



# THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

SATURDAY | April 27, 2024

\$1.00



SERVING CORYELL COUNTY SINCE 1881 | VOLUME 122, No. 23, ISSN No. 0894-4954



## 1st Place Winner

PHOTO BY JESSICA FOULKE

The grand prize winner of this year's Bonnets in Bloom bluebonnet photo contest, sponsored by the First National Bank of Central Texas, is Jessica Foulke. Jessica took this picture of her beloved Lucille in Pflugerville. When notified of her win, she said that Lucille will be thrilled, and she's going to get a LOT of treats! Jessica and Lucille will receive \$200, a special Bonnets in Bloom t-shirt, and a one-year subscription to The Gatesville Messenger. The Messenger would like to thank everyone for their submissions and ask everyone to be sure and enter again next year.

## CCSO to closely monitor school bus routes on 116

BY KAYLEE DUSANG  
Staff Writer

After receiving several complaints about drivers passing school buses while unloading and loading children, the Coryell County Sheriff's Office said in an April 10 Facebook post that they will be increasing their patrol along school bus routes on FM 116.

"Even if you're experiencing an emergency, there is no excuse to pass a school bus at 80 mph," Sheriff's Office Deputy Mike Ratterman wrote in the post.

Ratterman said he has received complaints on the issue from the bus drivers, school districts, and parents. He said the reports were coming in every few days.

"I will continue to be extremely proactive in the monitoring of cars passing our buses while loading and unloading children," he said. "This is not a flavor of the week thing, and the constant monitoring is not going to stop."

For drivers who are

caught passing a stopped school bus picking up or dropping off kids, Ratterman said they will receive a citation that carries a minimum fine of \$500 for a first offense. The \$500 fine is set by the Texas Transportation Code 545.066.

While most of the reports came from FM 116, he said he has also received complaints on County Road 142, Highway 190, and South FM 116 going out of Copperas Cove toward Kempner.

Ratterman emphasizes the risk drivers take toward a child's safety if they pass a stopped school bus.

"People should understand that passing these buses poses a serious threat to the safety of our kids," he said. "A lot of these kids are elementary age and are 'conditioned' to cross the road while believing they are safe. Some may not look both ways because they're used to traffic stopping. This is not always the case, and passing cars may hit one of our children."



PHOTO COURTESY OF METROCREATIVECONNECTION

Coryell County Sheriff's Office is increasing patrol on FM 116 after receiving several complaints about drivers passing school buses while unloading and loading children. Those caught will receive a citation that carries a minimum fine of \$500 for a first offense.

## Local organizations honor survivors during National Crime Victims' Rights Week

BY KAYLEE DUSANG  
Staff Writer

From April 21-27, communities across the country come together to honor crime survivors and their families.

Established in 1981, National Crime Victims' Rights Week follows a theme each year that encourages individuals and groups to become advocates for crime victims and how to extend services to help them through recovery. According to the Office for Victims of

Crime, the 2024 theme is "How would you help? Options, services, and hope for crime survivors." This theme highlights the importance of creating a safe environment for crime victims to share what happened to them by offering support, options for life-saving services, and, most importantly, hope.

Throughout the week, local organizations have helped spread awareness about how the community can help support crime

survivors here in Gatesville and Coryell County.

"The theme is a call to action for communities to get involved," said Melanie Webb, executive director of Righteous Roots. "Options, services, and hope to survivors is exactly what Righteous Roots is here to provide and one of the ways we are participating is by providing a doorway for community members to get involved."

As a crisis resource center for those who have

been impacted by a crime, Righteous Roots hosted volunteer orientations throughout the week, which covered topics such as policies, procedures, mental health, and cultural competency.

"Volunteer Orientation is one of the first steps a person needs to take to get involved at Righteous Roots," Webb said. "Once the training and required documents are complete,

PLEASE SEE **VICTIMS** | A2

### Staff Reports

The Brazos River Authority has directed the City of Gatesville to downgrade from a Stage 2 to a Stage 1 Drought Watch for Belton Lake.

The decision is based on soil dryness due to a recent lack of precipitation, elevated temperatures, and lake recharge, according to the city.

The state requires the city to have a Drought Contingency Plan. Following the direction from the Brazos River Authority, the City of Gatesville has implemented Stage 1 of its Drought Contingency Plan with a goal to achieve a 5% reduction

in water use. This is a drop in percentage from Stage 2, which required a 10% reduction in water usage.

#### Tips to conserve water include:

- Limit watering lawns twice per week – before 10 a.m. and after 8 p.m.
- Have your sprinkler system checked.
- Run dishwasher only when full.
- Wash only full loads of clothes.
- Take short showers as opposed to baths.
- Don't let the water run when brushing your teeth or washing your hands.
- Limit garbage disposal use – consider composting.



## Trinity Baptist Church

Bro. Sam Crosby, Pastor

Bible Study at 9:45 a.m.  
Worship:  
First service at 8:15 a.m.  
Second service at 11:00 a.m.

1506 W. Main Street  
Gatesville, TX  
Church 865-8495  
Pre-school 248-0041

### Mission Statement:

"For the glory of God, we exist to make fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ by every means possible."

# Eclipse coordinator Cheri Shepherd reflects on event

BY KAYLEE DUSANG  
Staff Writer

After spending one year preparing Gatesville to receive visitors for a total solar eclipse that took place on April 8, eclipse coordinator Cheri Shepherd reflects on how the experience impacted the community.

"My biggest takeaway was that we can accomplish a lot by working together," Shepherd said. "City staff, county and state agencies, businesses, community organizations, and individuals all came together to organize a successful weekend and eclipse day."

Shepherd not only worked closely with city staff and the Gatesville Police Department to prepare for the event, but also spoke with several cities that were on the path of totality in 2017. Many cities in 2017 experienced traffic congestion and longer than normal travel times once the eclipse ended.

Before the eclipse, the main concern for Gatesville included the potential influx of visitors that could put a strain on local resources, including shortages on gas and groceries.

"We had worked hard to look at and plan for every need and potential problem

that might occur," Shepherd said. "We were definitely over prepared, which we knew was a possibility, but we felt that it was better to be over prepared than underprepared."

As the day of the eclipse approached, it was clear that the city would not receive as many people as predicted. Although a positive for those concerned about traffic issues, Shepherd had hoped more local businesses would benefit from the additional visitors.

"My biggest disappointment was that our restaurants didn't see the business that we had anticipated for them," she said. "Several of our retailers did report very good sales, so we were happy with that."

Due to weather forecasts that predicted cloudy conditions and storms on the day of the eclipse, the potential for poor viewing conditions likely contributed to the lower numbers.

"We did see a sizeable influx on Monday, but we had expected more people over the weekend," Shepherd said. "I suspect that many of them delayed their final travel decisions until Monday morning."

Although the city did not

receive the large crowds they originally anticipated, many visitors from across the nation and around the world still traveled into Gatesville to experience totality. After documenting all the visitors who arrived on April 8, Shepherd said the Gatesville Police Department estimate that 6,000 people in addition to residents observed the eclipse from various public spaces within the city.

Shepherd adds that they also documented visitors who came from 30 states and 19 countries. This includes countries such as England, Brazil, The Netherlands, Japan, and India, and states such as Maine, Colorado, Alaska, Alabama, Nevada, and New York.

"For me, personally, it was really rewarding to be able to meet and welcome people from all over the world to our town," Shepherd said. "I was proud of how we accommodated these visitors and to hear and read their positive comments. I think that seeing Gatesville through the eyes of our visitors gave me a new appreciation of what we have here."

Shepherd encourages residents to read the comments



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

From left to right, Gatesville Eclipse Coordinator Cheri Shepherd, Mayor Gary Chumley, and Director of the Gatesville Public Library, Shea Harp, at the Block (Out the Sun) Party on the Sunday before the eclipse.

left from visitors in the Gatesville eclipse's online guestbook as well as to leave an entry about their own experience. To access the guestbook, visit [www.gatesvilletxeclipse.com/](http://www.gatesvilletxeclipse.com/)

guestbook.

"Viewing the eclipse was an opportunity for our community to experience something amazing right here at home," Shepherd said. "We wanted to make

sure that our residents were able to enjoy that while still accommodating visitors, and I think we accomplished that."

## VICTIMS

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we are able to host volunteers in a multitude of areas."

Webb encourages those who are interested in attending a future training to call the Righteous Roots office at 254-651-3600 or check their website and social media pages for updates.

"If you encounter someone who is in immediate

danger, you should call 911 without delay," Webb said. "For individuals needing help and not in immediate danger, I encourage you to make a free and confidential appointment at Righteous Roots. Our case managers will meet with you to identify needs and create an Action Plan to help set you on a path of restoration and healing."

Righteous Roots is located at 904 E. Leon Street, Gatesville, TX 76528.

Hidden Gem Family

Center, a local non-profit that provides resources and advocacy for families and victims of crime, flooded their social media throughout the week with information regarding crime victims' services and their rights as a victim.

"The importance of this week is to bring awareness to our community about Crime Victim Services and what our county provides to those who need it and ways that you can get involved," said Jennifer Featherston,

Executive Director of Hidden Gem.

The organization also encouraged their followers to wear purple on Thursday, April 25 to stand in solidarity with survivors. Purple symbolizes courage and unity, reminding survivors that they are not alone in

their journey toward healing and justice, according to a press release from District Attorney Dustin H. Boyd announcing the observance of National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

The address for Hidden Gem Family Center is 115 S. 7th Street, Gatesville,

TX 76528. To learn more about their resources or to get involved, visit [www.hiddenfamilycenter.org](http://www.hiddenfamilycenter.org)

Learn more about Crime Victims' Rights Week by visiting the Office for Victims of Crime website, [www.ojp.gov](http://www.ojp.gov)



KAYLEE DUSANG | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Volunteers from the Hidden Gem Family Center wore purple on Thursday, April 25, in honor of National Crime Victims' Rights Week. They also received a visit from members of Bikers Against Child Abuse (B.A.C.A) and employees of the District Attorney's Office, including their therapy dog, Winston (middle).

You could say we've been here for awhile.

In an age where banks change names at the drop of a hat and their headquarters aren't even in Texas, it's refreshing to know that true community banking is still alive and well. At **First National Bank**, it has been our privilege to help our neighbors get the most out of life for well over a hundred years. That's because we've been putting community first since 1912.

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to our wonderful sponsors this quarter (January through April 2024) from directors Charles and Pat Howard, the board of directors, and all the families and friends of the prisoners. This is a faith-based ministry. We are proud to offer a special service, free overnight lodging, to our guests who travel over 250 miles one way to visit their incarcerated family and friends.

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- Julia Flynt, Houston, TX
- Michael & Susan Jenkins, Chandler, TX
- Shirley Johnson, Andrews, TX
- Coletha Porter/Yvetta Crozier, Ardmore, OK
- Coryell Baptist Association, Gatesville
- Coryell Community Church, Gatesville
- Janet Prueitt, Gatesville
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- Alice Fretwill, Gatesville, TX
- Pidcoke Baptist Church, Pidcoke, TX
- Charles Niemeier, Alexandria, VA

- Charles Wise, Waco, TX
- Wayne Neugent, Temple, TX
- Crawford Baptist Church, Crawford, TX
- Kempner Oak Hills Baptist Church, Kempner, TX
- Smith Family Foundation of Livingston, Livingston, TX
- The Wise Family Foundation, Gatesville
- John and Geneva Cornett, Gatesville
- Kay McCleary, Gatesville
- Martha Hall, Phoenix, AZ
- Trinity Baptist Church, Gatesville
- Bernie Schraeder, Oglesby, TX
- Shirley Johnson, Andres, TX

**For Volunteer Opportunities or Donations, Please Call 254-404-2260.**

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## FROM MY FRONT PORCH

*When you only know one side of a story, you are only half-smart*

BY SAM HOUSTON

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

Last year, the Dallas Mavericks traded for Kyrie Irving. Though he had previously won an NBA Championship and was highly regarded as a talent, the trade was viewed with a great deal of skepticism and disdain by many of those in the media.

One major sports broadcasting entity graded the trade as a "D," suggesting that Irving was tough to get along with, was inconsistent in his play, was a bad teammate, and because of his antics he would never be able to achieve the level of success he once had. It was their contention that the Mavs had thrown their assets overboard and taken

on a player who would be nothing but a problem. He would never play well nor co-exist with the Mavs' superstar Luka Doncic. As a result, the team was going to flounder.

Here we are a year later, and the Mavs are one of the hottest NBA teams, winning 16 or 18 games just prior to heading to the playoffs. Irving is playing at a true

superstar level. What had historically been a poor rebounding and defensive team, had become one of the better teams in the league, seemingly making stops at will and rebounding every missed shot. Watching a game about two weeks before the season ended, the Mavs were down by three with 10 seconds left with the opposing team shooting two free throws. Miraculously, the player missed both charity shots, the Mavs rebounded and moved the ball up the court to hit a three-point shot to send the game into overtime. In the extended period, the Mavs swept the opposition off the court.

The telling part of the OT win was as soon as the final buzzer sounded, Irving and Doncic, the other Mavericks superstar, embraced each other at midcourt. This was not some ordinary, routine celebration; you could tell by their expressions they were excited and very pleased with what they had

just accomplished. They put their arms on the shoulder of the other and called over all their teammates to join them at center court so they could celebrate as a group. It was clear to anyone who saw this spontaneous emotion that the team was a tightknit group, and at the center of the leadership was Irving.

Were the reports from last year wrong? It sure looks that way. No telling how many people were influenced by the reports and determined Irving was a "loser" who was going to be a problem, simply because someone had made some huge assumptions. The public nor the reporter truly knew what issues had caused problems with his prior teams nor if Irving was the one responsible. Even if he was to blame, it did not mean he was going to behave the same way in Dallas. We only knew one side of the story and assumed. Currently, anybody could look at Irving's play

and body language and know he is excelling and happy to be a part of his team. His team is happy he is there.

We have the same sort of thing happening in our local politics. Citizens make hip pocket comments about issues, especially on social media, which are not based on anything but personal emotions and assumptions with no evidence or facts to support them. Seems like folks want to respond with vitriol rather than trying to talk with the opposition, becoming more informed with facts before making decisions on important issues. What would be the problem in listening to those with opposing views and trying to see if there is some degree of validity in their positions? Why not work to find solutions instead of causing conflict? Wouldn't it be wise to find the ground where both sides can be comfortable and then work toward answers?

As we near election time, let us be reflective and analytical as we formulate our decisions. Let's vote not just with our hearts, but also use our brains to seek out facts, question bold assertions, and do not take every representation as being true before investigation. Look at the whole picture, not just the part which is in focus, because it is what you already believe. People, nor a community, can grow if they don't have the courage to challenge in the light of day, their ideas and preconceived notions. Making assumptions about people or ideas is nothing but a recipe for failure. Ask the teams that have had to play the Mavs recently.

Thought for the day: "It is useless to attempt to reason a man out of a thing he was never reasoned into."

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

## TXDOT announces Move Over or Slow Down law

## Staff Reports

While millions of Texans commute to work on highways every week, they pass inches away from the worksites for thousands of law enforcement personnel, first responders, and road maintenance crews. Unfortunately, many of them are killed in crashes every year on the job, which is why TXDOT is calling on Texas drivers to keep roadside workers safe by remembering to "Move Over or Slow Down."

Drivers are required by Texas law to "Move Over or Slow Down" when passing roadside workers. This law requires drivers to move

over by putting a lane between them and roadside workers or to reduce their speed to 20 miles per hour below the posted speed limit when passing law enforcement, tow trucks, utility vehicles, emergency responders, and TXDOT vehicles stopped with activated overhead lights on the side of the road.

Every year, law enforcement officers, tow truck drivers, and other roadside workers do essential work protecting and maintaining our roads, but some are hit, injured, or killed while serving the community.

The Move Over or Slow Down law requires drivers

to: Be on alert and pay attention when approaching roadside law enforcement, emergency vehicles, tow trucks, utility vehicles, and TXDOT vehicles with flashing lights on.

When possible, move out of the lane closest to these vehicles.

Slow down to 20 mph below the posted speed limit if safely switching lanes is not possible or the road doesn't offer multiple lanes.

Reduce speed to 5 mph on roadways with posted speed limits of 25 mph or less.

The state's Move Over or Slow Down law was first

passed in 2003 and applied to law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical services vehicles. The Texas Legislature has since extended the law's protections to include TXDOT vehicles, tow trucks, and utility service vehicles.

Changes to the law went into effect on Sept. 1, 2023 and impose heavier penalties for violations, including fines of up to \$1,250 for a first offense. Stricter penalties for drivers who cause serious injuries by failing to follow these rules now include possible jail time and a fine of up to \$4,000.

Mere feet from speeding traffic across our state,

thousands of Texas law enforcement personnel, first responders, and roadside workers are often separated from fast-moving vehicles by only stripes, cones, or barrels. Tragically, many of these officers and workers are killed in crashes every year on the job, which is why TXDOT's "Be Safe. Drive Smart" campaign is calling on Texas drivers to

keep roadside workers safe by remembering to "Move Over or Slow Down."

The Texas Department of Transportation is responsible for maintaining 80,000 miles of road and for supporting aviation, maritime, as well as railway and public transportation across the state.

For further details, visit [txdot.gov](http://txdot.gov).



**PARKINSON'S  
AWARENESS  
MONTH**  
A P R I L

## April is Parkinson's Awareness Month

## Staff Reports

The Gatesville City Council officially declared April as Parkinson's Awareness Month at a special meeting on Tuesday.

According to the council agenda, local resident Becky Adams, along with the local Parkinson's support group, urge the Gatesville community to promote the awareness around Parkinson's and help fund the fight

against the disease.

According to the Parkinson's Foundation, nearly 1 million people in the United States are living with Parkinson's disease, and it affects more than 10 million people worldwide. It is the second most common neurodegenerative disease after Alzheimer's disease.

Symptoms include tremors or shaking, limb stiffness, slow movement, and difficulty with balance

and coordination. There is no cure for Parkinson's disease, but treatment options include medication, lifestyle adjustments, and surgery. While the cause of Parkinson's remains mostly unknown, scientists believe it could stem from a combination of genetic and environmental factors.

"The first step to living well with Parkinson's disease is to understand the disease and the pro-

gression," according to the Parkinson's Foundation website.

Those interested in joining a local support group can contact Adams via email at [ra76528@gmail.com](mailto:ra76528@gmail.com)

To learn more about the Parkinson's Foundation and resources and research related to the disease, visit [www.parkinson.org](http://www.parkinson.org)

# Folks around town



COURTESY PHOTO

Nathan Gohlke

## Say hello to our neighbor, Nathan Gohlke!

Nathan is the funeral director at Scott's Funeral Home and has been serving in his position for the past two years. He currently has a provisional license but will graduate with a degree in Funeral Services in May this year. He expressed that he enjoys being able to help others as they navigate through a difficult time in their life, especially as they prepare and plan for a loved one's final arrangements. He was born and raised within the community and is an alumnus of Gatesville High School.

"My favorite thing about Gatesville is that we are still a relatively small town with great people," Gohlke said. "I enjoy knowing who my neighbors are and not having to worry about big city problems."

Nathan reads The Gatesville Messenger and says he has always been a fan of the local newspaper and enjoys reading the weekly articles that are published. "I like the fact that the Messenger showcases our town's news, history, and local events," Gohlke said. "It's a great way to keep up with everything that Gatesville is about."

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



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**DEADLINES:**

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

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

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

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

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# Time capsule begins 50-Year trek at Mother Neff State Park

*Press Release with contributions by David Scott*

How do you encompass 100 years of Texas State Parks' history? That was the challenge state parks staff have spent the past year tackling.

The result? A wooden time capsule created by the Texas State Parks Exhibit Shop from pecan trees harvested at Mother Neff State Park (MNSP), widely accepted as the first Texas State Park opened to the public.

MNSP Superintendent, Melissa Chadwick, said, "It is a privilege that Mother Neff State Park is the first Texas State Park to showcase the Centennial Time Capsule as it begins its journey across the state. This wooden time capsule was created by the Texas State Park Exhibit Shop fittingly from pecan wood harvested at Mother Neff State Park."

Chadwick continued, "The time capsule will be on display at the park's visitor center for the next six months." For those wishing to see it, Chadwick reminds the public that the visitor center is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., closing for lunch from 12-1 p.m. The visitor center is also open from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

The capsule, which will travel to every Texas State Park, houses one object from every state park and support program to commemorate the first century of Texas' state parks system. It went on display April 20 at Mother Neff State Park and will then travel to a new state park every six months for the next 50 years.

"What an incredibly special moment in time to see the centennial time capsule

begin its 50-year journey at Mother Neff State Park," said Rodney Franklin, Director of Texas State Parks. "The time capsule and its contents not only tell the story of the 2024 version of Texas State Parks, but also represent our message to those that will carry on the legacy of the mission-driven work of protecting our wild places and connecting their generation of Texans to the outdoors."

## CAPSULE DESCRIPTION

The five-foot tall wooden time capsule weighs more than 300 pounds, is made from solid wood and bronze, and is large enough to hold more than 100 items. Sitting atop the capsule is a sculpture in the shape of Texas with all park locations marked. Additionally, there are 100 name plates recognizing all contributing parks and programs, six regional bas relief panels, and a message to the future plaque in the front.

