22, 2022.

The Texans got off to a quick start putting up a two-spot in the top of the first.

Tristyn Trull doubled down the right field line to score Kelci Hill making it 1-0 Texans. Kelci Hill reached base on a single to center. Kayla Wallace then singled as Trull scored giving Tarleton State the early 2-0 lead.

In the bottom of the first, SFA put up a three-spot to take the lead 3-2.

Lexi Benson got the Ladyjacks on the board as she singled up the middle and advanced to second on the throw as Madison Nguyen scored making it 2-1. The home team then tied things up as Kylie Bishop singled up the middle and advanced to second on the throw while Benson came in to score making it 2-2. Ellie Vance put the Ladyjacks up 3-2 as she singled to left field scoring Bishop.

In the top of the third, the Texans tied things up at 3-3 off the bat of Trull. Kelci Hill scored diving headfirst into home as Trull grounded out to the third baseman.

The visiting Purple and White squad took the lead back in the top of the fourth as the younger Hill sister Kalyn doubled to the center field wall allowing Wallace to score from second as she doubled to right field in the at-bat before.

The fifth inning went by scoreless for either team before both teams put up a run each in their halves of the sixth.

In the top of the sixth, Katy Schaefer hit a solo bomb over the center field fence building the Texans' lead to two going up 5-3.

Schaefer (37) now sits just four long balls away from tying second all-time in program history for home runs (41, Arianna Rodriguez, 2010-13).

In the bottom half of the sixth SFA made it a one run game thanks to Hope Lusk who doubled deep to right center scoring Nguyen making it 5-4. This marked the final run for either team



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

In the top of the sixth, Katy Schaefer hit a solo bomb over the center field fence building the Texans' lead to two going up 5-3.

on the night.

The Texans threatened in the seventh with Hayden Fox and Kelci Hill both in scoring position but the score remained 5-4 Texans heading into the last half inning. Fox reached on a

single to center field and then moved to third after it was wide open as she rounded second as Jordan Dickerson grounded out to the catcher. Kelci Hill reached base on a walk and then stole second without a

throw.

Kendall Daniel made quick work of the Ladyjacks in the bottom half of the seventh as Benson flew out to Wallace in left field. Bishop then grounded out to Dickerson putting the

Texans just one out away from getting back in the win column. Vance grounded out to Schaefer as she threw over to Austin Germain to seal the 5-4 victory over Stephen F. Austin.

Three top-11 finishes at 2024 David Noble Relays



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Tarleton State had two student-athletes move into the top-10 all-time in program history in the decathlon after top-10 finishes at former Lone Star Conference foe Angelo State April 3 and 4.

Tarleton State University

SAN ANGELO — Tarleton State had two student-athletes move into the top-10 all-time in program history in the decathlon after top-10 finishes at former Lone Star Conference foe Angelo State April 3 and 4.

MEN

Davi Torres came away with the best finish for the Texans placing sixth in the decathlon with 6,082 points, highlighted by a gold finish in the high jump clearing 2.00 meters. He also now sits fourth all-time in program history. Torres also had top-five finishes in four other events. He took third in the 1500-meter race with a time of 4:52.57.

In the 400-meter Torres took fourth crossing the finish line at 50.80 seconds.

He placed fifth in both the 110-meter hurdles and long jump. Torres cleared all the hurdles in 15.32 seconds. His final top-five finish came in the long jump where he leaped 6.54 meters.

Kyler Larson moved to fifth all-time in program history in the decathlon as he earned 5,658 points with three top-five event finishes. His top event finish was in the high jump where he finished in a four-way tie for fourth jumping 1.85 meters. Larson had a pair fifth place finishes in the shotput and discus. He launched the shotput 11.53 meters and threw the discus 33.25 meters.

WOMEN

Jordan Rae was the lone Texan to compete on the women's side of things as she finished 11th in the

Heptathlon with 4,248 points in her first one of the season. Rae already sits in the record books for Tarleton State Track and Field as she holds third all-time in program history in the Heptathlon with 4,688 points. That mark was set by Rae in 2023.

Rae's best finish of the meet came in the high jump as she cleared 1.68 meters.