"Time capsules are usually buried in the ground and forgotten until it's time to open them, but ours will remain on display, so we wanted it to be a work of art and showcase the excellent craftsmanship of our exhibit team," said Stephen Garrett, Exhibits Manager for Texas State Parks. "This is something totally unique, and I don't think anyone's ever made a time capsule quite like this before. I'm proud of the thought, care, and work that went into the capsule's creation and hope park visitors enjoy seeing it as much as we did creating it."

## CAPSULE CONTENTS

For the contents of the time capsule, park staff had to choose an item that would tell a story about that site, fit in a box the

size of a coffee mug, survive 50 years, and be strong enough to travel the roads of Texas.

"The heart of this project really is the special stories. These items tell about each park and the thousands of dedicated people that care for them today," said Robbie Merritt, member of the Time Capsule Planning Committee and Complex Superintendent of Ray Roberts Lake State Park. "We hope that, through these stories, the park stewards 50 years from now will be able to better connect with us and this special moment in the history of Texas State Parks."

Some final submissions and reasons why the park selected it for the time capsule include:

- An adobe ball from Fort Leaton State Historic Site: "This is a simple piece of the larger whole that is Fort Leaton, and it was crafted from the landscape around the fort by our staff just as adobe has been made since the fort's start in 1848 ... this humble ball reflects the history of this structure and ties back into the geology of the landscape of the Big Bend and Far West Texas."

- A message in a bottle from Mustang Island State Park: "On occasion our staff will find a message in a bottle, sometimes we are able to track where the bottle originated and sometimes even communicate with the sender. The tradition of placing a message in a bottle and casting it into the ocean for someone to find is enchanting, and we felt that this time capsule offered us that same opportunity for the next generations of park stewards."

- A railroad tie and taxidermy Mexican free-tailed bat from Old Tunnel State

Park: "The railroad tie was taken from the rail line scrap materials that were removed when the train was decommissioned in 1941. Prior to the railroad, people had to use a horse and cart for travel, which could take days to reach San Antonio. The bat specimen represents the bats that live here. These bats are important to agriculture in the area because they consume thousands of corn earworm/cotton bollworm moths, which cause damage to corn and cotton crops. The three million bats at Old Tunnel can consume 120 million moths each night."

- Group hall doorknob from Martin Dies Jr. State Park (MDJSP): "This doorknob from the Group Hall represents a new beginning for this facility and for this park ... The Group Hall functioned as a meeting place for visitors for many years; concessions and bait were sold here, and people gathered to enjoy the park. MDJSP was entrusted with money dedicated to creating educational exhibits; park leadership saw this as the perfect opportunity to 'close the doors' on the Group Hall, and 'open the doors' to a new Discovery Center."

- Sinclair Tyrannosaurus Rex Dinosaur Model ("Rex") tooth from Dinosaur Valley State Park (DVSP): "At a surface level, this is a concrete tooth from the mouth of our Sinclair T-Rex model. But its meaning runs so much deeper than that: It represents the earliest prehistory of this landscape when dinosaurs like Acrocanthosaurus left their tracks in a muddy seashore. It represents the folks of Lanham Mill, whose homesteads became the park, and all the work done for the last 50 years to make



COURTESY PHOTO

The time capsule was created from pecan trees harvested from the first acknowledged state park: Mother Neff State Park in southeastern Coryell County. It will be on display in the foyer of the MNSP Visitor Center for the next six months.

DVSP what it is today. Most of all, it represents the wonder we feel at the grandeur of nature and the hope we have that Dinosaur Valley will be here so all people can experience that same feeling for all time."

- "Spidey Cents" from Lake Tawakoni State Park: "The choice to cast various spiders found at the park in resin, accompanied by pennies from the opening year in 2002 and the present year 2023, is a symbolic representation of the park's

history and its dynamic relationship with nature. The communal spider web phenomenon of 2007 was a natural spectacle, where thousands of spiders created a living piece of art draping the trees. By encapsulating this moment in resin, alongside markers of time, our object captures the essence of the park — a place where nature and history converge."

## Mother Neff State Park Association recognized by Texas State Parks

BY DAVID SCOTT  
Staff Writer

Mother Neff State Park Association was recently recognized by the Texas State Parks Board for their dedication and outstanding work in support of Mother Neff State over the past 30 years.

Former association president, Charlotte Weiss, stated, "Mother Neff State Park Association was honored to be selected as the 2023 Friends Group in Region V by Texans for State Parks at the Spring meeting in Tyler."

Last year, Mother Neff State Park celebrated 100 years of being in the Texas State Park system and was placed on the National Register of Historic Places by the Texas State Historical

Commission.

Weiss said the Mother Neff Park Association was created in October of 1993 following the 100 Year Flood that devastated the park in 1991. Weiss said that the association was founded by a local resident near the park, Dr. Andy Andreason. "He had a vision for local volunteers to help our beloved park with fundraising, interpretive programs, sharing history, and visiting local schools," Weiss said.

According to Texas Parks and Wildlife, many state parks have organized groups that actively support their park. These nonprofit organizations, sometimes called "friends groups," help with daily programs, special events, fundraising,

and public education. The partnerships let the public use the skills, contacts, and resources of private citizens and businesses to make state parks better and to provide services that might not be available otherwise.

"Many miles and many hours by current and past association members have made this group a dedicated extension of Mother Neff State Park. We are thrilled to continue this vision as members of the association," Weiss said.

Friends groups continue to organize around the state to support our Texas State Parks. Mother Neff State Park, located at 1921 State Park Road 14 in southeastern Coryell County, can be reached by calling 254-853-2389.



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the Mother Neff State Park Association receive an award from the Texas State Parks. Pictured left to right is Bobby and Lois Anderson, Charlotte and Larry Weiss, Becky Roe, Miles Ellis, and TPWD's Director of State Parks Rodney Franklin.

## Texas Community Futures Forum to host event April 29

Staff Reports

The Texas Community Futures Forum will hold an event in Coryell County on Monday, April 29, at the Gatesville Civic Center,

beginning at 6 p.m.

The forum is expected to last less than two hours.

This event is designed to assist local Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

Agents and their committees in identifying issues that affect local citizens.

The Coryell County Extension program has a history of providing educational

programs that address the most critical issues in the county related to agriculture and natural resources, families and health, youth development, and commu-

nity development.

The event is open to all residents of Coryell County.

For further details, or to RSVP, contact the Coryell County Extension Office at

254-865-2414.

The Gatesville Civic Center is located at 301 Veterans Memorial Loop.

## Whatever happened to ...

20 YEARS AGO (2004)

Heavy rains caused the Leon River to flow out of its banks and across FM 1829 near Mound.

Edna Biggerstaff became the new superintendent of Oglesby I.S.D.

Evant I.S.D. superintendent Brett Koch announced his resignation.

The First United Methodist Church rededicated a cornerstone from an earlier building during the

church's 150th birthday celebration.

City mail carrier Eugene Moment retired from the Gatesville Post Office.

30 YEARS AGO (1994)

Coryell Memorial Hospital held a disaster drill to test their emergency services preparedness and response.

Bolton-McClaren held a ground-breaking ceremony at the future site of their new facility.

The Gatesville Boy Scouts

conducted an Arrow of Lights ceremony in which the highest award was given to a scout member.

Maple Lodge #791 of Flat held an open house.

The Drive In was showing "Bad Girls."

40 YEARS AGO (1984)

Bryan Cook, Gatesville High School senior, was going to the University Interscholastic League's state finals in feature writing.

Gatesville High School

Students Yana Wingate and Leisa Kennedy assisted at "Let's Grow!" learning center in the First Methodist Church as part of a class project.

The fourth annual Mayfest celebration was to be held for senior citizens of Coryell, Bell, Lampasas, Milam, Mills, Hamilton, and San Saba counties.

New dugouts were installed at Bob Arnold Field.

The Gatesville VFW Post

8230 was set to commemorate "Loyalty Day" with a flag-raising ceremony.

50 YEARS AGO (1974)

A rummage sale and bake sale were scheduled by the VFW Auxiliary to raise funds to contribute to projects to help patients at the VA Hospital in Temple.

Hy Davidson was appointed county commissioner for Precinct 3 and was administered the oath of office.

Grant Teaff, head football

coach at Baylor University and a lay preacher, was set to be the guest speaker at the upcoming Men's Prayer Breakfast.

Terry McNeely was valedictorian of Gatesville's Class of 1974, and Danny Crosby was salutatorian.

Donald G. Gartman was named Coryell County's outstanding farmer for 1973.



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# CITY OF GATESVILLE HOSTS EARTH DAY EVENT

COURTESY PHOTO

The City of Gatesville held its eighth annual Earth Day event for fifth grade students at the Gatesville Independent School District on Friday, April 19, in the Gatesville Civic Center. The purpose of this event is to help educate our children on recycling, reusing, reduction, and sustainability. Several organizations from Fort Cavazos were present to discuss different topics concerning the environment. Students were able to participate in the presentations. Each student was provided with a drawstring backpack that was fully loaded with prizes.



TUMBLEWEED SMITH

## A fireman with a PHD



BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH

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

Dr. Texas Ruegg got his first name from his great-great grandmother.

"The family was moving from Tennessee, traveling by covered wagon," he says, "and my great-great grandmother was born in the back of that wagon right as they crossed the border into Texas. To commemorate that, they named her Nancy Texas Arnett. And, so down the family tree, I get the Texas name."

He lives at Nesbitt, a small place northwest of Marshall. He's a fireman there. Texas has a good education.

"My undergraduate and graduate degrees are in business. Then I went on to earn my PhD in higher education administration and leadership."

He spent twenty years in college and university administration and

resigned to start a brewery in Marshall.

"I've been home brewing for about twelve years. It was always a passion and kind of a dream to one day open a brewery. We purchased a building downtown on the square and basically gutted it and started over. That building had been where Dr Pepper was bottled and distributed. We found out that the building was actually the first fire station in Marshall. It was built in 1871. My great-great grandfather, G. W. Rains, was one of the founding members and was a board member of that fire department. I had no idea anyone in my family had any fireman background. So full circle. I'm a lieutenant in the Nesbitt fire

department and serve as public information officer." His fellow firemen helped build the brewery. A stair railing is made of fire hose. There is no fire pole.

"When you mix alcohol and a fire pole ... we just thought it wasn't a good idea for us to have a pole in the building."

The brewery is named Rueggenbach.

"We have two bars, one on the first floor, one on the second floor. Folks can come have a beer, hang out, visit with friends, and enjoy live music. We really want it to be a community gathering spot."

He has seven tanks for brewing.

"I can have seven beers going at one time. We have fourteen taps, so that on both bars we'll have fourteen types of beer available. Some taps we'll keep kind of consistent, and the others will rotate out different specialty beers we'll do. We'll have experimental beers to keep it exciting and lively."

His beer is available in cans.

"We can and keg. We have 32 ounce cans available right there at the bar. You can purchase those and walk out the door with them."

## Coryell Health to host "New Day" dementia Support Group

Staff Reports

Local hospital Coryell Health will be hosting a New Day Support Group on Wednesday, May 8. The support group will be held from 1:30-3 p.m.

The group is designed for those who have a loved one with dementia or who have lost a loved one.

The group will continue to meet once each month.

For further details, contact Coryell Health at 254-865-8251.

The event is located at 110 Chicktown Road in Gatesville.

## United Women of Faith Meeting

Submitted by Shirleen Chandler

United Women in Faith met April 16, in the Banquet Room of the First Methodist Church in Gatesville, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Nineteen ladies were present, including two visitors. Hostesses were Jeanette Shepherd and Mary Beth Rivers Bogard. For dessert, Kathleen Blankemeyer and Diana Smith made special cakes in honor of Mrs. Michael (Mary Beth) Bogard.

President Patsy Smart called the meeting to order by leading the blessing. During refreshments, Linda Klontz led members in picking new prayer partners for the month. Following refreshment time, President Smart thanked

the hostesses and read "The Purpose." Mary Beth read from the Daily Prayer Guide, including international birthdays. Marilyn Decker announced our local birthdays. Velva Riddle read from the Response Magazine. Decker presented the program, the first from our new book "Living the Kingdom," an exploration of the Lord's Prayer, from Matthew 6:9-13. The first lesson covered the line "Our Father in Heaven, Hallowed Is Your Name" from verse 9, paying special attention to God as our holy parent. Shirleen Chandler led in singing "How Great Thou Art."

President Smart called the business meeting to order. Among the reports was one from our educa-

tion and interpretation committee concerning the honoring of high school graduates. On Sunday, May 5, at the 10:30 a.m. service, five seniors will be honored: Sean Aguilar, Kasen Bankhead, Barrett Boyd, Clayton Gregory, and Zoe Gribble. Carol Dildine is preparing gift bags to be presented to each senior. They are asking for bio information and photos for the presentation.

Membership, Nurture, and Outreach chair Kathleen Blankemeyer asked members for input as to who they wanted to invite to the Salad Supper in August. She will send out invitations to guests.

Meeting adjourned with the Benediction.

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## MOUND NEWS

# A memorial service was held Friday for Regina De Lord Blakley



BY BARBARA HOPSON

Mound News  
Correspondent

**M**rs. Regina (De Lord) Blakley died Sunday, April 14. A memorial service was held on Friday in Gatesville at Eastwood Baptist Church. Regina was the daughter of Johnny Darrell and Ann Nell (Hampton) De Lord.

Regina was a cousin of the Hampton and Hopson families. Regina will truly be missed.

Holly, Ruby, Truett, and Jacklyn Pullen, of Rockwall, visited during the weekend with their relatives in Gatesville and Mound.

Doris Hoff, of Gatesville, visited Thursday afternoon with Martha Lawhorn.

Pat Johnson, of Austin, Doug and Susan Quicksall, of Oglesby, Roy and Jan Johnson, of Gatesville, and Eric and Liz McCorkle met in McGregor Sunday for lunch at the Coffee Shop.

The group celebrated Doug Quicksall's birthday.

The Coryell County 4-H Ambassadors Thomas Belt, and Kinsley and Allie McPherson all assisted with Gatesville's Earth Day for 5th graders on Friday. Thomas Belt competed in the District 8 4-H livestock judging contest on Saturday where he placed 8th high individual.

Case, Kristen, and Paxton Brack Jones, Kelby and Sterlin Shults, Don and Sue Jones had lunch Sunday in Gatesville.

Carolyn Blakley, Jerry,

and Brenda Helms spent the day together shopping and had lunch in Harker Heights Friday.

Brenda Helms cooked supper for Carolyn Blakley's birthday Sunday evening.

Emma Blakley had her college senior pictures done on campus Tuesday.

Several children from the Gatesville ISD Primary, Elementary, and Intermediate school attended their Spring Fling Daddy and Daughter Dance Saturday evening at the Gatesville Civic Center.

Those who had birthdays

in this month were Jackie Penny, Alison Moffatt, Sandra Varner, Barbara Wolff, Ryan Bay, Kennedie Hyde, Russell McHargue, Laura Lam, Bridgette Ferguson, Jo Keeton, Amber Carothers, Ruby Pullen, Carolyn Blakley, Abigail Cupps, Linda O'Brien, Jeanette Hollis, Aubree Long, Darr Kuykendall, Delecia Reynolds, Pedro Quintero and Holly Pullen.

Barbara's Notes: HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MRS. DELECIA REYNOLDS.

## OBITUARIES

### Robert Andrew Amparan

Jan. 4, 1952 - Apr. 5, 2024

Robert Andrew Amparan, age 72, of Pflugerville, passed away on Friday, April 5, 2024, at University Health Transplant Hospital in San Antonio.

A Celebration of Life Memorial Service for Robert will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 8, at Weed-Corley-Fish Funeral Home, 1200 S. Bagdad Road in Leander. The family requests casual attire. Following the service, family and friends are invited to a reception at The Mason Homestead, 1101 S. Bagdad Road, Leander.

Robert was born in El Paso on Jan. 4, 1952, to the late Jose Andres Amparan and Natividad Lopez Amparan. He graduated from Eastwood High School in 1970. After high school, he accepted a football scholarship to the University of Colorado. His friends all called him "Ampi" or Bobby. He will be deeply missed by all those who knew him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jose Andres Amparan and Natividad Lopez Amparan; sister, Norma Barron; sister, Toni Amparan; and



niece, Sylvia Barron. He is survived by his wife of 30 years, Heidi Beth Skelton, of Pflugerville; his daughter, Heather Holmes and husband, Jeremy; and grandson Wyatt Fulkerson, of Leander. He is also survived by five nephews: Ray Barron and wife, Pam, of El Paso; David Barron and wife, Michelle, of El Paso; Ralph Barron and wife, Linda, of El Paso; Eddie Barron and wife, Marta, of Austin; and Michael Barron and wife, Nancy, of Clovis, NM.

In lieu of flowers, Robert's family request memorials be made to: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (StJude.org), or Annunciation House (Annunciationhouse.org)

### Marie Pruitt

May 23, 1927 - April 21, 2024

Marie Pruitt, age 96, went to be with the Lord and her loved ones on Sunday, April 21, 2024, in Gatesville.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, April 24, at Scott's Funeral Home, with Pastor Matt Dossey officiating. Interment followed at Weaver Chapel Cemetery.

Eva Marie Pruitt was born on May 23, 1927, in Gatesville to the late Jim and Callie Mae Ferguson Lofland. She graduated from Gatesville High School in 1944. After graduation, she went to work for the State School for Boys and worked under seven superintendents until it closed in the early 1970s. While working for the state, her best friend, Emily Young, set her up on a blind date. That person, Wayne Pruitt, soon became the love of her life, and they married on Oct. 23, 1947. After their marriage, they moved to the Pancake community on the farm that Wayne was raised on. Together, they raised their two sons there, Kyle and Kenneth, on "Rat Road."

Her husband preceded her in death in 2012, and she moved to Gatesville, to be close to her family and join her friends in the apartments they called "Amentsville" for five years. In 2019, she moved to The Welcome Room at The Oaks, where she was "spoiled and pampered," as she well deserved. She was a member of the Jonesboro Methodist Church for many years until transferring to the



First Methodist Church in Gatesville.

She was also preceded in death by her son, Kyle Pruitt, and sisters, Delma Stanford and Betty Moore.

She was a beloved mother and grandma and is survived by her son, Kenneth Pruitt and wife, Sandy; daughter-in-law, Joyce Pruitt; grandchildren, Stacy Pruitt and boyfriend, Ben, Lisa Bankhead and husband, Keith, Karen Fuchs and husband, Scott, Tracy Greenwell and husband, Brian, Kevin Pruitt and wife, Rachel; great-grandchildren, Dylan Pruitt, Bradyn Culley, Ashtyn Culley, Karson Bankhead, Kasen Bankhead, Mason Fuchs, Mallory Fuchs, Christopher Greenwell, Kaitlyn Greenwell, Emma Pruitt, Sophie Pruitt; and a great-great grandson, Burlan.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that memorials be designated to Weaver Chapel Cemetery Association, 3470 CR 108, Gatesville, TX 76528 or First Methodist Church, 2600 E. Main St., Gatesville, TX 76528.

### Deborah (Debbie) Jean Dyer

Oct. 15 - April 19, 2024

Deborah (Debbie) Jean Dyer, age 73, of Gatesville, passed away on Friday, April 19, 2024.

Memorial services will be held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, May 1, at Scott's Funeral Home, with Pastor Bruce Cox officiating.

Deborah was born on Oct. 15, 1950, in Gatesville to Fred Dyer Jr. and Evelyn Williams Dyer. Deborah grew up in Gatesville and graduated from Gatesville High School in 1969. Deborah spent many hours at Dyer's, the family restaurant. She was a proud alumna of Tarleton State University, graduating with a teaching degree. She held education close to her heart and was a teacher for many years. She was quick to correct your grammar and took advantage of every teachable moment. Everything was a potential lesson. Debbie found solace and community in her faith at White Mound Baptist Church in Mound.

Deborah was preceded in death by her parents and brother-in-law, Gene Arnold.



Debbie is a cherished mother to her son, Travis Koontz. She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Gloria Koontz, who she considered her own; her adored granddaughter, Magnolia; sister, Suzanne (Suzie) Arnold; brother, Fred (Trey) Dyer III and wife, Rene; nephew, Peyton Dyer; niece, Dawn Holden and husband, David Pratt; and great nieces and nephews, Landon, Lane, Madilyn and Latham.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be made to White Mound Baptist Church, P.O. Box 102, Mound, Texas 76558.

## Upcoming cemetery association meetings

### HILLSDALE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting of Hillsdale Cemetery Association will be Saturday, May 18, at 10 a.m. at the cemetery off Slater Road northeast of Izoro.

The GPS address is 278 Hillsdale Road in Coryell County.

Anyone with relatives buried in the cemetery or anyone who has an interest in attending is welcome.

Donations may be sent to Hillsdale Cemetery Assn. c/o Laresa Yick, 7701 FM 1690, Copperas Cove, TX 76522

For further information, call Laresa Yick at 512-768-3864.

### GREENBRIAR CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

The Greenbriar Cemetery Association will hold their annual meeting at 9 a.m., Saturday, May 4, at Greenbriar Cemetery.

All members are urged to attend the business meeting. Officers will be elected, and there will be an update on the designation as a Historic Texas Cemetery by the state and the progress made toward acquiring the historical marker.

If you cannot attend, please mail your contribution to Greenbriar Cemetery Association; c/o Ponice Hartman, P.O. Box 85, Jonesboro, TX, 76538.

All donations will be used for maintenance of the grounds and mailings.

### MOUND CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

The Mound Cemetery Association will hold its annual meeting on Saturday, April 27, at 3 p.m. at the cemetery.

Those attending are encouraged to bring a lawn chair to the meeting.

Donations to the cemetery may be mailed to: Mound Cemetery Association, P.O. Box 177, Mound, TX 76558.

### PIDCOKE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

The Pidcoke Cemetery Association will conduct its annual meeting on Saturday, May 4.

The meeting will begin promptly at 11 a.m. and will include lunch and fellowship. A folding chair might be helpful as the pavilion cannot accommodate everyone.

Be sure to bring your drink of choice as well as your favorite picnic item to share.

To donate, make the donation payable to Pidcoke Cemetery Association, Shirley Bartlett, Treasurer, 105 River Ridge Drive, Gatesville, Texas 76528.

Pidcoke Cemetery is located at 8392 CR 142 in Pidcoke.



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# LIFESTYLES



**Viridiana Armendariz and Andy Medeiros, of Dallas, got engaged to be married under the "diamond ring" eclipse in Gatesville on April 8.**

## Gatesville Eclipse Proposal

### Submitted Item

Viridiana Armendariz and Andy Medeiros, residents of Dallas, are engaged to be married after a picture-perfect proposal under the "diamond ring" eclipse in Gatesville on April 8.

Medeiros, a sergeant first class in the Army Reserves stationed at North Fort Hood in 2020, planned the proposal during a visit to see friends he made while

stationed there. Despite warnings of bad weather and traffic delays, the couple witnessed an uninterrupted view of the eclipse while enjoying a romantic picnic in a bluebonnet pasture on their friend's property.

The proposal itself was a complete surprise to Armendariz. Medeiros had arranged for a friend, a photographer, to be present under the guise of wanting to grow his

portfolio. Armendariz, having modeling experience, thought nothing of it at first.

As the eclipse reached totality, Medeiros got down on one knee and popped the question. Armendariz, overwhelmed with emotion, said yes.

The couple is now planning their wedding and looking forward to their future together.

## HILLSIDE PROM KING & QUEEN



PHOTO COURTESY OF SUSIE MEELBUSCH

Pictured (left) is prom king Zanfir Vasaii and (right) prom queen Sally Jund at the annual 2024 Hillside Senior Prom event, which was held on Friday, April 19, with the theme of "A night in Paris." Each year since 2015, the event has been co-hosted by the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce Junior Ambassadors. They assist with getting the residents ready with dresses, ties, hair, makeup, and jewelry. Each resident was announced on the red carpet as they entered the prom event. They enjoyed music, refreshments, dancing, singing, and having their pictures taken at the photo booth.

## BONNETS IN BLOOM T-SHIRT



JANICE VELASQUEZ | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Clay Reeves recently stopped by The Gatesville Messenger office to pick up his Bonnets in Bloom bluebonnet photo contest t-shirt, which he won after being named the first week's contest winner. The contest was sponsored by The First National Bank of Central Texas.

## Annual Junk & Disorderly citywide sale set for May 4

### Staff Reports

The City of Gatesville's annual Junk & Disorderly city-wide garage sale and vendor market will be held Saturday, May 4, at the Gatesville Civic Center.

Many unique antiques,

collectibles, handmade crafts, and interesting items will be available at the vendor market.

Admission to the market is free.

As for the city-wide garage sale, individual garage sales will be located

all over town. When it gets closer to time, a map of the garage sales will be posted.

For more information, contact Morgan Smart with the Gatesville Civic Center at 254-499-0102 or by email at msmart@gatesvilletx.com.

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

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300-400 lb.	335-395	
400-500 lb.	285-335	
500-600 lb.	260-315	
600-700 lb.	240-270	
700-800 lb.	225-255	
<b>No. 1 Heifers</b>		
under 300 lb.	325-410	
300-400 lb.	285-335	
400-500 lb.	265-310	
500-600 lb.	235-265	
600-700 lb.	225-250	
700-800 lb.	200-235	
<b>Slaughter Cows</b>		
High Yielding	130-145	
Low Yielding	115-125	
Fats	115-125	
Thin & Shelly	90-105	
<b>Packer Bulls (1250-2075 lb.)</b>		
Yield Grade 1&2	140-163	
<b>Cow &amp; Calf Pairs</b>		
Young Choice	3000-3450	
Young Fair	2200-2900	
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301-400 lb.	295-358	301-400 lb.	285-307
401-500 lb.	290-309	401-500 lb.	250-287
501-600 lb.	245-297	501-600 lb.	240-271
601-700 lb.	230-270	600-700 lb.	210-235

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PEARL NEWS

# May 4 marks the next Bluegrass and Cottage Bookstore event



BY BETSY CLARK  
Pearl News Correspondent

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!

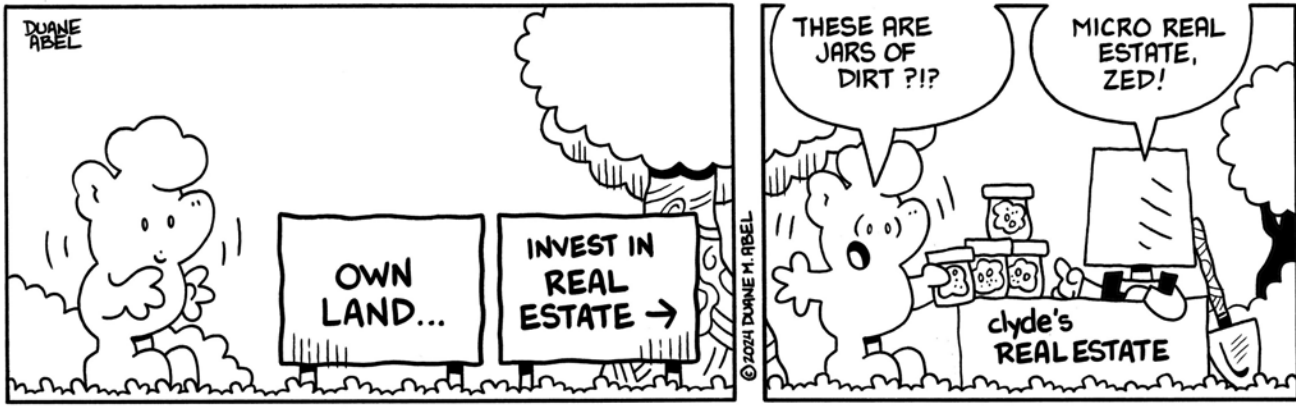
The Pearl Church of Christ will hold its annual VBS May 27 through May 31, from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. each day. The theme this year is "Jesus loves You!" Be sure and mark your calendars, and please tell all your friends and family. The Pearl Church of Christ VBS is epic, and you don't want to miss it. The Pearl Church of Christ reports that a wonderful service with Dr. Charles Patterson was held last Sunday. Dr. Patterson and his wife, Clara, braved the heavy rain and drove to Pearl from Corsicana on the Saturday before to share God's Word there. He and Clara loved the beautiful drive to Pearl that Sunday

morning and loved the church even more. Several people that had Dr. Patterson as principal and superintendent in Killeen enjoyed visiting with the Pattersons that day. The church reports that they were truly blessed by their visit and hope they will come back soon. Let's check in with the ladies of the Pleasure and Profit Club: "May 10, 1934, the club met with Mrs. Holbert Whitt. One quilt was quilted, one pieced, one paper costume made, one dish towel embroidered, and some work done on a string quilt, which was started 16 years ago. The President called the house to order at 2:30 o'clock. The

minutes were read, and roll was called. Twenty-three members were present. Mrs. Cooper sent word that she would love for us to quilt three quilts for her. We will decide at our next meeting what we shall do. It was decided that Bessie Earl, and Polly, and any others who could, shall go to Gatesville Monday to see what they can do to help secure a home demonstration agent for Coryell County. We also decided to have a Sunflower Club and draw names for our pals. We will let it be known in July who our pals are. \$1.55 was paid in for dues, and \$76 paid to finish our \$5.00 we paid back to the school, leaving \$.79 in treasury. The dinner

was enjoyed very much by all present. We adjourned to meet with Mrs. Whitt and Bessie Earl May 24." This week's Bible verse comes from Romans 1:20—"For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—His eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse." NIV Be sure and like the Pearl Community Center, Texas Facebook page, and the Pearl Cottage Bookstore and Resale Shop Facebook page. Please submit any Pearl news to [betsyclark47@yahoo.com](mailto:betsyclark47@yahoo.com)

## ZED by Duane M. Abel



www.corkeycomics.com

## DRT will meet in Waco on May 2

Submitted item

The Sterling C. Robertson Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas will meet on Thursday, May 2, at 1 p.m. The meeting will be held at the new location, the Waco Chamber of Commerce building, located at 101 S. 3rd Street in down-

town Waco. There is a meeting room there and parking is available. DRT member Kelly Tyus will present "The Legacy of Robert Malone Tyus" who was her grandfather. This meeting is free and open to the public. Prospective members are encouraged to attend.

# The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of April 17 - April 23. While there were many calls to the dispatcher, this is a partial list of more significant activity. People are reminded that only emergency calls should be made to 9-1-1, while all other calls to the police department should be made to 865-2226 or to the Sheriff's office at 865-7201.

### CITY OF GATESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

**April 17**  
4:08 p.m., an accident was reported in the 1600 block of E. Main Street.  
9 p.m., a noise disturbance was reported in the 100 block of E. Leon Street.  
11:53 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2400 block of Business Highway 36.  
11:58 p.m., wanted person/stolen property reported in the 3300 block of E. Main Street.  
**April 18**  
9:45 a.m., a burglary was reported in the 1400 block of W. Main Street.  
11:44 a.m., a theft was reported in the 1600 block of E. Main Street.  
1:27 p.m., a burglary was reported in the 1400 block of Mills Street.  
2:26 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Highway 36.  
**April 19**  
3:38 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 3400 block of Empress

Drive.  
5:54 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 200 block of N. 14th Street.  
8:20 p.m., a fight was reported in the 100 block of River Oaks Drive.  
8:46 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 4600 block of S. State Highway 36.  
**April 20**  
11:03 a.m., animal cruelty was reported in the 2200 block of Bridge Street.  
11:52 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 1200 block of N. State Highway 36 Bypass.  
1:39 p.m., a theft was reported in the 3700 block of E. Main Street.  
9:17 p.m., a threat was reported in the 2400 block of Bridge Street.  
**April 21**  
3:36 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 200 block of N. 19th Street.  
9:26 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1900 block of Bridge Street.  
3:08 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 300 block of Old Osage Road.  
**April 22**  
12:51 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.  
10:09 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 1100 block of W. Main Street.  
10:49 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 400 block of N. 16th Street.  
2:51 p.m., wanted person/stolen property was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.

5:48 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 300 block of County Road 347.  
**April 22**  
3:36 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 200 block of N. 19th Street.  
9:26 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1900 block of Bridge Street.  
3:08 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 300 block of Old Osage Road.  
5:48 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 300 block of County Road 347.  
**April 23**  
12:51 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.  
10:09 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 1100 block of W. Main Street.  
10:49 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 400 block of N. 16th Street.  
2:51 p.m., wanted person/stolen property was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.

**CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**April 17**  
5:27 a.m., harassment was reported in the 500 block of E. Leon.  
10:30 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported on Straws Mill Road.  
2:36 p.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported on Barton Lane.  
2:50 p.m., criminal mischief was reported at the Coryell County Annex.  
**April 18**  
7:36 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported on FM 107.  
7:47 a.m., an animal complaint was reported on County Road 312 off FM 107.  
11:06 a.m., identity theft was reported on private road 3642.  
12:51 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 9400 block of FM 1783.  
**April 19**  
8:32 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 1600 block of King Country Road.  
11:14 a.m., animal cruelty

was reported in the 1300 block of FM 2412.  
2:38 p.m., a lost animal was reported in the 100 block of Homestead Drive.  
3:30 p.m., shots fired were reported in the 2100 block of Liberty.  
**April 20**  
2:23 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the Mound area.  
8:41 p.m., a minor accident was reported in the 500 block of W. Highway 217.  
9:23 p.m., a domestic dispute was reported in the 1800 block of Camping Loop (Mother Neff).  
10:37 p.m., a domestic dispute was reported in the 1300 block of King Country Road.  
**April 21**  
9 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported on Bunnell and FM 1241.  
9:53 a.m., a noise complaint was reported in the 300 block of FM 107.  
5:50 p.m., a neighbor dispute was reported in the 300 block of County Road 347.

5:58 p.m., a threat was reported in the 2600 block of Fieldstone.  
**April 22**  
1 a.m., a vehicle fire was reported on FM 183.  
7:29 a.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 1300 block of FM 2412.  
9:09 a.m., a recovered stolen vehicle was reported in the 1600 block of N. 18th Street.  
4:16 p.m., illegal dumping was reported on FM 116 and Cactus.  
**April 23**  
4:21 p.m., a scam was reported in the 2800 block of Arrowhead Drive.  
4:32 p.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported in the 90 block of Boone Avenue.  
5:11 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 100 block of College Avenue.  
8:58 p.m., a reckless driver was reported Northbound on Highway 36, passing County Road 197.

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# CLASSIFIEDS

**015 FARM & RANCH**

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**045 SERVICES**

**ASHLEY'S LANDSCAPING & SERVICES:** Tree Trimming, Leaf/Yard Cleanup, Mowing, Landscaping, French Drains, and Moving Services. 254-239-8842. John 3:16! Like us on Facebook! 00030707

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



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00030701

**R&M FENCING & DOZING:** barbed wire, custom pipe, entryways, corrals, barns, fence row clearing, metal buildings, residential & game fencing, solar gate openers, dozer work. Free estimates. **Larry Riddle, 254-248-2205; Joyce McAdams, 254-248-4318.** 00030705

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



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CELL 254-216-2938

**Kenneth Russell Shredding Service, small or large acreage.** Call 254-223-3119. 00030754

**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

Multi-Family Garage Sales: 116 Sims Circle, 118 Sims Circle, 147 Apollo Drive. Saturday, April 27, starts at 8 a.m.  
00030753

**060 GARAGE SALE**

LUGGAGE AND FLORAL will be featured Tues., 04/30 - Sat., 05/04. The Boys & Girls Club Resale Shop, 1706 E. Main. Tuesday-Friday, 8a.m.-5p.m. & Saturday, 9a.m.-3p.m. 00030755

COMMUNITY-WIDE GARAGE SALE in Hamilton. April 26-27. Library book sale. Arbor Day Event. Shop our local businesses and more! Map available in the Hamilton Herald-News. 00030760

Garage Sale! Friday&Saturday, May 3&4, 7a.m.-2p.m., 307 Clayton Drive. Women's, kids, and men's clothes; shoes; toys; jewelry; compound-bow, pop up blind. Don't miss this sale! 00030766

**078 APARTMENTS**

APARTMENT FOR LEASE: Seniors only (65 and over) 2/1 one-story, fenced back yard, quiet neighborhood, stable tenants, laundry facilities, covered parking with storage, water paid. References required (254) 865-2148. 00030764

**083 COMMERCIAL FOR LEASE**

RETAIL SPACE FOR LEASE: MAIN STREET FRONTAGE, ONE OF THE BEST LOCATIONS IN GATESVILLE. (254) 865-2138. 00030765

**099 PUBLIC NOTICES**

NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND HEARING TO CONSIDER THE CANCELLATION OF LOTS 17-21, WEST MOODY FARMS

LOCATION/DATE: The Coryell County Commissioners Court will hold a public hearing at 9 a.m. on May 14, 2024, at the Coryell County Commissioners' Courtroom, 800 E. Main Street, Gatesville TX 76528.

PURPOSE: To receive comments for or against a request by River Land Holdings, LLC for cancellation of the Plat of West Moody Farms, Lots 17-21.

SITE LOCATION: The subject is located at FM 107, Moody, TX

SITE LEGAL DESCRIPTION: BEING 121.01-Acres, more or less, part of the R. T. DAVIDSON SURVEY, ABSTRACT NO. 274, in Coryell County, Texas and being a portion of that certain called 379.50-Acre tract of land described, in a deed to River Land Holdings, LLC, recorded in Inst. No. 327198, Deed Records of Coryell County, Texas, and being Lots 17-21 of that subdivision called West Moody Farms as recorded in Slide C-1002 of the Plat Records of Coryell County, Texas.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Additional information is available upon request for review. You may contact Justin Mannix at the Coryell County Road and Bridge Department for additional information at 254-865-5021.

00030739

The City of Gatesville, Texas will be conducting an online auction of surplus sports field lighting fixtures and accessories.

The auction will open for bidding on April 19, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. and will end at 5 p.m. CST on May 3, 2024.

You can view and bid on these items online at: <https://www.govdeals.com/gatesville>

00030746

**099 PUBLIC NOTICES**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, Ideal Self Storage-Gatesville, located at 1611 E. Main St., Gatesville TX 76528, is having an online auction. The property is being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. The sale will be held at [storageauctions.com](http://storageauctions.com) beginning Monday, May 6, 2024 at 11 A.M. Seller reserves the right to withdraw any property from the sale upon payment in full. Bidding sale will end on Monday, May 13, 2024 at 11 A.M. Units to be sold: Alan Garrison, Angela Botkin, Carolyn Warren, Thomas Baldwin. Inventory: Household goods, clothing, tools, and misc. items. 00030740

**NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS PROFESSIONAL PRESERVATION ARCHITECTURAL FIRMS FOR SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COURTHOUSE MASTER PLAN**

This RFQ is intended to solicit interest and submission of firm qualifications regarding architectural services in connection with the development of a master plan for the Coryell County Courthouse located in Gatesville, Texas. Submissions shall be from qualified architectural firms who are capable of complying with the requirements of the Texas Historical Commission rules and regulations regarding the requirements of a qualified Courthouse Master Plan.

The Coryell County Commissioners' Court (County) seeks to develop a Courthouse Master Plan for the Coryell County Courthouse located at 620 E. Main Street, Gatesville, Texas.

The County intends to seek funding from the Texas Historic Commission for Texas historic Courthouse Preservation Program funds, and a master plan is a prerequisite to application.

Request for Qualifications posted: April 9, 2024

Intention to Respond forms due: May 7, 2024

Deadline for Inquiries/Questions: May 14, 2024

Response to RFQ due: May 21, 2024

Selected Firm Notified: June 11, 2024

Negotiation & Award with Selected Firm: subsequent to June 11, 2024

Commence Services: Immediately upon award

All qualified firms interested in providing qualifications should respond with a written proposal to the County. Final selection will be made in accordance with the policies and administrative directive of the County and other statutory provisions.

Responses must be received by May 21, 2024, at 3:00 p.m., to Coryell County, Office of the County Attorney, 210 S. 7th Street, Gatesville, TX 76528, after which time and date they will no longer be accepted. Late responses will be returned and will not be considered. Responses may be mailed or delivered. Submit your "Intent to Respond" by email to [brandon.belt@corryellcountytx.gov](mailto:brandon.belt@corryellcountytx.gov) before 10:00 a.m., May 7, 2024, stating your intent to respond to the RFQ. The complete bid documents are available on the Coryell County website at: [www.corryellcounty.org](http://www.corryellcounty.org) or in the Office of the County Attorney. Telephone number is (254) 248-3180.

00030742

**099 PUBLIC NOTICES**

NOTICE OF SALE OF USED BUSES AND VEHICLES

The Board of Trustees of the Jonesboro Independent School District ("JISD") hereby serves notice that it will accept sealed bids for the following:

BLUE BIRD SCHOOL BUS, Mileage 68,015 (not guaranteed), VIN# 1HVBBA-BM91H372961, Handicap Bus

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL BUS, Mileage 237,506 (not guaranteed), VIN# 4DRBRAA-N63A9566818, SP1

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL BUS, Mileage 201,841 (not guaranteed), VIN# 4DRBRAA-N33A956825, SP3

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL BUS, Mileage 130,579 (not guaranteed), VIN # 4DRBUAFL96A258326, 98

BLUE BIRD SCHOOL BUS, Mileage 154,252 (not guaranteed), VIN# 1HVBBA-K84H617302, 33

2009 CHEVROLET AVEO CAR, Mileage unknown, VIN# KL1TD5DE8AB087423

VANTAGE UTILITY TRUCK, Mileage Unknown, VIN# LFWA2F1546JH00044 Location: 15095 HWY 36 E. Jonesboro, TX 76538

Interested parties may contact Mr. Matt Dossey, Superintendent of Schools, at the address below to receive Bid Package, which provides information concerning inspections, disclosures, and other important information. The Property will be conveyed subject to the exceptions and reservations contained in the Bid Package, including the reservation and exception that this is a conveyance of the surface only. JISD reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in bids received. Bids received after the deadline or faxed bids will not be considered.

Sealed bids will be received until: April 29, 2024 at 12:00 P.M.

Address Jonesboro Independent School District  
Attn: Mr. Matt Dossey  
Superintendent of Schools  
P.O. Box 125  
Mailing: 14909 E. State Hwy. 36  
Jonesboro, Texas 76538-0125  
Phone: 254-463-2111

00030750

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Carl James Rhom, Jr., were issued on October 21, 2022 in Cause No. 20-10373 pending in the County Court at Law of Coryell County, Texas, to Linda Harrison.

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

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

Dated the 15th day of April, 2024.

Allen D. Place, Jr.