The Texans will be back in action next Friday-Saturday as Tarleton State will host the Joe Gillespie Invitational on the newly completed Oscar H. Frazier Memorial Track that now sits on the north end of Memorial Stadium. This will mark the first meet that has been hosted by the Purple and White since the 2021 Joe Gillespie Invitational.

Tarleton State earns 1st sweep of conference play over Seattle U

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Texan Baseball closed out the weekend series with a third consecutive win over Seattle U April 7.

Tarleton State (18-14, 8-7 WAC) claimed the final game of the series against Seattle U (7-24, 3-9 WAC) after a seven-run second inning buried the Redhawks. Game 3 ended with the Texans on top at 9-2.

In the bottom of the second, a two RBI double from Mason Crews saw the Texans draw first blood. Tyson Drake singled to center field to add another run to the board. With the bases loaded, Cris Enriquez brought out the big guns with a grand slam to bring the total to seven for the home team.

Jake Burcham was the starting pitcher for the Purple and White with 4.0 innings on the mound, giving up one run on two hits, two walks and three strikeouts. Grant Garza remained perfect on the mound after claiming his seventh win on the season. Garza (W, 7-0) contributed 4.0 innings on the bump, giving up no runs on four hits, one walk and four strikeouts.

Luke Alwood (L, 0-3) started on the mound for the Redhawks with 1.2 innings pitched, giving up seven runs on four hits, four walks and one strikeout.

Enriquez led the offensive efforts for the Purple and White with a grand slam and a double to earn his new season-high in RBI in a single game (6). Crews also contributed a double for Tarleton State. The Texans compiled nine runs on eight hits.

A pair of doubles and a triple contributed to the Redhawks offense. Seattle U tallied two runs on seven hits.

In the Texans' half of the second inning, the Purple and White silenced the Redhawks, tallying as many runs in a single inning as the Redhawks scored all weekend. Trace Morrison walked to start the inning off. Following the first out, Morrison advanced a pair of bases. Ike Shirey joined Morrison with a walk and stole second shortly after. Crews' double brought the couple in. With two outs on the board, Mason Hammonds singled to see two runners on for the home team. An RBI single from Drake made room

for Crews to cross the plate. Cole Mears walked, loading the bases for Enriquez. The first baseman for the Texans did a job at the plate as a grand slam from Enriquez brought in four more runs for the Purple and White to see the Redhawks down by seven.

In the top of the third, a lone run came in for the visitors. One walk, followed by a double down the left field line put the Redhawks on the board.

The bottom of the sixth saw another couple of runs come in for Tarleton State to give the home team some insurance. Jordan Andrade played the role of leadoff for the inning and walked to put the Texans on early. With two outs recorded, Mears was hit by a pitch, joining Andrade on the diamond. Enriquez got back to work at the plate with a two RBI double to bring the pair home and increase the lead to eight.

The seventh and eighth innings went scoreless.

In the top of the ninth, the Redhawks tried to stay in the fight, but a solo run closed out the afternoon and sealed the deal for the Texans' first sweep of conference play.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Texan Baseball closed out the weekend series with a third consecutive win over Seattle U April 7.

EDUCATION

Gatesville ★ Evant ★ Jonesboro ★ Oglesby

GHS students attend Beautiful Tomorrow Assembly



COURTESY PHOTO

The Beautiful Tomorrow Assembly was recently held at Gatesville High School to encourage juniors and seniors to keep pushing forward.

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

Gatesville High School's senior class GEAR UP sponsor/site facilitator Sarah Coker recently brought a program to the campus called the Beautiful Tomorrow Assembly.

Coker has been alongside the class of 2024 since their eighth-grade year, guiding

them in the right direction for life after high school.

"In 2020 when this year's seniors were freshman and during the COVID restrictions, I had the Beautiful Tomorrow Assembly virtually," Coker said. "Since then, I have talked to other facilitators at GEAR UP schools that have had the assembly in person and

heard all about how much the assembly impacted the students with a positive and encouraging message that they need to hear."

The message of the assembly includes college and career readiness, peer to peer encouragement, anti-bullying, and character development as well as to keep moving forward

toward success.

"The students responded enthusiastically to his positive message, and many stayed after and stood in line to meet him," Coker said. "There was singing, dancing, crowd participation, and even though 681 students were in attendance from grades 9-12, he had no problem with engagement."