Attorney for Linda Harrison

State Bar No.: 16058500

109 S. 7th Street  
Gatesville, Texas 76528

Telephone: (254) 865-8475

Facsimile: (254) 865-5274

Email: [allenplacejr@aol.com](mailto:allenplacejr@aol.com)

00030752

**099 PUBLIC NOTICES**

NOTICE OF SALE OF MANUFACTURED HOME

The Board of Trustees of the Jonesboro Independent School District ("JISD") hereby serves notice that it will accept sealed bids for the following:

Model: 01-XSG-X304  
Date of Manufacture: 11/30/2012  
Total Square Feet: 2,176  
Wind Zone: I

Manufacturer Name: Champion Home Builder, Inc. 501 Burleson Blvd, Burleson, TX 76028

Section 1: PFS1109099 (LABEL SERIAL #) 125000HA001613A (Complete Serial #)

Section 2: PFS1109100 (Label Serial #) 12000HA001613B (Complete Serial #)  
Manufactured Home is located on:  
Property ID: 11412 Geographical ID: 00000000831001489  
Legal Description: 201 J Daughtery 1019243000  
Acres: 1.00

Location: 15095 HWY 36 E. Jonesboro, TX 76538

Interested parties may contact Mr. Matt Dossey, Superintendent of Schools, at the address below to receive Bid package, which details the improvements and provides information concerning inspections, disclosures, and other important information. The Property will be conveyed subject to the exceptions and reservations contained in the Bid Package, including the reservation and exception that this is a conveyance of the surface only. JISD reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in bids received. Bids received after the deadline of faxed bids will not be considered. Sealed bids will be received until: April 29, 2024 at 12:00 P.M.  
Address: Jonesboro Independent School District  
Attn: Mr. Matt Dossey  
Superintendent of Schools  
P.O. Box 125  
Mailing: 14909 E. State Hwy. 36, Jonesboro, Texas 76538-0125  
Phone: 254-463-2111

00030750

**NOTICE OF BID FOR CONCRETE SLAB**

The Board of Trustees of the Jonesboro Independent School District ("JISD") hereby serves notice that it will accept sealed bids TO CONSTRUCT A CONCRETE SLAB with the following specifications: 30' x 30' with Brick Ledge:

Interior and Exterior Beams - 24" Deep x 12" Wide with 4 - 5/8" Rebar  
Slab will be 4" Thick with 3/8" Rebar on 16" Center  
Plastic Vapor Barrier

Structure to be completed by and in use by August 1, 2024.

Bids will be accepted until 12:00 PM on April 29, 2024.

Interested parties with questions concerning specifications of the building that may not be listed or need further explanation, may contact Mr. Matt Dossey, Superintendent of Schools, at the address below, by phone, or at [matt.dossey@jonesboroisd.net](mailto:matt.dossey@jonesboroisd.net). JISD reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in bids received. Bids received after the deadline or faxed and/or electronic bids will not be considered. Address: Jonesboro Independent School District  
Attn: Mr. Matt Dossey  
Superintendent of Schools  
P.O. Box 125  
Mailing: 14909 E. State Hwy. 36  
Jonesboro, Texas 76538-0125  
Phone: 254-463-2111  
FAX: 254-463-2275

00030751

**099 PUBLIC NOTICES**

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

ATTORNEY OR PERSON FILING CAUSE  
DORI RAY MISTIC  
907 S. MAIN ST.  
COPPERAS COVE, TX 76522

TO: DECEDENT'S UNKNOWN HEIRS  
UNKNOWN ADDRESS  
UNKNOWN STATE

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF CORYELL

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ARTHUR WAYNE PRIMAS, DECEASED. CAUSE NO 24-10947, COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS ON THE 8TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2024, APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP SAID ARTHUR WAYNE PRIMAS, DECEASED.

SAID APPLICATION SHALL BE HEARD AND ACTED ON BY SAID COURT ON OR AFTER THE FIRST MONDAY NEXT AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF TEN DAYS FROM DATE OF POSTING THIS CITATION, THE SAME BEING THE 6TH DAY OF MAY 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 CONTENTING SUCH APPLICATION SHOULD THEY DESIRE TO DO SO.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS THE 22ND DAY OF APRIL 2024.

JENNIFER NEWTON  
CORYELL COUNTY CLERK  
CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

BY: K. PALLEY

00030763

**070 LAND & LOTS**

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

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

To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



# CLASSIFIEDS

037  
**HELP WANTED**

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

Email resumé HR@JRoof.com  
00030709

Coryell Co. Commission Company  
Help wanted starting Wednesday, May 8th

Please call Jody Thomas  
254-223-2958 cell  
254-865-9121 office

00030745

## NOW HIRING

**Coryell**  
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REHABILITATING  
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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

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

Job summaries at  
[www.CoryellHealth.org](http://www.CoryellHealth.org)

037  
**HELP WANTED**

037  
**HELP WANTED**

037  
**HELP WANTED**

102  
**REAL ESTATE**

102  
**REAL ESTATE**

## NOW HIRING

**Coryell**  
HEALTH

HOME HEALTH:

- RN – FT
- PCA – PRN for Gatesville, Copperas Cove, and Hamilton

ASSISTED/INDEPENDENT LIVING:

- CNA – FT & PRN Night Shift

MEDICAL CLINIC:

- Clinic Nurse Supervisor
- Clinic Registration Supervisor
- LVN PRN
- ER Admission Clerk

CULINARY:

- Patient Dining Associate
- Cook
- Baker

DIALYSIS:

- LVN – PT
- RN Charge Nurse – FT

EMPLOYEE HEALTH:

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## RECIPE

*This recipe appeared in the "Methodist Best" cookbook in 2008. The Gatesville Messenger is running a series of recipes from that cookbook. If you would like to submit a recipe for publication, please email it to: editor@gatesvillemessage.com*

lication, please email it to: editor@gatesvillemessage.com

### MARINATED ASPARAGUS

BY ANN MILLER

- ½ c. extra virgin olive oil
- 1 T. chopped fresh parsley
- ¼ c. red wine vinegar
- 2 T. chopped pimento

- 1 T. salt
- 2 T. chopped green onions
- 1 tsp. sugar
- 1 lb. thin fresh asparagus, trimmed, and blanched
- ¼ c. chopped green bell

peppers

Combine oil, vinegar, salt, sugar, bell peppers, parsley, pimento, and green onion in shallow, nonmetallic bowl. Add asparagus, tossing to

coat. Cover and marinate for several hours in the refrigerator. Serve chilled or at room temperature.

## Saturday, May 4, 2024

JUNK & DISORDERLY

## Civic Center and around Gatesville

Vintage Market & Citywide Garage Sales

### Citywide Garage Sale Locations:

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <p><b>2420 Oak Drive</b><br/>Multi family: dishes, clothes, books, lots of miscellaneous</p> <p><b>120 Lakewood Drive</b></p> <p><b>204 Meadowview Lane, Apt. A</b></p> <p><b>401 E Leon Street</b><br/>Yard sale</p> <p><b>715 Joannas Way</b><br/>3D printed models</p> <p><b>1106 Sierra Vista Drive</b><br/>Antiques, collectibles, tools, clothes</p> <p><b>119 Northern Avenue</b><br/>Furniture, clothing, yard tools, bedding, miscellaneous</p> <p><b>1309 W. Main Street</b><br/>Household items, baby items, pictures, women's clothes, some furniture</p> <p><b>411 Valley View Drive</b><br/>Multiple families, something for everyone</p> <p><b>206 Leisure Acres Road</b><br/>2-family yard sale. Many baby clothes and items, western decor, bed frame and lots of misc.</p>   | <p><b>301 Woods Drive</b><br/>Miscellaneous</p> <p><b>306 Winston Drive</b><br/>Patio furniture &amp; chairs</p> <p><b>307 Winston Drive</b><br/>Household furniture like Armoire</p> <p><b>302 N. 9th Street</b><br/>Miscellaneous</p> <p><b>2409 TX 36 BUS</b><br/>Large sale in Micobe's parking lot: wedding items, antiques, home décor, kids' stuff, clothes, car freshie supply sellout, pillows, 4 carseats</p> <p><b>912 East Main Street</b><br/>First Baptist Church of Gatesville youth group Church camp fundraiser. No prices, just donations.</p> <p><b>1007 E. Leon Street</b><br/>Housewares, some baby items, scrubs, clothes, a lil bit of everything</p> <p><b>1101 Pidcoke Street</b><br/>Hubby has cleaned out the garage! Handyman items, vintage Craftsman belt sander/planer,</p> | <p>router table, ceiling fan, 48" flat screen TV, weed eater, camping items, holiday items, curtains and kitchen items</p> <p><b>3411 Spyglass Circle</b><br/>Lounge chair and small furniture, antiques, collectibles</p> <p><b>250 FM 116</b><br/>Vintage, tools, toys, collectibles, rust and more</p> <p><b>3410 Empress Drive</b><br/>Small boutique including shirts, glassware, pens and wristlets</p> <p><b>975 County Road 323</b><br/>Lots of misc, electric stove, furniture, jet skies, Honda Talon</p> <p><b>126 Western Ridge Road</b><br/>Multi-family sale: women's and children's clothes, housewares and miscellaneous</p> <p><b>591 County Road 323</b><br/>Men's clothes small and 2X, women's clothing small/medium, sports gear, shoes, toys, video games, filing cabinet, crafting supplies, and much more. Will take cash, venmo, or cash app</p> |
| <p><b>501 E. Leon Street</b><br/>Furniture, lamps, dishes, home decor, etc.</p> <p><b>308 Clayton Drive</b><br/>Asian decor, Japanese China, Depression glassware, Hull China, HO Scale Trains, tracks &amp; accesories, wine decor, Beagle decor, craft supplies</p> <p><b>126 Western Ridge Road</b><br/>Women's and children's clothes, shoes, kitchenwares, outdoor glider and stool, misc.</p> <p><b>102 Bluestem Drive</b><br/>Miscellaneous household, clothes, some fishing lures</p> <p><b>1106 Sierra Vista Drive</b><br/>Antique, collectables, vintage items, tools and more</p> <p><b>102 Avenue C</b><br/>Multi-family garage sale</p> <p><b>2515 Jackson Drive</b><br/>3-family sale. Dishes, tools, electrical items, electrical wire, tires, household items, toys, misc.</p> <p><b>108 State School Road</b><br/>Furniture, clothing, home decor</p> |  |   |

## Vendor Market at the Civic Center

9am-4pm Free Admission



ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Many folks within the community attended the annual Rainbow Tea held at the Gatesville Senior Center.

## Senior Center hosts annual Rainbow Tea

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH  
Staff Writer

This past week on Wednesday, April 17, the Gatesville Senior Center hosted its second annual Rainbow Tea.

Many locals and busi-

nesses within the community attended the event to support the senior center and to visit with the congregation.

Each table was sponsored by a local business and was given a designated color

of the rainbow to decorate their table. The table sponsors included 5K Reality, Hillside Medical Lodge, Gussied Up Boutique, the Nipa food truck, J&M's BBQ, Laerdal, Let's Grow Learning Center, and The

Gatesville Messenger.

For further details regarding the Rainbow Tea, contact the Gatesville Senior Center at 254-865-8234. The Center is located at 208 North Lutterloh Avenue.

## Mountain Baptist Church revival begins on April 28

Staff Reports

Mountain Baptist Church will hold a revival from Sunday, April 28, to Wednesday, May 1.

Services will begin Sunday, April 28, at 11 a.m., and will be followed by a barbecue meal at noon and services again that evening at 6:30 p.m.

Revival services will continue 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 U.S. Highway 84 in Gatesville.

## Bell County Master Gardeners release May events schedule

The Bell County Master Gardeners Association recently announced their events schedule for the month of May. For those interested in gardening, the events held during the month are:

**May 11**

The Bell County Master Gardener Association and the Temple Public Library Garden Club presents a Special Event Seminar, "Water Conservation through Rainwater Harvesting," on Saturday, May 11 at 2 p.m. at the Temple Public Library, McLane Room, 100 W. Adams, Temple. Certified Master Gardener Teri Marceau will discuss how the lack of rain in our streams and reservoirs, that includes lakes Belton and Stillhouse, has impacted our gardens, trees, and lawns.

Teri will be addressing the importance of water conservation and how to capture rainwater.

Register at [bcmgaspeakers@gmail.com](mailto:bcmgaspeakers@gmail.com)

**May 16**

The Bell County Master Gardener Association is hosting a free monthly seminar, "Native Plants Full Sun and Shade," on Thursday, May 16, from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Texas Agrilife Extension Office, BCMGA Learning Center, 1605 N. Main St., Belton. Certified Master Gardener Barbara Ishikawa will present an assortment of native plants that are drought tolerant for your landscape that grow well in sun or shade enabling you to conserve water.

Class Limit: 50  
Please register at [bcmgaspeakers@gmail.com](mailto:bcmgaspeakers@gmail.com)

## Car Show May 11 to benefit DAV

Submitted Item

A car show will be held on Saturday, May 11, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. at Bare Bones BBQ. Proceeds from the car show will benefit

the DAV (Disabled American Veterans). All years and models are welcome.

Registration fee will be \$20 at the gate. The trophy classes will include: Most Original, Most Unique, Best

in Show, Best Truck, Best Motorcycle, Best Hot Rod, Best Rat Rod, Veteran's Choice, Most Patriotic, and Jeep.

For more information, contact Kaz at 903-

714-4150 or email [kazman5660@yahoo.com](mailto:kazman5660@yahoo.com)

Bare Bones is located at 4305 S. Hwy. 36 in Gatesville.



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## Hornets wrap regular season, await playoff seeding



COURTESY PHOTOS

GHS baseball standouts, pictured left to right: John Ibarra, Bradey James, and Riley Watson.

BY CHRIS ALLMAN  
Contributing Writer

A pair of wins over La Vega put the finishing touches on Gatesville baseball's best regular season since 2012, and they now begin prep for their third playoff appearance in head coach Chase Smith's four seasons. The Hornets beat the Pirates 15-0 and 12-0 on April 23 to finish the regular season 18-10-1 overall and 7-3 in district. The 18 wins are the most in the regular season since the Hornets went 18-8 in 2012, and the seven

district wins are the most since 2010 when they went 8-2 in league play. Assured of no worse than third place in District 23-4A, they would finish second pending a China Spring win over Salado on April 26. Should the Cougars win, Gatesville would enter the playoffs as the No. 2 seed. If Salado upsets the second-ranked Cougars, then Gatesville and Salado would play a one-game playoff for second place. Regardless of their seed-

ing, Gatesville is assured of a first-round matchup with either Georgetown Gateway or Lago Vista out of District 24-4A. In the wins over the Pirates, the Hornets pitching did not allow a hit over the two-game stretch. Bradey James threw three innings of no-hit baseball while striking out four in game one, while Bralen Veazey threw four hitless innings in the nightcap. Veazey struck out nine in the second game running his career mark to 252 strike-

outs. He needs four strikeouts to set the program's all-time strikeout record of 256 currently held by Craig Loerwald. In the game one win, the Hornets banged out 13 hits with five different Hornets getting two hits apiece: James, Lawson Mooney, John Ibarra, Logan Biggs and Justin Johnson. They pounded out another ten hits in the game two win. Mooney had three hits and three RBI, while Veazey and John Ibarra had two hits

apiece. Since the start of district play Mooney is hitting .483, while Ibarra is hitting .455. Ibarra, who tied for the team batting title in 2023, has raised his average 114 points during district and has hit safely in all but two-game in league play. Mooney started district hitting at a .299 clip and finishes the regular season with a .354 average. Riley Watson, a reserve outfielder who got the start on Senior Night, walked

twice, scored three runs, and drilled an RBI triple in the bottom of the fourth. If a playoff with Salado is not necessary, the Hornets could schedule a warmup game prior to starting the postseason the week of May 3-4. Regardless of seeding, the Hornets and Eagles would meet in the regional quarterfinals should they advance out of the first two rounds.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Gatesville High School varsity golf team from left to right is Garrett Sullivant, Gage Ford, Max Healer, Caden Brister, Kasen Bankhead, and coach Guy Dean.

## Hornet varsity golf team placed ninth at regionals

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH  
Staff Writer

The Gatesville High School boys golf team recently made its 15th appearance at regionals since 2005 and competed in a two-day, 14-team 4A Region III tournament. The Hornets shot rounds of 344-347 to finish off the two-day tournament with

a score of 691. The boys placed ninth overall. The individual results included Max Healer, 166 (83-83), Kasen Bankhead, 172 (84-88), Gage Ford, 175 (86-89), Caden Brister, 178 (91-87), and Garrett Sullivant, 191 (97-94). Sullivant has also been recently named to the THS-

CA academic all-state as a second team athlete. This award recognizes student-athletes for their grade point average (GPA), class rank and ACT/SAT scores. For further details, contact Gatesville High School at 254-865-8281.

## Oglesby Tigers to be honored with Gordon Wood Award

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH  
Staff Writer

After a season of hard work and determination, the Oglesby Tiger football team has been invited to attend the 2024 Texas High School Football Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on Saturday, May 18. During the ceremony, the entire football team will be

presented with the 2023 Gordon Wood Award for their efforts on the field this past season. The award is given to one Texas high school football team each year and is selected in consultation with members of the Texas High School Football Hall of Fame. It is designed to be awarded to a team who

achieves success on the field, displays good sportsmanship, has community support, and has the ability to overcome challenges. With this being the first time in the school's history that Oglesby has ever won the Gordon Wood Award, coaches Jeb Dixon and Ju-

PLEASE SEE **AWARD** | B2



AVERY MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

The Gatesville High School varsity volleyball team recently hosted a clinic on Wednesday, April 17. The clinic was held to help students who are interested in playing volleyball. Pictured is Laura Trejo (on the floor) teaching young Lady Hornets different techniques to set the volleyball.

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P.O. Box 127, Oglesby, TX 76561  
Phone: 254-470-2261, Fax: 254-456-2517  
www.fnboglesby.com



The Oglesby Tiger football team is pictured at their state championship game in Dallas.

COURTESY PHOTO

## AWARD

FROM PAGE B1

lian Helms expressed that they are both extremely honored to receive such a title that recognizes their sportsmanship, toughness, and success.

Dixon and Helms said, "To have some recognition for our sportsmanship is truly an honor, and this is reassurance that we are running our program the correct way."

Both coaches stated that they preach to the boys to let their playing do the talking, and that it is important to never boast or draw attention to themselves, but to play to the best of their ability and to stay humble on the field.

"These young men have grown tremendously, and

even the starters from our previous years," Dixon and Helms said. "Some of our kids had to play in new positions than what they were used to due to injuries and people graduating from last year."

They expressed that it could have been easy for them to not step up to the challenge of playing a new position, but each athlete showed true grit by figuring out how to perfect their positions.

Earlier in the season, the Tiger football team played against the Waco Methodist Children's Home.

"They were the first team for us to be behind in the score, but they rallied together and grinded out for

a win," Dixon and Helms said. "From that point on, we knew that our boys were battle tested for the playoffs."

Both coaches expressed that without these experiences the team may not have had the playoff run that they did.

The Tigers ended their season on a high note by advancing to the 1A Division II State Championship on Dec. 13, 2023, which was held at the AT&T Dallas Cowboys Stadium. They played against the Benjamin Mustangs, and, although they fell 34-82, this made it the first time in history for the Tigers to advance to the state championships.

"Seeing the boys grow and

have success is the biggest thing that makes me proud to coach them," Dixon said. "Even the younger guys that do not get much playing time grew and made every one of us better."

"We are extremely honored and humbled to receive the Gordon Wood Award," Dixon and Helms said. "Without all these guys on our team, there would not be the success that we have."

The 2024 Texas High School Football Hall of Fame Ceremony will begin at 6 p.m. and will be held at 1108 South University Parks Drive in Waco.

Fear the O #TPW.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Top photo: OHS's state golf qualifier Matti Dixon.

Bottom photo: OHS's state golf qualifier Hunter Walter.

# GYS tackle football to begin in July

### Staff Reports

The tackle football league of Gatesville Youth Sports will begin its season at the end of August and will begin practicing in the middle of July.

The age groups for youth tackle football will include 8-and-under, 10-and-under, and 12-and-under. Flag football will be for ages 6-and-under only.

Along with having five

teams last year, Moody, Jarrell, Troy, and Hewitt have been added to the schedule as well.

Sign-up forms for the program have been passed out to each campus and will be

available for students.

The drop off location for the forms is 3502 Churchill Drive in Gatesville.

For additional information, contact 254-338-4534.

## Oglesby golfers headed to state tournament

### Staff Reports

Student-athletes Hunter Walter and Matti Dixon of Oglesby High School recently competed at the Region 4-1A Regional Tournament this past week.

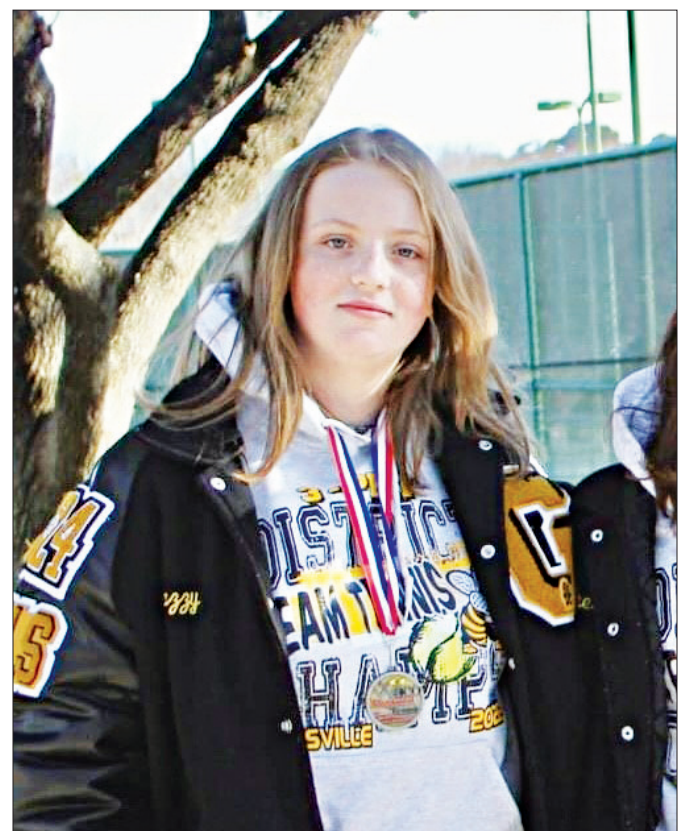
Walter is headed to state after finishing fifth overall, and Dixon finished as the runner up and a state quali-

fier. As a team, the boys also placed fifth overall at regionals.

Walter and Dixon will be advancing to the upcoming state tournament.

For further information, contact Oglesby Independent School District at 254-456-2271.

## SENIOR OLIVIA WALKER RECEIVES TENNIS AWARD



COURTESY PHOTO

Gatesville High School senior, Olivia Walker, has recently been named to the THSCA Academic All-State Elite team for her outstanding performances in their tennis program. This award recognizes student athletes for their grade point average (GPA), class rank, and ACT/SAT scores.



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# Evant Elks compete at Regional track meet



COURTESY PHOTO

**Lady Elk Bree Ramirez**

### Staff Reports

The track teams of Evant High School recently competed in a regional track meet which was held this past week.

Regional track results include:

Daritz Escamilla, 100-meter hurdles, 24.0 seconds.  
Wyatt Hitt, long jump,

16'3".  
Hailey Neri, 3200-meter run, 15:47.

Brinlea Bates, triple jump, 29'2.5".

Bree Ramirez, discus, 96'10", personal record, sixth place.

For further details, contact Evant Independent School District at 254-471-5536.



COURTESY PHOTO

**Jonesboro Eagle making his way to the finish line during a race at a recent regional meet.**

# Eagles soar to finish line at regional meet

**BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH**  
*Staff Writer*

The Jonesboro Eagles recently competed at regionals and brought home a plethora of medals.

"I am very proud of them," coach Nathan Kuehler said.

There were two students and one relay team who punched their ticket to state.

As a team, Lanie Ingram, Ally Thorman, Emily Turner, and Lynlee Deats won second place in the 4 x 200 relay race and will be advancing to state. Payton Brister won first place in shot put and will be advancing to state along with Eric Thorman who placed second in the 110-meter hurdles.

Other results include:  
**Lady Eagles**

Campbell Gustin won fifth place in pole vault and sixth place in the triple jump.

Madison Manning won sixth place in the 800-meter run.

Kodi Suggs won sixth place in the high jump.

**Eagles**  
Eric Thorman won third place in the high jump.

Layden Nichols won fifth place in the triple jump.

Braden Ashby won fifth place in discus.

As a team, DeMarcus Acoff, Luke Stephenson, Eric Thorman, and Layden Nichols won third place in the 4 x 200 relay race.

For further details, contact Jonesboro Independent School District at 254-463-2111.



COURTESY PHOTO

**Oglesby Tiger Kyler Fossett is pictured competing in the high jump at regionals.**

# OHS track competes at regional meet

### Staff Reports

The Tiger track team of Oglesby High School recently competed at the Region IV 1A/3A track and field championships on Friday, April 19 and on Saturday, April 20.

The team had a plethora of student athletes advancing to state.

Athletes advancing to state include:

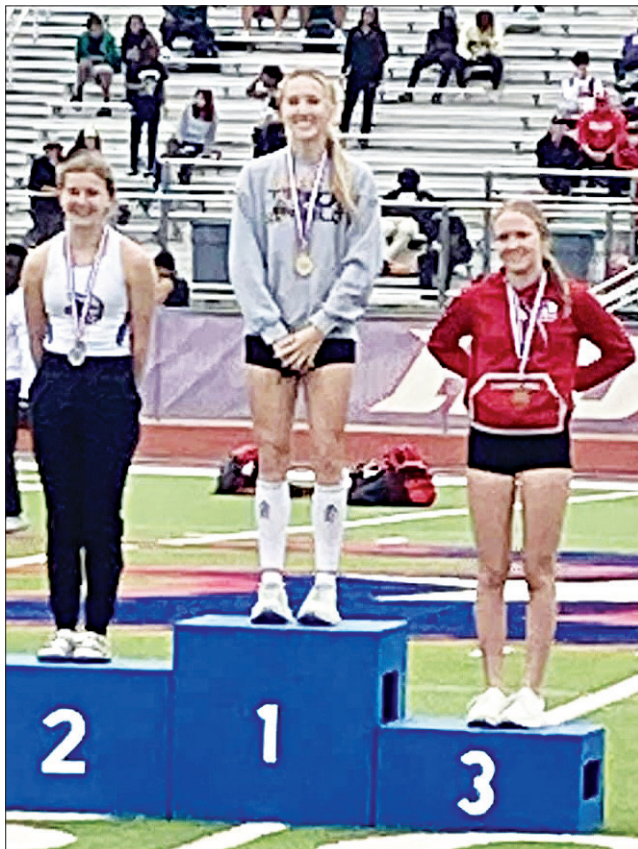
Kyler Fossett won second place in the high jump with a height of 6'2, which is his new personal record.

He also won second place in the 100-meter dash and second place in the 200-meter dash.

Kayson Campbell won second place in the 400-meter dash.

As a team, EJ Aviles, Landon Williamson, Kyler Fossett, and Aiden Oxford won first place in the 4 x 100-meter relay race.

For further details, contact Oglesby Independent School District at 254-456-2271.



COURTESY PHOTOS

**Top photo: Barrett Boyd is pictured wearing her first-place medal. Bottom photo: Vania Martinez, who placed second. They are advancing to state in May.**

# GHS tennis teams to advance to regionals

### Staff Reports

The Gatesville High School tennis team recently competed in their District 23-4A tournament on Tuesday, April 23, at home.

Multiple Hornet athletes won medals and will be advancing to the upcoming regional tournament.

Regional qualifiers include:  
Kasey Fitzer won first

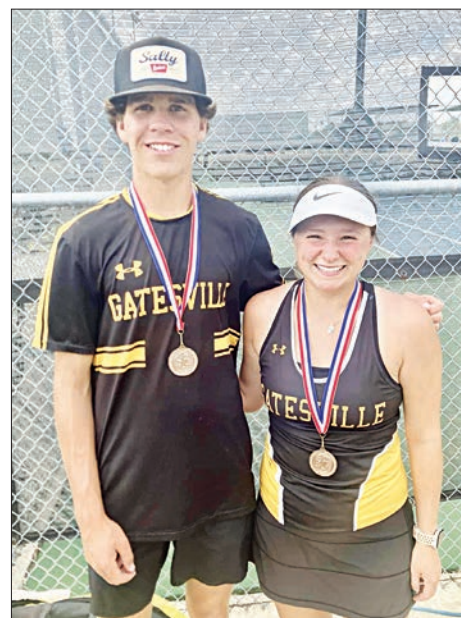
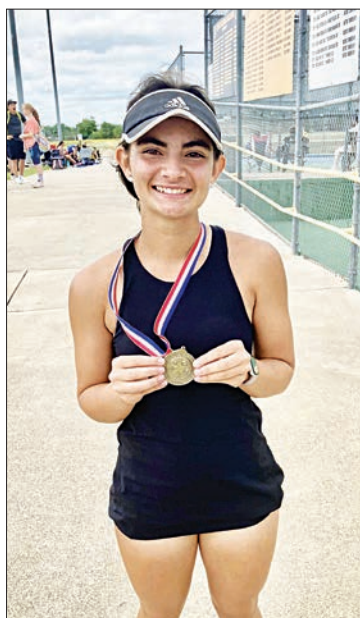
place in the girls' singles title.

Jack Armstrong and Katelyn Sanchez won third place in mixed doubles.

Olivia Walker and Callie Smith won second place in

girls' doubles.

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



COURTESY PHOTOS

**Pictured left to right: Kasey Fitzer, Jack Armstrong and Katelyn Sanchez, and Olivia Walker and Callie Smith.**

# Hornets advance to state track meet May 2

**BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH**  
*Staff Writer*

This past week the track teams of Gatesville High School competed in the 4A Class III meet where two Lady Hornets punched their tickets to the upcoming state meet.

One of the Lady Hornets who will be advancing to the state meet will be senior Barret Boyd. She won first place in pole vault at regionals with a winning height of 12'1". She also qualified for the finals in

the 100-meter hurdles and the 300-meter hurdles on Saturday, April 20.

Junior Vania Martinez will also be advancing to the state meet with a runner-up finish in the 3200-meter run. Her time of 11:24 shattered the school record of 11:36, which Martinez set herself back in 2022.

The UIL Class 4A state meet will be held on Thursday, May 2, in Austin.

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## Celebration honors naming of Tarleton State's College of Business for Dr. Sam Pack

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STEPHENVILLE — Tarleton State University celebrated the naming of its College of Business in honor of esteemed supporter, honorary doctorate recipient and automotive industry legend Dr. Sam Pack April 18.

In North Texas, Dr. Pack owns Five Star Ford dealerships in Carrollton, North Richland Hills, Dallas and Lewisville, along with Five Star Chevrolet in Carrollton and Five Star Subaru in Grapevine. Additionally, he co-owns six luxury dealerships in Tulsa featuring Lexus, Audi, Volkswagen, Cadillac, Jaguar and Land Rover brands.

His historic gift of over \$10 million is the largest in Tarleton State history.

"Tarleton has a very special place in our hearts," said Pack. "As great as the university is, the best days are yet ahead, and our family wants to be a part of that. We want to make a difference in the lives of the young people, especially those that bleed purple."

The impact will be felt immediately.

"What strikes me most about Sam is he puts others ahead of himself at every opportunity," said Tarleton State President Dr. James Hurley. "The premise of his success has been based on relationships. He has that innate ability to make people feel valued, regardless of what their position is in a particular organization, association or entity. He values every single person and the importance of higher education."

Pack has been honored numerous times, highlighted by the national 1988 TIME Dealer of the Year tribute, the industry's most prestigious award. In 2003, he



Top left: Dr. Sam Pack and Tarleton State President Dr. James Hurley unveil the Dr. Sam Pack College of Business building marker. Top right: state Rep. Shelby Slawson (District 59), state Senator Brian Birdwell (District 22), Dr. Hurley and Dr. Pack. Bottom left: Dr. Hurley, First Lady Kindall Hurley, Carol Pack and Dr. Pack. Bottom right: Dr. Pack speaking to the crowd.

received the Ford Motor Company Salute to Dealers Award, presented by Edsel Ford II, for his commitment to improving communities and the lives of individuals in them. He was also honored as a Texas Automobile Dealers Association Legend in 2006 and was named to Ford's inaugural Top Volume Dealers Hall of Fame in 2016.

"Over 40 years of service in the automotive industry, he has provided an education for his own to those around him," said John Sharp, Chancellor of The Texas

A&M System. "His business acumen, giving nature and passion for others are special traits. Dr. Pack's continued commitment to sharing his wealth of knowledge aligns with Tarleton State's efforts to increase access and opportunity for all."

More than 3,100 undergraduate and graduate students are enrolled in the Dr. Sam Pack College of Business, with courses available at Tarleton State's Stephenville, Fort Worth and Waco campuses, along with online.

Students in the college work with Union Pacific, Walt Disney, Boot Barn, Saint-Gobain, Barefoot Campus Outfitter, L3Harris Technologies, Goldman Sachs, H-E-B and Amazon, among others, for internships and senior capstone projects to gain hands-on skills and knowledge.

All programs within the college are fully accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB). Fewer than 6% of business schools in the world are accredited

by the AACSB, which is the premier business school accrediting body.

"Dr. Pack's impact will be felt for generations to come," said Dr. Rajarshi Aroskar, Dean of the Dr. Sam Pack College of Business.

At Tarleton State, he has already made his mark, supporting the food pantry, the President's Circle, and the Dr. James and Kindall Hurley Scholarship Endowment. Additionally, the Tarleton State University Pack Automotive Group Intern Program provides Texans

with learning opportunities that promote future career success.

Last spring, he was presented with an honorary doctorate of humane letters from Tarleton State for his humanitarian and philanthropic contributions as well as a President's Legacy Award for Excellence, Integrity and Respect at the Gala.

Overall, he supports more than 300 nonprofits, service organizations and community events.

"Dr. Pack has experienced success in all facets of life," said state Rep. Shelby Slawson (District 59). "We will work tirelessly to ensure that the college named in his honor is the best of the best."

When discussing Dr. Pack's life, state Sen. Brian Birdwell (District 22) focused on how his story will impact future generations. "As a self-made man, he will inspire Tarleton State students for years to come. His lifelong commitment to faith, family and the greater good is a tremendous example for others to follow."

In a journey filled with accomplishments and recognitions, Pack said the university naming its College of Business in his honor is a distinction that stands above all. This is just the second time an academic college at Tarleton State has been named for an individual.

"I've been honored in a lot of different ways, but it's the greatest honor that has ever been bestowed upon me," he said. "I will always be indebted to those who were instrumental in making this happen."

Learn more about the Dr. Sam Pack College of Business at <https://www.tarleton.edu/cob/>.

## Tarleton State Baseball takes home series against UTRGV

### Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Texan Baseball secured the series win over the Vaqueros April 21 at the Tarleton Baseball Complex.

Tarleton State (22-18, 12-9 WAC) took the rubber match Sunday against UTRGV (19-17, 8-10 WAC) with a 7-2 final to secure the series victory for the Texans.

With a one-run ball game headed into the bottom of the fourth, the Purple and White came alive with a three-run inning to put the Vaqueros in their place.

Devon Patel got the start for Tarleton State with 2.0 innings on the mound, giving up one run on two hits, one walk and one strikeout. Reese Bassinger (3-1) secured his third win with 5.0 innings pitched, giving up no runs on four hits, no walks and five strikeouts.

Tyler Valdez (L, 1-3) started things off for UTRGV with 3.2 innings on the mound, giving up five runs on four hits, four walks and three strikeouts.

The Purple and White compiled seven runs on 10 hits, with a double from Cris

Enriquez and a pair of stolen bases with help from Kooper Shook and Tyson Drake.

The Vaqueros finished with two runs on nine hits, with one double.

The visitors were first on the board with a lone run in the top of the second. A leadoff double followed by a groundout advanced the lead runner to third. A flyout brought in the first run for the Vaqueros.

In the bottom of the third the Texans got to work, putting a pair of runs on the board to take the lead. A leadoff single from Sergio

Guerra got things going for the home team. Ike Shirey reached on a fielder's choice. With one out recorded, Hammonds walked, and Drake also reached on a fielder's choice to see runners at first and third. Drake stole second to put a couple of Texans in scoring position and a two RBI single from Cole Mears brought the pair home, taking the lead for the home team.

In the top of the eighth things heated up for the visitors but the Vaqueros couldn't finish. With one out on the board, the two-hole singled to left center and a pair of walks followed to load the bases with a 5-1

score on the board. Braydon Risley secured a strikeout looking for the second out and Hammonds claimed the third out with a toss to second base to get the Texans out of the danger zone, leaving three runners stranded for UTRGV.

Tarleton State's half of the eighth welcome another couple of runs for some insurance. With one out recorded, Enriquez doubled to put the Purple and White in scoring position. Trace Morrison singled on a bunt and advanced to third on an error, bringing Enriquez back home for the sixth run for the home team. An RBI single from Austin Russell

made way for Morrison to come home for the final run of the inning. Shook singled to join Russell on the base path and stole second, but a pair of outs followed to close out the inning.

The top of the ninth saw the Vaqueros add another to the board, but the lone run wasn't enough to keep the visitors alive. A leadoff single was followed by a pair of outs. With the lead runner at third, an RBI single to left field made way for the second run to come in for UTRGV. A solid snag from Mears shut down the Vaqueros' comeback, closing out the afternoon with a 7-2 final for Tarleton State.

## Tarleton State Latin Jazz Ensemble to host Spring Concert April 29

### Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — The Tarleton State University Latin Jazz Ensemble hits the stage of the Clyde H. Wells Fine Arts Center Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 29, for its spring concert.

The ensemble will present a program showcasing rhythms and melodies of Cuba and Cuban-influenced jazz.

Joining them will be the Tarleton Jazz Combo 1, performing an opening set of small group jazz, beginning with Kenny Garrett's

"Wayne's Thang," and followed by the Miles Davis/Victor Feldman composition, "Seven Steps to Heaven," "Evidence," by Thelonious Monk and Jimmy Heath's "Gingerbread Boy."

The Latin band will lead off its set with "Ran Kan Kan" by Tito Puente followed by Abelardo Valdés' "Almendra," "Mambo Inn" by Mario Bauza, and Professor Connor Kent-arranged "Passion Dance" by McCoy Tyner.

The Latin Jazz Ensemble, directed by Kent, includes

William Cazares on flute and alto saxophone; Devon Armstrong on tenor saxophone; Acacia Johnson on trombone; Jackson Griffith on bass; Brody Custer on drums; and Abbye Nash on percussion.

The Tarleton Jazz Combo 1, also directed by Kent, features alto saxophonist Nicholas Dorazil, Mattias Piatt on tenor saxophone; Alan Gutierrez on trombone; Jackson Griffith on bass; and drummer Brody Custer.

Admission is \$5 or free with a Tarleton ID.



Texan Baseball secured the series win over the Vaqueros April 21 at the Tarleton Baseball Complex.



Coryell County

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Elder Hugh Montgomery, pastor; 4555 FM 1690, Gatesville; Worship 4th Sunday of each month at 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.  
**CALVARY BAPTIST**  
Steven L. Bogan, pastor; Hwy. 84 & FM 116; Sunday Bible study 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.  
**CANAAN BAPTIST**  
Jim Keever, senior pastor; 177 Coryell City Road, Crawford; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday worship 10:30 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.  
**COLD SPRINGS BAPTIST**  
Bob Phillips, pastor; Sundays - Sunday School 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.  
**EASTWOOD BAPTIST**  
Lynn Parks, pastor; 2518 East Main, Gatesville; Sundays - Sunday School 9:45 a.m., worship 10:50 a.m. & 6 p.m.  
**FIRST BAPTIST EVANT**  
Dane Barron, pastor; 200 Live Oak Street, Evant; Sundays - Sunday School 9:45 a.m., worship 11 a.m., adult Bible study 6 p.m.; Wednesday services - kids' & youth Bible study 6 p.m.  
**FIRST BAPTIST FLAT**  
9775 TX-36, Gatesville; Sunday School 9 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.; Wednesdays - Prayer & Bible Study 7 p.m.; Youth Group & Kid Knights 7 p.m.; Supper first Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m.; Men's Breakfast second Saturday of each month at 7:30 a.m.  
**FIRST BAPTIST GATESVILLE**  
Dr. Pete Keough, Pastor; 912 E. Main St., Gatesville; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.; Wednesdays - Children & Youth 5:30-7:00 p.m. (supper provided), Adult Bible Study 6-7:00 p.m.  
**FIRST BAPTIST OGLESBY**  
Jeremy Sanders, Pastor; 120 College Ave.; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 am; Wednesdays - supper at 5:40 p.m., Kids & Youth Group 6 p.m., Prayer meeting 6 p.m.  
**FIRST BAPTIST PURMELA**  
875 FM 932, Purmela; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.  
**GATEWAY BAPTIST**  
Michael Bragdon, Pastor; 2819 S. Hwy. 36, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.; Wednesday Service 7 p.m.  
**HARMONY BAPTIST**  
A.C. Painter, pastor; 1750 FM 215, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday evening worship 6:30 p.m.  
**HAY VALLEY BAPTIST**  
3110 Hay Valley Road; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. AWANA children's ministry Sundays 5-7 p.m. Bible Study for men & women on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.  
**JONESBORO BAPTIST**  
Matt Dossey, pastor; 11420 N. State Hwy. S; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 10:50 a.m.  
**KING BAPTIST**  
Charles W. McKamie, pastor; 6730 FM 1783, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.  
**LIBERTY BAPTIST**  
Royce T. Cockrell, DMin., Pastor; Corner of FM 107 & HWY 36, Gatesville; Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Sunday Service 11 a.m. & 1 p.m., Family Bible Study Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.  
**LIVE OAK BAPTIST**  
Pastor Matthew Hamilton; 113 FM 107, Gatesville; Sunday School 9:15 a.m., Sunday worship 10:30 a.m., Wednesday 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.  
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2082 FM 1690, Gatesville; Sunday worship 10 a.m.  
**PECAN GROVE BAPTIST**  
6545 FM 107, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.  
**PIDCOKE BAPTIST**  
Donald McConnaughay, pastor; 11125 FM 116, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday service 11 a.m.  
**PLEASANT VALLEY BAPTIST**  
Chris Post, Pastor; CR 301, Jonesboro; Sunday school 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.  
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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. Wednesdays - 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.