The goal of the assembly is to challenge the minds of the youth in attendance and to spark a desire in them to pursue their future and its endless potential. The assembly fuses the genre of hip hop with the structure of a question-and-answer discussion panel, both under the umbrella of the message of encouragement

and empowerment.

The assembly was established by motivational speaker Jason Lewis. He has travelled all around the country speaking to youth and performing at venues aimed at promoting peace.

For further information, visit beautifultomorrowassembly.com.



COURTESY PHOTO

Students participating in the Beautiful Tomorrow Assembly recently held at Gatesville High School.

Gatesville Junior High instrument tryouts to be held April 13 & 18

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 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.

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Coryell County

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

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

COLD SPRINGS BAPTIST
Bob Phillips, pastor; Sundays – Sunday School 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

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

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

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

FIRST BAPTIST GATESVILLE
Dr. Pete Keough, Pastor; 912 E. Main St., Gatesville; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.; Wednesdays – Children & Youth 5:30-7:00 p.m. (supper provided), Adult Bible Study 6-7:00 p.m.

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

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

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

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

HAY VALLEY BAPTIST
3110 Hay Valley Road; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.

AWANA children's ministry
Sundays 5-7 p.m. Bible Study for men & women on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

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

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

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

LIVE OAK 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 McConaughay, pastor; 11125 FM 116, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday service 11 a.m.

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

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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.

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.

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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.

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

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Bill Trotter, pastor; 3412 E. Main St., Gatesville; Sunday service 11 a.m., Wednesday service 7 p.m.

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

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

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

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

Gatesville Primary to host Pre-K and K Round Up

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 five 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 four 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 - three 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.

PRIMARY PLANT WEEK



COURTESY PHOTO

Pre-kindergarten students of Gatesville Primary School learned a bunch about plants this past week. The primary students had the chance to take a trip to visit the high school greenhouse for a tour. They were able to look around at all the plants while learning about the different supplies needed to grow them. Pictured are the primary students ending their day at the greenhouse by planting things of their own in the school planter boxes.

Gatesville Junior High to hold 8th grade dance for students

Staff Reports

Gatesville Junior High School will host its eighth-grade dance on Saturday, April 27, from 7-10 p.m.

The dance will be in the Mary Bishop Gym at the junior high.

Activities at the dance will feature a live DJ with a

dance floor, various games around the gym, and a 360-photo booth to take pictures with classmates.

There will be a conces-

sion stand for snacks and beverages.

The dress code will follow the Gatesville Junior High dress code guidelines.

Tickets will cost \$10 per person and will include a drink and a snack from the concession stand.

For further details, con-

tact Gatesville Junior High School at 254-865-8271.

Gatesville Junior High is located at 307 S. Lovers Lane.



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Jonesboro ISD UIL students advance to regionals

Staff Reports

The Jonesboro ISD district 25A Academic UIL competition was a success this past week as various students will be advancing to the upcoming regional meet.

Overall, Jonesboro placed second after competing in their two-day event.

Students advancing to regionals include:

Leonella Rodrigues in social studies, ready writing, and copy editing.

Maddie Hengst in physics and literary criticism.

Luke Maxwell in mathematics and number sense.

Luke Stephenson in headline writing as well as current issues and events.

Pate Foote in literary criticism and number sense.

Sierra Chapman in literary criticism and prose interpretation.

Peyton Williamson in literary criticism.

DeMarcus Acoff in number sense.

Braden Ashby in number sense.

Maggie Gillis in poetry interpretation.

Other students who placed include:

In calculator applications, Hunter Beaty, Braden Ashby, Pate Foote, and DeMarcus Acoff received

third place with a total of 98 points.

In copy editing, Chloe Lusk received sixth place with a total of four points.

In current issues and events, as a team, Luke Stephenson, Braxton Dossey, and Maddie Hengst received second place with a total of 76 points. Individually, Braxton Dossey won fourth place with a total of eight points, and Maddie Hengst won 13th place.

In feature writing, Sierra Chapman won fourth place with a total of eight points.

In headline writing, Gracie Calhoun-Dick won sixth place with a total of four points.

In mathematics, DeMarcus Acoff and Braden Ashby won sixth place with a total of 28 points, and Braxton Dossey won 15th place with a total of 10 points.