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Deral McWhorter, minister; 104 Cedar Ridge, Gatesville; Sunday worship 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.  
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Will Vann, Preacher; 310 W. Brooks Dr., Evant; Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday worship 10:20 a.m. & 12:30 p.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.  
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David Reedy, International Interim Pastor; 922 Lutheran Church Rd., Copperas Cove; Sunday Bible Study 9:15 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:30 a.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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**PEARL COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP**  
6735 FM 183, Pearl; Sunday Services 9 a.m.  
**THE HOUSE THAT GOD BUILT**  
Bill Trotter, pastor; 3412 E. Main St., Gatesville; Sunday service 11 a.m., Wednesday service 7 p.m.  
**PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE OF PRAISE**  
Rev. Jimmy Skiles, pastor; 202 E. Main, Gatesville; Sundays 10 a.m.; Wednesdays 7 p.m.; 254-206-1826.  
**MOUNT CALVARY CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST**  
Rev. Lee O. Ford, pastor; 514 N. 13th St., Gatesville; Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m., Wednesdays Bible Study 6:30-7:30 p.m., Wednesday service, 7:30 p.m.  
**PRESBYTERIAN THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Rev. Dr. Buddy Wheat, pastor; 1110 E. Main, Gatesville; Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.  
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Max Gunn, pastor; 254-216-1537; 10 miles west of Gatesville on HWY 84; Sundays 10:30 a.m.; Wednesdays 7 p.m.; Youth Sunday Service 9:45 a.m.  
**HIGHWAY 2 HEAVEN BIKER CHURCH**  
Monty & Tammy VanHorn, pastors; 1608 W. Main St., Gatesville; Sunday Praise & Worship 11 am, Wednesday Bible Study Rally-6 p.m.; 254-865-4076.

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## GISD Staff Spotlight



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

A certificate of appreciation was presented to Gatesville Elementary's Annie May, pictured center, for her hard work and loyalty to Gatesville ISD. She was joined by Gatesville Elementary's assistant principal, Karrie Judd, and Gatesville ISD's Superintendent, Dr. Barrett Pollard.

### Annie May

During the April 22nd meeting of the Gatesville Independent School District Board of Trustees, Annie May was honored during Faculty Spotlight.

GISD Superintendent Dr. Barrett Pollard had the following to say about May:

"Annie May has been a high-performing employee for GISD for many years now. Annie has taken on the role of lead behavior teacher in our district because she works so well with students who struggle in that area. She helps mentor and gives ideas to

other staff members when dealing with students with behavioral struggles. A few months ago, she even saved a child who was choking."

Gatesville Elementary Principal, Keegan Webb, had the following to say: "Annie May has done a phenomenal job overseeing our PASS program. Annie strives to meet each child where they are and provide them the individual support they need to be successful. She goes above and beyond developing relationships with parents

and students and providing teachers classroom support."

Webb continued, "This year, Annie started a behavior RTI program called the Zones of Regulation, where she has served over 150 children this semester working proactively to teach our students emotional regulation strategies. Annie is a tremendous asset to our students, teachers, and campus. She makes Gatesville Elementary better each and every day. We also enjoy her great sense of humor."

## GISD Community Partner Spotlight



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Members of the "Friends on Duty" who received recognition awards for their "Dedication and Time Commitment" to GISD included from left to right: Jason Olivar, Thomas Boardman, Cristi Crozier, Bill Trotter, Leo Corona, Donny Cole, and Gatesville ISD Superintendent Dr. Barrett Pollard. Those not present for the award ceremony were Adam Fitzter, Larry Seacrest, Lorretta Braucci, Joseph Schraeder, Chuck Dare, Lonnie Sizer, and Britt Clay.

### "Friends on Duty"

During the April 22 meeting of the Gatesville Independent School District Board of Trustees, the officers participating in the "Friends on Duty" were honored during the Community Partner Spotlight presentation.

GISD Superintendent Dr. Barrett Pollard had the following observations about the officers:

"Our June 2022 board meeting was held in the wake of the Uvalde tragedy. Parents and community members here in Gatesville were expressing a strong

desire to offer support in monitoring and securing our campuses. Leading that effort was Adam Fitzter. It was at that June board meeting that our "Friends on Duty" (FOD) program began. The vision for the FOD program soon became a reality."

Pollard continued, "We are here tonight to honor 13 of our most frequently serving FODs. They diligently walk the campuses to ensure all interior and exterior doors are locked. They monitor children while on the playground

and watch for suspicious behavior from adults who may be walking by our schools. They serve at special events and offer an extra set of eyes for our school police officers. The FODs have become an important part of the campus and district team. The 13 we would like to honor tonight are Adam Fitzter, Cristi Crozier, Bill Trotter, Thomas Boardman, Larry Seacrest, Lorretta Braucci, Joseph Schraeder, Chuck Dare, Donny Cole, Leo Corona, Jason Olivar, Lonnie Sizer, and Britt Clay."

**DOING WHAT'S BEST FOR KIDS!**

## GISD Student Spotlight

### Tenley Winkler

During the April 22 meeting of the Gatesville Independent School District Board of Trustees, Tenley Winkler was honored during the Student Spotlight presentation.

GISD Superintendent Dr. Barrett Pollard had the following to say about Winkler:

"Tenley Winkler is a very busy 7th grade student at GJHS. Not only is she a very bright student who does outstanding academically, but she is highly involved in many school extracurricular activities and events outside of school. For example, over the years Tenley has participated in UIL academics, choir, volleyball, track, and cheer. For two years in a row, Tenley has read her Patriot's Pen Essay at the Veteran's Day ceremony. More recently, at our district junior high track meet, Tenley was 1st place in Pole Vault, 2nd place in the 400m, 2nd place in the 4x400 relay, and 4th place in long jump. At the Lorena track meet, Tenley cleared 8'2" (a personal record) to win 1st place. Outside of school, Tenley participated in a state gymnastics competition in San

Antonio and won 1st place All Around Champion, 1st place on Floor, 2nd place on Beam, 3rd place on Uneven Bars, and 8th place on Vault. Please help us congratulate Tenley on all of her great accomplishments inside and outside of the classroom."

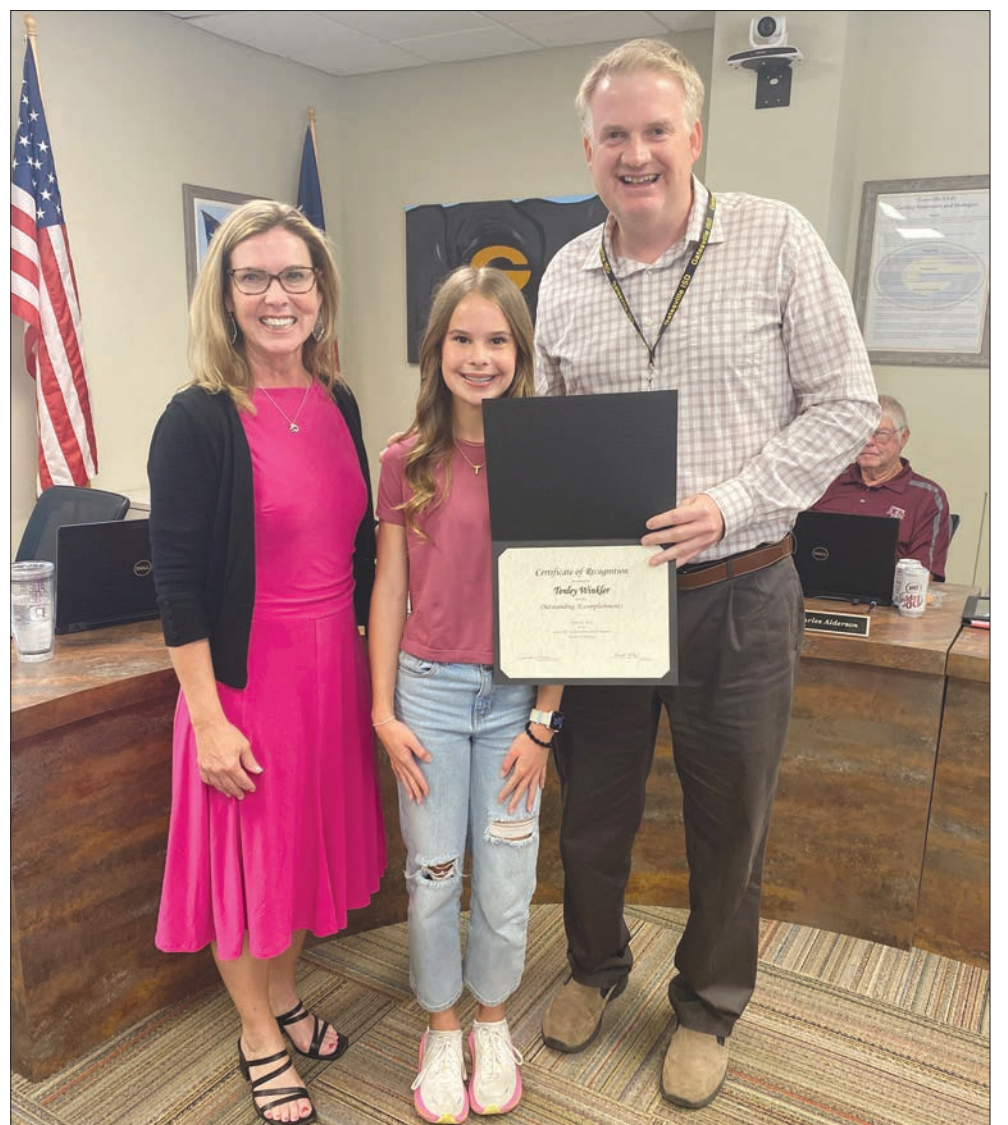
**Shawna Martin, the Girls Junior High Athletics Coordinator, commented on Winkler:**

"As a student athlete, Tenley is a coach's dream. She is extremely coachable and works hard at everything she does on and off the court and track! As a seventh grader, she participated in volleyball and track. After volleyball, she transitioned to off-season track where she trained daily with (Mr.) Coach Martin, working on running form and speed development. Once track season began, she tried out for pole vault and long jump. Knowing her gymnastic background, (Mrs.) Coach Martin quickly saw that Tenley had potential to do great and encouraged her to get extra technique work outside of school. Tenley was able to end the season with an impressive 8' 3" vault to win District! Her

speed on the track earned her 2nd in the 400m dash, 4th in long jump. She was in the 2nd place 4x400 meter relay and on the 4th place 4X100 meter relay. If her coaches could've snuck her into the triple jump, high jump, and a few more races, she would've been in those events as well! Her coaches are looking forward to her many future accomplishments! Congratulations, Tenley! We are all very proud of you!"

**Gatesville Junior High Principal Suzy Penrod also commented on Winkler:**

"I know that Tenley is being recognized for her exceptional athletic achievements, but it is important to know that there is more to Tenley than just her athleticism. Tenley is an absolute delight to have on our campus. She is always smiling! Tenley has been a great role model for her peers as an outstanding student, excellent athlete, and even better teammate. I have no doubt that Tenley's future will be filled with great achievements and success. And I am certain that she will be sharing that big, beautiful smile all along the way."



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Tenley Winkler, pictured center, receives a Certificate of Appreciation for her accomplishments. Pictured with her are Gatesville Junior High Principal Suzy Penrod and Gatesville ISD Superintendent Dr. Barrett Pollard.

# JISD to hold Pre-K, K roundup

**Staff Reports**

Jonesboro Independent School District will hold its annual prekindergarten and kindergarten roundup for students to sign up for

classes.

Students who reside in the district will be accepted through Monday, April 22 to Saturday, June 1.

For students who reside out of the district, the

deadline to sign up will be from Saturday, June 1 through Tuesday, June 25. This will be based on availability.

For further information, contact Jonesboro ISD at

254-463-2111 or by visiting [www.jonesboroisd.net](http://www.jonesboroisd.net).

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

# GHS to host Baccalaureate ceremony for graduates

**Staff Reports**

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

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

It is a faith-based program consisting of special music, prayer, scripture reading, and a sermon. Seniors who choose to attend will receive a positive and uplifting message for their future.

Seniors need to be sure

to wear formal attire along with their cap and gown.

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

According to college. [lclark.edu](http://lclark.edu), "It is believed that, during the 15th century, Oxford University established a tradition of sending their graduates off to a service that included a sermon offered in Latin." When the tradition made its way to the United States, the ceremony was changed.

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

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

# Jonesboro FFA to hold banquet May 7

**Staff Reports**

Jonesboro Independent School District will hold a banquet on Tuesday, May 7, for the members of the high school's Future

Farmer's of America (FFA) program.

The banquet will begin at 6 p.m. and will be hosted by the officers of FFA.

The event will take place

at the Jonesboro Community Center, which is located at 11625 TX-36 in Jonesboro.

Be sure to RSVP to Mckenzie Marr by email at

[mckenzie.marr@jonesboroisd.net](mailto:mckenzie.marr@jonesboroisd.net).

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



COURTESY PHOTO

Chelsea Johnson displays the awards she earned at the National New Zealand Rabbit Show in Belton.

# Local student competes at National New Zealand Rabbit Show

**Submitted article**

On April 20, Chelsea Johnson, a resolute member of the Gatesville 4-H and a student at Gatesville Junior High, stood out at the National New Zealand Rabbit Show in Belton winning Best Single Fryer title, which is a single rabbit entry that is market ready. Her victory at this national competition highlights her commitment and skill in rabbit breeding, particularly of the New Zealand breed known for its quality meat and fur.

The event, a significant gathering for rabbit breeders across the nation, saw a diverse group

of youth exhibitors, but Chelsea's exceptional care and preparation of her rabbit set her apart, earning her a much-deserved buckle and a commemorative banner.

Chelsea's involvement with the Gatesville 4-H has been instrumental in honing her skills. The 4-H program, known for its dedication to empowering young people and helping them develop leadership skills through practical agricultural projects, provided Chelsea with the platform and resources she needed to excel in the competitive arena of rabbit shows.

Her entry, judged on factors such as quality of

meat, adherence to breed standards, and fur was exemplary of the high standards she strives to maintain in her breeding practices. Judge David Cardinal of Wisconsin was impressed with the quality of her single fryer rabbit, awarding her top honors in a category that demands precision in every aspect of rabbit care and presentation.

Chelsea's parents and her mentors are incredibly proud of her accomplishment. They believe that her success is not just a personal victory but a win for the entire community, highlighting the potential and the high standards that Gates-

ville's youth can achieve.

Looking ahead, Chelsea is eager to share her experiences with her peers and younger 4-H members and set another goal next year in Missouri at the National show. Her story is an inspiration, encouraging others to pursue their interests with passion and dedication, regardless of the arena, as Chelsea continues to develop her skills and confidence in the bright future she has ahead in agriculture and beyond.

**National Pool Opening Day**  
April 27, 2024

According to the Pool & Hot Tub Alliance, the United States boasts 10.7 million swimming pools, with a breathtaking 10.4 million residential and 309,000 public pools.

**Swimming pool**

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

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

**Word Bank**

1. sun	2. swimming	3. divingboard	4. goggles
5. floats	6. lifeguard	7. sunscreen	8. waterslide
9. summerpool	10. flipflops		

**COLOR Time**

**N**ational Pool Opening Day, celebrated on April 27th, heralds the arrival of splashing good times and sunny days as pools across the nation welcome eager swimmers. For kids, this day marks the beginning of aquatic adventures, laughter, and the promise of a refreshing swim.

On National Pool Opening Day, families can pack their swimsuits, grab their sunscreen, and head to their local pool for a day of water-filled excitement. From cannonballs to synchronized swimming attempts, kids get the chance to showcase their aquatic skills and revel in the sheer joy of being in the water.

Parents play a crucial role in making this day both fun and safe. National Pool Opening Day serves as a great opportunity to reinforce essential water safety rules, emphasizing the importance of supervision, proper use of floatation devices, and responsible swimming practices.

In some places, National Pool Opening Day festivities may include special events like poolside games, music, and tasty snacks. Families can bask in the celebratory atmosphere, creating memories that will last throughout the summer.

So, on April 27th, let the pool party begin! National Pool Opening Day is a call to all water enthusiasts to jump in, make a splash, and revel in the delight of a day spent enjoying the refreshing waters of a swimming pool.

**THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER**

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

## GHS HOLDS NHS INDUCTION



COURTESY PHOTO BY NIKOLE TATUM

On Monday, April 22, select students at Gatesville High School were inducted into the National Honors Society for their outstanding academic achievements. The ceremony commenced in the high school auditorium where a candle lighting was held to honor the students being inducted.



COURTESY PHOTO

Tracy Coursey was presented the Texas 4-H Salute to Excellence Award at Monday's Hornet Gold 4-H Club meeting. Pictured left to right - Donna Schwausch FCH Agent, Emily Yarbrough Hornet Gold Co-Club Manager, Becky Coward 4-H Agent, Honoree Tracy Coursey, Cayleigh Coursey.

## It's National Volunteer Month!

By Becky Coward

Volunteers are the HEART of 4-H. As our program in Coryell County continues to expand and offer more opportunities to young people, it is with a Thankful Heart I would like to recognize our dedicated volunteers for their servant hearts as they invest into our future by pouring into our youth. Recently, Tracy Coursey, Hornet GOLD Intermediate Club Manager was selected to receive the Texas 4-H Salute to Excellence award. The following nomination letter was sent on her behalf:

Coryell County 4-H has been extremely blessed by the dedicated service of 4-H volunteer Tracy Coursey. For the past six years, Tracy has served as a leader in the Food & Nutrition, Fashion & Interior Design, and Photography projects. When she became Club Manager and helped initiate the Gatesville Intermediate Hornet GOLD 4-H Club, Coryell County had very few participants in those project areas. Her dedicated effort increased participation exponentially when she volunteered to lead the food challenge teams. The Hornet GOLD club is now one of our largest clubs, and her leadership has impacted hundreds of youths.

Tracy can always be counted on to be present. She truly sees the value of what we do and makes every effort to contribute to making the "best better." She is constantly looking for ways to include and involve more youth. She recruits new members and leaders, she coaches teams, and she serves in numerous leadership capacities within Coryell County 4-H including: Coryell County 4-H Program Area Committee Secretary, Coryell County 4-H

Adult Leader's Association President, and, most recently, Secretary, Hornet GOLD 4-H Club Manager, County Photography Project Group Workshop Presenter, county contest judge, and Coryell County Youth Fair Home Economics Photography Division Superintendent.

When the idea was presented to start an afterschool 4-H club at Gatesville Intermediate School, Tracy was the first volunteer to step up and lead the club. This club currently has thirty-six members, who all actively participate in meetings twice a month. During the fall semester, Tracy meets with the food and nutrition project youth weekly practicing for the 4-H Food Challenge contest. She buys the materials, plans the lessons, ensures the team supply boxes are ready, and coordinates practices. Each year, the program has produced competitive teams who advance from our county contest and place at the District Food contests. She emphasizes nutrition in the lessons she teaches, helping kids to be healthier.

During the spring semester, Tracy leads and promotes other 4-H projects like fashion & interior design, public speaking, and consumer education, robotics, and photography. She helps lead the club's numerous community service projects, including collecting can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House, old eyeglasses for the Lion's Club to recycle, cards to nursing home residents, posters for Red Ribbon Week, playground cleanup, and donations for the animal shelter. She teaches the importance of citizenship and service to our 4-H members.

It is important to Tracy to teach youth how to

properly conduct a business meeting. She empowers youth in officer positions to step up and lead the meetings. The Hornet GOLD Club is predominately made up of 4th-6th graders. She challenges the younger youth to become better speakers, leaders, and grow in 4-H. She prepares the meeting agendas and has each officer learn their part. She constantly encourages them.

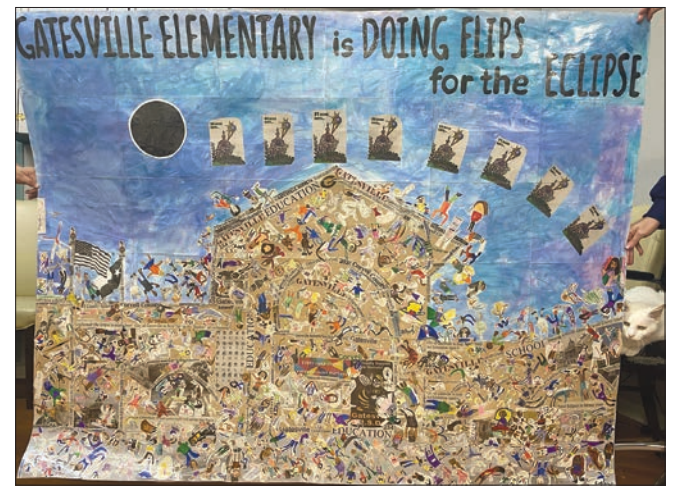
Coordinating the Coryell County 4-H Photography project has been a huge contribution Tracy has made to our program. Offering several hands-on photography workshops each year, as well as serving as the Coryell County Youth Fair Photography Superintendent, Tracy teaches many principles in her lessons, including how to use both a digital camera and a cell phone camera. She relates to her participants at the level where they start and adds to their knowledge and skills, being very patient and kind in her teaching methods. Tracy uses the experience she has gained from her daughter Cayleigh, a Texas 4-H Master Photographer, to teach youth how to use their artistic abilities to express themselves through photography. Due to her leadership, entries have increased in both the project and contest entries.

"Ensuring that accurate notes are taken for the minutes as secretary, volunteering to be on numerous committees, signing checks for the adult leader checking account, setting up for events, registering participants, and being the last to leave so that the job is done right" are all descriptions of Tracy's character. She works very well with everyone. She plans ahead, puts in extra effort, and makes it happen. Every county has that

"go-to" leader who can always be trusted to show up and make sure things run smoothly. Tracy is that person in Coryell County. She is always positive, uplifting, and energetic. She uses her time and talents to have a huge impact on youth. Her contributions to Texas 4-H are immeasurable.

Tracy Coursey was presented the Texas 4-H Salute to Excellence Award at Monday's Hornet Gold 4-H Club meeting and will be recognized at the Texas 4-H Roundup in June. We would also like to recognize our Club Managers across Coryell County for their dedicated service. They include: Cattle Drive 4-H- Amanda Clarke & Stacia Smith, Coryell 4-H Gun Club- Hugh Nielsen & Travis VanBibber, Coryell 4-H Horse Club- Jenna Murphy & Crystal Hadley, Coryell City 4-H- Julie Gardner & Mary Minshew, Evant 4-H- Lauren Goins & Imelda Rodriguez, Five Hills 4-H- Bobbi Aulabaugh, Gatesville 4-H- Brandy Rhoades, Hard Bargain 4-H- Brandi Mitchell, Hay Valley 4-H- Jennifer Mann & Erika Archie, Hornet Gold Intermediate- Tracy Coursey, Emily Yarbrough, and Amanda Huckabee, Hornet Gold Junior High- Wendy Bye, Jonesboro 4-H- Tina Janke & Candace Lusk, Muddy Boots 4-H- Cassandra Ray, and Pecan Grove 4-H- Santanna Bay & Chelsi Duncan. We are fortunate to have other leaders who assist in coaching and teaching in various 4-H project work. We appreciate each and every one of our volunteers who serve and invest in the future by giving of their time and talents.

If you would like to become a 4-H Volunteer, please reach out to us at the Coryell County AgriLife Extension Office at 254-865-2414.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Art project from Gatesville Elementary School's art department, which was turned into posters and sold during the solar eclipse event.

## Art in the Shadows project gone viral

BY DAVID SCOTT  
Staff Writer

What began as an eclipse art project at the Gatesville Elementary School, has blossomed and re-invented itself into a fundraiser that will benefit the elementary school's art department as well as the Back to School Bash to help purchase school supplies.

Originally, Christeena Herring, the art teacher at Gatesville Elementary, was contacted about having her students create an artwork for the "Art in the Shadow" exhibit that was to be held in conjunction with the "Block out the Sun" eclipse event that was to be held on the courthouse square.

Herring began thinking about what rhymes with eclipse. FLIPS! I then came up with the phrase "Gatesville Elementary is doing flips for the eclipse," Herring said. Herring had all of her students draw themselves doing a flip. "Then we cut out anything that had to do with Gatesville and Coryell County from The Gatesville Messenger. The students then created a collage of students doing flips with newspaper clippings which resembled the shape of the front of the Gatesville Elementary School building.

"The students enjoyed looking through the newspapers. One of the 2nd grade students, while carefully reading through the paper, asked me if he could

'cut out this guy.' And I looked at it and discovered it was our superintendent, Dr. Barrett Pollard. I said, 'yes, cut him out too,' so he is included in the collage," Herring said.

The elaborate collage became an instant success and was displayed for a time in the foyer of the school. It was then placed in the Art in the Shadow exhibit, which was showcased in the windows of Leaird's Furniture Store on the courthouse square. The artwork from the Gatesville Elementary drew a great number of people who were interested in seeing the unique creation by the elementary students.

Michelle Martin, the School-Community Events Coordinator for Gatesville ISD, saw the elementary artwork and came up with the idea of having it reproduced and made into posters which she sold at the Block out the Sun event held on the square - which resulted in several people purchasing the posters.

Due to the success of sales, Martin said the posters are still available for purchase for \$25 at the Gatesville Elementary School Office, which is open Monday thru Friday from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Those interested in purchasing the posters to benefit the elementary school's art department and the Back to School Bash, can contact the school by calling 254-865-7262.

## SUDOKU

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

Puzzle answers from the April 20, 2024.

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

## GATESVILLE JUNIOR HIGH SCIENCE CLUB HELPS CLEAN UP ON EARTH DAY



COURTESY PHOTO

Students of Gatesville Junior High's National Junior Honor Society and the Science Club cleaned up the community and participated in Adopt-a-Highway for Earth Day on Monday, April 22.

## Gatesville Elementary students design logo for local business

### Staff Reports

When the fine arts teacher at Gatesville Elementary, Christeena Herring, was having her dog groomed, the owner of the grooming shop, Val Questel, mentioned that she was looking

for a logo for her business. "I had all of our students design a logo," Herring said. The girls, pictured above, are the students she chose to be the "art team" to collaborate to design a logo for her. "Out of nearly

600 students, Hanna, Fiona and Ruby were the winners," Herring said. They were each presented with a Visa gift card, and the art department received a generous donation as well.



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured from left to right are Val Questel, Fiona Hebner (2nd grade), Ruby Hill (1st grade), Hanna Mederos (3rd grade) and art teacher, Christeena Herring.

## Jonesboro OAP to host community performance April 28

### Staff Reports

The One Act Play program at Jonesboro Independent School District recently won third place in a competition held at Abbott High School and advanced to bidistrict.

After countless hours of practice and competitions, the OAP program has decided to host a community performance to highlight its accomplishments and to present its award-winning

play. The community performance will be held Sunday, April 28, at 4:30 p.m. in the Jonesboro ISD cafeteria. A spaghetti dinner will follow when the performance

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

refused to let her daughter grow up. The program includes nine cast members and four crew members total. "I am so excited for them and so proud of them," OAP

Director Kimberly Foy said. "They have given up countless hours to learn lines and rehearse." For further details, Jonesboro ISD can be reached at 254-463-2111.



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# GATESVILLE EDUCATION FOUNDATION'S DADDY-DAUGHTER DANCE

COURTESY PHOTOS BY SUSIE MEELBUSCH

This past Saturday, on April 20, the Gatesville Education Foundation held its third annual Daddy-Daughter Dance at the Gatesville Civic Center. Students at Gatesville Independent School District between the grades of prekindergarten through sixth grade attended the event. The Gatesville High School culinary department catered for the event. There were various raffles for students to win prizes.



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In district students accepted April 22nd to June 1st.

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www.jonesboroisd.net



# HOME & GARDEN



## INSIDE

A GUIDE TO VARIOUS TYPES OF HOME AWNINGS | HOW SELLERS CAN GET TOP DOLLAR FOR THEIR HOMES | HOW TO HANDLE A LENGTHY RENOVATION | RENOVATIONS THAT HELPS SELL HOMES | MAINTAINING A LAWN ROUTINELY ROAMED BY PETS | SPRING CLEANING TIPS AND TRICKS | SIGNS A HOME EXTERIOR NEEDS UPDATING | THE BASICS OF FERTILIZING A LAWN | TIPS TO MAKE A YARD LESS ATTRACTIVE TO TICKS | TIPS FOR BUDGET-FRIENDLY HOME DECOR | TIPS TO REVITALIZE A GARDEN THIS SPRING | WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT LANDSCAPE LIGHTING | WOOD FLOOR CLEANING GUIDE | WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT INSTALLING A POOL AT HOME

# A guide to various types of home awnings

Homeowners recognize that upgrades can improve the functionality and comfort of their homes. Improving outdoor spaces has proven particularly popular of late. The National Association of Home Builders reports that outdoor living has been propelled to the top of homeowner wish lists. Plus, a recent survey conducted by the New Home Trends Institute found connection to the outdoors/nature and outdoor entertaining ranked

high among desired home designs. One way to make outdoor spaces more accommodating is through the installation of awnings. Many homeowners would like to enhance their homes with awnings but do not know where to begin. Learning about the various types of awnings can help homeowners determine which option best suits their needs.

### FIXED AWNINGS

Fixed awnings are stationary on a building's exterior.

While the awnings are generally stable, they can be damaged by snow or wind. It's key to find an installation expert to make sure the awning is installed correctly so that it can withstand weather and other issues. It's also important to know that fixed awnings remain in the same position and orientation, so it's best to know exactly where to place it beforehand.

### RETRACTABLE AWNING

Retractable awnings are the most popular type of awnings because they can

be extended when necessary to keep a space cool or protected, then rolled or folded up when not in use. These awnings are advantageous because they can be retracted when bad weather hits to prevent damage.

### MOTORIZED RETRACTABLE AWNING

Motorized retractable awnings offer the utmost convenience. Standard retractable offerings require a handle or hand crank to manually extend or fold up the awning. Motorized aw-

nings can be operated with a sensor, remote or even motion trigger. Even though they cost more, they're a favorite among homeowners.

### AREAS OF USE

Awnings can be installed in various locations. Patio awnings are much preferred because of their large coverage area, which typically spans entire patios. Door awnings are installed above the exterior door of an entryway to protect visitors and occupants from precipitation and to improve the home's look. Window awnings can

add additional shade and privacy. There also are side awnings, which are essentially wall-like structures that run across a patio, garden or balcony for wind or sun protection. They're also utilized to improve privacy.

Homeowners can choose from various types of awning materials, including fabric, metal, glass, and others. Working with a reputable awning company is the best way for homeowners to peruse possible products and find awnings that will suit their needs.

## How sellers can get top dollar for their homes

The process of buying and selling a home includes many movable parts. North America has experienced historic trends in the housing market in recent years. Most notably, record-high prices have dominated the real estate market over the last several years.

High prices are good news for sellers, who can probably anticipate receiving offers above listing price. In New Jersey, inventory is so low that 12.5 percent of homes in the Garden State sold above list price, according to data from RedFin. This is good news for sellers currently looking to make an excellent profit on their properties. Sellers who don't want to rely on the market alone to earn more for their homes can take various steps to get top dollar.

### STAGE YOUR HOME

According to the 2023 Profile of Home Staging conducted by the National Association of Realtors®, 81 percent of buyers' agents

said staging a home made it easier for the buyer to visualize the property as a future home. Focus your attention on the living room, owner's suite and kitchen. Hiring a staging professional can be an investment that turns a sizable profit.

### KNOW YOUR LOCAL MARKET

A good way to price your home and gauge if it will sell quickly is to look at the average "days on the market" for similar homes nearby. If homes are selling faster than the average DOM, that suggests high demand, which can work in your favor.

### MAKE ADDED-VALUE IMPROVEMENTS

Focus renovation dollars on the types of projects that will reap the highest return on investment. Remodeling magazine annually reports the projects that offer the best ROI. In 2023, the project that reaped the highest ROI was an HVAC Conversion/Electrification, which involved converting a fossil-

fuel-burning furnace into an electric heat pump. The cost recouped was 103.5 percent.

### SELL AT THE RIGHT TIME

Fewer people are shopping for homes in the dead of winter or during the middle of the school year, so putting your home on the market in spring typically brings out the largest number of interested parties, according to Opendoor. But this isn't the only time-related factor to consider. To sell for the most money, you want to list your home when you have enough equity to pay off your current mortgage, the costs of selling, and the costs of moving, says Bankrate.

### GIVE CURB APPEAL A BOOST

Make sure that buyers see your home in a positive light from the first moment they pull up for a walk-through showing. According to Home & Garden, improving the landscaping can result in a value increase of up to 12 percent. Additional projects can include investing in a

new front door and garage doors. Be sure that hedges are trimmed, there are fresh flowers growing, and that walkways and the driveway are clean and tidy.

A few simple strategies can help sellers get more money for their homes.



COURTESY PHOTO  
Make sure that buyers see your home in a positive light from the first moment they pull up for a walk-through.

## How to handle a lengthy renovation

The global pandemic reignited people's passions for home renovations, as they directed dollars that would normally have been spent elsewhere into the places where they were now spending the most time - their homes. According to the 10th annual Houzz & Home survey of more than 70,000 respondents in the United States, higher-budget projects cost around \$85,000 or more in 2020, compared with \$80,000 in the two years prior. Kitchen projects were the most popular among renovating homeowners.

Even though many COVID-19-related restrictions have lifted and life has largely returned to regular programming, renovations remain a popular investment. Homeowners embarking on home renovation projects understand that a certain measure of upheaval is to be expected, but some may not fully anticipate the impact that renovations have on daily life. The following are some tips for making it through a lengthy renovation.

### DISCUSS THE TIMELINE WITH CONTRACTORS

It may be easier to make a plan for how much life will be disrupted if you have an idea of how long the renovation will be (if everything goes according to plan). Sit down with contractors and have them spell out the minutiae of the project so you'll be able to anticipate what's going on day-to-day.

### START AT THE RIGHT TIME

Some contractors may say they can fit your project into their schedules in between other jobs. While this may seem convenient and timely, your work may be put on hold if there are delays with the other job or jobs. Instead, it may be better to hold off until the contractors can devote the bulk of their



COURTESY PHOTO  
Sit down with contractors and have them spell out the minutiae of the project. A kitchen or a bathroom remodel often requires giving up spaces that are used throughout a typical day.

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# Renovations that helps sell homes

The adage “there’s a lid for every pot” suggests that, even in relation to the real estate market, there’s bound to be a buyer for every home on the market. Price is a significant variable in the minds of potential buyers, but there are additional factors that can affect the impression people get of a given home.

Certain home features can tip the scales in favor of sellers. In fact, various renovations can help sell homes more readily. And these renovations need not cost a fortune. Putting a home on the market can be stressful, but these renovations may help it sell fast.

## A FRESH COAT OF PAINT

Although painting is relatively inexpensive and a job that some do-it-yourselfers can tackle, it’s not a task relished by many. Painting is messy, it takes time, and requires moving furniture. In fact, prepping a room for painting often is the toughest component of any painting job. But fresh coats of

paint can create a strong first impression. Choose a neutral color and get painting. Jennie Norris, chairwoman for the International Association of Home Staging Professionals, says gray is a “safe” color that has been trending in recent years.

## MINOR BATHROOM REMODEL

Remove dated wall coverings, replace fixtures, consider re-glazing or replacing an old tub, and swap old shower doors for fast fixes in a bathroom. If there’s more room in the budget, replacing a tub, tile surround, floor, toilet, sink, vanity, and fixtures can cost roughly \$10,500, says HGTV. You’ll recoup an average of \$10,700 at resale, making a minor bathroom remodel a potentially worthy investment.

## REDONE KITCHEN

The kitchen tends to be the hub of a home. This room gets the most usage and attention of any space, and it’s a great

place to focus your remodeling attention. The National Association of the Remodeling Industry estimates that homeowners can recover up to 52 percent of the cost of a kitchen upgrade upon selling a home. Buyers want a functional and updated kitchen. Trending features include drawer-style microwaves and dishwashers, commercial ranges, hidden outlets, and even wine refrigerators.

## UPDATED HEATING AND COOLING SYSTEM

Better Homes and Gardens reports that homeowners may be able to recoup 85 percent of the cost of new HVAC systems when they sell their homes. Heating, cooling and ventilation components are vital to maintain. You don’t want buyers to be taken aback by an older system, and many millennial buyers are not willing to overlook old mechanical systems.

## FRESH LANDSCAPING

A home’s exterior is the



COURTESY PHOTO

Certain home features can tip the scales in favor of sellers. In fact, various renovations can help sell homes more readily.

first thing buyers will see. If they pull up to a home with eye-catching landscaping and outdoor areas that are attractive yet functional, they’re more likely to be intrigued. Often buyers will

equate a home that features an impressive exterior with upkeep inside as well. The American Nursery Landscape Association says the average homeowner may spend \$3,500 for

landscaping. Improving a home’s chances to sell quickly and at a higher price often comes down to making smart improvements that catch the eyes of buyers.

# Maintaining a lawn routinely roamed by pets

Vibrant, green lawns can draw attention to any landscape. Many homeowners toil for hours each week to ensure their lawns are pristine, or invest in lawn care services to help maintain a yard if they do not have the time to do so themselves.

While many treatments can be applied to lawns to help them thrive, animal waste is not among them. Pet owners who aspire to have beautiful lawns will have to take a few extra steps to ensure lawns can persevere despite the presence of furry companions.

## RESEED WITH A DAMAGE-RESISTANT GRASS

There are many different types of grass, and some are more resilient than others. Tall fescue, Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass, and Bermuda grass are just some of the grass varieties that can capably handle pet traffic. If replacing the entire lawn is not possible, consider reseeding or addressing the areas that pets frequent.

## STRENGTHEN THE ROOT SYSTEM

It may be tempting to cut

the lawn short, particularly if dogs or cats like to nibble on longer blades of grass. But that approach could be doing the lawn a disservice. According to The Home Depot, letting the lawn grow to at least three inches will help keep moisture in the soil and prevent evaporation. That moisture will strengthen the roots, creating a healthier lawn for pets and people.

## CREATE PET PATHS

Various materials can be used in these high-traffic areas to minimize the sights

and signs of pet traffic. Mulch or crushed stone can establish these pet highways and look like intended features.

## SET BOUNDARIES

Pet urine contains high levels of nitrogen, which can burn grass and turn it brown. It’s not possible to water down urine or pick up solid waste immediately every time a pet goes outdoors, so designate a pet-friendly spot for potty time. Use fencing or a dog run to separate this area and help mitigate “land mines” all over the lawn.

Fencing also can keep pets out of vegetable gardens and away from potentially toxic plants.

## AVOID CHEMICAL LAWN TREATMENTS

When pets use the yard and rest on the lawn, you’ll need to eliminate products that can be harmful to them. Choose all-natural fertilizers and weed and pest preventatives.

## LOOK FOR ALTERNATIVES

If maintaining a lawn with pets seems like an uphill

battle, consider swapping out your landscape with a variety of materials. Scale back on grass, and incorporate groundcover, hardscape materials like pea gravel, or extend the patio. Artificial turf also is an option, as it won’t brown and wither. Some turf products can even be quickly and thoroughly cleaned with water.

It can take some trial and error for pet parents to protect their lawns from the effects of having furry friends playing in the yard.

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# Spring cleaning tips and tricks

Spring is a time of year when change is in the air. Trees are budding, plants are flowering, and homes laden with dark or heavy fabrics and clutter could use some lightening up.

Spring cleaning projects are popular this time of year as residents take inventory of their living spaces and aim to declutter, clean and increase efficiency. Some people find the prospect of getting organized overwhelming. Here are some tips that can help anyone master spring cleaning.

## CREATE A PLAN

Make a checklist and establish a cleaning plan of attack. Focus on areas that are not regularly cleaned, as they probably need a little attention.

## ASSEMBLE YOUR CLEANING KIT

Spring cleaning can be slowed down considerably if you don't have all of your equipment at the ready. Items to have on hand include an all-purpose cleaner, concentrated cleaner, micro-fiber cloths, paper towels, mop, vacuum, dusters, and a squeegee. Adjust your equipment based on the task at hand.

## CURATE YOUR CLEANING PLAYLIST

Create a playlist with songs that will get you moving and motivated to clean.

## WORK FROM TOP TO BOTTOM

Work efficiently by cleaning shelves, ceiling fans and other elevated items first, as

dust and debris will trickle down and need to be cleaned next.

## PURCHASE OR RENT A CARPET CLEANER

According to the experts at Clean That Up, carpets help filter indoor air by trapping debris and allergens. By deep cleaning carpets, homeowners can improve the indoor air quality of their homes. Use a carpet cleaner on a warm, dry day so that windows can be opened and cross breezes will help dry the damp rug.

## CLEAN WINDOWS

Wash windows inside and out and utilize their screens to help brighten indoors spaces.

## DEEP CLEAN THE KITCHEN

Clean out and disinfect the refrigerator by wiping it down with warm water and baking soda or a vinegar-and-water solution. While in the kitchen, set the oven to the self-clean function so it becomes cleaner as well.

Homeowners also can focus on cleaning curtains (including shower curtains), steam-cleaning upholstery, removing clutter from closets, cleaning out the dryer vent and duct tubing, wiping inside kitchen drawers, and vacuuming under beds and other furniture.

Spring cleaning can bring the revitalizing nature of this beloved time of year into your home.



COURTESY PHOTO

Spring cleaning projects are popular this time of year as residents take inventory of their living spaces and aim to declutter, clean and increase efficiency.

# Signs a home exterior needs updating



COURTESY PHOTO

Curb appeal is often discussed in regard to the effects it can have when selling a home. But curb appeal is equally important for homeowners who aren't putting their homes on the market.

Renovations are a great way for homeowners to reshape their homes. Some may aspire to renovate so their home is more reflective of their personal taste, while others may do so in an effort to make their homes better align with modern styles and sensibilities. Regardless of why a homeowner chooses to renovate, the need to do so is often evident to the naked eye, especially when the time comes to update home exteriors.

Curb appeal is often discussed in regard to the effects it can have when selling a home. But curb appeal is equally important for homeowners who aren't putting their homes on the market. A well-maintained, aesthetically appealing home is a source of pride, while a home with fading curb appeal can make homeowners

feel a little sheepish. Homeowners who want their homes to maintain their curb appeal can look for signs that it's time to update their home exteriors.