In prose interpretation, Michella Martinez won fourth place with a total of eight points.

In science, Pate Foot won sixth place with a total of two points, Maddie Hengst won eighth place, Mag-

gie Gillis won 10th place, Braden Ashby won 12th place, Hunter Beaty won 13th place, and Braxton Dossey won 14th place.

In social studies, as a



Pictured are Jonesboro ISD students after competing in UIL academic competition.

COURTESY PHOTO

team, Leonella Rodrigues, Maddie Hengst, Michella Martinez, and Antonella Rodriguez won second place with a total of five points. Individually, Maddie Hengst won fifth place with a total

of six points, Michella Martinez won ninth place, and Antonella Rodriguez won 10th place.

In spelling, as a team, Rachael Pruett, Antonella Rodriguez, Kayleigh Scott,

and Madison Cohn won third place. Individually, Rachael Pruett won seventh place, Antonella Rodriguez won 10th place, Kayleigh Scott won 11th place, and Madison Cohn won 15th

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

BARR CHOSEN FOR A.C.E. AWARD



COURTESY PHOTO

Coryell Health Registered Nurse Brian Barr recently received an A.C.E. award this past week. Barr was nominated by two patients for providing exceptional care during their emergency room visit. The patients described him as being patient, caring, and communicative regarding their care. Barr is a member of the emergency team department.

2024 Student Heroes Award nominations

Staff Reports

Nominations are now open for the 2024 Student Heroes Award.

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

Since the award's inception, nearly 120 Texas public school students with a heart for service have been named Student Heroes. Fifteen students, one per state board district, receive the award each year, with contributions ranging from initiating inclusive programs for seniors and students with disabilities to facilitating fundraisers for kids receiving medical treatment.

The SBOE encourages students, teachers, administrators, and community members to nominate any Texas public school students who exemplify the core value of selfless service.

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

The nomination period is

from Monday, Feb. 19 and will end on Saturday, May 4, at 5 p.m. central time.

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

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

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

The award presentation typically occurs at a local school assembly, an organization meeting, or in a classroom. The exact date, time, and location of the presentation will be determined by the local school district or campus in coordination with the SBOE member. Up to 15 students, one from each SBOE member, may be recognized.

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

Gatesville Intermediate school to present Family Game Night April 18

Staff Reports

Gatesville Intermediate School will host a family

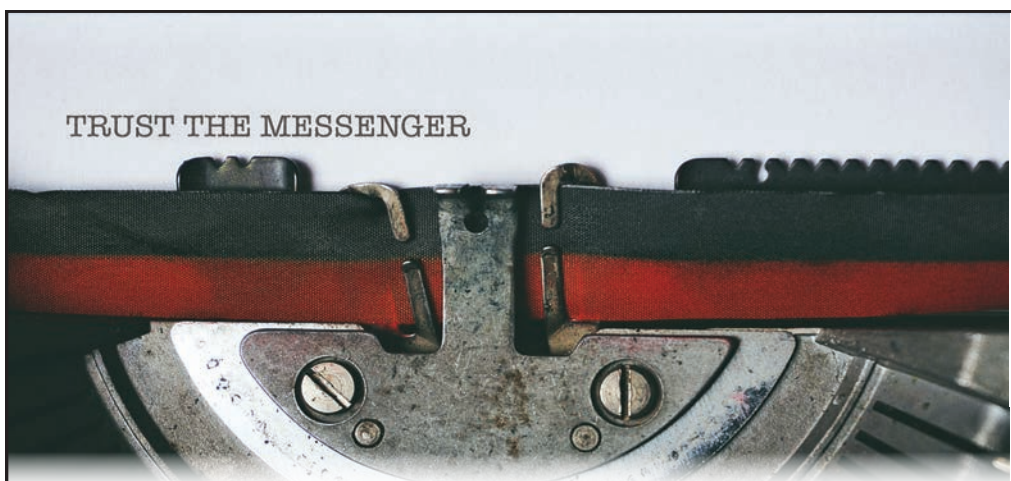
game night on Thursday, April 18.

The event will be held on campus from 5:30-7p.m.

There will be plenty of activities ranging from math to reading games. For further information,

contact Gatesville Intermediate at 254-865-2526.

Gatesville Intermediate is located at 311 Hornet Way.



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