## CURLING SHINGLES

The roof may not be the first thing people think of when pondering curb appeal, but a damaged roof can contribute to problems that ultimately affect the exterior and interior of the home. Multiple curling shingles indicate it's time to replace the roof. The sight of curling shingles is not pretty, but the larger issue in such instances is the potential for costly water damage when water gets in through the affected shingles.

## DATED ENTRY DOOR

Many home improvement

experts insist they can determine when a home was built or most recently renovated simply by looking at the front door. Steel and glass doors are popular in modern homes, so homeowners with front doors with ornate designs and oval glass inserts can likely benefit from an upgrade to their entryway. A modern front door can make a statement and real estate experts note how popular updated front doors are among buyers.

## UNSIGHTLY LANDSCAPING

It's not only the physical components of the home that may suggest an update is necessary. Homeowners without a green thumb may have exterior landscaping that has seen better days. If a spring or summer day spent tending to your landscaping

is not your ideal weekend pastime, then consider replacing unsightly landscaping with low-maintenance plants or hardscaping. These alternatives to more needy plants can create curb appeal without requiring any extra work for homeowners.

## CRACKED DRIVEWAYS/WALKWAYS

If the driveway looks like a busy road at the end of snow plowing season, chances are that's adversely affecting the impression people have of your home. In addition, cracked walkways indicate a need for renovations, as these areas are front and center when welcoming guests.

Updating a home's exterior can restore curb appeal and help homeowners feel better about their properties.



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# The basics of fertilizing a lawn

Spring marks the return of lawn and garden season. Lawns often bear the brunt of winter's wrath, so spring is a great time to nurse them back to health, and fertilizing can be an essential component of that process.

Fertilizing a lawn can be intimidating. An array of fertilizers, with each seemingly designed to address a different issue, can make homeowners' heads spin when visiting their local lawn and garden center. However, fertilizing is a very simple task that any homeowner can tackle. In fact, fears about fertilizing are often unfounded and can be overcome with some basic knowledge of the process.

## IDENTIFY WHICH TYPE OF GRASS IS IN THE YARD

The home improvement experts at HGTV note that turfgrass is divided into two categories: cool-season grass and warm-season grass. A local lawn and garden center can help homeowners identify which type of grass

is in the yard, and this often depends on location. Fescue, bluegrass and perennial ryegrass are some examples of cool-season grasses, while Bermuda, bahia, St. Augustine, and zoysia are considered warm-season grasses. Identifying which type of grass is in the lawn is important because that will indicate when to fertilize. Cool-season grasses are typically best fertilized in early spring, while warm-season lawns can benefit from an application just before especially warm temperatures arrive.

## SURVEY THE LAWN TO IDENTIFY WHICH SPREADER TO USE

A small yard or a thriving lawn with only a few bald or unsightly patches may not need a full application of fertilizer. In such instances, a hand spreader can suffice. For larger lawns and areas, a broadcast spreader is the ideal option. Spreaders have multiple settings, and the

fertilizer package will indicate which setting to utilize when using the product.

## TEST THE SOIL PRIOR TO PURCHASING FERTILIZER

The lawn experts at Pennington® note that a simple soil test can reveal soil pH and phosphorous and potassium levels. Soil tests can be purchased at most home improvement stores and lawn and garden centers, and they can help homeowners determine which fertilizer will most benefit their lawns.

## WATER THE LAWN PRIOR TO FERTILIZING

The experts at Scotts® recommend a good watering a few days prior to fertilizing a lawn. Such an approach ensures the soil is ready to accept the fertilizer once it's applied.

## FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

Detailed instructions are typically provided on fertiliz-



COURTESY PHOTO

Identifying which type of grass is in the lawn is important because that will indicate when to fertilize. Cool-season grasses are typically best fertilized in early spring.

er product packaging. Once homeowners have identified and purchased the product they need, they can simply follow the instructions on

the packaging, including how and when to water after application, which can make fertilizing less intimidating. Fertilizing in spring can

help a lawn recover from the previous summer and winter, ensuring it's lush and green when summer entertaining season arrives.

# Tips to make a yard less attractive to ticks

Backyards are ideal places to spend warm afternoons soaking up some sun. Lazy days in the yard are a big part of what makes warm weather seasons like spring and summer so appealing. But those afternoons can quickly go off the rails when an unwelcome visitor makes its presence known.

Ticks can be found throughout the world, but the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention notes that only a select few types of ticks transmit bacteria, viruses and parasites, or patho-

gens, that cause diseases in people. But even if the number of tick species that transmit diseases to humans is relatively low, ticks that can infect humans are a notable threat. Such ticks carry pathogens that the CDC notes can cause a number of diseases, including Bourbon virus, Ehrlichiosis and, of course, Lyme disease, among others.

Human beings can come into contact with ticks in their own backyards. But humans can take various steps to make their lawns less welcoming to ticks.

Cut your grass short and keep it that way. Black-legged ticks are transmitters of Lyme disease, which the CDC notes is the most common vector-borne disease in the United States. Lyme disease also poses a growing threat in Canada, where data from the Public Health Agency indicates human-reported Lyme disease cases increased from 144 in 2009 to more than 2,100 in 2022. Black-legged ticks do not like environments that are dry and hot, so short grass makes lawns less attractive

to this type of tick. Consumer Reports advises homeowners who have let their grass grow a little too high (around five or six inches) to bag their clippings when cutting the grass. Lots of clippings on the grass can provide a respite from the heat for black-legged ticks.

Create a tick barrier if your property abuts woods. Woods provide a cover from summer heat that black-legged ticks crave. So properties that abut the woods may be more vulnerable to these unwanted guests than yards that do not border woodlands. A barrier

of dry mulch made of wood chips between a property and a bordering wooded area can help repel ticks, who won't want to settle in often dry, hot mulch beds.

Plant with infestation prevention in mind. Some plants can help to repel ticks because they boast certain characteristics that ticks cannot tolerate. The fragrances, textures and oils of plants like garlic, mint, lavender, marigolds, and others create less welcoming conditions for ticks. Homeowners can speak with local garden centers

for advice on tick-repellant plants that can thrive in their particular climate and on their properties.

Remove yard debris. Piles of wood, leaves and brush can make for good conditions for ticks that transmit disease. After raking leaves and gathering brush, discard the resulting piles immediately.

These measures will not necessarily prevent all ticks from establishing themselves on a property, so individuals are urged to inspect their bodies and the bodies of their pets after a day in the yard.

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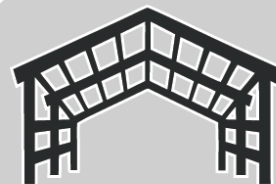


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# Tips for budget-friendly home decor

Home interiors can be spruced up in a number of ways. Ideas run the gamut from relatively inexpensive changes in paint color to more extensive (and expensive) remodels that may include demolition and reconstruction. Investing in new home decor is another way to breathe new life into spaces, and this approach that falls somewhere in the middle in regard to cost.

Material and product costs remain high across the board, so individuals interested in

changing the furniture and other design elements in their homes might be seeking ways to do so in the most affordable way possible. In such instances, homeowners can try these budget-friendly ways to overhaul their home decor.

### CREATE THE ILLUSION OF MORE SPACE

Light, bright and white are key attributes to remember when selecting design elements for rooms where you want to create the illusion of

more square footage. Painting the walls in very light colors, increasing natural and artificial light, including using well-placed mirrors to reflect light, and decorating with light-colored fabrics can help a space seem more roomy.

### REPLACE THE ACCESSORIES

Replacing curtains, area rugs, throw pillows, and chair cushions is an easy way to change a room without a big investment. Consider updating some wall art and tying color schemes together with

all of the newly introduced elements.

### SPLURGE ON STATEMENT PIECES THAT WILL BE USED FREQUENTLY

These may include chandeliers, unique rugs or an eye-catching piece of furniture.

### SHOP 'DISCOUNT' STORES FOR FURNITURE AND ACCENTS

Traditional design centers can be great places to

find plenty of high-quality merchandise. However, don't overlook local discount or close-out centers that may have items at very reasonable costs. Stores like Home Goods, At Home and Big Lots routinely get new merchandise that changes with the season, helping homeowners to refresh their spaces without having to dig deep into their pockets. Shop the high-end stores for inspiration, then try to find "dupes" in the discount stores that will mimic the looks for less.

### CUT OUT THE CLUTTER

Modern homes are lean and clean. A home's interior instantly looks more high-end and appealing when the clutter is removed. Consider keeping main living areas free from too many knickknacks and other accents. If you want to display a special collection, set aside a room specifically for such items.

There are many budget-friendly ways to make interior spaces more inviting.

# Tips to revitalize a garden this spring

Gardening is a rewarding hobby that pays a host of significant dividends. Many people love gardening because it allows them to spend time outdoors, and that simple pleasure is indeed a notable benefit of working in a garden. But the National Initiative for Consumer Horticulture notes that gardening provides a host of additional benefits, including helping people get sufficient levels of exercise, reduce stress and improve mood.

With so much to gain from gardening, it's no wonder people look forward to getting their hands dirty in the garden each spring. As the weather warms up, consider these tips to help bring a garden back to life.

### DISCARD THE DEAD WEIGHT

Winter can take its toll on a garden, even in regions where the weather between December and early spring is not especially harsh. Discard dead plants that have lingered into spring and prune any perennials that need it. Branches that fell during winter storms also should be

removed at this point if they have not previously been discarded.

### TEST THE SOIL

Soil testing kits can be purchased at local garden centers and home improvement retailers. Such tests are inexpensive and can reveal if the soil needs to be amended to help plants thrive in the months to come.

### MULCH GARDEN BEDS

Mulching benefits a garden by helping soil retain moisture and preventing the growth of weeds. Various garden experts note that mulching in spring can prevent weed seeds from germinating over the course of spring and summer. That means plants won't have to fight with weeds for water when the temperature warms up. It also means gardeners won't have to spend time pulling weeds this summer.

### INSPECT YOUR IRRIGATION SYSTEM

Homeowners with in-ground irrigation systems or

above-ground systems that utilize a drip or soaker function can inspect the systems before plants begin to bloom. Damaged sprinkler heads or torn lines can deprive plants of water they will need to bloom and ultimately thrive once the weather warms up.

### TUNE UP YOUR TOOLS

Gardening tools have likely been sitting around gathering dust since fall. Serious gardeners know that tools can be expensive, so it pays to protect that investment by maintaining the tools. Sharpened pruners help make plants less vulnerable to infestation and infection. Well-maintained tools like shovels and hoes also make more demanding gardening jobs a little bit easier, so don't forget to tune up your tools before the weather warms up.

It's almost gardening season, which means gardeners can start on the necessary prep work to ensure their gardens grow in strong and beautiful this spring.



COURTESY PHOTO

Discard dead plants that have lingered into spring and prune any perennials that need it.

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# What to know about landscape lighting

Home improvement trends come and go, and one trend that has become wildly popular in recent years is recognizable in yards every night. Landscape lighting has transformed how people see and enjoy their properties at night, making it one of the more sought-after upgrades among modern homeowners.

Curb appeal is often seen through the lens of how homes appear during daylight hours, but landscape lighting can make homes look better and more modern, and potentially safer, after the sun goes down. With such potential, landscape lighting is worth exploring for homeowners looking to upgrade their properties.

## ARE THERE DIFFERENT TYPES OF LANDSCAPE LIGHTING?

When considering landscape lighting, homeowners should know that there are various options to consider. According to the lighting experts at Lumens, spotlights project a concentrated and narrow beam of light that's usually around 45 degrees. Spotlights are often chosen to highlight specific features on a property, like a component of the landscaping. Individuals who want to cast light over wider, more general areas may consider floodlights, which Lumens



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notes spread light up to 120 degrees.

Inground lighting is among the more sophisticated landscape lighting options. Lumens notes that inground lighting illuminates the whole of a tree or structure, often creating a dramatic look. These circle-shaped lights also are great at illuminating walkways and driveways.

Post lights are another outdoor lighting option, and these are often used to light up long walkways and pathways so it's easier and safer to navigate dark areas at night.

## IS LANDSCAPE LIGHTING A JOB A DIY-ER CAN HANDLE?

Many homeowners consid-

er a do-it-yourself approach when pondering a potential home renovation, and a landscape lighting project is likely to inspire such curiosity as well. The home experts at HGTV note that the feasibility of DIY in regard to a landscape lighting project depends on the type of lighting homeowners want

to install and where they want to install it. Replacing an existing electrical fixture may be well within the skill of a seasoned DIYer, but installing a new fixture is a job best left to the professionals. Homeowners whose homes currently have no or very little landscape lighting are almost certainly better off

working with a professional. Solar lighting that does not require any electrical work can be installed quickly and easily by anyone, but such options may not provide the look homeowners are aiming for.

## HOW MUCH LIGHTING IS NECESSARY?

The amount of lighting homeowners want to install is up to them. If the home currently has little or no landscape lighting, a consultation with a professional can help to determine how much lighting to install and where to install it. When discussing landscape lighting, homeowners may want to inquire about dimmers. Dimmers can increase or decrease lighting depending on the situation. For example, homeowners may want a little extra light during a party, but less when relaxing alone outside at night. Dimmers allow homeowners to adjust as necessary.

Landscape lighting is a popular home renovation trend. Homeowners considering adding landscape lighting to their property are urged to work with a skilled professional to devise and install a set-up that makes their homes more appealing at night.

## RENOVATION

FROM PAGE C2

attention to your renovation.

### RECREATE COMMONLY USED SPACES ELSEWHERE

A kitchen or a bathroom remodel often requires giving up spaces that are used throughout a typical day. Unless you have a spare full bathroom or kitchen, you'll need to make due. Set a microwave, tabletop

electric burner and a coffee pot on a folding table in the garage or utility room. Rent or purchase a small refrigerator where you can store a few necessities. Ask your contractor to set up a makeshift outdoor shower so you have a place to get clean when the bathroom is under construction.

### PACK UP AND COVER

Remodeling one room

may cause a trickle down effect on other areas. Dust from drywall sanding can infiltrate many rooms in the home. Pack and label boxes with items not immediately needed and store them in another area. Cover most things so a film of dust won't form on them.

### ADJUST YOUR SCHEDULE

Sleeping in will be a thing of the past for the duration

of the renovation, as may be working from a home office. Try to get out of the work zone as much as possible for new scenery and respites from the noises and smells.

### EASE UP ON CLEANING STANDARDS

It's challenging to keep a home clean during a renovation. Relax standards and expect a mess for some time. Explain to guests what they'll

find if they drop by.

Renovations can disrupt life, but often are well worth

the sacrifices homeowners must make to see them through to completion.



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# Wood floor cleaning guide

Wood floors are coveted for a number of reasons, not the least of which is their aesthetic appeal. Many people prefer wood flooring because dust and dirt do not become trapped as they would in carpet fibers, seemingly making wood flooring easy to clean.

Most floors endure a lot of wear and tear. However, with care, wood flooring may last for decades. Part of that care includes understanding how to properly clean and maintain wood floors so they look their best. The following are some steps for keeping wood floors as pristine as possible.

## REMOVE SHOES

It's a good idea to remove shoes, particularly heels, when walking on wood floors. Sharp heels, cleats and other shoes can scratch or dent wood flooring. All shoes can track in excess dirt, which can contribute to a lack of luster as well.

## SWEEP OR VACUUM FREQUENTLY

The experts at The Spruce suggest sweeping, vacuuming or dust mopping wood floors daily. Dirt and dust make floors more slippery, and dirt

or sand particles can lead to scratches on the floor.

## LEARN YOUR FLOORING TYPE

Wood flooring is broken down into three main categories: solid hardwood flooring, engineered hardwood flooring and laminate wood flooring. Traditional hardwood is made of planks or strips of any hardwood covered in a wood stain. Engineered flooring is manufactured by gluing together several thin piles of hardwood. Laminate flooring looks like wood but generally is a veneer or a photographic image of wood covered by a thick layer of melamine resin over fiberboard.

## SKIP HARSH CLEANSERS

Regardless of flooring type, most are covered by a sealant that can become streaky or dull if the wrong cleanser is used. Avoid chlorine bleach, ammonia, pine oil, or undiluted vinegar. Instead, choose a cleanser that is specifically recommended for the flooring type. Do not allow water or solutions to sit on the floor, as that can contribute to staining and warping. With laminate flooring, avoid wet mopping unless the floor-

ing is specifically marked as being able to be wet. The underlayers of laminate flooring can warp if it gets wet.

## DAMP IS BETTER THAN WET

When cleaning wood flooring, use a damp rather than a soaking wet mop. Better Homes & Gardens says standing water can damage wood surfaces.

## USE THE HARD FLOOR SETTING

When vacuuming, adjust the vacuum to a hard flooring setting, which will not engage the brush rollers on the vacuum head. Rollers can scratch wood and laminate flooring, advises The Home Depot.

## USE REPAIR PRODUCTS AS NEEDED

Scratch and repair kits can fill in small scratches. Wood floor polish and wood waxes also can revitalize worn floors. Again, check that the product is safe for your particular flooring before use.

Wood floors bring warmth to a home and are very popular. Cleaning them correctly can add to their appeal and longevity.



COURTESY PHOTO

Pools are undeniably fun, but they still require maintenance.

# What to know about installing a pool at home

Summer is a season of relaxation when school is not in session, vacation season is in full swing and people everywhere are getting outside and soaking up the summer sun. It's hard to imagine how that can get any better. But it can for people thinking of installing a pool in their backyard.

Pools definitely have a wow factor that's hard to replicate. Homeowners considering pool installation can take note of these factors as they try to decide if a pool is right for them.

## COST

The cost to install a pool depends on a host of factors, including which type of pool homeowners are considering and where they live. According to the online home improvement resource Angi (formerly Angie's list), the average cost to install an above ground pool in the United States in 2022 was \$3,322, while the average inground pool installation in the same year was \$55,000. That's quite a disparity in price, and homeowners should know that the average cost of each project is higher in certain regions and under certain circumstances. Potential ancillary costs, such as excavation and plumbing relocation, will add to the final cost of

the project. The erection of fencing around the pool if no fencing currently surrounds the area where the pool will be located also will add to the final cost.

## POOL TYPE

As noted, above ground pools, on average, require a considerably smaller financial investment than inground pools. This is an important consideration, but which option may ultimately prove the better investment is worth researching. Homeowners can speak with a local real estate professional to determine if an inground pool or above ground might yield a significantly higher return at resale. If an inground pool is likely to increase property value by a substantial amount, it could be well worth the extra upfront costs.

## MAINTENANCE

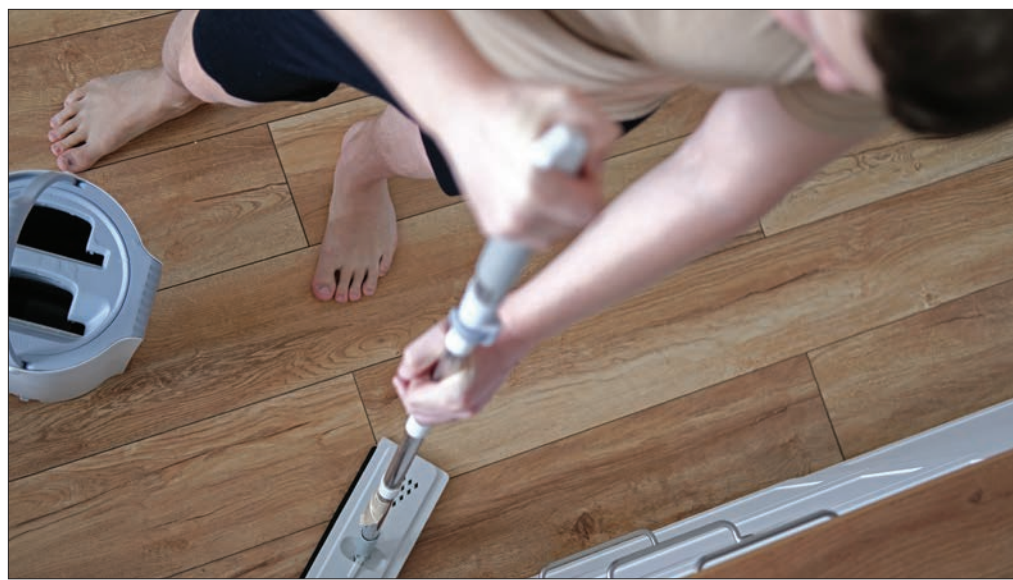
Pools are undeniably fun, but they still require maintenance. The experts at Better Homes & Gardens note that vinyl liners in pools last approximately six to 10 years, while painted concrete may require a fresh coat of paint every five years. Plaster finishes may last as long as 15 years, while cement-coated products can last a lifetime. Pools also need periodic cleaning,

and chemicals to keep the pool operating safely and cleanly will require an additional, if somewhat minimal, financial investment. Homeowners investing in a new pool should be aware of the maintenance required to keep the pool clean and be willing to do that maintenance. And though homeowners typically can open and close pools on their own, it's also possible to hire someone to do it for a relatively small fee each season.

## LOCATION

A survey of the land in a yard can reveal how smoothly a pool installation may or may not go. Though it's possible to install a pool in just about any yard, some spaces might require greater preparation and pre-installation effort than others. Sloped backyards, for example, may require the services of a landscape architect to prepare the space, which can extend the time it takes to complete the project and add the overall cost.

These are just some of the factors that merit consideration when mulling a pool installation. A homeowners' best resource might be a local pool company who can visit a home, provide an estimate and point out any challenges that may arise during the install.



COURTESY PHOTO

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